

30 JAN 2003

NAM-Mongolia

MONGOLIAN LEADERS TO ATTEND NAM SUMMIT

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 30 (Bernama) -- Mongolian leaders have responded positively to Malaysia's invitation to attend the 13th Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Summit here from Feb 20 to 25, said National Unity and Social Development Minister Datuk Dr Siti Zaharah Sulaiman.

"I see that (they are) very positive and the President (Natsagin Bagabandi) said the fact that we sent a special envoy to hand over the invitation to attend the summit is something very courteous," she said when asked on her visit to Mongolia last week to hand over letters and official invitations from Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, to Mongolian leaders.

However, she said that their attendance to the summit could be confirmed by Wisma Putra.

On her meetings with President Bagabandi and Mongolian Prime Minister Nambar Enkhbayar, Dr Siti Zaharah said that they were impressed with Malaysia's progress.

She said that they view Malaysia as a progressive and modern Islamic nation.

She said that both leaders were also happy that Malaysia had helped Mongolians through the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme.

During the meetings, both leaders also want Malaysia to re-look all the memorandums of understanding and agreements signed by both countries so that they could further enhance cooperation and bilateral ties.

As a country wishing to maintain the non-aligned status, peace and neutrality, she said that Mongolia was looking forward to the upcoming summit.

Mongolia played an active role in the movement, particularly during the Cold War. Mongolia first participated in the NAM summit as a full member in 1992.

-- BERNAMA

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