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Syed Hamid-OIC (Pix)

MOST OIC LEADERS HAVE CONFIRMED ATTENDANCE AT SUMMIT, SAYS SYED HAMID

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 13 (Bernama) -- Most heads of state and government of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) have confirmed their attendance at the 10th OIC Summit Conference to be held in Putrajaya next month.

Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar said today the invitations issued by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to his counterparts had received good response.

Among those attending were Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia and the president of Senegal. It seems that the attendance is very good," he told reporters after launching the Expo OIC 2003 media campaign here.

Syed Hamid said United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan had also confirmed his attendance.

He said that if necessary, he would meet as many OIC foreign ministers as possible during the United Nations General Assembly in New York later this month to further extend Malaysia's invitation.

Syed Hamid said: "All have confirmed their attendance."

"Actually, it's a question of getting the right level. If we have more than 50 per cent attendance, that means it is a success," he said.

He said they also liked the fact that Malaysia was organising many side events which gave a different dimension to the OIC summit.

The media campaign launched by Syed Hamid is aimed at promoting the six-day international trade exposition which begins on Oct 14. It is being held in conjunction with the OIC Summit from Oct 11 to 18.

At the function, Syed Hamid also witnessed the official handing over of 67 new BMW 7 Series cars by BMW Malaysia Sdn Bhd and Cartrade Sdn Bhd to the Malaysian government for use during the summit.

The sleek and state-of-the-art German marque will be used to chauffeur the OIC heads of state and government throughout the summit.

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