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Apec summit tops news in Chinese papers

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THE Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (Apec) Summit dominated the pages of major Chinese dailies, with focus given to events during the Summit.

The speech delivered by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the summit received wide coverage.

Sin Chew Daily dedicated seven pages, and Nanyang Siang Pau four, for stories related to the summit on Tuesday.

Dr Mahathir's call for a fairer trade agenda for developing countries was frontpaged by Oriental Daily News.

The daily's editorial believes this is "relevant to the collective will of Third World countries".

Sin Chew's editorial page carried a letter echoing Dr Mahathir's call for the 14-year-old Apec to return to its original aims.

According to the letter, going by the structural complexity of Apec, which gathers nations with different political ideologies and social systems, it will be best for the organisation to stick to discussions on trade rather than include additional topics like security.

Nanyang yesterday frontpaged Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong's statements on the leadership qualities of Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

Goh, in an interview with Bangkok Post, described Abdullah as a capable leader whose abilities have been underestimated by observers.