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Forum on South-South business links to be held on Feb 23, 24

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. - A business forum to promote trade and investment links among countries of the South will be held on Feb 23 and 24 in conjunction with the 13th Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement.

The Non-Aligned Movement's Business Forum on South-South Co-operation, which will be held at the Sunway Lagoon Resort Hotel, is being organised by the Asian Strategy and Leadership Institute (Asli) and the Foreign Ministry.

Asli's centre for competitiveness and industry director Dennis See said the forum would focus on opportunities for business collaboration and smart partnerships.

See added that the forum would also debate the role of the private sector in bridging the developmental and digital divide and assisting in capacity-building.

"The forum will also discuss issues, challenges and prospects arising from globalisation. It will hopefully contribute towards a sharing of common interests, hopes and opportunities for our future," he said in a statement.

See added that the forum would bring together entrepreneurs, captains of industry, professionals and corporate managers.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will deliver the forum's opening address.

The other speakers at the forum include Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, South African President Thabo Mbeki, Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, Philippine Secretary for Trade and Industry Manuel Roxas and Bank Negara Governor Tan Sri Zeti Akhtar Aziz.

The New Straits Times is the official newspaper for the event.