

Wen Jiabao On Official Visit To Malaysia
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KUALA LUMPUR, April 26 (Bernama) -- Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao arrives here today for his second official visit to Malaysia, accompanied by a 118-member delegation, including four ministers.

Several agreements and memoranda of understanding will be signed during the two-day visit.

Wen and Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak are scheduled to attend the Malaysia-China Economic, Trade and Investment Forum.

According to Wisma Putra, the visit allowed Malaysia and China to take stock of the development of bilateral cooperation in various areas and follow up on agreements achieved during Najib's visit to China in June 2009.

Wen had attended the first East Asia Summit and the ninth Asean-China Summit and Asean Plus Three Summit held in Kuala Lumpur from Dec 11 to 15, 2005.

His second visit is to reciprocate Najib's 2009 visit when the Joint Action Plan on Malaysia-China Strategic Cooperation was issued.

Relations between the two countries were elevated to strategic partnership covering 12 key areas of cooperation, including politics, economics and education.

The Foreign Ministry said that Malaysia's bilateral trade with China increased more than six-fold over the past 10 years, reaching US\$45.66 billion last year, compared with US\$6.27 billion in 2000.

In 2010, China was Malaysia's largest trading partner, second largest export destination and largest source of import.

Wisma Putra added in a statement that Malaysia is China's eight largest trading partner, 16th largest export destination and seventh largest source of import.

Malaysia has also been China's largest trading partner in Asean for three consecutive years since 2008, it said.

(Bernama)