

Newspaper	New Straits Times
Date	20 October 2015

NSC bill to be tabled, says Najib

NST-20/10/2015

NEW LAW: It is aimed at tackling growing security threats

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A NATIONAL Security Council (NSC) bill to bolster the country's security will be tabled before the end of the year, the Dewan Rakyat was told.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said the new law would allow for measures to tackle increasing threats faced by the country.

"The purpose of the bill is to strengthen the function of the National Security Council by having a law similar to countries such as the United States, Japan, Thailand, the Philippines and the United Kingdom," he said in reply to Datuk Noor Ehsanuddin Mohd Harun Narrashid (BN-Kota Tinggi) yesterday.

Ehsanuddin asked if the government planned to carry out comprehensive transformation of the National Security Council so that it would be more effective in tackling the increasingly complex security challenges.

In his reply, Najib said changes would include reviewing NSC's directives and standard operating procedures (SOP) to suit today's environment as well as strengthening its management mechanism at the state level.

He also said the National Security Policy would be drafted to protect the interests of the country.

"This will serve as a guide to other policies and will work alongside the defence policy, home security policy and other related policies. It will also help security agencies execute their



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak arriving at the Parliament building in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. Pic by Asyraf Hamzah

functions and responsibilities."

Najib hoped that the measures could be implemented and called for the nation's undivided support.

"This is in line with the decision made on July 29, where the government decided that the role and functions of the NSC should be

strengthened so that it could become more efficient in coordinating policies and strategies related to national security.

"Certainly, it was based on the current needs in facing the increasing security threats."

Najib, who is also NSC chairman,

also replied to a supplementary question from Ehsanuddin on the threat of cross-border crime, such as human trafficking and cyber crimes.

He said the government, via ministries and agencies, was serious about tackling the problem and had

taken the necessary steps to repel threats, including by boosting the capacity of existing resources.

Najib urged state agencies to work closely with the government to combat terrorism and called on the rakyat to give their support to bolster the nation's security.