

**Enough Political Will For TPP Talks, Says MITI Sec-gen
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PETALING JAYA, Jan 6 (Bernama) -- There is a lot of political will to complete the negotiation for a Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) by this year, International Trade and Industry Ministry secretary-general Datuk Dr Rebecca Fatima Sta Maria said.

The TPP, which has to agree to a broad outline agreement by July this year, broke new ground in taking a definitive stance in forging a free trade agreement.

Member countries include Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, the United States, Vietnam, Brunei, Chile and Peru.

"There are challenges and we're doing our best. With nine countries negotiating, it is going to be difficult trying to find the middle ground," she told reporters after delivering the keynote speech at the Journal of Contemporary Accounting and Economics (JCAE) Symposium 2012 here Friday.

"It's a comprehensive agreement, which means you cover other things like labour, environment, competition policy and public procurement.

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