

**Contemporary Security Challenges Have Increased Procurement Activity - Ahmad Zahid**  
**Bernama**  
**April 15, 2012**

KUALA LUMPUR, April 15 (Bernama) -- Contemporary security challenges, followed by technology and product development have increased procurement activity, particularly in Asia, said Defence Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi.

He said Asia's defence spending had overtaken that of European countries and this trend would persist as the armed forces in this region continued to upgrade and modernise.

"Based on a study by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, Asia constitutes 40 per cent of the recipients of major conventional weapons," he said when opening the 13th Defence Services Asia 2012, here, Sunday night.

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Source: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v6/bm/newsindex.php?id=659217>