

Najib Leaves For Apec Meeting In Russia
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SEPANG, Sept 7 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak left for Vladivostok in Russia today, leading a Malaysian delegation to the 20th APEC (Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation) Economic Leaders Meeting from Sept 8 to 9.

Najib departed from the Bunga Raya Complex, Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) at 7.30am and is expected to return home on Sunday.

The annual summit with the theme, "Integrate to Grow, Innovate to Prosper", will be attended by the heads of state and government from 21 countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

The summit has been preceded by the 24th APEC Ministers Meeting on Sept 5 and 6 and the APEC Senior Officials' Meeting on Sept 2 and 3.

Najib, who is also Finance Minister, will touch on various issues involving trade and investment liberalisation, regional economic integration, strengthening food security, creation of a competitive supply network and cooperation in promoting innovation.

The prime minister will also be exploring new and innovative ideas to enhance cooperation among the APEC member nations.

Najib is also scheduled to hold bilateral discussions with several APEC leaders including Russian President Vladimir Putin, as the host of the APEC summit.

APEC, which was established in 1989, is a forum for 21 Pacific Rim countries to promote and discuss regional economic cooperation, free trade and investment. The member economies account for 55 per cent of the world's gross domestic product and 49 per cent of the global trade.

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