

**Malaysia to outline 8 priorities in Asean statement – Bernama
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Malaysia's statement at the 26th Asean Summit will outline some eight priorities for the 10-member bloc, including the establishment of the Asean Community by year-end, Foreign Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Anifah Aman said.

He said that other priorities included developing the Asean Community's post-2015 vision, steering Asean closer to the people and strengthening the development of small and medium entrepreneurs (SME) in the region of some 633 million people.

Malaysia took over the Asean chair this year.

Anifah said that the statement would also touch on expanding intra-Asean trade and investments, strengthening Asean's institutions, promoting regional peace and security and enhancing its role as a global player.

"The chairman's statement is a usual practise during Asean summits," he said in reference to the 26th Asean summit to be held in Kuala Lumpur and Langkawi on April 26-27.

Themed "Our people, our community, our vision", Malaysia's vision throughout the chairmanship, which it assumed on January 1, is the creation of a people-centred Asean involving all sectors of society in the grouping's activities. – Bernama, April 19, 2015.

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