

After skipping anti-graft summit, Najib to speak at star-studded global forum
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Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak is expected to take the stage at the inaugural Global Transformation Forum in Kuala Lumpur next month, after skipping an international gathering of anti-graft officials and activists last week.

He is among a who's who at the forum from October 21 to 23, aimed at sharing best practices and approaches on socio-economic transformation in a global environment.

Najib is expected to present a keynote address to some 3,000 participants, who will include the world's movers and shakers such as former California governor and Hollywood actor Arnold Schwarzenegger, former Singapore prime minister Goh Chok Tong, Starbucks co-founder Zev Siegl, AirAsia Group CEO Tan Sri Tony Fernandes, former president of Bolivia Jorge Quiroga and Olympic-winning athlete and humanitarian, Carl Lewis.

The global icons will speak on transformational leadership, creating resilient nations and the need to be decisive.

However, it is not known if Najib will have a Q&A session with the participants.

According to the forum website, there is a growing need for global stakeholders to come together and share experiences and best practices to address key socio-economic issues that impact nations.

The forum is a platform for government leaders, policy makers, captains of industry and global organisations to meet, discuss and share experiences, insights and observations on global transformation.

Early this month, Najib was supposed to deliver the keynote address at the 16th International Anti-Corruption Conference (IACC) in Putrajaya, but he did not turn up after minister Datuk Paul Low warned him of a "possible hostile reception".

The conference saw hard-hitting speeches directed against Najib.

Transparency International (TI) chief Jose Ugaz spoke out against Najib over the RM2.6 billion "donation" in the prime minister's personal bank accounts, saying it had all the elements of "grand corruption", while TI co-founder Michael J. Hershman urged Najib to come clean on the funds.

Touted as a premier global gathering of anti-corruption stakeholders, the IACC is held every two years and this year's conference drew 1,000 delegates from 130 countries.
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