

**No ringgit peg, Najib tells US fund managers**  
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Malaysia will not return to pegging the ringgit or any other form of capital control, Datuk Seri Najib Razak told fund managers and businessmen in New York, as the currency sees its worst performance in 17 years against the US dollar.

The prime minister instead said the government would revise its projections downwards to cope with weakening oil and commodity prices, the New Straits Times reported him as saying.

"We are committed to achieve a balanced budget by 2020 but I have to be frank with you that we may not achieve a fully balanced budget but may be a slight deficit in the region of negative 1% from the current deficit of 3.2%," he was quoted as saying at a breakfast meeting attended by US fund managers and Malaysian businessmen.

While "internal adjustment" would be made, he added, "I would like to reiterate that we will not impose capital control measures or peg the ringgit," NST quoted him as saying.

Among the projects that would strengthen the domestic economy and boost investments were the Kuala Lumpur mass transit system, Pan-Borneo Highway, high-speed rail link between Kuala Lumpur and Singapore, as well as the Petronas oil and gas terminal project at Penggerang in Johor, the prime minister added.

Under scrutiny at home and abroad for alleged involvement in financial scandals, NST also reported Najib telling the meeting that these challenges "should not be of concern" to fund managers and investors.

He said state investment firm 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) was in the midst of restructuring to reduce its debts "as promised, before the end of this year".

The debt-ridden firm was expected to cut its debts by RM16 billion, he said. – October 1, 2015.

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