

Putrajaya to sign TPPA only after Parliament approves, says Mustapa
The Malaysian Insider
Oct 7, 2015
By KC Nazari

Putrajaya has yet to sign the controversial Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA), International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed said today, adding that it must be endorsed by Parliament first.

Mustapa said he wants to present the government's case on the trade pact to Members of Parliament when it reconvenes for its third meeting on October 19.

"We want to go to Parliament and debate. We will make a decision in Parliament – that means based on votes," Mustapa said in a press conference on TPPA in Putrajaya today.

He said he had already met the minister in charge of parliamentary affairs Datuk Seri Azalina Othman to give him priority to present Malaysia's position on the TPPA to the Dewan Rakyat at the coming meeting.

"I have already negotiated with her and the Speaker. I want the first week of the sitting for me to tell Parliament where we are with TPPA," he said.

He said as soon as it became a public document, the agreement, along with two documents on cost and interest analyses by the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (Isis) and consultant PriceWaterhouseCoopers (PwC) Malaysia, would be presented to the Cabinet and Parliament.

He also said the analyses were expected to take two months to complete and it was possible that the finalised document could only be publicised at the end of this month or early next month.

Mustapa in a statement yesterday said the TPPA would consider all the concerns and sensitivities raised by Malaysia, including government acquisitions, and national and Bumiputera-owned enterprises.

He said Malaysia would be given flexibility, including a longer transitional period and different treatment on matters sensitive to the country.

He also gave an assurance that Malaysia becoming a party to the TPPA , or not, would be a collective decision. – October 7, 2015

Copyright © 2015 Edge Insider Sdn Bhd

Source:

<http://www.themalaysianinsider.com/malaysia/article/putrajaya-to-sign-tpa-only-after-parliament-approves-says-mustapa>