

PM Najib To Visit Turkey In Conjunction With G20 Summit

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From Siti Hawa Othman

ANTALYA (Turkey), Nov 13 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak will meet with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Saturday during his three-day working visit to Turkey to attend the Group of Twenty (G20) Summit here on Nov 15-16.

Malaysian Ambassador to Turkey Datuk Amran Mohamed Zin said Najib and Erdogan were expected to discuss bilateral issues involving the two countries, before attending the two-day Summit.

The G20, a premier forum where governments and central bank governors from 20 major economies meet and discuss international economic and financial cooperation, is currently chaired by Turkey, and Malaysia had been invited to participate in the Summit in its capacity as the chair of ASEAN, besides the strong existing bilateral ties between the Malaysia and Turkey, he told the Malaysian media here on Friday.

Amran said Najib, who is accompanied by his wife, Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, would also attend a dinner hosted by Erdogan and his wife on Saturday.

The prime minister and his entourage are expected to arrive here at 11.55 pm local time (5.55 am on Saturday Malaysian time).

Amran said Najib's arrival at the Antalya Airport here would be received by Antalya Governor Muammer Turker and Turkish Economic Minister Nihat Zeybekci.

Najib's entourage includes senior officers from the Foreign Ministry, Finance Ministry, Economic Planning Unit, Bank Negara Malaysia and the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission.

According to Amran, tight schedule awaited the participants at the G20 Summit starting with the opening ceremony on Sunday, followed by a working lunch to enable the Summit to discuss issues related to development agenda and climate change.

This will be followed by a working session which would focus on the agenda related to inclusive growth, global economic and employment.

Amran said these topics had been the main issues of discussion for the G20 since its establishment in 2008 in a bid to improve the world's economy and stabilise global finance for mutual benefit.

On Sunday evening, Najib and Rosmah are also scheduled to attend the reception hosted by Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu and his wife, followed by a working dinner to discuss issues concerning global challenges, especially terrorism and refugee crisis.

Meanwhile, Rosmah is also scheduled to participate in several programmes with the wives of other nation leaders, including a visit to Antalya Disabled Rehabilitation Centre, which is the second largest centre for disabled children in Europe.

Members of the G20 Summit are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, United Kingdom, the United States and the European Union.

Among other states invited to attend the Summit are Zimbabwe, as the chair of African Union, Senegal, which represents the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), Azerbaijan and Singapore.

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