

Bumiputera agenda included in TPP, Najib tells Umno members
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By Muzliza Mustafa

Umno members need not worry about the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) as the government included the Bumiputera agenda before signing the agreement, party president Datuk Seri Najib Razak said.

He said Malaysia had made it clear to the United States that it wanted the Bumiputera agenda to be included in the agreement or the country would not be part of it.

“We negotiated with them and I myself met (US) President (Barack) Obama twice and the term was finally accepted by the 11 countries which joined the agreement, including the US,” Najib said in his winding up speech at the Umno general assembly today.

He said Bumiputeras also should not fear competing on the international platform.

“Vietnam also joined TPP. I'm sure we are capable too,” he added.

He says assistance will be given to those who want to market their business internationally.

“We will guide them till they succeed. So have confidence that we can do this,” he said.

The TPP has been met with opposition from various civil society groups, including the Malay Economic Action Council, which fears that the contentious pact will result in negative economic growth.

Critics also say the investor state dispute settlement (ISDS) mechanism under the TPP may threaten Malaysia's sovereignty. ISDS allows a corporate entity to drag a state to a tribunal. – December 12, 2015.

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