

## **Zahid to Attend Anti-Terrorism Meeting in Bali**

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**By Azeman Ariffin**

BALI (INDONESIA), Aug 9 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi has arrived in Bali to attend a one-day international counter terrorism meeting to be held here tomorrow.

Zahid, who is also Home Minister, arrived at the Ngurah Rai International Airport at 9 pm accompanied by senior officials from his ministry.

He was received by Malaysian Ambassador to Indonesia Datuk Seri Zahrain Mohamed Hashim.

The "International Meeting on Counter-Terrorism: Cross Border Movement of Terrorism" aims at strengthening the international cooperation in addressing the growing threat of terrorism in particular cross border movement of terrorism.

The meeting will also focus on the emergence of the new phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters (FTF), financing of terrorism as well as spreading of terrorist ideology through the internet and social media.

The meeting will provide an excellent opportunity for all participating countries to enhance international cooperation in countering terrorism threat, particularly on the movement of terrorists at the border as well as weapon smuggling and deradicalisation programme.

The Ministry of Home Affairs in a statement here said that the opportunity might include exchange of views, ideas and best practices, sharing of intelligence and information.

"Malaysia's participation at this meeting reflects the Malaysian Government's continuous commitment in countering terrorism particularly in strengthening international cooperation.

The presence of the Deputy Prime Minister himself has shown Malaysia's undivided support and commitment in countering this threat," said the statement.

The Deputy Prime Minister took the opportunity to share Malaysia's experience in Integrated Deradicalisation Module for Detainees which Malaysia has developed.

"It will be distributed to all representatives of the participating countries to show Malaysia's willingness to share its experience and expertise in such programme," it said.

Zahid, who represents Malaysia, is among 21 leaders from participating countries attending the meeting hosted by the Indonesian government.

Indonesia has experienced deadly terrorist attacks which had occurred in different parts of Indonesia including the world-renowned Bali Island, which will host the meeting, and suffered two major bomb attacks in 2002 and 2005.

The 2002 blast killed 202 people including 38 Indonesians and 88 Australian nationals. Another deadly attack in 2005 killed 20 people, including 15 Indonesians.

After the incident, the Malaysian Police shared their experience and expertise in counter terrorism activities and last year the Indonesian police force awarded the Bintang Bhayangkara Nararya medals of merit to two Malaysia senior police officers for their services in enhancing cooperation between the two countries in fighting terrorism.

The two Malaysian police officers were Datuk Seri Akhil bin Bulat and Dato Abdul Hamid Bin Bador who are respectively the director and deputy director of special branch of the Royal Malaysian Police.

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