

Barack Obama To Visit Australia In November
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CANBERRA, Sept 13 (Bernama) -- U.S. President Barack Obama is scheduled to visit Australia on Nov 16 to 17, to mark the 60th anniversary of the alliance between the two countries, the White House confirmed on Tuesday.

In a statement Tuesday, the White House said that Australia is one of the United States' closet allies and our troops have served together bravely in Afghanistan and conflict zones throughout the world.

However, the statement did not say where in Australia the president would go. But it is speculated that Obama will attend the President's Cup golf tournament at Royal Melbourne, according to China's Xinhua news agency.

While, Prime Minister Julia Gillard said she is looking forward to welcome Obama as the United States is Australia's closest ally and partner.

"The President's visit will be an important opportunity to renew our close ties and take forward shared objectives, which include the global economy, promoting growth and jobs, planning for transition in Afghanistan as well as developing strong institutions to help address the region's political, security and economic challenges," Gillard said in a statement released on Tuesday.

Obama's plans to visit Australia last year were canceled twice because of his plans to overhaul the healthcare system and a huge oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

Earlier in March, Gillard visited the White House, where Obama forged a close working relationship with Australia. During her trip to U.S., Gillard also made an address to a joint session of the U.S. Congress.

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