

By : DATUK SERI SYED HAMID ALBAR
Venue : PUTRAJAYA
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Title : HANDING OVER OF BMW 7 SERIES FOR THE XIII NON- ALIGNED MOVEMENT SUMMIT

Datuk Dr. Leo Michael Toyad, Timbalan Menteri Luar Negeri

Dato' Ahmad Fuzi Abdul Razak, Ketua Setiausaha, Kementerian Luar Negeri,

En Ilyas Mohamed, Chief Executive Officer, CARTADE

Mr. Birgit Maier, Managing Director, BMW

Tan Sri, Datuk-Datuk, Tuan-Tuan and Puan-Puan,

The Government is in the midst of making the final preparations to host the Thirteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non – Aligned Movement (NAM) which will be held from 20th – 25th of February at the Putra World Trade Centre in Kuala Lumpur. The whole nation appears to be in a pensive and excited mood as the days get closer. The media too has contributed to the excitement by giving a wide and generous publicity to the event.

As you are aware, at the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) in Durban, South Africa on 28th April 2002, Malaysia was unanimously endorsed by the membership of NAM to be the host country for the XIII Conference of Heads of State or Government of NAM. Malaysia views the endorsement as a clear demonstration of the overwhelming confidence NAM member countries have in Malaysia, not only in hosting the Summit but more importantly in steering the Movement in addressing global issues of concern to the developing countries. We view the trust as a great honour to Malaysia and its leadership.

Ladies and Gentlemen

In undertaking this huge mandate and responsibility, I am pleased to announce that CARTRADE, the importer of BMW automobiles to Malaysia, will be making available fifty-five of the latest BMW 7 Series to the Government of Malaysia for the forthcoming NAM Summit. The BMW 7 Series will be used as official limousines for the Heads of State or Government. The selection of this car will certainly enhance its brand image.

The limousines will be chauffeured by a pool of fifty-five army personnel who have undergone an advanced driving training course conducted by German trained instructors from the BMW Driving Academy to ensure the drivers are well prepared with the finer skills of safety driving.

I am very happy to note the contribution of CARTRADE for hosting this notable global event in Malaysia. The participation of the private sector such as CARTRADE and BMW in assisting the Government in hosting the event is yet another fine example of the concept of Malaysia Incorporated where the Government and the private sector cooperate closely for the common good of the nation. Such cooperation from the private sector would certainly assist Malaysia in successfully organizing the NAM Summit and promoting Malaysia as a fine host.

Lastly, I wish to convey my sincere thanks and appreciation to CARTRADE and BMW for sponsoring the new BMW 7 Series to be used as official limousines for the Heads of State or Government for the XIII NAM Summit in Kuala Lumpur.

Thank you and Wassalam