

FEB 7 TO 13

TIGHT SECURITY AT WORLD URBAN FORUM

More than 50 per cent of 25,000 participants are foreigners, says DPM

MOHD AZAM SHAH YAACOB
KUALA LUMPUR
news@nst.com.my

MALAYSIA is ready to face any possible security threat during the Ninth World Urban Forum (WUF), which will be

held at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC) here from Feb 7 to 13.

Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said yesterday, 2,700 personnel from the police force, National Security Council, armed forces, Fire and Rescue Department and Health Ministry would be on duty throughout the event.

He said security needed attention as 25,000 participants were expected.

“More than 50 per cent or 12,500 participants are foreign-



Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi with security personnel who took part in a counterterrorism exercise at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre yesterday. He is flanked by Urban Wellbeing, Housing and Local Government Minister Tan Sri Noh Omar (left) and Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Mohamad Fuzi Harun. BERNAMA PIC

ers, delegations of 194 different nations.

“Therefore, security is taken seriously,” he said after watching a counterterrorism exercise held in and around KLCC as part of preparations for WUF.

Present were Urban Wellbeing, Housing and Local Government Minister Tan Sri Noh Omar, Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Mohamad Fuzi Harun and Kuala Lumpur police

chief Datuk Seri Mazlan Lazim.

Zahid said apart from patrols at the forum’s site, the Home Ministry had also stepped up security measures at all entry-points into the country and at sites where the international delegates would be staying.

He said he was confident that there would be no threats throughout the length of the forum.

“Our security control efforts

encompass everything, from arrival areas (airports) and the forum site right up to where the delegates are staying.

“We believe there will be zero ‘accidents’ (including security threats), if you take into account the fact that we have successfully organised international events before this, including last year’s Kuala Lumpur Sea Games (without any incident),” he said.