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## **MALAYSIA CALLS FOR STRONGER INTER-ASEAN TRADE AMID TARIFFS UNCERTAINTY**

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The Straits Times (9 July 2025)

*Malaysias Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim on July 9 urged South-east Asian countries to act with purpose and enhance trade among each other in the face of global uncertainty, as regional foreign ministers met amid renewed jitters over US trade tariffs.*

Mr Anwar, addressing ministers of the 10-member Association of South-east Asian Nations, described tariffs, export restrictions and investment barriers as the sharpened instruments of geopolitical rivalry. He did not mention the United States specifically.

As we navigate external pressures, we need to fortify our internal foundations. Trade more among ourselves, invest more in one another, and advance integration across sectors with resolve, he said.

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