

# GMA, Russian president set to meet today

President Arroyo and Russia Federation President Dmitry Medvedev will meet today to discuss various issues of mutual interest to the Philippines and Russia, especially in the areas of trade and investments, defense and energy cooperation.

The bilateral meeting will be held at the Lenexpo, the venue of the 13th St. Petersburg International Economic Forum,

which opened yesterday.

The President and her Russian counterpart, along with former Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi, former German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder and Nobel Prize laureate in economics, Dr. Robert Mundell of Columbia University in the United States, will attend the forum's economic day and specifically tackle the global eco-

nomic crisis.

The President is the first Asian head of state to address the St. Petersburg forum.

Mrs. Arroyo said she was looking forward to discussing with President Medvedev and other Russian officials various initiatives that could enhance Philippine-Russian relations and cooperation.

— Marvin Sy