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Mahathir-Korea ' ' (P)

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SHAH ALAM, Aug 9, (Bernama) -- The United Nations' acceptance of South and North Korea's as its members has helped solved the problem of recognition faced by the two countries, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

He told newsmen that Malaysia welcomed the inclusion of the two countries in the world organisation.

The development posed no problems for Malaysia which already had diplomatic relations with the two Koreas, he said.

Earlier, he opened the Matsushita Air-Conditioning Corp Sdn Bhd and Matsushita Compressor and Motor Sdn Rhd plants and officiated at the ground-breaking ceremony for the Matsushita Air-Conditioning R&D Centre.

He said the problems with recognition arose because both countries claimed that they represented the other -- more

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The U.N. Security Council has recommended that rivals South and North Korea be admitted to the UN next month.

The council's recommendation still requires approval by two-thirds of the 159-member U.N. General Assembly, but the procedure is regarded as a formality.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said he was happy with United States President George Bush's statement of his confidence in Malaysia becoming a developed nation by 2020. -- Bernama

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