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Mahathir-meeting
MALAYSIA AND NAMIBIA EXPLORE COOPERATION
from Mahrus Ibrahim
bm

Dr. M. overseas trips.

WINDHOEK, Npv 18, (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad who is currently visiting Namibia, yesterday met President.. Sam Nujoma for official talks on cooperation and matters of mutual interest.

They agreed, among other things, that Namibia would open a tourism and trade office in Kuala Lumpur and to hold a ministerial-level meeting between the two governments annually.

Foreign Affairs Ministry Deputy Secretary-General Datuk Abdul Halim Ali told reporters that. Dr Mahathir also offered Malaysian expertise to help train Namibians in various fields, including administration, civil aviation and finance.

The two countries also agreed to explore cooperation in the mining sector, he added.

Namibia is known for its mining industry and in this connection the Malaysian Mining Corporation (MMC) was interested in setting up gold and gem-stone mining operations here. -- more

♥18/11/10-44MST

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Mahathir-meeting 2' Windhoek

Halim said Namibia was keen to learn from the Malaysian experience as the two countries were similar in many aspects, such, as being former colonies and having a multi-racial population.

The topic of investment, was also brought up and private sector representatives accompanying the Prime Minister on his visit were expected to follow up by meeting local businessmen here.

Among the areas identified as attractive for investment were real-estate development and tourism.

He added that Namibia was impressed with Malaysia's financial management. and it expressed the intention to make the stable Ringgit an example for its own currency to be issued in two years time. Namibia now uses the South African currency, the Rand, which is almost the same value as the Ringgit. -- more

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Mahathir-meeting 3 (last) Windhoek

Halim said the two countries also agreed to study the possibility of having bilateral air agreements.

Malaysia Airlines (MAS), which now flies to Johannesburg in South Africa, could work out a mutual arrangement with Air Namibia to allow MAS to fly here', he added.

During the meeting, President Nujoma also briefed Dr. Mahathir on the political situation in South Africa.

The Namibian government hoped that disputes in neighbouring countries would be settled peacefully to avoid the possibility of Namibia becoming saddled with a refugee problem.

Today, Dr. Mahathir leaves for Luderitz in southern Namibia where he will tour a wildlife reservation and a fisheries company. -- Bernama

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