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Mahathir-G15

G-15 MEMBERS STILL COMMITTED, SAYS PM

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93 *Overseas Tapes*
KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 15 (Bernama) -- The majority of the G-15 member countries are still committed to the organisation, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said tonight.

Many of the countries still believed in the role of the G-15, he said.

"Argentina is still prepared to be host (for the G-15 summit) after India, in 1994 or 1995," he said at the airport here on his return from a three-day official visit to India.

He said Zimbabwe would host the summit after Argentina.

He said the postponed fourth G-15 summit would definitely be held in New Delhi at the end of March or April next year.

"We will try to get as many heads (of government) as possible to attend this meeting," he added.

Asked why the summit was postponed, the prime minister said it was because the heads of government involved were facing "elections and emergencies and could not leave their countries. -- more

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On reports that the United States had influenced the G-15 members not to attend the summit, Dr Mahathir said he had not received any information on this and did not want to make any allegations.

On his visit to India, he said he had bilateral talks with Indian Prime Minister Narasimha Rao and Zimbabwean president Robert Mugabe, among others.

The Malaysian delegation also held discussions with Indian government representatives which resulted in the signing of six cooperation and investment agreements, he said.

Dr Mahathir said Mugabe invited him to visit Harare to attend a trade exhibition to be held end of April next year.

Mugabe also briefed him on the political developments in South Africa, Mozambique and Angola.

On hand to receive the prime minister were Deputy Prime Minister Seri Anwar Ibrahim and Deputy Home Minister Datuk Megat Junid Megat Ayob.

Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi returned with Dr Mahathir. --

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FINAL EIGHT PARTICIPANTS RENDER RECITALS

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93 *Religioni Islam*
SHAH ALAM, Dec 15 (Bernama) -- Eight participants took to the stage to wind up the 36th national Quran reading competition at Masjid Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah here tonight.

The qari were Haji Mohamad Yassin P. (Sarawak), Encik Hashim Harun (Negeri Sembilan), Haji Yusoff Embong (Terengganu) and Encik Ramli Dolah (Melaka); and qariah Hajah Selina Haji Ali (Sarawak), Puan Jalimah Mohamed (Sabah), Hajah Maimun Haji Haron (Negeri Sembilan) and Puan Halimah Jusoh (Kedah).

The Sultan of Selangor will give away the prizes tomorrow night. --

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