

28 MAR 1996

MALAYSIA, CROATIA SIGN AIR PACT

KUALA LUMPUR, March 28 (Bernama) -- Malaysia and Croatia today signed an air services agreement which allows their national carriers to operate seven flights a week between the two countries using any type of aircraft.

Transport Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik signed for Malaysia and the Croatian Foreign Minister Mate Granic signed on behalf of his country.

The agreement grants the national airlines of each country fifth freedom traffic rights which means they could fly to or from either capital city from any part of the world to Zagreb.

Dr Ling said the agreement would enable both countries to develop and strengthen bilateral relations, particularly in trade, investment and tourism.

Asked when Malaysia Airlines (MAS) would start flying to Zagreb, he replied: "As soon as possible."

Granic said the signing of the agreement was an important step in improving bilateral relations in the near future.

"We plan to sign many more important agreements in the fields of economy, science, technology and culture," he added.

He also said a "Malaysian Week" would be held in Zagreb during Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's visit to Croatia next month. --

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