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DR M CONGRATULATES HASHIMOTO ON HIS RE-ELECTION

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 9 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has congratulated Japan's Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto on his re-election to the post.

He said he looked forward to a period of greater cooperation between Malaysia and Japan under Hashimoto's leadership.

" I am confident that, working together, our two countries can contribute towards greater economic prosperity in both our countries as well as peace and stability in our region," he said in a congratulatory message released by Wisma Putra today.

He added that as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, Japan would be in a particularly good position to make positive impact on regional and global affairs.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, in his message to his counterpart, Yukihiro Ikeda, said he looked forward to working with Ikeda to further strengthen the existing warm and mutually beneficial relations between the two countries. -- BERNAMA

HAK JK