

20 DEC 1996

Guinea-Embassy

GUINEAN EMBASSY IN KL OFFICIALLY OPENED

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 20 (Bernama) -- The Guinean embassy here -- the first in Southeast Asia and third in Asia, after China and Japan -- was officially opened tonight.

Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi was given the honour to perform the opening ceremony at the embassy, off Jalan Ampang Hilir, here.

In his speech, Abdullah hoped the opening of the Guinean embassy here and subsequently the Malaysian Embassy in Conakry next year, would enable a speedy implementation of projects and programmes that had been agreed upon by the two governments.

Guinean Natural Resources and Energy Minister Fassine Fofana, who is on a visit here, was also the guest of honour.

Malaysia is making arrangements to open its embassy in Conakry to further enhance relations with Guinea and the opening of the office at ambassadorial level was approved by the Cabinet recently.

Guinean ambassador to Malaysia Ibrahima Sory Camara, in his speech, said Malaysia-Guinea relations was a good example of South-South cooperation.

Guinean President Lansana Conteto visited Malaysia in September last year and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad reciprocated his visit last October.

Guinea is located on the Atlantic coast of West Africa, neighbouring Guinea-Bissau, Senegal and Mali to the North, Cote d'Ivoire to the East and Liberia to the South. Its capital city is Conakry. -- BERNAMA

AFY JK