

22 MAR 1996

Abdullah - Poland

KL,WARSAW TO REVIVE AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT

KUALA LUMPUR, March 22 (Bernama) -- Malaysia and Poland will revive an air services agreement which they signed more than 20 years ago to enable their national carriers to serve each other's capital cities.

Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi said today the agreement signed in 1975 would be reviewed and then implemented for the convenience of businessmen and tourists.

"Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his Polish counterpart Dr Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz have agreed that the national carriers begin discussions on this," he said.

Abdullah was briefing reporters on the details of talks between the Malaysian and Polish delegations headed by Dr Mahathir and Dr Cimoszewicz respectively here.

Dr Cimoszewicz and his delegation arrived here this morning for a three-day visit to Malaysia.

Abdullah also said both Prime Ministers agreed that Malaysia and Poland expand and diversify their cooperation in the area of economic development.

He said the Polish Government also expressed its readiness to study the visa problem faced by Malaysians including businessmen wishing to travel to the East European nation.

Both countries also agreed to cooperate and help in the redevelopment of Bosnia Herzegovina, Abdullah said.

Dr Mahathir told his Polish counterpart that the relevant parties should hold discussions to identify the projects for implementation in Bosnia-Herzegovina and the role of the private sector of both countries in this respect was vital.

Dr Mahathir also said Poland, which had expertise in rail technology, could help Malaysia, which had been assigned the duty of undertaking preliminary studies on the Pan-Asian Railway.

On Poland's invitation to Malaysia to attend the Poland-Southeast Asia Economic Forum in September, Abdullah said Dr Mahathir agreed to Malaysia's participation in the forum.

Dr Mahathir sought the cooperation of the Government of Dr Cimoszewicz to enable Malaysia to build an oil palm bulk storage facility in Poland.

Dr Mahathir also welcomed Poland's proposal that both countries cooperate in the area of defence, Dr Abdullah said.

Dr Mahathir expressed Malaysia's appreciation to Poland for its participation in the Langkawai International Maritime and Aerospace (LIMA) exhibition recently.

Poland could use the LIMA facilities to display its military equipment, Dr Mahathir added.

Meanwhile Abdullah and the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland Robert Miroziewics signed the Economic, Scientific and Technical Co-operation Agreement. -- BERNAMA

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