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PAPUA NEW GUINEA PM ARRIVES FOR SIX-DAY VISIT

KUALA LUMPUR, April 1 (Bernama) -- Papua New Guinea (PNG) Prime Minister Sir Julius Chan arrived this morning for a six-day official visit to Malaysia.

He was met on arrival at the Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport in Subang, near here, by Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi and Papua New Guinea High Commissioner to Malaysia Thomas Nahen Polume.

Sir Julius is accompanied by his wife Lady Stella and a 60-member delegation comprising government officials and private sector representatives.

The official welcome ceremony was held at Parliament Square where Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali received Sir Julius and Lady Stella.

Sir Julius inspected a guard-of-honour before Malaysian Cabinet Ministers, senior government officials and foreign diplomats based were introduced to him.

He is scheduled to have an audience with the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar at Istana Negeri Sembilan later today before visiting the Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM) in Kepong.

Tomorrow, he is scheduled to call on Dr Mahathir at the Prime Minister's office, followed by the bilateral delegation meeting.

While here, Sir Julius will visit the Proton national car plant in Shah Alam, attend a briefing at Petronas and also visit Sarawak. -- BERNAMA

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