

22 MAR 1996
Poland-ties
VISIT SHOULD BOOST TIES, SAYS POLISH PM

KUALA LUMPUR, March 22 (Bernama) -- Poland is looking forward to better cooperation and more tangible growth in its economic and trade relations with Malaysia, Polish Prime Minister Dr Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz said today.

"In my discussions with the King and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, we agreed that the present trade turnover of US\$120 million is not satisfactory to both countries," he told a news conference at Carcosa Seri Negara here.

"Mahathir and I declared full support for further development and the undertaking of new cooperation in several fields, and agreed to launch new forums for such cooperation," he said.

Cimoszewicz also expressed confidence that his country's bid to supply defence equipment would be accepted by Malaysia in efforts to modernise its armed forces since Poland offered high quality products at reasonable prices.

He said Poland was ever willing to let Malaysia use Polish ports for ferrying equipment to Bosnia-Herzegovina to help in its reconstruction.

He said Malaysia was also interested in using Polish ports and port facilities to boost trade relations.

"During our talks, Mahathir also announced that a government and business delegation would visit Warsaw this year to woo more Polish investment while I took the opportunity to submit more concrete offers for the delivery of products ranging from power generation to electricity transmission equipment.

"We both came to the conclusion that a more dynamic and aggressive approach should be launched by the Polish Agency of Foreign Investment and the Malaysian Investment and Development Authority," he said.

He was happy that Poland and Malaysia signed an agreement on economic and technical cooperation while a delegation of Polish businessmen held talks with their Malaysian counterparts on the first day of his visit.

Among other things, he said, they explored the possibility of Polish companies being involved in Malaysia's development programmes by supplying power generators and electricity transmission equipment for Malayan Railway, construction machinery, modernisation of ports facilities and installation of machinery for the foodstuff industry.

Cimoszewicz, who arrived today for a three-day official visit, said he conveyed his President's invitation to Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar and Tuanku Najihah to visit Poland.

"I also invite Mahathir to pay a visit to Poland. Since he will be visiting Bosnia-Herzegovina next month, I will appreciate very much if he takes the opportunity to visit Poland," he said.

He also briefed the King and Dr Mahathir on Poland's political and economic situation. -- Bernama

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