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CIRCULAR ON VISA-FREE TRAVEL FOR HONG KONG RESIDENTS SOON

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 5 (Bernama) -- Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said today that a circular on visa-free travel for holders of Hong Kong Special Administration Region passport will be issued soon.

"We will write it (circular) carefully because it involved many inter-related matters," he told reporters after the opening of the Umno general assembly by party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the Putra World Trade Centre here.

He said the decision to allow SAR passport holders to enter this country without visa had been approved by the government.

"This means the imposition of visa on SAR passport holders have been retracted. Details of the matter will be issued soon," he said.

Yesterday, Hong Kong SAR Chief Executive Tung Chee-Hwa said the Malaysian government had agreed to visa-free travel for SAR passport holders.

Hong Kong residents used to be exempted from having to obtain visas to visit Malaysia. But since Hong Kong reverted to China on July 1, the Malaysian government had imposed visa on them. -- BERNAMA

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