

08 AUG 1997

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE ON THE OCCASION OF SINGAPORE'S NATIONAL DAY

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 8 (Bernama) -- The Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Tuanku Ja'afar, and Raja Permaisuri Agong, Tuanku Najihah, today sent a congratulatory message to Singapore President Ong Teng Cheong, on the occasion of the republic's national day.

Tuanku Ja'afar, in a statement issued by Wisma Putra, extended best wishes for Ong's continued good health and for the continued progress and prosperity of the Singapore people.

"We are confident that the close bilateral relations between our two countries will be further strengthened in the best interest of our people," Tuanku Ja'afar said.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad also extended greetings to Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong.

"I look forward to continue working with you for the future enhancement of our bilateral relations for our mutual benefit and in the interest of peace and stability in the region," Dr Mahathir said.

Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi conveyed best wishes and continuous good health and success to Singapore Law and Foreign Affairs Minister Prof S. Jayakumar. -- BERNAMA

NZ JK