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MAHATHIR HOLDS TALKS WITH BAHRAINI COUNTERPART

By: Abdul Rahman Ahmad

MANAMA, Bahrain, April 7 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today held talks with his Bahraini counterpart Khalifa Salman Al-Khalifa.

The hour-long meeting was held at the Shaikh Hamad Palace here.

Those present at the meeting on the Malaysian side included Entrepreneur Development Minister Datuk Mustapa Mohamed, Terengganu Menteri Besar Tan Sri Wan Mokhtar Ahmad and Deputy Finance Minister Datuk Affifuddin Omar.

Dr Mahathir Mohamad arrived here today for a three-day official visit accompanied by his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah.

Tomorrow, Dr Mahathir is scheduled to deliver a keynote address at the Gulf Economic Forum which will discuss, among other things, economic reforms, capital markets and attempts to diversify the oil-reliant economies of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

The GCC countries -- Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates -- produce about 18 per cent of the world's crude oil and oil exports generate more than two-thirds of their income. -- BERNAMA

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