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MAHATHIR, KAMAL TO SIGN MOU ON ECONOMIC AND INVESTMENT COOPERATION

KUALA LUMPUR, April 14 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his visiting Egyptian counterpart Dr Kamal Ahmed El-Ganzoury are expected to sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on economic and investment cooperation tomorrow in a move to deepen bilateral ties between the two countries.

International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz said today the signing was expected to take place when Dr Kamal Ahmed calls on Dr Mahathir at the Prime Minister's Department.

She was speaking to reporters after attending a meeting with six members of the Egyptian Prime Minister's delegation to discuss contents of the MoU at her office here.

The meeting was attended by Egypt's Minister of Trade and Supply Dr Ahmed Gewili, Minister of Electricity Mohamed Maher Abaza, Minister of Local Administration Dr Mahmoud Sherif, Minister of Industry Soliman Redha, Assistant Minister of Asian Affairs Sayed Abou Zaid and Assistant Minister for Arab and Middle East Affairs Badr Hammam.

Dr Kamal Ahmed and his delegation arrived here late Sunday on the first leg of an Asian tour which will also take him to Singapore and China.

During the two-day visit, starting today, Kamal will explore and strengthen the social, economic and political ties between Malaysia and Egypt.

Earlier, Rafidah and Dr Ahmed Gewilli signed an Investment Guarantee Agreement which will provide the framework to further expand the flow of investments and business activities between the two countries.

The signing ceremony was witnessed by Dr Mahathir and Dr Kamal Ahmed, who also witnessed the signing of an Air Transport Agreement by Transport Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik and Mohamad Maher.

Rafidah and Dr Ahmed Gewili also signed an MoU on trade promotion involving the Egyptian Export Promotion Centre (EEPC) and the Malaysian External Trade Development Corporation (Matrade).

Another MoU on tourism was signed by Minister of Culture, Arts and Tourism Datuk Sabbaruddin Chik and Dr Mahmoud Sherif. -- BERNAMA

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