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Credentials

AGONG RECEIVES CREDENTIALS OF NEW AMBASSADORS OF DJIBOUTI AND IVORY COAST

KUALA LUMPUR, March 25 (Bernama) -- The Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar received the credentials of the new ambassadors of Djibouti and Ivory Coast at the Istana Negara here today.

Djiboutian ambassador Rachad Ahmed Saleh Farah, 48, the republic's first envoy to Malaysia, is ambassador to Japan and is based in Tokyo. He is accredited to Malaysia and also to Japan, Korea, Singapore and China.

Ivory Coast's ambassador, Patrice Koffi Annoh, 53, is also the republic's ambassador to Japan and accredited to Malaysia.

In accepting the credentials presented by Rachad Ahmed, Tuanku Ja'afar said that Malaysia supported several initiatives undertaken by the republic to seek a peaceful solution to the conflict in Somalia and Sudan.

"Malaysia has been following with great interest the developments in the tiny province of Horn of Africa and I am happy to note that several important initiatives have been taken by President Hassan Gouled Aptidon for a peaceful solution to the conflict in the province," he said.

Djibouti, which lies in the south of the African continent and is the gateway to the Red Sea, is known as the "Horn of Africa". The majority of the Djiboutians are Muslims.

In his speech in accepting Koffi Annoh's credentials, Tuanku Ja'afar said that there were vast opportunities for both countries to further upgrade cooperation in the various fields especially trade, agriculture, human resource development and transfer of technology.

In this respect, His Majesty said that visits of officers from the public and private sectors of both countries should be encouraged to promote understanding and exchange of experiences.

"I am also gratified to know that the Republic of Ivory Coast has made significant contributions towards a peaceful solution to the crisis in Liberia and Sierra Leone," he said.

Koffi Annoh previously served as ambassador to China, Korea and Thailand.

Ivory Coast is situated on the west coast of Africa with Ghana, Liberia, Guinea, Mali and Burkina Faso as its neighbours.

In his speech, Rachmad Ahmed said that Malaysia was admired by the Muslim world and the African nations for the level of its development and its sense of solidarity.

"Your country has not only completely integrated itself into Asia but also on an international level," he said.

He said several international meetings that had taken place in Malaysia were the evidence of the dynamism and enthusiasm emanating from the leadership of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Meanwhile, Koffi Annoh, in his speech, said that both Malaysia and Ivory Coast advocated for peace and social and cultural development on the international scene.

To achieve this goal, he said both countries had emphasised industrialisation and added some value to the raw materials they produced to make them more competitive in the world market.

"They (Malaysia and Ivory Coast) spare neither time nor effort in the search to provide better living conditions to their respective populations," he added.

-- BERNAMA

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