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Djibouti-Malaysia

DJIBOUTI WANTS KL TO BE FIRST PARTNER IN ITS ECONOMIC RENAISSANCE

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 3 (Bernama) -- Visiting Djiboutian President Hassan Gouled Aptidon said his country is resolved to transform its friendship with Malaysia into a dynamic partnership and to make Kuala Lumpur the first partner of the country's economic renaissance.

Malaysia had the capacities to meet the needs of his country, he said at a state banquet hosted by Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar at Istana Negara tonight.

Also present were Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Najihah, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali.

"We believe that in many economic sectors like telecommunications, transport, energies, hydrology, financial services, insurances, education, health, mining and oil exploration, Malaysia has the capacities to meet the needs of our nation," Aptidon said.

The president who spoke in French said the signing of agreements between Djibouti and Malaysia earlier today would facilitate and reinforce the economic growth of the two countries.

The two nations had always been two commercial nations opened to the world, said Aptidon who arrived yesterday for a nine-day state visit.

He said both countries had always understood that liberalism of exchange and investment, free circulation of goods and services as well as persons were not an aim but strategy to stimulate economic growth for the future welfare of their people.

Earlier, Aptidon conferred the King with Djibouti's highest award the "Grand Dignataire de la Grande Etoile" while Tuanku Ja'afar conferred on him the Darjah Kerabat Malaysia (DKM).

--BERNAMA

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