

29 APR 1998

DR MAHATHIR SENDS CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO TUVALU PM

KUALA LUMPUR, April 29 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today congratulated Bikenibeu Paeniu on his recent election victory and reappointment as Prime Minister of Tuvalu.

"I look forward to working with you to develop and strengthen the close relations that exist between Malaysia and Tuvalu," he said in a message released by the Foreign Ministry, here.

Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi sent a similar message to Paeniu who is also Tuvalu Foreign Affairs and Immigration Minister.

Tuvalu is a Pacific Ocean island to the north of Fiji.

-- BERNAMA

MAM JK