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APEC-NEWS-BILATERALS

DR MAHATHIR CONTINUES TO HAVE BILATERALS

KUALA LUMPUR, NOV 17 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad continued to hold bilateral talks with Apec leaders, among them his Vietnamese counterpart Phan Van Khai.

At the talks this morning at the Palace of the Golden Horses Hotel, both leaders touched on ways to enhance two-way linkages particularly during the current financial crisis.

Dr Mahathir, who met nine Apec leaders yesterday, is also scheduled to meet Chilean President Eduardo Frei, Japanese Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi and New Zealand's Prime Minister Jenny Shipley in the morning.

He would then attend the Asean Leaders' Consultation.

Thereafter, he would continue bilateral talks with Indonesian President B.J. Habibie who arrived here this morning.

Dr Mahathir would round up his bilaterals with President Jiang Zemin of China this evening.

Before he meets Jiang Zemin, Dr Mahathir would formally welcome all 20 Apec leaders attending the sixth informal summit.

After a group photograph, the leaders would adjourn for a briefing of the agenda for discussions at their informal retreat to be held at the Cyberview Lodge, following which there would be dialogue with the Apec Business Advisory Council (Abac).--BERNAMA

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