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DR MAHATHIR HOLDS TALKS WITH HELMUT KOHL

By: Yong Soo Heong

HANNOVER, March 19 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad held bilateral talks with German Chancellor Helmut Kohl here this morning.

The meeting, which started at 11.40am ended at 12.45pm.

Dr Mahathir's aides said the meeting focused on ways to improving bilateral relations and the upcoming Asia Europe Meeting in London on April 3 and 4.

Dr Mahathir arrived here at about 5.30 am from Dubai for a three-day visit. He was accompanied by his wife, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali.

Later today, he would speak at the Malaysian-German Business Forum at the Hannover Town Hall. Dr Mahathir's address will centre on the South East Asian economic crisis.

After the forum, he would chair a chief executive officers' roundtable meeting hosted by Siemens AG.

In the evening, he would be the guest of honour at a dinner hosted by Deutsche Telecom.

On Friday morning, the prime minister will tour the Cebit 98 information technology and telecommunications at the Hannover fair ground and attend a reception given by Deutsche Messe AG, the organisers of the trade fair.

After the reception, he will deliver a keynote address at the Multimedia Super Corridor investment seminar.

He will hold a press conference at noon and attend a dinner on smart partnership hosted by Malaysia's ambassador to Germany, Datuk Zainuddin Abdul Rahman, in the evening.

On Saturday morning, he will again tour the Cebit 98 fair before leaving for London at 7pm

He is expected to arrive at the Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah airport in Kuala Lumpur on Sunday at 6.25pm -- BERNAMA

SHY AAM