

21 APR 1998

MAHATHIR LAUNCHES MALAYSIAN-BRITISH BUSINESS COUNCIL

KUALA LUMPUR, April 21 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad launched the Malaysia-British Business Council here today to strengthen bilateral business and trade relations between the United Kingdom and Malaysia.

Its establishment was jointly initiated by the British Malaysia Society and the Asian Strategy and Leadership Institute (ASLI) and supported by both the Malaysian and the British governments.

The British co-chairman of the council is Patrick Gillam, who is Standard Chartered Bank PLC chairman while Konsortium Perkapalan Malaysia Bhd group executive chairman Mirzan Mahathir is the Malaysian co-chairman. Mirzan is also the president of ASLI.

In a statement released at the council's launching, ASLI said the council would actively promote two-way investment into both countries and serve as a contact point for the respective business community to channel or seek business interest bilaterally.

The council would also act as a networking catalyst between Malaysia and British business leaders to develop business prospects.

ASLI would act as the Malaysian Secretariat for the council while Asia House London will serve as the British Secretariat, the statement added.

-- BERNAMA

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