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MAHATHIR: WE WELCOME MORE TAIWANESE AND OTHER FOREIGN INVESTMENTS

PETALING JAYA, Mar 2 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today Malaysia welcomes more foreign investments to help boost the country's economy, including those from Taiwan.

Asked by a Taiwanese reporter on the role Taiwan can play in supporting the Asean economies, the Prime Minister said: "We welcomed Taiwanese investments in the past. I think if you can invest more, that will be very helpful indeed."

Mahathir had earlier opened the National Smart Partnership Dialogue at Sunway Lagoon Resort Hotel here.

He said the reason Malaysia has so far managed to avoid seeking financial assistance from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is because the government and the private sector had "not borrowed too much money in the past."

"We have been very strict in the administration of the finances of the nation, we have been very conservative. Nevertheless, when the money devalued off-course we have problems because now we are poorer," he added.

In reply to a question by the Taiwanese reporter on the future relationship between Malaysia and Taiwan, Mahathir said: "We have a one-China policy that has always been in place. As far as we are concerned, there is only one China but we have always had relations with Taiwan." --

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