

22 OCT 1998

Abdullah-Ethiopia

MALAYSIA, ETHIOPIA SIGN THREE AGREEMENTS

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 22 (Bernama) -- Malaysia and Ethiopia today signed three agreements, on economic, scientific and technical cooperation, on trade and on promotion and protection of investment.

Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi represented Malaysia in signing the three agreements while Ethiopia was represented by its Trade and Industry Minister Kasahun Ayele.

Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi witnessed the signing of the agreements.

The two Prime Ministers had earlier headed their respective delegations in a meeting held at the Prime Minister's Department here.

Abdullah later told reporters that Malaysia was ready to assist Ethiopia in strengthening its institutions relating to investment.

He said Ethiopia was keen to learn from Malaysia's experience in the oil palm and rubber plantations sector.

Abdullah said Dr Mahathir had offered technical training to Ethiopia under the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme.

Zenawi, who is on a five-day visit to Malaysia, had earlier called on Dr Mahathir at the Prime Minister's Department.

Abdullah said Zenawi had told Dr Mahathir that Ethiopia was now free of political problems and that it was ready to establish relations with other countries, especially in economic cooperation.

-- BERNAMA

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