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Visit

DJIBOUTIAN PRESIDENT BEGINS VISIT TOMORROW

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 1 (Bernama) -- President Hassan Gouled Aptidon of Djibouti is scheduled to start a nine-day state visit to Malaysia tomorrow to further enhance bilateral ties, the Foreign Ministry said today.

The visit, the first by President Aptidon, is at the invitation of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar, Wisma Putra said in a statement.

Minister of Commerce and Industry Mohamed Barkat Abdillah and Minister of Transport, Telecommunications Abdallah Abdillahi Miguil, senior government officials and businessmen will be accompanying the president.

President Aptidon's itinerary includes an audience with Tuanku Ja'afar and Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Najihah and briefings at the International Islamic University (IIU) and Petronas.

He will also visit Port Klang, the Kuala Lumpur City Centre (KLCC) and Kuala Lumpur Tower.

He will lead the Djibouti delegation for bilateral talks with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The Djiboutian ministers will also attend separate briefings by the Economic Planning Unit (EPU), the Malaysian Industrial Development Authority (MIDA) and the Multimedia Development Corporation (MDC).

Djibouti, a former French territory of 22,000 sq km in area, is located in the eastern region of the African continent known as the Horn of Africa.

Its neighbours are Somalia to the south, Ethiopia to the west and Eritrea to the north.

Djibouti has a population of 434,000 and a service-based economy.

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