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China-Relations

CHINA READY TO ENHANCE TIES WITH M'SIA

KUALA LUMPUR, May 30 (Bernama) -- China is ready to make joint efforts with Malaysia to keep up the good momentum of development of bilateral relations and cooperation in all fields, Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji said today.

For the benefit and prosperity of both countries, and for regional peace and stability, the Chinese side was ready to make such efforts, he said in a message to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Malaysia.

The message was released by the Chinese Embassy here.

Malaysia and China established diplomatic ties on May 31, 1974.

He said the establishment of diplomatic relations 25 years ago had opened a new chapter for friendship and cooperation to the benefit of both countries.

"Over these years, abiding by the spirit enshrined in the Joint Communique on Establishment of Diplomatic Relations and the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, both countries have treated each other sincerely and lived together in amity," he said.

Besides developing cooperation in all fields, both countries have been conducting good coordination and cooperation on regional and international affairs, he said.

"Maintaining the Sino-Malaysia friendly cooperation not only serves the fundamental interests of the two peoples but also makes important contributions to peace, stability and development of this region," he said.

On behalf of the Chinese government and its people, he congratulated the Prime Minister, the government and the people of Malaysia on the occasion of the anniversary.

Chinese Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan, in a similar message to his counterpart Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar, said he was ready to make active contributions to the promotion of smooth development of good neighbourly and cooperative relations between both countries.

Since the establishment of the diplomatic ties, high-level leaders have made frequent exchanges of visits and continuously deepened cooperation in all fields, he said.

Meanwhile, Syed Hamid is making a five-day official visit to China from today as part of efforts by the Malaysian government to further deepen and expand bilateral relations.

He told Bernama yesterday that the visit would be an opportunity to underline the closeness in their relations and to update each other on developments involving the two countries.

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