

29 MAY 2000
INDONESIA-OIL
BE OUR PARTNER IN OIL PROJECT, SAYS PERTAMINA

KUALA LUMPUR, May 29 (Bernama) -- Pertamina, Indonesia's state oil, gas and mining company, will offer Petronas the US\$800 million (RM3.04 billion) oil pipeline product project in Jawa island if the Malaysian national oil corporation was willing to undertake the project jointly.

Pertamina President Director, Baihaki Hakim today said that Pertamina would also offer Petronas oil production projects in offshore areas of the Markesa Straits.

On the equity sharing, he said it is subjected to negotiations.

He said Pertamina was looking for partners from the region because it believed in giving opportunities to regional partners

"It will be a good return on investment. There are many projects to be tapped which are good for our regional partners," he told reporters after attending the opening of the 5th Annual Asia Oil and Gas Conference 2000, here.

Baihaki was responding to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's statement today that Petronas was willing to work with Pertamina in oil production in Indonesia if Pertamina was willing to accept it

Dr Mahathir said this when responding to a question during a press conference whether Malaysia was willing to enter into alliance with Pertamina in oil production.

"All this while we have been working with foreign oil companies from North America, Europe and Japan and because of this, we thought why not give the opportunity to our neighbours," he said.

He said that Indonesia and Malaysia "have a long friendship through regional cooperation and there is no reason why both oil companies could not work together in oil production." -- BERNAMA

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