

# ***Dr Mahathir cancels trips***

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KUALA LUMPUR: Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has cancelled his trip to Germany and Russia following the bombings in the United States.

The Prime Minister has informed the two governments that in view of the uncertainties following the horrific terrorist attacks against the US, he decided to cancel the visits.

A Wisma Putra official, when contacted, said that Dr Mahathir wanted to stay in the country and monitor the situation.

He held a meeting with senior Wisma Putra officials this morning before a decision to cancel the trip was made.

It is understood that the Prime Minister also personally spoke to Robert Reis, the charge d'affaires with the US embassy here asking him to convey his condolence to President George W. Bush.

A statement issued later said that the visit to both countries would be rescheduled following fresh consultations with the governments.

Dr Mahathir was scheduled to leave for London last night but a last-minute decision was made to cancel the trip.

He was scheduled to leave for a week-long visit to the two countries at the invitation of the Russian and German leaders.