

# Cleghorn aims to cement close ties

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STAR

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LONDON: Bruce Cleghorn, the British High Commissioner-designate to Malaysia, has a "daunting task" - to build on the success of a close bilateral relationship.

"I want to sustain the close ties, to ensure that both governments continue to talk with each other frankly and openly," he told Malaysian journalists at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

As an example of this "depth of relationship," Cleghorn cited the recent exchange

of correspondence between both prime ministers, Tony Blair and Dr Mahathir Mohamad, besides their telephone conversations.

Blair, according to him, appreciates the contacts he has with Dr Mahathir. Both leaders have a common interest in ensuring regional and global stability, including "a common purpose in combating terrorism in all its forms."

Cleghorn and his wife Sally are scheduled to arrive in Kuala Lumpur on Nov 8.