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M'SIA'S ENVOY TO FRANCE PRESENTS CREDENTIALS TO CHIRAC

KUALA LUMPUR, April 26 (Bernama) -- The new Malaysian Ambassador to France, Tunku Datuk Nazihah Tunku Mohd Rus, presented her credentials to French President Jacques Chirac at Elysee Palace in Paris on Monday.

She succeeds Datin Paduka Dr Rajmah Hussain, Wisma Putra said in a statement today.

Nazihah was introduced by Chirac to Charles Josselin, the Minister Delegate attached to the Minister of Foreign Affairs in-charge of Cooperation and Francophony, and other French senior officials.

During an audience with Chirac, Nazihah extended the greetings of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and reaffirmed Malaysia's commitment to strengthen and deepen ties with France.

In welcoming Nazihah, Chirac expressed the desire to further build upon the strong existing ties between the two nations.

He was confident that this could be achieved through more exchanges of visits and further cooperation and consultation on international political and economic issues, promotion of tourism and defence cooperation.

Chirac was particularly interested in seeing more cultural exchanges and closer education cooperation between Malaysia and France.

He also indicated that France was prepared to consider providing scholarships to Malaysian students to study in France.

-- BERNAMA

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