

30 MAY 2001

KING CONGRATULATES CROATIAN PRESIDENT ON STATEHOOD DAY

KUALA LUMPUR, May 30 (Bernama) -- The Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah has congratulated Croatian President Stjepan Mesic on the occasion of Croatia's Statehood Day today.

In his message to Mesic, the King expressed hope that the Balkan republic and its people would continue to enjoy peace and prosperity, according to the Foreign Ministry.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar sent similar congratulatory messages to their Croatian counterparts, Wisma Putra said in a statement.

Dr Mahathir told his Croatian counterpart Ivica Racan that he was pleased to note that Croatia continued to make remarkable progress in many fields under Racan's able leadership.

"I look forward to working closely with you to further enhance the friendship and cooperation that happily exist between our two countries," Dr Mahathir said.

In his message to his counterpart Tonino Picula, Syed Hamid pledged to strengthen Malaysia-Croatian bilateral relations which had made significant progress over the last few years.

-- BERNAMA  
MAM AZZ RYN