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MAHATHIR BIDS FAREWELL TO MOROCCAN PRIME MINISTER

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 14 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today bade farewell to Moroccan Prime Minister Abderrahmane El Yousseoufi who ends his four-day visit to Malaysia tomorrow.

Abderrahmane and his 36-member delegation are scheduled to leave for Paris, France, tomorrow night.

Among the highlights of his visit to Malaysia was the signing of three memorandums of understanding (MoU) to enhance bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries, including the formation of a Joint Commission covering economic, technical, scientific and cultural aspects.

Morocco wants to be an entry point for Malaysian goods to the European market while Malaysia wants to serve as the entry point for Moroccan goods to the Asean and Asian markets.

The African country had also invited Petronas to participate directly and actively in oil and gas exploration in that country.

Bilateral trade between the two countries stood at USD22.6 million last year and USD13.4 million for the first eight months of 2001. (1US\$ = RM3.80)

Present during the call was Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar.

-- BERNAMA
SHS AFY JK