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Syed Hamid-Brunei

MALAYSIA AGREES TO BRUNEI'S REQUEST TO OPEN CONSULATES

PUTRAJAYA, Oct 1 (Bernama) -- Malaysia has agreed to a request from Brunei Darussalam to set up its Consul-General offices in Kota Kinabalu, Kuching and Miri.

This was among the topics discussed during the fifth annual meeting between Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah of Brunei, here.

The consulates would facilitate the handling of matters pertaining to Brunei citizens in Malaysia particularly in the three cities.

Briefing the press on the talks, Malaysian Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar said in efforts to strengthen bilateral ties there would also be continued interaction between ministers and officials of both countries.

Dr Mahathir and Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah also exchanged views on the issue of terrorism and discussed ways of strengthening cooperation to deal with this matter.

"The Sultan shared the Prime Minister's views on this matter that it should be handled holistically and comprehensively," he said.

This was because war would not be the answer to resolving the problem of terrorism as this could cause sufferings to innocent civilians, Syed Hamid said.

"Malaysia's stand is that it supported all actions to counter terrorism but this does not include attacking any country because this will cause suffering and misery to the people and lead to instability."

"This also does not mean that we support the Taliban. We do not support any group which opts for terrorism to achieve its objectives," Syed Hamid said.

-- BERNAMA

MAM MHI AHH AAM