

PM begins his working visit to Switzerland, Luxembourg

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■ From Nuraina A. Samad
in Rome

PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad begins a five-day working visit to Switzerland and Luxembourg today after a brief stay in Italy.

Dr Mahathir, who was in Vatican City on Friday for a meeting with Pope John Paul II, will arrive in Zurich in the evening where he will attend a reception with the Malaysian community.

Tomorrow, the Prime Minister and his delegation are scheduled to visit Petronas Sauber in Hinwill and he will also be in Berne. He will be in Geneva on Tuesday to address the 90th Session of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) conference at the Palais des Nations as guest-of-honour of the conference.

Dr Mahathir's presence at the ILO conference, according to labour industry sources, is "an honour for Malaysia" as it is a mark of recognition for the Prime Minister's stature and contribution as a leader of a rapidly progressing country.

"The delegates are waiting to hear what he has to say," said a labour leader.

In Geneva, Dr Mahathir is scheduled to meet Swiss bankers before leaving for Luxembourg to begin a two-day visit.

He will meet Prime Minister Jean-Claude Juncker and call on the President Grand Duke Henri. Dr Mahathir and his delegation will leave Luxembourg on June 13.