

05 MAR 2002

Mahathir-Sudan

SUDANESE FINANCE MINISTER MEETS DR MAHATHIR

PUTRAJAYA, March 5 (Bernama) -- Visiting Sudanese Finance Minister Abdel Rahim Mahmoud Hamdi called on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at his office here today.

Abdel Rahim, who was accompanied by Deputy Secretary General of Sudan's Energy and Mining Ministry Hamed El-Neel Abdulgadir, met Dr Mahathir for about half an hour.

During his four-day visit here, Abdel Rahim is scheduled to meet several corporate captains to discuss investment opportunities in the northeast African republic.

Earlier today, he met Petronas president and chief executive officer Tan Sri Mohamed Hassan Marican and is scheduled to meet Malaysian Mining Corporation Bhd chairman Datuk Syed Abul Jabbar Shahabuddin tomorrow.

Malaysia's presence in Sudan's economy is led by investment in the country's oil sector by Petronas which, through a four-member consortium, is pumping some 200,000 barrels of Nile crude oil per day from the Muglad Basin in South Sudan.

There are previous reports of a planned investment in Sudan's mining industry by a major Malaysian mining company.

Sudan is also rich in gold, diamond and copper.

-- BERNAMA

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