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DR MAHATHIR ACCEPTS INVITATION TO MEET THE POPE

PUTRAJAYA, May 26 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today that he has agreed to accept the invitation to meet Pope John Paul II at the Vatican next month.

"I accept...we'll endorse (the decision) when the Cabinet meets," he told reporters after attending the wedding of the daughter of his aide-de-camp, Fazilah Lazim, at Precinct 9, here.

Dr Mahathir is expected to meet the head of the Roman Catholic Church at the Vatican in conjunction with his visit to Switzerland and Luxembourg from June 9 to 12.

The prime minister was earlier reported by Reuters to have been invited to the Vatican by the Pope and he has said that he would inform the Cabinet of the matter.

Various parties have welcomed the meeting to be held between him and the Pope as it will enhance relations between Muslims and Roman Catholics at the national and international level.

-- BERNAMA

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