

20 APR 2002  
Mahathir-dinar  
PM EXPECTS OPPOSITION TO DINAR

MANAMA, April 20 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said he expects opposition to Malaysia's proposed adoption of gold dinar for trading between countries but it could still took off with the participation of only two countries.

"If we can have just two countries (for instance) Malaysia and another country to trade using gold dinar that will be good enough," he told a rare press conference on board an aircraft on the way here from Tripoli, Libya on Saturday.

Dr Mahathir and his 185-member delegation are on a week-long tour of the north african states of Morocco and Libya and the Gulf island state of Bahrain to boost bilateral and trade relations.

He said when he met Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi, the latter was interested to know more about the gold dinar.

"We explained to him that it is just a currency for trade between two countries. So for the domestic economy you use your own currency," said Dr Mahathir.

The use of the dinar, he said, is not confined to just Islamic countries but can also be adopted by the non-Islamic countries.

Libya, he said, has expressed its eagerness to know more about the gold dinar but had not said it would agree to use it.

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