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G8-MAHATHIR

MAHATHIR HOLDS MEETING WITH CHINA'S PRESIDENT BEFORE LEAVING FOR JAPAN

By: Yong Soo Heong

LAUSANNE, June 2 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today held a closed-door meeting with China's President Hu Jintao along with two other leaders from developing countries on the sidelines of G8 Summit in Evian.

Also present were Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and Algerian president Abdelaziz Bouteflika who, like Dr Mahathir, had come for the Enlarged G8 Summit.

After the meeting, Dr Mahathir left by road to Geneva to catch a plane to Frankfurt before flying off to Japan for an official visit.

Dr Mahathir arrived here on Saturday with his wife, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, to attend the Enlarged G8 Summit.

During his stay here, the prime minister also held bilateral talks with South African President Thabo Mbeki, French President Jacques Chirac and Russian President Vladimir Putin. -- BERNAMA

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