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OIC-Gratitude

OIC TO PRESENT LETTER OF GRATITUDE TO DR MAHATHIR

PUTRAJAYA, Oct 14 (Bernama) -- The Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) will present a letter of gratitude to Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for his contributions to the development of the Muslim ummah and Malaysia.

Speaking at a media conference at the end of the two-day OIC ministerial preparatory meeting here today, Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar said the resolution on the matter was tabled by Sierra Leone and was unanimously approved by member countries.

"It is a meritorious award which has never been done before. It will be signed by the chairman of the ninth OIC Summit (Qatar) and the (OIC) Secretary-General (Dr Abdelouahed Belkeziz)," he said.

The letter is expected to be presented to Dr Mahathir at the OIC leaders summit on Thursday and Friday.

Syed Hamid said that coming from Malaysia and acting as the chairman of the ministerial meeting, he was reluctant to accept the resolution without the approval of the OIC members.

"It would not be right for me to get (accept) the resolution without the membership approving it. But it was approved unanimously by the member countries of the OIC," he said.

Earlier, when closing the ministerial talks, Syed Hamid thanked all the ministers and other participants for their understanding and cooperation which made it a success.

He said that some member countries had expressed a keen interest to see the interactive sessions made a permanent feature of the meeting because it allowed for a free exchange of views and ideas.

"But we need to continue to forge unity so that the summit on Oct 16 and 17 will be even more successful," he said.

The minister said Malaysia would do its utmost to ensure that the OIC leaders would have a productive summit which could steer the 57-member grouping to greater heights.

-- BERNAMA

MAM MKO JK