

17 AUG 2003

M'SIA AND SYRIA SIGN 12 AGREEMENTS & MOUs ON COOPERATION

DAMASCUS, Aug 17 (Bernama) -- Ties between Malaysia and Syria have received a boost following the signing of 12 agreements and Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) between the two countries in conjunction with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's visit here.

The agreements and MoUs, which aim to further enhance cooperation between the two countries, were signed today in the presence of Dr Mahathir and his Syrian counterpart Mustapha Miro.

Earlier, the two Prime Ministers co-chaired a delegation meeting between the two countries at the Prime Minister's office.

The Malaysian delegation also included Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar, Energy, Communications and Multimedia Minister Datuk Amar Leo Moggie, Science, Technology and Environment Minister Datuk Seri Law Hieng Ding, Johor Menteri Besar Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman, Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Musa Aman and leaders of more than 20 companies.

The agreements are on economic, cultural, scientific and technical cooperation.

The MoUs include one signed between the Central Bank of Malaysia and the Central Bank of Syria and one on news exchange between the Malaysian National News Agency (Bernama) and the Syrian Arab News Agency (Sana).

-- BERNAMA

MOK NM YBY