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Putin-Abdullah

PUTIN CONGRATULATES ABDULLAH ON APPOINTMENT AS NEW PM

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 1 (Bernama) -- Russian President Vladimir Putin has congratulated Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi on his appointment as the new Prime Minister, succeeding Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"I am confident that under your leadership Malaysia will further pursue the dynamic way of progress and prosperity, will continue taking an active stand in the international arena, playing a constructive role in international organisations including the UN, Non-Aligned Movement, Organisation of the Islamic Conference," he said in his message to Abdullah.

A copy of the message was faxed to Bernama by the Russian embassy here today.

Putin, who was in Malaysia to attend the opening of the 10th OIC Summit as a guest on Oct 16, said he had cordial memories about their meetings in Putrajaya.

He said he looked forward to fruitful interaction with Abdullah to further develop the friendly and mutually beneficial Russian-Malaysian relations.

Putin also reiterated his invitation to Abdullah to make an official visit to Russia.

"I wish you all the success in carrying out your high mission," he said.

In a smooth transfer of power, Abdullah was sworn-in as the country's fifth prime minister before Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Syed Putra Jamalullail at Istana Negara here yesterday.

-- BERNAMA

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