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Dr M accepts offer to be Petronas adviser

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ROME, Sat. - Former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad has accepted the offers to be adviser to Petronas, the Langkawi Development Authority and the Tioman Development Authority.

"Yes, I have accepted the offers. I have informed them", he said after a dinner hosted by Malaysian ambassador to Italy, Datuk Lily Zachariah at her residence, Villa Mandorli at Via Lucio Volumnio here last night.

Petronas chairman Tan Sri Azizan Zainul Abidin had recently said appointing Dr Mahathir as adviser was appropriate as he had provided much input and ideas when he was Prime Minister which had helped to turn the corporation into an international oil company. He was also responsible for pushing Petronas' expansion overseas.

"He convinced the company to expand its operations abroad. The move has been proven right as Petronas now earns more revenue from its overseas ventures compared to domestic operations," Azizan had said.

Dr Mahathir is in the Italian capital to deliver the 23rd McDougall Memorial lecture at the opening of the 32nd Session of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation Conference.

He is accompanied by his wife, Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali.