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# Busy days for PM in Davos

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## Abdullah attends forum amid jittery global climate

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**DAVOS:** Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi flew here yesterday for the World Economic Forum annual meeting to be held against a backdrop of global financial turmoil.

The summit has taken a more sober note in the wake of Monday's share plunge that resulted in stock markets worldwide suffering the biggest fall since Sept 11, 2001.

More than 2,500 delegates from 88 countries - including 27 heads of state or government and over 1,370 CEOs/chairmen - are attending the meeting themed "The Power of Collaborative Innovation."

The Prime Minister and his wife, Datin Seri Jeanne Abdullah, were received by Malaysian Ambassador to Switzerland Datuk Mohd Yusoff Ahmad at the Zurich International Airport.

The Malaysian delegation included Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar, Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Datuk Seri Dr Jamaluddin Jarjis and Terengganu Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Idris Jusoh.

Shortly after his arrival, the Prime Minister held a meeting with *The*

*Economist* chief editor John Micklethwaite and attended a dinner hosted by the forum's executive chairman Prof Klaus Schwab.

He will be kept busy throughout today holding talks with Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf and Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko.

Abdullah will also be interviewed by *World Business Today* as well as hold discussions with Standard Chartered Group chairman Mervyn Darvies.

In the afternoon, the Prime Minister will be one of the speakers in a plenary session "Faith and Modernisation" to be chaired by former British premier Tony Blair.

Tomorrow, Abdullah is scheduled to call on Swiss President Pascal Couchepin, hold talks with Austrian Chancellor Alfred Gusenbauer, meet the co-chairs for WEF East Asia 2008 and be interviewed by CNN.

The same afternoon, he will join a panel of speakers including his Singaporean counterpart Lee Hsien Loong and Philippines President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo in a plenary session titled "The Emerging Asian Community: The Role of Asean."



**Welcome, PM:** The Malaysian delegation greeting Abdullah upon his arrival at the Fluela Hotel in Davos yesterday to attend the World Economic Forum. — Bernama