

Dr Mahathir arrives in Papua New Guinea for APEC Meeting

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PORT MORESBY (Papua New Guinea), Nov 16 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad arrived here Friday for the 26th Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting from Nov 17-18.

The plane carrying Dr Mahathir and his wife, Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali touched down at the Jackson's International Airport at 9.25pm local time.

They were greeted on arrival by Papua New Guinea Deputy Prime Minister Charles Abel and Foreign Affairs Minister Rimbink Pato.

Also present were Foreign Minister Datuk Saifuddin Abdullah and Malaysian High Commissioner to Papua New Guinea Mohamad Nasri Abdul Rahman.

This is Dr Mahathir first appearance at APEC as the seventh Prime Minister.

The last APEC meeting he attended was in 2003 in Bangkok as the then fourth Prime Minister.

Papua New Guinea is in the global spotlight as some of the world's leaders, including China's President Xi Jinping are converging here for the annual summit.

The leaders will discuss strategies to boost inclusive Asia-Pacific trade and digital development for the 21 member economies, which account for half of world trade and 60 per cent of GDP globally.

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