

# Developing nations should get these benefits: Mahathir

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KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. — Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said tonight that developing countries should receive greater benefits from their exports of raw materials.

For instance, he said, Malaysia should obtain better profits and revenue than what it was getting now from her rubber exports.

He said Malaysia only received revenue from the sale of the commodity and did not get any benefits from associated services like the transport and shipping, insurance, storage and distribution of rubber.

These associated services were with the developed countries, he told reporters on his arrival at the RMAF base here after attending the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad) fifth session in Manila.

## Problems

"If we study the facts carefully, we find that the price of Malaysian rubber is far less than the price paid for by consumer countries.

"This is because the cost factors like insurance, transport, storage and distribution have not been taken into account."

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said Malaysia's criticisms of international workers' unions and labour unions in industrialised countries were well received by developing countries attending the meeting.

"These countries congratulated Malaysia for bringing up the issue and other problems which have all along been neglected," he said.

He said socialist countries, while supporting developing countries in their stand, failed to make any statement on what Unctad should do to help them.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said Malaysia was the first among developing countries to contribute US\$1 million (M\$2.3 million) to the Unctad Common Fund