

MAHATHIR-UNIDO

80. (P)
KUALA LUMPUR, JAN. 22 (BERNAMA)—DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD HAS APPEALED TO DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO EFFECT AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE COST THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER POINTED OUT THAT THE ABSURDLY HIGH TRANSFER FEE DEMANDED BY SOME COUNTRIES WOULD MAKE RECIPIENT COUNTRIES SUFFER FROM AN UNDULY LONG PERIOD FOR A RETURN IN INVESTMENT.

HE SAID IN ADDITION, THE RECIPIENT COUNTRIES MIGHT ALSO HAVE TO PAY INTEREST FOR THE CAPITAL BORROWED FROM THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR WHO IS ALSO THE TRADE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER WAS ADDRESSING THE THIRD UNIDO GENERAL CONFERENCE IN NEW DELHI TODAY. THE TEXT OF HIS SPEECH WAS RELEASED HERE.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR STRESSED THAT THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY WAS A NECESSITY IF AN INTERNATIONAL DIVISION OF LABOUR IN INDUSTRY WAS TO BE ACHIEVED.

ADMITTING THAT IN TIME THE POORER COUNTRIES COULD DEVELOP THEIR OWN INDUSTRIES, HE LAMENTED THAT THE PROCESS WAS TOO SLOW.

—BERNAMA MORE HM 2254
MAHATHIR-UNIDO 2 KUALA LUMPUR

HE SAID: "FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL DIVISION OF LABOUR, TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY SHOULD BE DONE NOW AND AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE COST."

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR BELIEVED THAT TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER WAS NOT HARMFUL TO THE INDUSTRY, ECONOMY OR LABOUR OF THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

HE SAID IF THE RIGHT TECHNOLOGY WAS TRANSFERRED FOLLOWING AN AGREED DIVISION OF LABOUR, THERE WOULD BE A DECIDED ADVANTAGE FOR THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

EARLIER, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR STRESSED THE NEED FOR A WILL BY DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO ACHIEVE THE LIMA RESOLUTION OF 1975—THE APPORTIONING OF 25 PER CENT OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES BY THE YEAR 2000.

HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT WITH A PROPER AND CAREFUL STUDY, THE TARGET SET FOR THE REDISTRIBUTION AND APPORTIONING OF INDUSTRIES WOULD BE ACHIEVED.

"THE WORLD COMMUNITY SHOULD COMMIT ITSELF TO THIS AND THERE MUST BE THE MUCH TALKED OF 'POLITICAL WILL' IF WE ARE GOING TO ACHIEVE WHAT WE KNOW IS JUST AND RIGHT—THE LIMA RESOLUTION," HE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE LAST THING THAT SHOULD BE DONE WAS FOR THE RICH NATIONS TO CLOSE THEIR MARKETS AND HIDE THEIR TECHNOLOGY.

—BERNAMA HM 2300