

ND11: (F)
SUMMIT-CONCLUSION

TAIF, JAN. 29 (BERNAMA) — MALAYSIA HAS BEEN NOMINATED A MEMBER OF AN ORGANISATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF THE SAHELIAN COUNTRIES. OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ARE SAUDI ARABIA, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES AND PALESTINE.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMITTEE WAS PROPOSED BY THE LEADER OF THE PALESTINIAN LIBERATION ORGANISATION, ENCIK YASSER ARAFAT, DURING ONE OF THE WORKING SESSIONS OF THE THIRD ISLAMIC SUMMIT CONFERENCE WHICH ENDED HERE EARLY TODAY.

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER (DALUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMMAD) WHO LED THE MALAYSIAN DELEGATION TO THE CONFERENCE, SAID MALAYSIA WAS HAPPY TO ACCEPT THE NOMINATION.

DETAILS PERTAINING TO THE COMMITTEE'S WORK, INCLUDING ITS FRAME OF REFERENCE, WERE YET TO BE WORKED OUT, HE SAID IN AN INTERVIEW WITH MALAYSIAN JOURNALISTS AT THE END OF THE SUMMIT CONFERENCE. — BERNAMA MORE 0943/LK

SUMMIT-CONCLUSION 2 TAIF

THE SAHELIAN COUNTRIES ARE COUNTRIES SITUATED TO THE SOUTH OF THE SAHARA DESERT IN THE CORNER OF AFRICA.

THE COUNTRIES WHICH INCLUDE MALI, SOMALIA, ERITREA, COMOROS AND SUDAN, HAVE BEEN SUFFERING FROM CONTINUOUS SEVERE DROUGHT FOR THE PAST SEVEN YEARS.

ABOUT TWO MILLION PEOPLE, MOSTLY MUSLIMS, AFFECTED BY THE DROUGHT, ARE FACING STARVATION AND DEATH.

ON THE MECCA DECLARATION APPROVED BY THE CONFERENCE AND WHICH, AMONG OTHER THINGS, CALLS FOR AN ISLAMIC UNITED FRONT TO LIBERATE JERUSALEM AND OTHER OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES FROM ISRAEL, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THERE WAS NO PROBLEM FOR MALAYSIA TO ACCEPT IT.

+WE HAVE HAD NO RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL. THERE IS NO PROBLEM FOR US TO ACCEPT THE DECLARATION+ HE SAID.

ASKED HOW MALAYSIA WOULD FIT INTO THE CONFERENCE'S CALL FOR +JIHAD+, THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID THE WORD DID NOT NECESSARILY MEAN +TO GO TO WAR+.

+WE WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE WITHIN OUR MEANS TO HELP SOLVE THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM+ HE ADDED. — BERNAMA MORE 0946/LK

ND13: (F)
SUMMIT-CONCLUSION 3 TAIF

ON HOW SPÉ WOULD GO ABOUT DOING THIS, BEARING IN MIND THAT AT LEAST TWO ASEAN MEMBER COUNTRIES HAD DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH ISRAEL, HE SAID MALAYSIA WOULD PUBLICISE THE PROBLEMS AND THE TYRANNY PERPETRATED BY THE ISRAELIS AGAINST THE PALESTINIANS.

+OF COURSE WE CANNOT FORCE OTHER ASEAN COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL TO ACCEPT OUR VIEWS BUT WE CERTAINLY WILL TRY TO PUT FORWARD THE PALESTINIAN SIDE OF THE STORY+ HE ASSURED.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ACCUSED ISRAEL OF COVERING UP+ FOR ILLEGAL JEWISH SETTLEMENTS ON THE OCCUPIED WEST BANK. +IF THE ISRAELI ARMY CAN REMOVE THE PALESTINIANS AS THEY WIS , THERE IS NO REASON WHY THEY CAN'T REMOVE THEIR PEOPLE WHO ARE ILLEGAL SETTLERS+ HE SAID.

REFERRING TO THE COOPERATION OF THE CHRISTIANS IN THE ATTEMPT TO LIBERATE JERUSALEM, HE SAID THEY AD NOW FOUND A COMMON CAUSE.

IT WAS NOW OBVIOUS THAT THE PALESTINIANS DID NOT CONSIDER THE ISSUE A MATTER OF RELIGIGUS INTOLERANCE — OF ISLAM NOT BEING ABLE TO ACCEPT THE JEWS.

THE PALESTINIANS, INCLUDING THE CHRISTIANS, HAD REALISED THAT ZIONIST EXPANSIOCISM AFFECTED NOT ONLY ISLAM BUT ALSO CHRISTIANITY. — BERNAMA MORE 0950/LK

NO14: (F)
SUMMIT-CONCLUSION 4 TAIF

ACCORDING TO THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, THE PALESTINIANS WERE TRYING TO ESTABLISP A COMMUNILY ACCEPTABLE TO ALL, INCLUDING THE JEWS.

HE REGARDED THE CHRISTIAN COOPERATION IN THE STRUGGLE AS SINCERE AS SEEN FROM THE SUPPORT GIVEN TO YASSER ARAFAT AND THE LIBERATION MOVEMENT.

ON THE CONFERENCE, DATUK SER IDR. MAHATHIR SAID HE CONSIDERED IT ASUCCESSAS IT GAVE THE OPPORTUNI YFOR THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT TO RENEW THEIR PLEDGES AND COVITTMENT. — BERNAMA 0952/LK