

NO77 (F)
MAHATHIR - CALL

FROM ABDUL RAHMAN SULAIMAN

JEDDAH, JAN. 30 ((BERNAMA) — DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD
HAS URGED MEMBERS OF THE ORGANISATION OF ISLAMIC COUNTRIES
(OIC) TO DEVELOP GUIDELINES ON THE UTILISATION OF FUNDS.

IN HIS SPEECH ON BEHALF OF ASIAN HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT
AT THE CLOSE OF THE ISLAMIC SUMMIT, THE TEXT OF WHICH WAS RELEASED
HERE TODAY, THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID THESE COUNTRIES
SHOULD NOT DISSIPATE THEIR EFFORTS AND SCARCE HUMAN RESOURCES BY
CREATING NEW AGENCIES AND INSTITUTIONS.

+WE SHOULD INSTEAD FOCUS MORE ATTENTION ON CONSOLIDATING
AND STRENGTHENING THE EXISTING INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK TO MEET THE
TASKS AHEAD, + HE SAID.

DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDELINES TO GOVERN THE UTILISATION OF FUNDS,
HE ADDED, WOULD ENSURE THAT THESE WOULD BE CHANNELLED TOWARDS
AREAS THAT WOULD STRENGTHEN THE PRODUCTIVE BASE OF THEIR
ECONOMIES AND REDUCE THE WIDE DISPARITY AMONG MEMBER STATES.

HE SUGGESTED THAT MEMBER COUNTRIES TAKE NOTE OF PREVAILING DIVERSITY IN RESOURCE ENDOWMENTS AND LEVELS OF DEVELOPMENT, AND WORK TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE ECONOMIC COMPLEMENTARITY. —BERNAMA MORE 1723/MD
NO78 (F)
MAHATHIR - CALL 2 JEDDAH

HE SAID IT WAS ALSO NECESSARY TO DELINEATE THE TIME SPAN DURING WHICH OBJECTIVES WERE EXPECTED TO BE ACHIEVED, AND TO FOCUS SYSTEMATICALLY ON SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM PROGRAMMES. +TO MAKE AN INITIAL IMPACT, IT IS NECESSARY TO GIVE PRIORITY TO PROJECTS THAT HAVE A RELATIVELY SHORTER GESTATION PERIOD THAT WILL LEAD TO VISIBLE RESULTS+, HE SAID.

CONSIDERABLE EMPHASIS, HE ADDED, SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES TO MINIMISE CONTINUING DEPENDENCE ON EXTERNAL SOURCES FOR LABOUR, SKILLS AND TECHNOLOGY.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID MEMBER STATES SHOULD SEEK TO STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND THEIR ABILITY TO RECEIVE AND UTILISE EFFECTIVELY TECHNICAL AND OTHER FORMS OF ASSISTANCE.

BOTTLENECKS IN THE ABSORPTIVE CAPACITY OF MEMBER STATES SHOULD BE IDENTIFIED AND THE NEED FOR SELF-RELIANCE FIRMLY ESTABLISHED AS A BASIS FOR A SOUND COLLECTIVE EFFORT. —BERNAMA MORE 1734/MD

MAHATHIR2CALL 3 JEDDAH

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ALSO UNDERLINED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NEED TO MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT IN MOULDING AND TRANSFORMING ATTITUDES TOWARDS SELF IMPROVEMENT AND ADVANCEMENT.

+ULTIMATELY, OUR ABILITY TO PROGRESS DEPENDS ON HOW HARD WE WORK AND HOW INNOVATIVE WE ARE IN SEEKING OUT AND EXPLOITING PRODUCTIVE AVENUES+, HE SAID.

HE SAID THE NET EFFECT OF THESE GUIDELINES IN THE SELECTION OF PROJECTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION WOULD GO A LONG WAY TOWARDS FULFILLING THE CHERISHED GOALS OF COLLECTIVE SELF-RELIANCE AND REDUCE DEPENDENCE ON EXTERNAL SOURCES FOR SURVIVAL.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND DATIN SERI DR HASMAH MET MALAYSIANS WORKING IN SAUDI ARABIA AT A RECEPTION HOSTED BY THE MALAYSIAN AMBASSADOR HERE DATUK YERI HAJI KAMARUDDIN BIN MAT ISA, LAST NIGHT. —BERNAMA 1738/MD