

MAHATHIR

FROM EFFENDI ARIFFIN

OTTAWA, JAN. 14 (BERNAMA) -- THE PEACE AND STABILITY THAT ASEAN WANTS FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA CAN NEVER BE ACHIEVED WITHOUT SETTLEMENT OF THE KAMPUCHEA ISSUE, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID LAST NIGHT.

+IT IS THEREFORE, ESSENTIAL FOR ASEAN AS WELL AS COUNTRIES OUTSIDE THE REGION TO WORK TOWARDS THE RESTORATION OF THE INDEPENDENCE, SOVEREIGNTY AND NATIONAL INTEGRITY OF THE KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE, + HE ADDED AT 4 DINNER GIVEN IN HIS HONOUR HERE BY CANADIAN PRIME MINISTER ELLIOT TRUDEAU.

THE MALAYSIAN PRIME MINISTER SAID THE ABILITY OF THE COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA TO REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF THE KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE MUST BE RECOGNISED.

AND MALAYSIA NOTED WITH SATISFACTION CANADA'S RECOGNITION OF THE COALITION GOVERNMENT AND APPRECIATED ITS SUPPORT OF EFFORTS TO FIND A DURABLE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM, HE ADDED.

REFERRING TO CANADA-ASEAN TIES, HE SAID THERE WAS SCOPE FOR GREATER COOPERATION IN THE ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL AND INDUSTRIAL FIELDS.

-- MORE 1145/ZI

MAHATHIR 2 OTTAWA

++THE CONTINUOUS DIALOGUE BETWEEN CANADA AND THE ASEAN COUNTRIES COULD ENGENDER A CLOSE PARTNERSHIP IN THE INTEREST OF EACH OTHER'S PROSPERITY AND WELL-BEING OF NATIONS IN THE REGION, HE SAID.

AS FOR THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE, HE CALLED FOR A STRONG SENSE OF URGENCY IN WORKING TOWARDS A MORE SATISFACTORY ORDER OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS.

HE SAID: +THERE IS NEED FOR ALL NATIONS TO MUSTER THE WILL TO PUT THE PRESENT WORLD ECONOMY IN ORDER. THE DECLARATIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND STATEMENTS EMANATING FROM THE VARIOUS ECONOMIC SUMMITS AND CONFERENCES MUST BE CARRIED INTO THE REALM OF ACTION.

THE FAILURE SO FAR TO ADDRESS THE NORTH-SOUTH QUESTION HAD CAUSED FRUSTRATION AND EVEN DISILLUSIONMENT IN SOME QUARTERS.

+IT IS SMALL WONDER THAT MANY COUNTRIES HAVE FOUND IT EASIER NOT TO ENTER INTO ENDLESS EMOTIONS AND COSTLY DELIBERATIONS WHICH ACHIEVE NO RESULTS. IT IS ACTION THAT IS NEEDED, + THE PRIME MINISTER ADDED.

--- MORE 1210/ZI

MAHATHIR 3 OTTAWA

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT MALAYSIA WAS TAKING VARIOUS STEPS TO PROMOTE COOPERATION AMONG COUNTRIES IN THE SOUTH.

IT HAD LAUNCHED ITS OWN TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMME WITH A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC AND AFRICA.

+WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO ACHIEVE MUCH, BUT AT LEAST IT IS BETTER THAN HOLDING ENDLESS CONFERENCES, HE SAID.

HE THANKED THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT FOR THE UNDERSTANDING IT HAD SHOWN IN RESOLVING PROBLEMS RELATED TO THE ACQUISITION OF GUTHRIES CANADA BY THE PNB, THE MALAYSIAN NATIONAL EQUITY CORPORATION.

--BERNAMA 1226/AN