

B E339 AAE  
ASEAN-MAHATHIR R'R'R'

KUALA LUMPUR, JULY 8 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD HAS CALLED ON VIETNAM TO RESPOND CONSTRUCTIVELY TO ASEAN'S APPROACHES TO SOLVE THE KAMPUCHEAN ISSUE.

OPENING THE 18TH ASEAN MINISTERIAL MEETING (AMM) AT SHANGRI-LA HOTEL HERE TODAY, HE SAID VIETNAM MUST BE BROUGHT TO REALISE THE NEED TO ENGAGE IN MEANINGFUL DIALOGUES TO REMOVE THE IMPEDIMENTS TO PEACE IN KAMPUCHEA.

+THE BIGGEST POLITICAL CHALLENGE CONFRONTING ASEAN TODAY, AS IN THE RECENT PAST, IS THE KAMPUCHEAN QUESTION,+ HE SAID.

+UNFORTUNATELY, OF LATE THERE HAS BEEN A LACK OF RESPONSE TO THE INITIATIVES OF ASEAN.+ -- MORE

0935MST 08 07 85

ASEAN-MAHATHIR 2 KUALA LUMPUR R'R'R'

(ASEAN IS PROPOSING INDIRECT DISCUSSIONS OR +PROXIMITY TALKS+ AMONG THE PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE KAMPUCHEAN CONFLICT BUT HANOI HAS REPORTEDLY REJECTED THE PLAN.)

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE ONLY GUARANTEE OF A VIABLE

SOLUTION TO THE KAMPUCHEAN ISSUE LAY IN THE REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION OF THE VITAL INTERESTS OF ALL THE PARTIES TO THE DISPUTE, IN CREATING A SITUATION THAT ALL CAN LIVE WITH AND NONE WILL SET ABOUT TO UNDO.

+LET US NOT FORGET THAT TRUE PEACE, TRUE STABILITY, TRUE SECURITY ARE DYNAMIC PROCESSES WHICH HAVE TO BE SUSTAINED OVER TIME,+ HE SAID.

+AS MUCH AS THE OTHER STATES IN THE INDOCHINESE PENINSULA AND INDEED EVERYWHERE ELSE DESIRE TO LIVE FREE AND INDEPENDENT IN THEIR OWN HOMELAND, SO DO THE KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE.+ -- MORE

0944MST 08 07 85

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ASEAN-MAHATHIR 3 KUALA LUMPUR R'R'R'

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID ASEAN MUST CONTINUE TO BE PATIENT, TO BE PROACTIVE, TO CONSIDER EVERY POSSIBILITY AND TO WORK WITH DETERMINATION AND CREATIVITY IN ITS SEARCH FOR A JUST, PRODUCTIVE AND VIABLE SOLUTION TO THE KAMPUCHEAN QUESTION.

HE LISTED THE FOLLOWING IMPERATIVES WHICH HAD TO BE MET TO ARRIVE AT SUCH A SOLUTION:

+ THE SUFFERINGS OF THE KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE MUST BE ENDED WHILE THAILAND'S SECURITY MUST BE ENSURED= AND

+ THERE MUST BE A GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AND THE KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE PROVIDED WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION AND TO ENSURE A STATE OF KAMPUCHEA THAT IS SOVEREIGN AND INDEPENDENT ( THIS MEANS THAT FOREIGN TROOPS CANNOT BE ON KAMPUCHEAN SOIL).

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0954MST 08 07 85

ASEAN-MAHATHIR 4 KUALA LUMPUR R'R'R'

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT FOR A SETTLEMENT TO BE PRODUCTIVE IN TERMS OF THE LONG-TERM PEACE, SECURITY AND STABILITY OF SOUTHEAST ASIA, IT MUST NOT BE PROVOCATIVE TO ANY POWER.

+WE SHOULD ASPIRE TO A POLITICAL SOLUTION WHICH ESTABLISHES THE GROUND RULES FOR THE GAME OF PEACE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, WHICH ESTABLISHES THE PRINCIPLE THAT THERE MUST BE RESPECT FOR EACH OTHER'S INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, WHICH ESTABLISHES THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERFERENCE IN EACH OTHER'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND WHICH ESTABLISHES THE PRINCIPLE OF PACIFIC SETTLEMENT -- THE LIVING RULE THAT ALL DISPUTES SHALL BE RESOLVED BY PEACEFUL MEANS,+ HE SAID.

ASEAN SHOULD ALSO ASPIRE TO A SOLUTION THAT WOULD ENHANCE THE PROSPECTS FOR THE REALISATION OF A ZONE OF PEACE, FREEDOM AND NEUTRALITY IN THE REGION WHERE CONFIDENCE AND UNDERSTANDING COULD FLOURISH AND COOPERATION COULD PROSPER. -- MORE

1008MST 08 07 85

ASEAN-MAHATHIR 5 KUALA LUMPUR R'R'R'

THE PRIME MINISTER TOLD THE FOREIGN MINISTERS THAT THEY WERE MEETING AT A TIME OF CHALLENGE AND OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHALLENGES, HE SAID, MUST BE CONFRONTED BY CREATIVE DEXTERITY AND IRON RESOLVE, WITH PRAGMATISM GUIDED BY A CLEAR STRATEGIC VISION WITH REGARD TO THE DICTATES OF NATIONAL INTERESTS AND THE DEMANDS OF ASEAN'S FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.

THE OPPORTUNITIES MUST BE GRASPED WITH EQUAL CREATIVITY, WITH EQUAL RESOLVE, WITH SIMILAR PRAGMATISM AND DEPTH OF STRATEGIC VISION.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT FOR A LONG TIME +WE NEVER HAD IT SO GOOD+, AS IN THE PERIOD OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC TURMOIL IN THE SEVENTIES= WHEN MANY COUNTRIES IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD DID BADLY, ASEAN STATES PERFORMED EXCEEDINGLY WELL, GENERALLY EMERGING AS THE FASTEST GROWING REGION IN THE WORLD. -- MORE

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ASEAN-MAHATHIR 6 KUALA LUMPUR R'R'R'

+WE WERE PART OF THE ENGINE OF GROWTH OF THE ENTIRE PACIFIC BASIN AND THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC SYSTEM,+ HE SAID.

+WE ARE STILL PART OF THE ENGINE OF GROWTH AND THE DAYS AHEAD ARE BY NO MEANS DARK.

+BUT THE SKIES IN THE REST OF THE EIGHTIES THREATEN MUCH RAIN AND MANY STORMS.+

HE SAID THAT THE PROSPECTS FOR COMMODITY PRICES IN THE SHORT AND MEDIUM TERM +DEMAND THAT WE CONTINUE TO STRENGTHEN OUR EFFICIENCY AS WORLD BEATERS.+

PRODUCTIVITY MUST BE PUSHED TO NEW HEIGHTS.

THE TIDE OF GROWING PROTECTIONISM AND MORE BLATANT COMMODITY MARKET MANIPULATION DEMANDED THAT ASEAN ACT WITH RESOLVE AND WHERE NECESSARY IN CONCERT TO KEEP THE OPEN DOORS FROM BEING CLOSED AND TO BREAK THE STRANGLEHOLD OF INSTITUTIONS CREATED BY MARKET MANIPULATORS FOR THEMSELVES.

+WE APPRECIATE ALL THAT IS BEING DONE BY JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES AND ELSEWHERE BY THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN DOORS.

+WE STRONGLY DEPRECATE THE ACTIONS OF THOSE WHO CHAMPION PROTECTIONISM.+ -- MORE

1106MST 08 07 85

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B E352 AAE  
ASEAN-MAHATHIR 7 KUALA LUMPUR

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT IN A FAST-CHANGING INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT, ASEAN MUST CONTINUE TO BE +QUICK OF FOOT+ ABLE TO RESPOND AT THE GOVERNMENTAL LEVEL AND IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO MARKET CHANGES AND PRODUCT DEMANDS.

IT HAD TO MAKE SURE THAT THE ECONOMIC TENSIONS BETWEEN ITS FRIENDS -- UNITED STATES AND JAPAN -- WERE NOT ESCALATED AND IN FACT SEE THAT THEY WERE DISSIPATED.

+ABOVE ALL WE ENSURE THAT THE SOLUTION IS NOT AT OUR EXPENSE,+ HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT MALAYSIA AND THE OTHER STATES OF ASEAN MUST CONTINUE TO ENSURE THAT ASEAN REMAINED THE FOCUS OF THEIR ATTENTION AND THE CORNERSTONE OF THEIR RESPECTIVE FOREIGN POLICIES. -- BERNAMA