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 CHOGM-MAHATHIR
 FROM SYED JAMIL JAAFAR

(P) Tmp Overseas

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 NASSAU, OCT 18/ (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD HAS UNDERLINED THE NEED FOR ALL COUNTRIES TO STICK TO COMMON VALUES AND WORK TOGETHER TO SOLVE SOME OF THE PROBLEMS BESETTING THE WORLD.

HE SAID THAT WHILE IT WAS TRUE THAT ALL COUNTRIES BELONGED TO ONE WORLD, THE REALITY WAS THAT THEY WERE DIVIDED INTO MANY WORLDS AND MANY GROUPS WITH MANY VIEWS AND POSITIONS.

BUT, HE POINTED OUT, THEY ALL SHARED THE SAME VALUES -- THE RIGHT TO BE FREE AND THE DESIRE TO SEE FAIRNESS, JUSTICE AND EQUALITY.

COUNTRIES, NO MATTER HOW DIFFERENT THEIR IDEOLOGICAL SYSTEMS, COULD WORK TOGETHER IF THEY STUCK TO THESE VALUES, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR TOLD PRESIDENTS AND FELLOW PRIME MINISTERS ATTENDING THE COMMONWEALTH SUMMIT HERE YESTERDAY.

HE WAS THE LAST OF NINE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT TO SPEAK ON GLOBAL TRENDS AND PERSPECTIVES, DEBATE ON WHICH WAS KICKED OFF BY BRITAIN'S MARGARET THATCHER AND INDIA'S RAJIV GANDHI.-- MORE

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FOREIGN MINISTRY SECRETARY-GENERAL TAN SRI ZAINAL ABIDIN SULONG TOLD MALAYSIAN NEWSMEN THAT THE PRIME MINISTER SPOKE STRONGLY AGAINST ANY COMPROMISE ON THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERFERENCE IN THE AFFAIRS OF ANOTHER COUNTRY.

RESPONDING TO THE DEFENCE ON THE FOREIGN INTERVENTION IN GRENADA, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT MAJOR POWERS HAD THE CAPACITY NOT ONLY TO INTERVENE IN THE AFFAIRS OF ANOTHER COUNTRY BUT ALSO THE CAPACITY TO AGITATE THE PEOPLE OF A COUNTRY TO ALLOW FOR THAT INTERVENTION.

HE SAID THAT IF THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERFERENCE AND NON-AGGRESSION WAS IGNORED, THE SMALL STATES OF THE WORLD WOULD NEVER BE SAFE.

TAN SRI ZAINAL SAID THE PRIME MINISTER ALSO CRITICISED THE WORLD PRESS, PARTICULARLY THE WESTERN PRESS, WHICH HE SAID CONTROLLED WORLD OPINION AT THE EXPENSE OF THE SMALL COUNTRIES WHICH HAD NO MEANS OF REDRESS.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO UNDERLINED THE IMPORTANCE OF MODERATION BUT REGRETTED THAT EXTREMISM TENDED TO BE HIGHLIGHTED, THUS NOT GIVING ANY HELP TO THE MODERATES. -- MORE

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HE ALSO SPOKE ON THE DRUG PROBLEM AND APPEALED FOR INTERNATIONAL ACTION TO COMBAT THE THREAT.

DESCRIBING DRUG ADDICTS AS +DEAD PEOPLE STILL WALKING AROUND+, HE EXPLAINED TO THE COMMONWEALTH LEADERS WHY MALAYSIA HAD FOUND IT NECESSARY TO IMPOSE HARSH PENALTIES ON DRUG TRAFFICKERS.-- BERNAMA 1222MST 18 10 85