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PARLIAMENT-COMMONWEALTH
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, OCT 29 (BERNAMA) -- NATIONAL LEADERS ATTEND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES NOT TO SEEK POPULARITY BUT TO SOLVE PROBLEMS; DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ABDUL KADIR SHEIKH FADZIR TOLD THE DEWAN RAKYAT TODAY.

REPLYING TO A SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION FROM ENCIK LIM KIT SIANG (DAP-KOTA MELAKA), HE SAID THE STAND TAKEN BY NATIONAL LEADERS WAS THAT THEY WOULD ONLY ATTEND AN INTERNATIONAL FORUM IF IT WAS BELIEVED IT COULD CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS PROBLEM-SOLVING.

HE SAID PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD DECIDED TO ATTEND THE COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING (CHOGM) IN NASSAU, BAHAMAS, RECENTLY BECAUSE HE WANTED TO USE THE OPPORTUNITY TO URGE MEMBERS TO UNITE AND ACT AGAINST APARTHEID.

IN REPLY TO THE ORIGINAL QUESTION FROM ENCIK TAN KOK HOOI (BN-PAHANG SERAI), HE SAID THE PRIME MINISTER WAS CONCERNED OVER DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA AND WAS OF THE OPINION THAT IF ACTION WAS NOT TAKEN TO BOYCOTT THE NATION NOW, IT MIGHT BE TOO LATE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE RISING TENSION THERE.

HE SAID THE PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH AT CHOGM HAD ELICITED POSITIVE RESPONSE. -- MORE

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REPLYING TO A SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION FROM WAN MOHAMED NAJIB MOHAMAD (BN-PASIR PUTEH), ENCIK ABDUL KADIR SAID HIS SPEECH HAD LED TO SERIOUS DISCUSSIONS ON THE ISSUE OF APARTHEID AT THE CONFERENCE.

AS A RESULT, SEVERAL BENEFICIAL DECISIONS HAD BEEN ARRIVED AT DURING THE CONFERENCE AND HAD LED TO A SOFTENING IN THE STAND OF BRITAIN WHICH HAD INITIALLY BEEN ALL SET TO STICK TO ITS GUNS (TO OPPOSE ANY ECONOMIC SANCTION MEASURE AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA). --
BERNAMA

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