

# Shortlist for Dr M's steering committee ready

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KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. — Several names have been shortlisted for selection as members of the steering committee, chaired by Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, for the establishment of an independent Commission of the South on development issues.

The Prime Minister, who accepted the chairmanship of the steering committee at the recent Second South-South Summit held here, had then said that the committee hoped to submit a report at the heads of Governments of the Non-Aligned Movement meeting in Zimbabwe on Sept 2.

The Deputy Secretary-General (Economics) of

the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Datuk Mohammed Noor Adlan Yahayaudin, said today that those who had been shortlisted would be notified soon.

He added that once the steering committee had been set up it would lay the groundwork for the setting up of the commission.

The commission, which will comprise about 20 individual members, will among others, come up with practical solutions to address problems facing the South.

The members of the commission will be selected in their individual capacities and will not represent any Government.

They will work on the guidelines prepared by the steering committee.

Datuk Noor Adlan said a six-member advisory panel was set-up to select the members of the steering committee and the panel met the Prime Minister to discuss various issues related to the setting of the committee.

"We have undertaken the preparatory process and identified the possible members of the committee. They will be informed when Dr Mahathir gives the green light," he said.

The steering committee is being formed in consultation with the Third World Foundation and the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) and Malaysia has pledged to make a contribution towards the expenses for the setting up of the committee.