

D787

U E393 AAE
MAHATHIR-COMMONWEALTH

P

KUALA LUMPUR, JUNE 13th (BERNAMA) -- MALAYSIA SAID TODAY IT IS NOT SURPRISED THAT THE COMMONWEALTH EMINENT PERSONS GROUP (EPG) HAS DECIDED TO ABANDON ITS PEACE INITIATIVES IN SOUTH AFRICA DUE TO THE +UNCOMPROMISING+ WHITE PRETORIA REGIME.

PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID MALAYSIA HAD ALL ALONG BEEN SCEPTICAL ABOUT THE SUCCESS OF THE COMMONWEALTH EFFORT SINCE THE EPG WAS FORMED AT THE LAST COMMONWEALTH SUMMIT IN NASSAU, BAHAMAS.

+THE COMMONWEALTH HAS NOW TO CONSIDER THE ALTERNATIVE OF IMPOSING COMPREHENSIVE MANDATORY ECONOMIC SANCTIONS IN VIEW OF THE EPG'S FAILURE,+ HE SAID IN A STATEMENT ISSUED BY WISMA PUTRA AT THE END OF THE EPG'S PEACE INITIATIVES IN SOUTH AFRICA..

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID HE STRONGLY BELIEVED THERE WAS NO OTHER EFFECTIVE AND PEACEFUL WEAPON THAN ECONOMIC SANCTIONS TO FORCE THE RACIST REGIME TO DEMOLISH APARTHEID.

THE URGENCY TO BRING AN END TO THE BLOODSHED AND DEATH IN SOUTH AFRICA HAD BECOME MORE ACUTE THAN EVER IN VIEW OF THE INCREASING REPRESSIVE MEASURES BY THE MINORITY WHITE REGIME IN PRETORIA AGAINST THE BLACK MAJORITY, HE ADDED.

THUS, HE SAID, HE URGED THE COMMONWEALTH AS WELL AS THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO SERIOUSLY CONSIDER IMPOSING COMPREHENSIVE MANDATORY ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST PRETORIA. -- BERNAMA

1823MST 13 06 86