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MAHATHIR-MUSA (RPTN CORRECTING PARA 3)

KUALA LUMPUR, AUG 31 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THE GOVERNMENT HAS NO PLAN TO APPOINT FORMER DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DATUK MUSA HITAM AS A FULL-TIME AMBASSADOR.

HE SAID DATUK MUSA HAD ONLY BEEN APPOINTED AS A SPECIAL ENVOY IN CONNECTION WITH THE COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING (CHOGM) WHICH MALAYSIA WAS HOSTING IN OCTOBER.

HE WAS REPLYING TO QUESTIONS FROM REPORTERS AFTER PRESENTING PRIZES TO THE WINNERS OF THE +ORANGUTAN+ MASCOT DRAWING COMPETITION AT THE CENTRAL MARKET HERE.

HE WAS ASKED TO COMMENT ON FOREIGN NEWS AGENCY REPORTS TODAY SAYING THAT HE HAD APPOINTED DATUK MUSA AS AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS WITH MINISTERIAL RANK.

ASKED ON THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH A MOVE, HE SAID IT HAD NOT BEEN DETERMINED BY THE CABINET, -- MORE (ENDS CORRECTED RPTN)
2006MST 31 08 89

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MAHATHIR-MUSA 2 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ANNOUNCED ON SATURDAY THAT DATUK MUSA HAD BEEN INCLUDED IN THE MALAYSIAN DELEGATION TO THE FORTHCOMING UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO BE LED BY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER GHAFAR BABA.

ON WHETHER MALAYSIA'S OFFER TO HOST A CONFERENCE ON CAMBODIA STILL STANDS, HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD DO ANYTHING THAT COULD PUT AN END TO THE UNFORTUNATE WAR.

+WE ARE NOT GIVING UP HOPE,+ HE SAID.

EARLIER HE PRESENTED THE TOP PRIZE OF \$5,000 TO NIK ABDULRAHMAN HUSSAIN, SECOND PRIZE OF \$3,000 TO PAUL CHIN AND THIRD PRIZE OF \$2,000 TO CHEE ENGHONG. TWENTY OTHERS RECEIVED CONSOLATION PRIZES.

-- BERNAMA

1070MST 31 08 89