

R E437 AAE
EMBARGO: FOR RELEASE AFTER 9.30 TONIGHT.
MAHATHIR-UN
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, NOV 11 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMED SAID TONIGHT MALAYSIA FULLY SUPPORTS THE MOVE BY THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN NEW YORK TO HAVE A CONVENTION ON CHILDREN'S RIGHTS.

HE SAID MALAYSIA ALWAYS GAVE PRIORITY TO CHILDREN'S INVOLVEMENT IN UN DAY CELEBRATIONS.

+THIS TRADITION IS VERY COMMENDABLE BECAUSE WHATEVER THE WORLD BODY STRUGGLES FOR TODAY IS FOR THE FUTURE WELL-BEING, SECURITY AND PROSPERITY OF CHILDREN THROUGHOUT THE WORLD,+ HE SAID AT THE 44TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS OF THE UN HERE.

MALAYSIA, AS A STRONG UN SUPPORTER, ALWAYS TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO VOICE OUT FIRMLY ON IMPORTANT ISSUES AT ITS ASSEMBLIES, HE SAID.

UN, FORMED AFTER THE WORLD HAS SEEN TWO WORLD WARS, HAS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN CREATING A SAFE AND PROSPEROUS WORLD BY PREVENTING WARS, ENSURING HUMAN RIGHTS, AND PROMOTING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC GROWTH, HE ADDED. -- MORE

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THE SPIRIT OF THE UN CHARTER ENDORSED ON JUNE 26 1945 SHOULD BE INSTILLED AMONG THE YOUNG SO THAT THEY WOULD HAVE A RESPONSIBLE AND COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE TO EVOLVE A PROSPEROUS WORLD, HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID ALL UN MEMBER COUNTRIES AGREED THAT THERE SHOULD BE IMMEDIATE AND EFFECTIVE ACTION AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS TO IMPROVE THE FATE OF CHILDREN IN MANY PARTS OF THE WORLD.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO RECORDED HIS APPRECIATION TO ALL CHILDREN AND PARENTS FOR THEIR SACRIFICES. --BERNAMA

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EARLIER, THE PRIME MINISTER AND HIS WIFE, DATUK SERI DATIN PADUKA DR SITI HASMAH ALI, AND DEFENCE MINISTER TENGKU AHMAD RITHAUDDEEN, WHO IS ALSO UNITED NATIONS MALAYSIAN ASSOCIATION (UNMA) PRESIDENT, JOINED SOME 300 CHILDREN TO SING +IT'S A SMALL WORLD+.

THE CHILDREN, SOME FROM SEVERAL LOCAL KINDERGARTENS AND SOME WHOSE PARENTS ARE SOVIET UNION AND JAPANESE EMBASSY STAFF, ALSO ENTERTAINED THE CROWD WITH SONGS AND DANCES AS WELL AS A DRAMA.

PRESENT WERE MEMBERS OF FOREIGN MISSIONS IN THE COUNTRY.

UNMA WAS SET UP IN 1985. -- BERNAMA
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