

# Malaysia offers to help ANC exiles

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KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. — Malaysia has pledged to provide assistance to the African National Congress (ANC) to meet the needs of its exiled members who are returning to South Africa.

Details of the type of aid including the amount and how it will be channeled would be finalised later by the Cabinet.

ANC leaders have also been invited here to further discuss their needs including training facilities.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad gave the pledge to black nationalist leader and ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela who called on him at his office here this morning.

During the hour-long meeting, Mr Mandela said there was an urgent need to provide facilities, particularly, housing, for ANC leaders returning to their homeland.

Most of them had fled to the Zambian capital of Lusaka where they had set up headquarters when the white regime outlawed the ANC in 1952 but since the lifting of the ban on the party by President F.W. de Klerk earlier this year the headquarters shifted to Jo-

hannesburg and most of them returned to their homeland.

Foreign Ministry deputy secretary-general Datuk Abdul Majid Mohamad, briefing reporters after the meeting, said Mr Mandela, who accepted Malaysia's aid offer, was attracted to the country's housing development programme.

Dr Mahathir told Mr Mandela that he would discuss the amount and how to provide the assistance with the Cabinet.

Malaysia will also provide training facilities to the ANC in relevant areas.

Mr Mandela is here on a four-day visit, the second last stop of his five-nation tour of the Asia-Pacific region. He has visited Indonesia, Japan and Australia and will leave for Brunei on Sunday.

Mr Mandela, also briefed Dr Mahathir on the latest situation in South Africa, particularly the violence occurring there.

Datuk Abdul Majid said Mr Mandela, who "regretted very much" the violence, denied that this had anything to do with tribal differences.

He said it was the work of the death squad of South

Africa's white security forces.

Mr Mandela, who has consistently blamed the South African authorities for the lack of control over the incidents, said there were factions in the South African security forces which did not want to see the ANC getting stronger and succeeding in negotiating a peaceful settlement.

In the past three years, more than 2,000 people have died in clashes reportedly between followers of the Zulu-based Inkatha movement and the United Democratic Front anti-apartheid coalition which is allied to the ANC.

Mr Mandela said on his return to South Africa, an initiative was being taken to hold, for the first time, a meeting between the executive councils of Inkatha and the ANC.

The Inkatha is led by Chief Mangosuthu Buthe. The ANC is the main organisation fighting white rule.

Mr Mandela said there were elements in South Africa who wanted to undermine negotiations by spreading fear among the black and white population of the country.