

# Business council to study proposals

By Jeffrey Ramayah

**KUALA LUMPUR, Mon.** The Malaysian Business Council, an advisory body designed to meet future economic challenges, will study the recommendations presented by eight of its sub-committees covering different areas of economic activity, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

The Prime Minister said if the recommendations are acceptable, they will be implemented.

"If they are not acceptable, we will ask the respective committees to refine their proposals," he said after chairing an eight-hour meeting of the 62-member council at Bank Negara.

"What we discussed today were the papers submitted by the eight sub-committees on different areas of economic activity

"It is too early to elabo-

rate on the specifics of the recommendations," he said.

This is the third meeting of the council formed on Feb 28 last year.

Dr Mahathir said some of the recommendations were discussed at the meeting today but the Council will have to study all the eight papers.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Raba, Finance Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Paduka Rafidah Aziz, Transport Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik, Energy, Telecommunications and Posts Minister Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu, and Education Minister Datuk Amar Dr Sulaiman Daud.

The eight papers presented today were:

- Achieving an Efficient and Competitive Fiscal/Tax System and Developing and

Deepening the Capital and Securities Market.

It was presented by Anwar who heads the Working Committee on Monetary and Financial Management:

- Strengthening Malaysia Incorporated, by Tan Sri Azmi W. Hamzah on behalf of former Finance Minister Tun Daim Zainuddin who heads the Working Committee on Malaysia Incorporated and the Role of the Private and Public Sectors;

- The Upgrading of the Services Sector in Malaysia, submitted by Bank Negara Governor Tan Sri Jaffar Hussein who heads the Working Committee on Services and an Information rich Society;

- Training of Bumiputera Non-Executive, by Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Ahmad Sarji Abdul Hamid who chairs the Working Committee on Bumiputera Economic Pro-

gress and Participation;

- Developing Malaysian Entrepreneurs, by Tan Sri Azman Hashim, chairman of the Arab-Malaysian Group who heads the Working Committee on Managerial Leadership and Entrepreneurial Development;

- Infrastructure Development by the Capital Issues Committee chairman Tan Sri Basir Ismail who chairs the Working Committee on Infrastructure;

- Human Resource Development by the chairman of Perlis Plantations Bhd Tan Sri Geh Ik Cheong, who heads the Working Committee on Human Resource Development;

- Awareness for Technology Competitiveness by Tan Sri Ramon Navaratnam, chairman of the Working Committee on Science and Technology, the Environment and Sustainable Growth.