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PM WANTS NAM TO ACT IMMEDIATELY TO STOP ATROCITIES IN BOSNIA

Mahathir - NAM

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KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 31 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today Malaysia will urge the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Summit beginning in Jakarta tomorrow to take immediate action to stop the atrocities committed by Serbia in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The Prime Minister said stern action must be taken from now because the Serbians continued to carry out genocide against the Bosnian people while the world community was discussing the recognition of that country (Serbia).

+We cannot wait until more people are killed and tortured in prison camps before taking action,+ he said at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Subang before leaving for the Summit.

Mahathir said Malaysia would try to raise the matter in the NAM Summit + as it needs urgent action.+

Asked on the agenda of the Summit, he said the matter that received Malaysia's urgent attention was the problem in Bosnia-Herzegovania.

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▼31/08/17-13MST

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Mahathir - NAM 2 Kuala Lumpur

He said although the question of Yugoslavia would be discussed by the United Nations, the matter could still be discussed at the NAM Summit.

+The matter can still be discussed at the NAM Summit to enable us to give our views.... if no decision is made, it is just the question of majority,+ he said.

On Yugoslavia's status, Mahathir said Malaysia stood firm with its views that the country no longer existed and there was no reason for Serbia to replace it.

+Finally, Yugoslavia must be declared non-existence either in NAM or the UN because in actual fact other countries do not recognise Serbia as Yugoslavia,+ he said.

The Prime Minister said he did not know of any other action that could be taken by NAM but stressed that every effort should be made to help the Bosnian people.--more

▼31/08/17-35MST

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Mahathir - NAM 3 (last) Kuala Lumpur

+We cannot allow a country to commit atrocities against another while the UN itself was established to prevent such deeds,+ he said.

Mahathir regretted that the UN had not acted against Serbia for its action.

Asked on the move by Sabah government to revoke the immigration procedure allowing other Malaysians and foreigners to enter the state through Labuan without passports, the Prime Minister said it was a backward step.

+By right we should be moving forward towards integration and not backward... we have to study the matter,+ he added.

Present at the airport were Information Minister Datuk Mohamed Rahmat, Agriculture Minister Datuk Seri Sanusi Junid, Law Minister Datuk Syed Hamid Albar and Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Ahmad Sarji Abdul Hamid.

Dr Mahathir was accompanied by his wife, Datuk Seri Datin Paduka Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali.--Bernama

▼31/08/17-57MST