

PM: UNITE FOR NEW WORLD ORDER

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TASHKENT: Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad has said that there must be global consolidation to harmonise structural changes to create a more equitable world order.

The Prime Minister points out that this is best achieved through consensus and consent.

② overseas trips

"In this regard, we have supported the United Nations at every turn," he adds.

He was speaking at a dinner yesterday given in his honour by Uzbekistan President Islam Karimov. The Prime Minister and his delegation had arrived earlier for a three-day official visit.

"The world has witnessed more revolutionary changes within the last three years than have taken place in

all the years since the Second World War.

"Without doubt, these changes have opened new opportunities to build a better world order, based no more on hegemony or coercion but on mutual respect and co-operation.

"All states, big and small, old and new, rich and poor, have to work together so as not to miss this historic opportunity to benefit from the ending of tensions resulting from the end

of the Cold War," he said.

However, he was disturbed at the recent apparent failure of resolve at coping with newer conflicts no less deserving of attention as represented by the tragedy in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

At no time, he said, had the world witnessed such blatant violations of human rights and yet failed to extend

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meaningful help.

"We see the same disturbing failure to resolve at coping with the challenge of a more open global trading system beneficial for all," he said.

"Although Malaysia is a relatively small country, we are nevertheless a substantial trading nation. Our prosperity depends on our trading relations with other countries all over the world, both large and small.

"Much benefit is derived from trading relations between countries. It is for this reason that we have endeavoured to open trading relations with so many countries.

"We are, therefore, committed to strengthening economic and trade relations with your country on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

"Let us work together as partners for our prosperity."

He said Malaysia was

fully supportive of Uzbekistan's economic and political reforms and believed that the two countries could usefully share and benefit from each other's experiences.

After 35 years of independence, he said Malaysia had become a leading manufacturing centre and

exporter of manufactured goods.

Malaysia would be happy to share its experience and expertise, especially in agricultural management, privatisation and industrial development.

For this purpose, Dr Mahathir said Malaysia had established ongoing

economic and technical co-operation programmes with all developing countries.

The Prime Minister said he would also welcome closer co-operation between Asean and the Organisation of Heads of State of Central Asia convened by President Karimov.