

CNS0430

U GE 14-05 00260 EA783

aae

Mahathir-Bosnia

4

JAPAN CAN HELP STOP SLAUGHTER IN BOSNIA, SA-YS DR MAHATHIR

From K.C.Leong

TOKYO, May 14 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister ⁹³ Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today called on Japan to do everything it can to influence Western nations to take effective action on the Bosnian situation to stop the atrocities and killing in that country. ^P Overseas Trip

Japan should do whatever it can to put forward positive views on this issue in the U.N. Security Council so that effective action will be taken, especially to those Western nations which claim to champion human rights, he told Malaysian newsmen here.

The Bosnian issue was among matters raised in discussions he had with Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa yesterday evening, he told the news conference. Dr Mahathir is here to attend an international conference on "Asia's Role in the Changing World Order" where he delivered a keynote address yesterday.

Japan is a non-permanent member of the Security Council and the prime minister said Malaysia had supported Japan's membership in the council in the hope that Japan will play a role not only on issues relating to trade and East Asia but also focus on world affairs.

"And Bosnia is an international problem," he said.

He said that in his meeting with Miyazawa he had sought Japan's views on the Bosnian situation and appealed for greater Japanese interest in the Balkan state where ethnic fighting has raged since the break-up of the former Yugoslavia. -- more

LKC RN

♥14/05/12-01MST

CNS0441

U GE 14-05 00252 EA784

aae

Mahathir-Bosnia 2 (last) Tokyo

The prime minister said he had also discussed with the Japanese leader the situation in Cambodia where U.N.-supervised elections are scheduled to be held later this month although this has been threatened by the pullout from the process by the Khmer Rouge faction.

He said Miyazawa had assured him that Japan would stand firm in its commitment to be involved in Cambodia and would not pull out its contingent to the peace-keeping operations in that country.

Replying to a question, he said that postponing the elections scheduled for May 23 to 28 would not solve the problem because it would not make the Khmer Rouge more co-operative.

The Japanese government has been coming under political pressure, including from some members of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, to withdraw from the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) following the killing of a Japanese civilian police inspector deployed in Cambodia recently.

Asked about the role of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the Supreme National Council which includes all the four Cambodian factions, Dr Mahathir said Malaysia had always supported Sihanouk to play a major role in Cambodia.

He hoped that Sihanouk was not too disappointed over the non-appearance of the Khmer Rouge at an SNC meeting held in Beijing recently and would continue with his efforts to attract the participation of all the Cambodian factions in restoring peace to the country -- Bernama

LKC RN

♥14/05/12-08MST