

CNS0160

R GE 20-10 00226 EF327

aae

MALAYSIA WANTS THE COMMONWEALTH TO DEAL WITH WORLD ISSUES

bm

VALLETTA (Malta), Oct 20 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today Malaysia wants the Commonwealth, as an international body, to discuss current world developments.

Malaysia, he said, had several matters it felt should be raised at the Commonwealth level.

Among the pressing matters was the Bosnia-Herzegovina issue, he told Malaysian newsmen before leaving for Cyprus to attend the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (Chogm) after a two-day official visit to Malta.

Dr Mahathir said that Malaysia could play a role to make the Commonwealth, a loose federation of Britain and its 50 former colonies, more effective.

He said that Malaysia had various proposals towards this end, for example, in the transfer of technology.

Malaysia had been asked to chair a committee to study the restructuring of Chogm.

After the press conference, Dr Mahathir and Datuk Seri Datin Paduka Dr Siti Hasmah left for Cyprus on a chartered aircraft.

The Royal Malaysian Air Force's Falcon aircraft which flew him from Kuala Lumpur had to be left in London because of technical problems.

While here, Dr Mahathir had a meeting with Maltese President Dr Censu Tabone and his Maltese counterpart, Eddie Fenech-Adami. -- Bernama

WAH RM

▼20/10/19-50MST