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Mahathir-Palestine

M'SIA URGES ISRAEL TO BE SINCERE FOR THE SAKE OF PEACE

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 1 (Bernama) -- Malaysia today called on Israel to demonstrate its sincerity to ensure the success of the current peace negotiations with Palestine.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said such an effort had to be made as there remained numerous challenges and obstacles before a final and comprehensive settlement could be attained from of the peace accord between Palestine and Israel.

However, the prime minister said the Sept 13 accord was a positive development to pave the way for a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian issue and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

He said this in a message issued by the Foreign Ministry, here, to commemorate the International Day of Solidarity With the Palestinian People in their struggle for justice and for the right to the their homeland last Monday.

"We also like to call on the other member states of the United Nations to consider rendering assistance to the Palestinians to ensure the success of the process," he said. -- more

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Dr Mahathir reiterated Malaysia's support for the Palestinian people in their struggle for their inalienable rights and justice and wished them success in their new endeavour of national reconstruction and development.

"As a demonstration of its support to the peace process, Malaysia, on its part, has made a modest financial contribution to the Palestinians to help them in their new task," he said.

Dr Mahathir said that like many other member countries of the UN, Malaysia had welcomed the Palestine-Israel mutual recognition and the peace agreement.

The Palestinian issue and the question of a just and comprehensive peace in West Asia had always been at the forefront of the agenda of the UN and other international fora, he said.

"As long as the Palestinian people continue to be denied their inalienable rights and to be subjected to political, social, economic and cultural oppression, it remains the sacred duty of the international community to seek justice for the Palestinians," he added. -- Bernama

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