

PM signs document on children's rights

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. — Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad tonight signed the instrument of accession pertaining to the United Nations convention on the rights of the child at a dinner to mark the International Year of the Family here.

By so doing, Malaysia recognises the importance of the main component of the family, that is, the children.

The instrument of accession will be forwarded to UN

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros Ghali through the Malaysian permanent representative to the UN in New York Tan Sri Razali Ismail.

The convention, adopted by the UN general assembly on Nov 20, 1989, recognised the fact that children, because of their vulnerability, need special care.

Dr Mahathir, accompanied by Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, later launched two 30-second tele-

vision commercials on family values titled "Family Outing" and "Teens".

The television commercials produced by Bank Utama will be screened over television from next month.

It is aimed at encouraging communication and promoting quality time within the family circle.

National Unity and Social Development Minister Datuk Napsiah Omar said in conjunction with the International Year of the Family

1994 several programmes and activities promoting family values had been organised at the national, state and district levels.

Napsiah added the ministry was also carrying out family development programmes and parenting towards producing quality generation in line with the objective of Vision 2020.

For this, the National Population and Family Development board (LPPKN) with the cooperation of Univer-

siti Pertanian Malaysia had prepared a special training programme.

Her speech was delivered by the Ministry's Parliamentary Secretary Yong Khoo Seng.

Also present at the dinner were Foreign Ministry deputy secretary-general I Datuk Abdul Halim Ali, LPPKN director-general Dr Raj Karim and National Unity and Social Development secretary general Dr Zainul Ariff Hussein.