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Commonwealth-Conference

MALAYSIAN MP'S TO STRESS ON DISTRIBUTIONS OF WEALTH

KUALA LUMPUR, July 31 (Bernama) -- Malaysia will stress on distribution of the world's wealth at the 42nd conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) to be held here from Aug 14 to 24.

CPA President Tan Sri Mohamed Zahir Ismail today said this is in line with Malaysia's foreign policy and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's view that the world's wealth should benefit all countries.

Most Commonwealth nations are from the South and that is why Malaysia will be focussing on an economic issue, he told reporters after chairing the Malaysia CPA meeting on the conference here.

Among the issues to be discussed at the conference are women's rights, tourism and child abuse and exploitation, said Zahair, who is the Dewan Rakyat speaker.

The discussions will also focus on cooperation among members of parliament of Commonwealth countries and on maintaining and improving democracy in the countries, he added.

Zahir said 430 participants comprising speakers, ministers and members of parliament from the 53 Commonwealth Countries will attend the conference which is held annually and hosted by Malaysia for the third time.

He said the CPA offers advise to Commonwealth countries that are facing problems but it is up to them to decide how to govern their countries.

He said the association had in the past provided observers during general elections in certain countries that were facing problems such as Bangladesh, Nigeria and Zimbabwe.

"CPA has also been appointed as a mediator to settle problems among the tribes in South Africa," said Zahir.

Also present were Malaysia CPA President Datuk Dr Affifuddin Omar and Dewan Negara Speaker Datuk Adam Abdul Kadir. -- BERNAMA

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