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Mahathir-values

RESPECT LOCAL VALUES AND SENSITIVITIES, M'SIAN BUSINESSMEN TOLD

By: Mokhtar Hussain

ZAGREB, April 19 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has reminded Malaysia's private sector doing business in Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina that their main task was to help in the reconstruction of the two Balkan states.

The Prime Minister said they should respect local laws, values and the sensitivities of the people of both countries.

"My message to them is that they should not exploit anything. They are to be good corporate citizens," he told a press conference here yesterday.

Dr Mahathir is on a working visit here as part of his four-day Balkan tour to promote trade ties and reconstruction of the former Yugoslavia.

On his visit to Bosnia-Herzegovina today, the Prime Minister said he would convey the message from Croatian leaders that they would support efforts towards strengthening of the Bosnian Federation.

On his talks with his Croatian counterpart Zlatko Matesa, Dr Mahathir said besides bilateral relations, they discussed political situation in the region particularly on ways to restore peace in the Balkan states.

He said Malaysia and Croatia also signed an agreement for the partial abolition of visa requirement which would allow people of both countries to travel for 30 days without visa.

Earlier, Dr Mahathir met representatives of the Croatian Islamic Centre, here, where he handed over Malaysian government contributions of DM30,000 (RM50,400) and another DM20,000 (RM33,600) from the Bosnian Action Front.

Malaysian Muslim Youth Movement (ABIM) president Dr Mohd Nur Manuty was also present during the meeting. -- Bernama

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