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Ali-Israel

JERUSALEM:WAY LOBBIES SUPPORT AGAINST NEW ISRAELI CAPITAL

KUALA LUMPUR, June 20 (Bernama) -- The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) is to embark on intense lobbying for support from members against Israel's move to shift the Jewish capital from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem although it is aware such task is a very daunting one.

WAY president Datuk Wira Mohd Ali Rustam said here today the lobbying would be between now and the organisation's general assembly in Oslo in September.

This is in response to yesterday's call by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad that a drive be initiated now to garner world support against Israeli move to relocate its capital to Jerusalem in defiance of a United Nations' resolution.

But Mohd Ali acknowledged:"It is indeed tough to get all-round support but we'll lobby the other countries to respect the UN resolution which rejects any action to alter Jerusalem's status."

He told reporters this after presenting certificates to journalists taking part in a "going-rural" programme.

Mohd Ali, who is also president of the 4B Youth Movement, said he would seek the cooperation of the Malaysian Youth Council to send protest notes to parties in the United States which recognised Jerusalem as the new Jewish capital.

He said US president Bill Clinton should have used his veto in the UN to disapprove the Israeli move which would dampen the Palestinian peace process since Jerusalem is a city of holy shrines for the Jews, Muslims and Christians.

This month the US Congress passed a foreign policy bill which brought Washington closer to recognising Jerusalem as Israel's new capital.

"The superpowers should have defended the UN resolution to preserve the peace in Palestine and safeguard her sovereignty," Mohd Ali said.-- BERNAMA

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