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Mohamed-Terrorist

RTM ASKED TO LABEL TERRORISTS ACCORDING TO THEIR RELIGION

KUALA LUMPUR, April 28 (Bernama) -- Radio and Televisyen Malaysia (RTM) has been asked to speedily label terrorists according to their religion when referring to terrorism perpetrated by non-Muslims.

Information Minister Datuk Mohamed Rahmat said today it was appropriate for the Malaysian media and that of other Islamic countries to identify terrorists by their religion because the Western media was fond of describing Muslims who committed terrorism as Muslim terrorists.

"We must show to the world that non-Muslims also committed terrorism and for instance if terrorism was committed by Christians, we will have to say Christian terrorists," he told reporters after talks with the General Secretary of the Secretariat of Foreign Relations and International Corporation of Libya Dr Salem I. Salem at his office here today.

Mohamed said this when commenting on the proposal by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad that the media in Islamic countries should refer to terrorists based on their religion such as "Christian terrorists" or "Catholic terrorists".

Mohamed said the Western media used the term "Muslim terrorists" as it had a misconception about Islam and also to portray that every act of terrorism in their country was done by Muslims.

He said the Prime Minister's proposal when opening the international symposium on "Islamic World and Global Cooperation" on Friday was timely and appropriate.

Citing the terrorism in Rwanda as an example, Mohamed said the Islamic Media should refer to the terrorists there as Christian terrorists as the majority of its population was Christian so that the world would know that non-Muslims were also committing terrorism.

On the media's role in upholding the teachings of Islam and the sovereignty of the followers of the religion of Allah at global level, Mohamed said RTM had last week signed an agreement with the Middle East Broadcasting Corporation (MBC), a satellite broadcasting company for European countries for the supply of programmes in the form of documentaries and entertainment programmes touching on the daily lives of Muslims.

Mohamed said the programmes supplied to RTM would be dubbed. The MBC programmes were in Arabic and English.

Apart from that RTM through its Voice of Malaysia network from this year would add two more hours to the "Suara Islam" programme bringing it to four hours daily.

The programme in Malay and English was in response to the feedback received from listeners including those from India and Sri Lanka.

Mohamed also said the meeting of Information Ministers from the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) had agreed to have a television network to be called "Islam Vision" to counter the propaganda against Islam by the Western countries.

Malaysia had appealed to the OIC Secretariat to speed up the implementation of the network and expressed its readiness to supply new programmes on Islam.

On his talks with Salem I. Salem, Mohamed, who is also Barisan Nasional Secretary-General (BN), said they discussed cooperation between the BN and the Libyan political party.

"This was in line with the aspiration of the BN to have links with all

ruling political parties in the world irrespective of their systems or ideology," he said.

Salem also invited Mohamed to visit Libya. -- BERNAMA
SJA AAM