

# Soros under fire from MCA for comment

KUALA LUMPUR: International financier George Soros came under fire yesterday from the MCA for his statement calling for the ouster of Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Party president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik told Soros to mind his own business and not to meddle in Malaysia's affairs.

"I think this is another example of absolute arrogance. We are a democratic country and the people had overwhelmingly voted in Dr Ma-

hathir," he said.

Dr Ling said Malaysians had full confidence in Dr Mahathir, adding that his stewardship of the country for so many years had brought progress and development.

"Many developing nations see Malaysia as a model of development," he said in a statement.

"To Dr Mahathir, I must reiterate that all Malaysians are fully behind him. To George Soros, please learn to mind your own business," he said.

MCA international affairs bureau chief Datuk Chor Chee Heung said foreigners must stay out of domestic politics.

Chor said a precedent should not be set where foreigners were encouraged to meddle in domestic issues.

"Once that happens, it never ends. First, (US Vice-President) Al Gore and now Soros, who will be next?" he asked.

Last month, Al Gore had praised the *reformasi* movement, saying there were "brave people."