

ICFTU confident Dr M will recognise its role

PETALING JAYA: The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions expressed confidence yesterday that Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will take the lead in calling for a tripartite partnership between the Government, trade unions and employers during the Apec summit here in November.

ICFTU general-secretary Bill Jordan said, with world leaders acknowledging the possibility of a global recession, the inclusion of trade union representatives would help in developing policies to overcome the crisis. He said there was a need for the vacuum to be

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filled.

"Dr Mahathir is the fourth Apec leader we have met and we share common views such as the need to have regulatory mechanisms to control hedge funds and prevent speculators.

"He has agreed to raise the matter with other Apec leaders at the summit.

"We are also concerned with the increasing poverty amongst the millions of Asian working women, men and their families as a result of the economic crisis," Jordan told reporters following a meeting by ICFTU representatives and the Prime Minister.