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RE-THINK ROLE, DR MAHATHIR TELLS PRESS

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 26 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today the media should re-think its role and use its powers well for the future of mankind.

He said living in a shrinking world, the media could promote a positive concept of neighbourliness.

"The media can help to bring about peace," he said opening the Commonwealth Press Union (CPU) biennial conference here.

"The Press is not called the Fourth Estate for nothing. It is one of the powers which determines the fate of human society because their reach has become global and more significantly it has overcome distance and time completely," he said.

More than 300 delegates from the Commonwealth countries print and electronic media are attending the four-day conference starting today.

Also present at the opening ceremony was Commonwealth secretary-general Chief Emeka Anyaoku.

Dr Mahathir also posthumously presented the Malaysian Press Institute's National Eminent Journalist Award to the late Tun Mohammed Fuad Stephens, a one-time Sabah chief minister and newspaper editor and publisher.

-- BERNAMA

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