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Youth council expresses solidarity with Arafat

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. - The Malaysian Youth Council today expressed support and solidarity for Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat on the declaration of an independent Palestinian State on Sept 13.

MYC president Saifuddin Abdullah said the council also proposed to hold a Malaysian-Palestinian youth solidarity gathering on that day with the expected site to be the International Youth Centre here.

He said the council would also send a letter of support and solidarity to Arafat.

Saifuddin said a similar letter had been faxed to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, expressing Malaysian youth support for the Palestinian move.

He was speaking to reporters after a meeting between MYC and the Malaysian Trades Union Congress at the MYC office in Bandar Tun Razak here.

Palestinian Ambassador to Malaysia Ahmad Al-Farra said yesterday Arafat will make a short working visit to Malaysia to seek support for the Sept 13 declaration of an independent Palestinian State and to brief Dr Mahathir on the latest developments in the Middle East peace process where Israel and Palestine have yet to achieve a final solution to their more than 50-year conflict.

"The MYC understands the sufferings and predicament of the Palestinians. As a body comprising various races, the council's stand on the issue is on humanitarian grounds and not on religion," Saifuddin said.

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