

PM: Unfair reports by foreign media a disservice to clients

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DATUK Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad expressed disappointment over unfair reports by the foreign media which he said were doing a disservice to their clients.

"They (foreign media) must remember that they have a duty to their clients and the people who read or listen to their reports.

"These people make decisions based on the reports and when you tell them something not truthful, they will make wrong decisions and lose money.

"You must tell that Malaysia is a wonderful country, it is peaceful, lots of people are making money and they (investors) should come here and invest," he told a press conference at the end of the first day of the Umno General Assem-

bly yesterday.

Dr Mahathir said that even he was a 'victim' of biased foreign reporting, saying they had not been fair in their reports on him and that his statements were sometimes twisted by them.

On whether he was concerned over the meeting between PAS president Datuk Fadzil Noor and Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer, the Prime Minister said this was a case of "a brown man running away to a white man with his problems."

"We have discarded the idea (of running to white men) already ... we think we are at par with everybody and that we can solve our own problems without running to white men."

Dr Mahathir said Fadzil probably felt that white men

could solve any problem, adding that Australia should attend to the Aborigines' problems instead.

"I am told that in Australian jails there are 17 Aborigines to every single white Australian prisoner. In Malaysia, we have the orang asli and they are not in jail (if) they don't commit a crime," he said.

Dr Mahathir also said that PAS, which has been labelling Umno as unIslamic, secular and even an infidel government, should spell out the kind of government it plans to set up should it come to power.

"PAS should have it in writing, even in Chinese if it wants to, so everybody — the Malays, Chinese and Indians — know what kind of government it wants to set up," he added.