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Terrorism-Sanction

PALESTINE CALLS FOR TOUGH ACTION INCLUDING SANCTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL

SEPANG, March 31 (Bernama) -- Palestine will try its best to convince the Muslim nations and the international community to impose economic sanctions against Israel, its Foreign Minister, Farouk Kaddoumi, said today.

He said Palestine would call for solidarity among Muslim nations in its efforts to put pressure on Israel to stop the on-going atrocities against its people.

"Economic sanctions against Israel is one of our calls during this special session," he told Bernama on arrival at the KL International Airport, here, to attend the special session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on Terrorism.

He said Palestine hoped that the three-day special session, which starts tomorrow, would adopt certain resolutions with regards to economic sanctions against Israel.

"So we hope this conference will adopt certain resolutions in this regard which might commensurate with the drastic situation prevailing...", he said.

In the latest development, Israel has launched a large-scale military operation against the Palestinians in the occupied territories which covered the headquarters of the Palestinian government in Ramallah, where President Yasser Arafat is holed up.

At least 1,000 Palestinians and about 400 Israelis have been killed in the last 18 months of uprising which also uprooted the peace process.

"It's part of our mission here to convey our message to the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) about stern actions needed against the Israelis and the plight of the Palestinians," he said.

Kaddoumi also wants Muslim countries to put pressure on the United States to end the atrocities committed by Israel on the Palestinian people.

Asked whether he would meet Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on the sidelines of the three-day special session, Kaddoumi said: "We hope so. We will pass the message from the Palestinian people and chairman Arafat to him (Dr Mahathir).

"We will also explain about the developments happening in Palestine."

-- BERNAMA

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