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Senate-Winding (Foreign Affairs)

MALAYSIA PLAYING ACTIVE ROLE IN OIC RESTRUCTURING

KUALA LUMPUR, April 15 (Bernama) -- Malaysia which heads the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) Secretariat Restructuring Committee is playing an active role by contributing its ideas and expertise towards improving its administrative structure.

Winding up the debate on behalf of the Foreign Ministry on the motion of thanks to the Yang di-Pertuan Agong in the Dewan Negara, Deputy Education Minister Datuk Abdul Aziz Samsuddin said Malaysia was given the mandate in June last year.

Malaysia would strive to complete the task before it hosted the 10th OIC Summit from Oct 23 to 25 next year in Kuala Lumpur, he said.

"The Right Honourable Prime Minister (Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad) who will chair the 10th OIC Summit will table changes to bring the OIC to greater heights," he said.

Malaysia will be the OIC Chairman from 2003 to 2006.

On the Palestine People Humanitarian Fund, Abdul Aziz said the Fund stood at more than RM51,000 and goods worth RM25,000 had also been collected.

On the call by a Senator to review Malaysia-Singapore relations, Abdul Aziz said relations between the two countries was good but as mutually interdependent nations issues would crop up now and then and these would have to be handled amicably.

On water supply to the republic, he said Malaysia had submitted its proposals and both countries were expected to hold discussions soon.

Abdul Aziz also said Malaysia was monitoring the reclamation works by Singapore to ensure the works did not have adverse effects on this country.

He said the government felt that Singapore should consider Malaysia's interests as its closest neighbour and refrain from action that would bring one-sided benefit.

-- BERNAMA

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