

# Movement names Dr M as joint spokesman

**17 AUG 2003**  
**MBABANE (Swaziland):** Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has been made joint spokesman of the smart partnership movement together with Africa Union chairman and Mozambique President Joachim Chissano.

He was also made a Fellow Emeritus of the Commonwealth Partnership for Technology Management which is the body that organised the Global 2003 International Dialogue.

Heads of state attending the dialogue which ended yesterday decided that Dr Mahathir, who is the Non-Aligned Movement chairman, is an influential leader.

The two leaders were mandated by leaders of the 16 participating countries to promote the smart partnership concept to international fora and forward a united stand on trade and globalisation to the Ministerial Meeting of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in Cancun, Mexico, next month.

Global 2003 concluded with the leaders issuing an "Ezulwini Statement" that demanded rule-based trade from developed countries.

Dr Mahathir told Malaysian journalists that his job was to forward the united stand against unfair trade practices to the WTO.

"If we don't speak out, our views will not be considered at all," he said.

To a question, Dr Mahathir said the heads of state had asked him to continue to play a role in the movement after his retirement.

Dr Mahathir later left for Damascus to begin his three-day state visit.