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NAM-UN

M'SIA ABLE TO LEAD THE WAY IN REVITALISING NAM, SAYS UN

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 25 (Bernama) -- The United Nations (UN) believes that Malaysia, being a South country that has done well for itself, is a very able country to lead the way in revitalising the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

"And Malaysia resolved its (financial) crisis through its own choice of ways and means (that were ) not dictated by anybody else," Lakhdar Brahimi, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan's representative at the 13th NAM Summit here, said today.

He said that as the new chairman of NAM, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad would be able to provide the needed guidance as he was a leader of calibre and was very highly respected in the Third World.

He was also sure that Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi would be able to continue Malaysia's leadership of the NAM after Dr Mahathir steps down this October.

Brahimi said that from his observation, the idea of revitalising the movement had been very well received by its 116 members.

"Everybody likes the idea of revitalising the NAM which was seen as a little bit dormant after the Cold War," he told Bernama here.

On a lighter note, Brahimi said the summit was well organised despite the fact that it involved 116 countries, the second largest grouping of countries after the UN.

"Malaysia has done very well... what has been said now is encouraging, and the slogan they have adopted 'Continuing the Revitalisation of the NAM' is a very good one.

"And now we have three years to see what happens," he said, referring to Malaysia's chairmanship of the NAM for the next three years.

-- BERNAMA

MNY MAM JK