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## Selangor Youth Council seeks volunteers to help Mercy in Iraq

SHAH ALAM, Mon. - The Selangor Youth Council (MBS) will set up a committee with district youth councils to receive applications for volunteers to assist the Malaysian Medical Relief Society (Mercy Malaysia) team in Iraq.

MBS president Datuk Abdul Rahman Palil said MBS had so far received offers from four of their members who were willing to assist the Mercy team, but added they must first be screened.

"We are giving priority to those with medical backgrounds. We will screen their capabilities and fitness before approving them as volunteers.

"We are waiting for Mercy's first report from Iraq when they return as we want to know Mercy Malaysia's needs," Abdul Rahman said, adding that volunteers would go to Iraq under the Malaysian Youth Council (MBM) banner.

Rahman was speaking to reporters after launching the Selangor-level MBM International Peace fund here today.

He added that to his knowledge, the Mercy team had already reached the city of Basra in southern Iraq.

In his speech earlier, Rahman urged the 16 affiliated organisations and district youth councils under MBS to collect money for the Selangor-level fund, which would in turn go towards the MBM national fund.

"For a start, MBS is donating RM5,000 to the fund," he said.

MBM's targeted collection of RM250,000 will be given to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the National Youth Day gathering on May 15.

Rahman also urged the United Nations to play a leading role in the reconstruction of Iraq and put an immediate stop to the war.

"I am saddened not only for the children who are bombed, but also because of the destruction of the country's rich history."