

Youth bodies seek PM's help for OIC intervention

PUTRAJAYA: Several youth bodies, including Umno Youth and one from Indonesia, have handed a memorandum to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi urging the OIC to rescue Lebanon from tragedy.

Indonesia's National Youth Council Centre Board president Hasanuddin Yusuf said Israel's actions in Lebanon were barbaric.

"This is not a religious war but more on humanitarian grounds," he told reporters here yesterday before the start of the Meeting of Friends of the Chair of the 10th Islamic Summit Conference.

Unlike the rowdy protest outside the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre last Friday, only

a group of 100 to silently urge the OIC (Organisation of the Islamic Conference) to do something to stop the Middle East crisis.

The three-page memorandum, among other things, called on the OIC to strongly condemn Israel's aggression and violation of justice and humanitarian principles and hoped the OIC would extend humanitarian assistance and reconstruction aid to Lebanon.

Malaysian Youth Council president Shamsul Anuar Nasarah said the memorandum also urged the OIC to strongly denounce Israel's act of terrorism, to press the UN Security Council to pass a resolution for

people, and unconditional ceasefire, and to mobilise OIC's participation in the international force to implement the ceasefire.

Umno Youth international and NGO relations bureau chairman Datuk Mukhriz Mahathir said the movement hoped the OIC would stand united in its decision to call for an unconditional ceasefire.

Mukhriz, who is also Peace Malaysia coordinator, said Peace was waiting the Government's approval and information from their Middle East counterpart before sending a humanitarian team to the Syrian border to help Lebanese refugees there.