

Peace forum warns US not to attack Iran

PUTRAJAYA: The Perdana Global Peace Organisation has warned the United States not to attack Iran over its nuclear enrichment programme.

Chairman, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, said non-government organisations attending the special session of the Perdana Global Peace Forum yesterday, had expressed their views and hoped that the message could influence the Bush

administration.

"Maybe the people who hear our message would put pressure on Bush," he told a new conference at the end of meeting at the Perdana Leadership Foundation here.

Dr Mahathir said NGOs with its worldwide network could convince the global community that military actions were unacceptable.

He said leaders who waged

war should be let known that their action was not supported by the world community.

The people should not elect such leaders, he added.

Asked if there were plans to meet President George W. Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair, Dr Mahathir said it would be determined later as there were many others that needed to be approached and influenced.

He said attempts, including meetings, to get Bush to change his policies, had been futile.

About 300 people attended the forum.

Former United Nations assistant secretary-general Dennis Halliday said Malaysia, as a leader in many international organisations, should deliver a strong anti-war message at the UN General Assembly.

"As an active member of the

UN, the Malaysian Government could use its influence and rally support from the Asean group and the G77 to oppose acts of violence and halt the impending nuclear war.

"We need a country that is willing to stand up for global peace and convince UN members, especially Security Council members, that war should be criminalised and a nuclear war should be stopped."