

# PM: Why UN needs revamp

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## It'll make it more open and democratic

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**HAVANA:** A revamp of the United Nations to make the organisation more open and democratic is needed in order to redress the difficulties faced by the developing world, said Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

The Prime Minister said the world body had been weakened by unilateralism practised by certain powerful states which have been ignoring international laws.

"Global peace and security continue to elude us. There is a continuing inclination for unilateralism by certain states.

"Some even renounce commitments previously undertaken in their relations with other states. We continue to witness resistance to reform the international economic and financial architecture," he said in his address at the one-day G15 Summit here on Thursday.

Abdullah said there was also resistance to developing countries' efforts to promote the development agenda.

Among other problems facing the world, he said, were:

- FAILURE of the global trade talks;
- UNSTABLE international financial system;
- INEQUALITIES in the distribution of global wealth;
- DISPROPORTIONATE and excessive use of force against Lebanon; and
- OCCUPIED Palestinian territories continuing to suffer atrocities and deprivation.

"Unless there is peace in the world, the development agenda will continue to be shelved or set aside.

"In the name of humanity, we

must commit ourselves to creating a better world for ourselves or the people who will come after us," he said.

He called on developing countries to address these systematic constraints imposed upon them and reinvigorate their struggle for a more just, equitable and peaceful international order.

Abdullah said these countries must work together to ensure that the reform and restructuring of the United Nations led to the strengthening of the multi-lateral processes.

"There must be greater empowerment of the General Assembly rather than the further strengthening of the Security Council," he added.

On G15, he said that although its progress was not satisfactory, the grouping's full potential could be realised if member nations acted in a more coherent and concerted manner.

The prime minister is currently attending the two-day Non-Aligned Movement Summit which began yesterday where Malaysia is handing over the chairmanship to Cuba.