

Abdullah shares recipe for growth

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KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. — A stable leadership, a united people and sound principles have proved sceptics wrong on Malaysia's ability to govern itself well.

"We have not only survived, we have succeeded in transforming ourselves from an agrarian economy into a highly respected industrial country," said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

Today, Malaysia is an active and respected participant in global diplomacy, entrusted to lead both the Non-Aligned Movement and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference.

And the social fabric that binds multi-ethnic Malaysia continues to remain strong.

"We are united in our uncompromising stand on peace, and the stable leadership that has been the bedrock of our nation since

independence remains steadfast," added Abdullah.

His speech was read here today by Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Mustapa Mohamed at the international conference of chief executive officers of the Asia-Pacific region held in conjunction with the Sixth TEC Asia Annual Meet 2004.

Themed "Change: If the rate of change outside is greater than the rate of change inside, then the end is in sight", the international conference of CEOs has attracted about 400 participants.

The Prime Minister's recipe for the country's continued growth and prosperity is:

- a clear, articulated vision;
- pro-actively shaped mind-set and psyche;
- build consensus and

buy-in;

- focus on performance; and

- leverage global networks.

He noted that on-going discipline and determination was necessary to enhance performance at the macro-economic level, creation of shareholder value, performance of companies and performance at the individual level.

Malaysia's population of 24 million was small in the global context, and the country needed to reach out, network and build a good relationship with other countries, he said.

"Malaysia's foreign policy has consistently emphasised collaboration, whether in Asean, OIC or NAM. The strength and power of collaboration and networking provide the competitive advantage not available on our own."