

**Practise moderation in politics, urges ex-diplomat**  
**The Malaysian Insider**  
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**By Lisa J. Ariffin**

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 4 — The Malaysian government should adopt a moderate approach in its political structure, Tan Sri Razali Ismail said today.

“If you look at the politics in this country, it is very much total exclusion of the other side,” Razali told reporters today at the Global Movement of Moderates (GMM) 2012 press conference here.

“So maybe we can phase in politics of moderation in this country, where I’m sure a lot of Malaysians wants something to happen that way — moderation,” he added.

The diplomat was responding to whether he believed the concept of moderation would escalate to mainstream status worldwide.

“It isn’t a question of belief here. It has to be made, we have to do this, and not just internationally, we have to do it in this country,” he said.

“So don’t look too far away, look at our own country. There are improvements we can deal with in terms of our political structure,” he added.

The GMM, organised by International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) Alumni Association came after Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak’s speech during the United Nations (UN) General Assembly 2010 where he called for members and leaders of world’s major faiths to censure and reject their own extremists and jointly support a “movement of moderates”.

Razali said GMM would serve as an important platform that can be used to articulate structure in the facets of “security, politics, military, economics and social”.

“I believe it can be done and I believe a lot of people in Malaysia and everywhere else want this to happen,” he said.

The GMM international conference which will start on January 17 for three days has received overwhelming response from participants all over the world. 300 delegates from over 60 countries have confirmed their attendance as participants.

GMM strives to be a loose confederation of like-minded individuals, organisations, state-actors, non-state actors and intelligentsia that is consistent with the framework of the UN.

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