

**Dr M to be appointed as Yemen economic advisor**  
**The Malaysian Reserve**  
**June 25, 2012**  
**By Farah Saad**

Former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad confirmed that he has been invited to be the economic advisor to the Republic of Yemen. However, he clarified that the invitation from Yemeni Prime Minister Mohamed Salem Basendowah has yet to be formalised.

"I am waiting for some documents or letter that they want to appoint me but so far, I have not received any letters," he said during his keynote address at The Malaysian Reserve's (TMR) 5th anniversary celebration in Kuala Lumpur last Friday.

Dr Mahathir had visited Yemen earlier this month on Mohamed Salem's invitation to be his advisor.

The Malaysian Reserve's anniversary celebration was attended by over 200 corporate executives including Tun Dr Siti Hasmah, Syed Hussain Publications Sdn Bhd chairman Tunku Ya'acob Tunku Abdullah, Redberry Sdn Bhd executive chairman Datuk Mohamed Al Amin Abdul Majid and chief executive officer (CEO) Datuk Siew Ka Wei.

During the question and answer session moderated by The Malaysian Reserve group editor/chief operating officer Halim Wahab, Dr Mahathir further articulated his views that Malaysians are now capable of contributing to the world by sharing their experiences and knowledge.

"I believe that over time, Malaysians will understand better the places outside of Malaysia. Now they are comfortable and knowledgeable on Malaysia. In other countries there are certain skills and certain knowledge that we have (obtained), we can (now) go there and make use of the expertise."

To a question on private and public sector partnership, Dr Mahathir reiterated that the partnership between the private and government sector via "Malaysia Inc" has proven to be a successful initiative which has brought economic benefits to the country in the form of infrastructure development and economic activities. He believes that the "Malaysia Inc" model is a very successful initiative that can be shared with other developing countries.

To another question on Malaysians working in other countries, Dr Mahathir expressed his opinion that it should not be a major concern. Malaysians should be free to go abroad and work by sharing their knowledge and experience.

Dr Mahathir believes that they will eventually come back to Malaysia. "This is their home," he said explaining that Malaysians should not be overly concerned about our senior executives working to help other countries.

The all-business daily, The Malaysian Reserve celebrated its fifth year in publication, with a celebration at the Seri Pacific hotel, entitled "An Evening With Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad".

In his speech, Tunku Ya'acob said that he had started the newspaper with CEO Syed Mohamed Fazilla Syed Hussain in 2005 to address a void in the standalone business daily segment. In 2007, two years after applying for a publishing permit, they received approval for a business publication. He immediately began recruiting a team of staff and writers, spearheaded by Halim.

According to Halim, the name of the new publication was decided even before the paper was fully conceptualised.

The paper was created to chronicle the economic and corporate growth by focusing "only on the essential", thereby avoiding information overload to its readers.

The newspaper, says Halim, has achieved several milestones during its five-year journey, including an association deal with The International Herald Tribune (IHT), the global edition of The New York Times.

With the partnership with IHT, both publications now share a common subscriber base.  
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