

## **Malaysia's Moderate Concept Essential In Solving Conflicts, Says UN Representative Bernama**

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KUALA LUMPUR, (Bernama) -- Malaysia's moderation approach may be the right ingredient to formulating effective solutions to resolve or even end conflicts, said United Nations Resident Coordinator for Malaysia, Michelle Gyles-McDonnough.

McDonnough said the concept held the essence of humanitarian values which were appreciated by nations around the globe.

"I think the appreciation of universal values and fundamental freedom that are reflected through the moderation approach are essential ingredients to peace and security building.

"Both permanent and non-permanent members of the UN Security Council as well as General Assembly member states overall would be keen to see the agenda that Malaysia will be putting forward," she told BERNAMA.

McDonnough was interviewed after being a panellist at the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations roundtable discussion on 'Malaysia's Role and Agenda in the UNSC' in Kuala Lumpur, Wednesday.

McDonnough praised Malaysia for continuing to support UN peacekeeping missions.

"Malaysia has really been a long-time supporter, and certainly the UN deeply appreciates the commitment not just shown by the government but also the people of Malaysia who participate in peacekeeping missions as well as efforts to help shift the focus more to peace-building and peace-making," she said.

On Oct 16 last year, Malaysia secured 187 votes from the 193 UN member states to be appointed as a non-permanent member of the UNSC.

Malaysia held a UNSC non-permanent seat for the first time in 1965 and was again elected to the council in 1989-1990. It secured a seat for the third time in 1999-2000.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak had been reported as saying that Malaysia would play its role in determining the measures to be taken, such as in resolving conflicts consistent with international laws and its own principles.

Najib has outlined five priorities to be focused on, which are advancing moderation globally; advocating mediation as an approach to conflict resolution; promoting UN peacekeeping operations; facilitating the peace-building process in strife-torn countries and pursuing deliberations on the UNSC's comprehensive reformation.

Meanwhile, Global Movement of Moderates Foundation chairman Tan Sri Razali Ismail said

Malaysia's promotion of the moderation concept could lead to a stronger UNSC.

He said conflicts could be resolved through dialogue and cooperation among all UNSC member states and not merely through aggressive action.

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