

Overview

Dr Mahathir Mohamad has been prime minister since 1981. He is also president of United Malays National Organisation (UMNO), the main parties in the Barisan Nasional – the governing coalition. He announced he will retire in October 2003, and will not stand for Parliament in the next general election, due by November 2004. Dr Mahathir will hand over power to Abdullah Badawi, the deputy prime minister and the deputy president of UMNO.

The national current plan is the Eighth Malaysia Plan (EMP), which aims for 7.5% annual growth in 2001-2005, with the objective of becoming a fully developed nation by 2020. The government aimed to promote domestic investment, particularly in services such as tourism, education, transport and health, with agriculture as a third engine of economic growth together with manufacturing and science.

ILO Constituents

Government - Y.B. Datuk Dr. Fong Chan Onn is current Minister of Ministry of Human Resources. MOHR has requested ILO technical assistance to address the social impact of the economic recession and other issues in the field of labour, such as the employment of women and part-time workers, labour market information system, training in conflict management and OSH management, social protection, and HIV/AIDS in the world of work.

Employers - The Malaysian Employers' Federation (MEF) is the main employers' organization. ILO has maintained good relations and regular dialogue with MEF as well as extended technical assistance in a broad range of areas.

Workers - The Malaysian Trade Union Congress (MTUC) is the only national Workers' organization. MTUC President, Mr Zainal Rampak is a Governing Body member.

Technical Cooperation

The ILO has provided technical assistance to Malaysia in the areas of occupational safety and health, social security, gender equality in employment, skill training, labour market information and information technology.

- Occupational Safety and Health
- Labour Laws in Malaysia.
- Diploma Course in Industrial Relations
- HIV/AIDS
- Women Workers and Gender Issues
- Social Dialogue
- Social Protection Reform

International Labour Standards and Tripartism

Malaysia has ratified 15 international labour Conventions.