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### M'sia To Submit Report On Children's Rights To UN

General

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KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 14 (Bernama) -- Malaysia will submit a report on children's rights to the United Nations by end of this month, Chairman of the UN Committee on the Rights of Children Prof Jaap E. Doek said Wednesday.

He said the report would be submitted by the Malaysian delegates to the UN Convention On The Rights of The Child on Dec 25 in Geneva.

He said this at a special lecture entitled "Convention on The Rights of The Child: Challenges Ahead" hosted by the Malaysian United Nations Country Team.

Doek said one of the challenges in promoting children's rights was creating the culture of respect for children's rights.

He said there was a need to educate parents, teachers, people working in children's institutions and the public at large on the culture of listening to children's views.

Meanwhile, UN Representative Coordinator Dr Richard Leete said the United Nations Country Team was pleased to note that Malaysia had made remarkable progress over the past three-and-a-half decades, especially in poverty eradication.

"But while Malaysia has made tremendous progress in reducing absolute poverty, there are still about 1.2 million Malaysians living below the national poverty line," he said.

The bulk of these people live in rural areas, and among the poorest are the indigenous communities in Sabah and Sarawak who even face challenges in getting access to basic health and education services, Leete said.

Poverty and social inequalities persisted because many people lack their universally-guaranteed human rights and fundamental freedom, he added.

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