

MAHATH

IR-COUNCIL

KUALA LUMPUR, JUNE 28 (BERNAMA) — THE NEWLY ELECTED UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL IS EXPECTED TO HOLD ITS FIRST MEETING BEFORE JULY 15, JULY 1, A FEW DAYS BEFORE PRIME MINISTER DATUK HUSSEIN ONN RELINQUISHES HIS POST ON JULY 16.

THE MEETING TO BE CHAIRED BY THE NEW PRESIDENT AND PRIME MINISTER DESIGNATE, (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD), IS EXPECTED TO ENDORSE THE APPOINTMENT OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS.

UNDER THE UMNO CONSTITUTION, THE PRESIDENT IS GIVEN THE POWER TO APPOINT SEVEN ORDINARY MEMBERS IN ADDITION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, THE TREASURER AND THE PUBLICITY CHIEF.

THE PRESENT SECRETARY-GENERAL, DATUK HAJI MUSTAPHA JABAR HAS STATED HIS PREPAREDNESS NOT TO SEEK RE-APPOINTMENT TO MAKE WAY FOR THE LOSER OF THE RECENT CONTEST FOR THE DEPUTY PRESIDENCY. — BERNAMA MORE 1245/XS

NO29: (F)
MAHATHIR-COUNCIL 2 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR TOLD REPORTERS DURING A TEA BREAK AT THE UMNO GENERAL ASSEMBLY HERE TODAY THAT THE BARISAN NASIONAL SUPREME COUNCIL WILL MEET ON JULY 15 TO DELIBERATE AND APPOINT A NEW CHAIRMAN.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER IS EXPECTED TO BE ELECTED, THE NEW BN CHAIRMAN TO REPLACE DATUK HUSSEIN WHO WILL PROBABLY ANNOUNCE HIS RESIGNATION AT THE MEETING.

PRIOR TO THE MEETING, PROBABLY IN THE MORNING, DATUK HUSSEIN IS SCHEDULED TO CHAIR HIS LAST CABINET MEETING.

ON JULY 16, DATUK HUSSEIN IS EXPECTED TO HAVE AN AUDIENCE WITH THE YANG DI-PERTUAN AGONG FOLLOWED BY THE SWEARING-IN OF DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR AS THE NATION'S FOURTH PRIME MINISTER. — BERNAMA MORE 1252/A1

NO31: (F)
MAHATHIR-COUNCIL 3 KUALA LUMPUR

ASKED WHEN HIS NEW CABINET LINE-UP COULD BE EXPECTED TO BE ANNOUNCED, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID IT WOULD BE MADE IN DUE COURSE.

HE ADMITTED THAT WHILE IT WAS THE PREROGATIVE OF THE PRIME MINISTER TO MAKE HIS CHOICE FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE CABINET, HE WAS FREE TO CONSULT ANYONE HE LIKED IN MAKING HIS CHOICE.

IT IS NORMAL FOR THE PRIME MINISTER TO CONSULT AT LEAST THE PERSON TO BE APPOINTED TO THE CABINET POST, WHETHER OR NOT HE IS WILLING TO TAKE THE JOB. OF COURSE HE CAN ALSO CONSULT ANYONE HE LIKES. DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR EXPLAINED.

EARLIER, OUTGOING PRIME MINISTER DATUK HUSSEIN ONN TOLD THE ASSEMBLY THAT HE PICKED JULY 16 AS THE DATE FOR HIS WITHDRAWAL ON THE REQUEST OF DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR WHO WANTED SUFFICIENT TIME TO ENSURE THE SMOOTH TRANSITION OF POWER. — BERNAMA

1318/LK

NO31: (F)
MAHATHIR-COUNCIL 4 KUALA LUMPUR (RE-OPENS ITEM NO31)

ON THE COMPOSITION OF THE NEWLY ELECTED SUPREME COUNCIL, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID IT WAS WELL-BALANCED.

HE FELT THAT THE ELECTION OF SEVERAL MEMBERS AS DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER TO THE COUNCIL PROBABLY INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD BE PLAYING AN INCREASING ROLE IN THE AFFAIRS OF THE PARTY. — BERNAMA 1416/A1