

Renew commitment, party members told

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KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. — Umno Baru president Datuk Seri **Dr Mahathir Mohamad** called on all party members to renew their commitment to protect and consolidate the party as the custodian of the country's future.

He also called on them to fulfil their obligations and discharge their sacred responsibilities to the party and nation in the best possible manner.

Dr Mahathir made this call in a message to delegates of the Umno General Assembly which begins at the Putra World Trade Centre on Friday. His message is included in the party's annual report.

The assembly starts with a joint opening of the Youth and Wanita sections by deputy president, Encik Ghafar Baba.

Dr Mahathir said: "Umno will continue to fulfil its duties and

responsibilities as a protector of the Malays, a legacy left behind by previous generations. Umno inherits this task of protecting Islamic and Malay sovereignty and dignity."

He said the next few years will be filled with varied challenges and tests to the party. Mindful of this, Dr Mahathir called on all Malays to rally be-

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hind the party in the common pursuit of national harmony and prosperity.

He said every member has a duty to protect the party from destructive elements. This is important if members want the party to continue with its efforts to unite the rakyat as the nation marches towards progress and a better life.

Dr Mahathir said: "God willing, our hopes of seeing an industrial Malaysia can be realised. But for this, it is essential that we remain strongly united so that the party can be developed into an effective machinery and be an important catalyst to development and national prosperity."

He said the general assembly will go down as an important development in the party's history because delegates will discuss and decide on the party constitution. Some 96 proposals on amendments to the constitution will be discussed at the assembly.

He said the constitution has to move with the times and reflect current needs besides meeting the required emphasis.