

0057

B E248 AAE
UMNO R'R'R'
BM

88 (P)
KUALA LUMPUR, FEB 16 (BERNAMA) -- /~~DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD~~
TODAY ANNOUNCED THE FORMATION OF A NEW PARTY CALLED PERTUBUHAN
KEBANGSAAN MELAYU BERSATU (BARU) OR THE UNITED MALAYS NATIONAL
ORGANISATION (UMNO BARU) TO REPLACE UMNO RULED AN UNLAWFUL SOCIETY
BY THE HIGH COURT HERE RECENTLY.

THE REGISTRAR OF SOCIETIES HAS CONFIRMED THE PARTY'S
REGISTRATION TO ITS PRO TEM COMMITTEE YESTERDAY, THE PRIME MINISTER
SAID.

HE TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE HERE HE WAS APPOINTED THE PRO TEM
PRESIDENT, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER GHAFAR BABA THE PRO TEM DEPUTY
PRESIDENT, INFORMATION MINISTER DATUK MOHAMED RAHMAT THE PRO TEM
SECRETARY AND FINANCE MINISTER DATUK PADUKA DAIM ZAINUDDIN THE PRO
TEM TREASURER.

FOLLOWING THIS, THE PARTY WAS ACCEPTED AS A MEMBER OF THE
BARISAN NASIONAL AT THE BN SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING THIS MORNING
CHAIRD BY MCA PRESIDENT DATUK DR LING LIONG SIK, HE SAID.

THE BN SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING ALSO RE-APPOINTED DATUK SERI DR
MAHATHIR CHAIRMAN OF THE 13-PARTY COALITION. -- MORE
1443MST 16 02 88

0076

B E254 AAE
UMNO 2 KUALA LUMPUR R'R'R'

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO PRESIDED OVER THE MEETING AFTER THE
NEW PARTY WAS ACCEPTED AS A MEMBER AND HE WAS RE-APPOINTED BN
CHAIRMAN, SAID THE APPLICATION TO REGISTER THE PARTY WAS SUBMITTED
BY FORMER UMNO LEADERS, INCLUDING HIMSELF, ENCIK GHAFAR, THE
MENTERIS BESAR AND CHIEF MINISTER AND FORMER UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL
MEMBERS.

HE SAID ITS ESTABLISHMENT CLOSELY FOLLOWED PROCEDURES LAID DOWN
BY THE LAW TO PREVENT ANY QUARTER FROM TAKING ACTION TO BLOCK ITS
FORMATION.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID AMONG THE PROCESSES THAT HAD TO BE
FOLLOWED TO SET UP THE NEW PARTY WAS AWAITING THE REGISTRAR OF
SOCIETIES' RESPONSE TO THE +OLD+ UMNO'S REPLY TO HER (REGISTRAR)
+SHOW CAUSE+ LETTER WHY IT SHOULD NOT BE DE-REGISTERED.

HE SAID BEFORE THE NEW UMNO WAS REGISTERED, THE LEADERSHIP HAD
APPLIED TO REGISTER A PARTY CALLED UMNO 88 BUT THIS APPLICATION WAS
REJECTED.

THIS WAS BECAUSE NO ONE COULD APPLY TO REGISTER A NEW PARTY
HAVING THE SAME NAME BEFORE THE +OLD+ UMNO HAD BEEN CONFIRMED TO
HAVE BEEN DE-REGISTERED, HE SAID.

THIS WAS ALSO WHY THE APPLICATION BY ANOTHER GROUP TO REGISTER
WHAT ITS INITIATORS CALLED +UMNO MALAYSIA+ WAS REJECTED, HE ADDED.
-- MORE

1538MST 16 02 88

0086

B E257 AAE
UMNO 3 KUALA LUMPUR R'R'R'

+UMNO HAD SUBMITTED THE FIRST APPLICATION (WHICH WAS REJECTED) A DAY AFTER THE GROUP APPLIED TO REGISTER UMNO MALAYSIA ON FEB 8, AND (THE FORMER) RECEIVED THE REJECTION LETTER ONE OR TWO DAYS LATER.

+A SECOND APPLICATION WAS MADE ON FEB 13 AND REGISTRATION OF THE NEW UMNO ACCEPTED YESTERDAY,+ HE SAID, ADDING THAT THIS SHOULD SERVE TO REBUT ALLEGATIONS BY SOME PEOPLE THAT THE LEADERSHIP HAD NOT TAKEN ANY ACTION SINCE THE COURT DECISION.

+WE HAD BEEN CARRYING OUT EFFORTS WITH GREAT CARE AND HAD FOLLOWED THE REGULATIONS VERY CLOSELY FOR FEAR THERE WOULD BE MOVES TO FOIL OUR EFFORTS,+ HE SAID.

+EVERYTHING HAS BEEN SETTLED NOW AND UMNO HAS BEEN RESTORED AND ACCEPTED INTO THE BN.+

ASKED ABOUT THE NEW CONSTITUTION, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID IT WAS +MORE OR LESS+ THE SAME AS THE +OLD+ ONE BUT FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE HELD ALTHOUGH THE NEW CONSTITUTION WAS ALREADY LEGALLY VALID. -- MORE

1609MST 16 02 88

0089

B E258 AAE
UMNO 4 KUALA LUMPUR R'R'R'

ON MEMBERSHIP, HE SAID FORMER UMNO MEMBERS WOULD NOT AUTOMATICALLY BE MEMBERS OF THE NEW UMNO -- THEY WOULD HAVE TO MAKE A FRESH APPLICATION.

HE SAID THIS PROCESS WOULD BE STARTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND WAS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED WITHIN A YEAR. A GENERAL ASSEMBLY WOULD BE CONVENED +WHEN THE TIME COMES.+

ON MEMBERSHIP CONDITIONS, HE SAID: +THE MAIN CONDITION IS LOYALTY TO THE PARTY.+

ON THE ASSETS OF THE OLD UMNO, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE MATTER WOULD BE LOOKED INTO IN DETAIL BY THE FORMER UMNO MEMBERS.

THE BN SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING BEGAN AT 11AM AND WAS ATTENDED BY ALL LEADERS OF ITS COMPONENT PARTIES. IT LASTED ABOUT AN HOUR. -- BERNAMA

1614MST 16 02 88