

# Changes made to Umno Baru's constitution

By ROBERT HO

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. — An Umno Baru special general meeting has amended the party's constitution on the election procedures and appointment of officials.

Among the amendments are:

● Any person nominated by an Umno Baru division for the presidency or deputy presidency will automatically re-

ceive 10 votes. This is in addition to the votes cast by the 11 delegates; and

● The party's supreme council to appoint the national Wanita and Youth chiefs from among the division chiefs of the two wings.

Protem president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad told a Press conference after a four-hour meeting tonight that the amendments were to "avoid the bad type of politics practised in the old Umno."

He said it was also to prevent "unhealthy activities like vote-buying and last-minute attempts to influence or threaten a delegate from going against the decision of his division."

"We found that over 80 divisions nominated a particular leader but the votes from those divisions for that leader did not tally," he added.

Dr Mahathir said the amendments would be submitted to the Registrar of Societies tomorrow.

He said that although the pro tem supreme council had the right to hold a special general meeting to approve amendments to the constitution, "we agreed that these amendments will be tabled at the first general assembly."

Dr Mahathir said the Wanita and Youth election procedures at the branch and division levels remain unchanged.

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## Council to appoint chiefs

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State Wanita and Youth chiefs will still be appointed by their national chiefs.

Dr Mahathir said the supreme council decided to appoint the national Wanita and Youth chiefs to avoid unhealthy practices as had happened in the past when their elections became "focussing points" at the general assembly.

Other amendments approved at the meeting were:

● A DIVISION chief is automatically a delegate to the general assembly;

● THE number of division delegates from the Wanita and Youth movements is increased from five to 30;

● A co-ordination committee to be set up at the party headquarters to process the application of anyone who feels his application may be rejected at the division level.

Dr Mahathir said the pro tem supreme council met after the special general meeting to discuss normal party matters like the filling of membership forms.