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Sabah Umno division heads named

Reports by Zulkifli Talib and Wong Chun Wai

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. — The Umno supreme council named today the pro tem heads of the 20 divisions in Sabah.

The list includes six leaders from outside Usno.

They are former PBS vice-president Datuk Kasitah Gaddam (Kinabalu), former Momogun president Edward Sinsua (Penampang), former Usno vice-president Datuk Mohamed Dun Bunir (Kenin-gau), former Deputy Defence Minister Datuk Dzulkipli Abdul Hamid (Gaya), former Usno state assemblyman Haji Karim Ghani (Pensiangan) and former Berjaya member Abdul Rahim Ismail (Tuaran).

The 14 others are former Usno leaders, including Tun Datu Haji Mustapha Harun who heads the Kota Belud Umno division.

Tun Datu Mustapha is also Sabah Umno pro tem liaison committee deputy chairman. Umno deputy president Ghafar Baba heads the committee.

The others appointed are Land and Co-opera-

tive Development Minister Tan Sri Sakaran Dandai (Semporna), Deputy Local Government and Housing Minister Osu Sukam (Papar), Deputy Information Minister Railey Jeffrey (Silam) and Dewan Rakyat Deputy Speaker Juhar Mahirudin (Kinabatangan).

Also on the list are Datu Haji Abdul Salam Datu Harun (Marudu), Encik Saidi Suari (Bandau), Encik Juslie Ajirul (Jambongan), Haji Ampong Puyon (Sandakan), Mr John O.T. Ghani (Kimanis), Encik Onn Ariffin (Limbawang), Dr Yusof Yacob (Padas), Datuk Dr Kassim Kamidin (Tawau) and Encik Yahya Hussein (Tanjung Aru).

Party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said that Umno information chief Datuk Hussein Ahmad had been given the task of organising Sabah Umno.

"The supreme council will hold discussions from time to time with Tun Mustapha within the framework of the Umno political bureau to ensure the setting up of Umno di-

visions in Sabah goes on smoothly," he told newsmen after chairing the supreme council meeting.

Dr Mahathir said with the appointment of six non-Usno members, it was hoped that all misunderstandings and factional problems that existed before Umno was set up in Sabah would be resolved.

Dr Mahathir said the people of Sabah, including PBS members, could join Umno.

Asked whether Umno would screen PBS members wishing to join Umno, he said they would be accepted as long as they expressed their desire to be a member.

Dr Mahathir also said that the Umno Youth and Wanita would set up their pro tem division committees in Sabah soon.

Asked to comment on reports that PBS has decided to drop its intention to form a coalition government with Usno, Dr Mahathir said:

"It is up to them. Whether they are interested or not we have nothing to say."