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Mahathir ''

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KUALA LUMPUR, May 25 (Bernama) -- Umno will carry out its struggle in Sabah at its own pace and not hastily as its long term goal is to secure only genuine support from the people there, party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

Umno must explain to the people of Sabah its objectives so that its future members and supporters would be those who truly understand its struggles, said the Prime Minister.

+We don't just want to be the state government but we believe Umno is for the good of the people in Sabah particularly those who support it,+ he told a press conference after chairing an Umno Supreme Council Meeting at party headquarters here.

He said despite the party's victory in the recent Usukan state by-election, Umno would continue with efforts to gain the confidence of the people of Sabah.

+We will not rush in this matter as we have our long term plan,+ he said. -- more

♥25/05/15-53MST

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Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said the party would decide whether to appoint Sabah Umno representatives to the Supreme Council when the time comes.

Umno would make such an appointment if allowed by its constitution, he said.

Today's Supreme Council meeting discussed the party's role in realising the Prime Minister's vision of a fully developed Malaysia by 2020 and Malaysia's proposal to set up the East Asia Economic Group (EARG), he said.

The council fully supported the two plans, he said.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir also briefed council members on the Cabinet's approval of the national Outline Perspective Plan at its last meeting in Kuching. -- Bernama

♥25/05/16-09MST