

Committee will present its proposals at April 25 meeting

# Umno says yes to Rulers code

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KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. — The Umno Supreme Council meeting tonight agreed to the Code of Conduct for Rulers proposed by its special seven-member committee.

Prime Minister ~~Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad~~, who is also Umno president, said the committee would meet the Rulers on April 25 to present the proposals.

He said the Supreme Council, which met for three hours, made some amendments to the original proposals before adopting them.

Dr Mahathir said details of the code could not be disclosed until the Rulers were informed of its contents and give their approval.

He said the Supreme Council had to hold a special meeting tonight to dis-

cuss the proposals of the code because he would be leaving on Sunday for a six-day official visit to Vietnam.

He said the proposals were arrived at by the party's vice-presidents, secretary general, Wanita and Youth chiefs after several meetings including one with the Rulers.

When asked for comments on criticisms by the opposition on the code, Dr Mahathir said the opposition parties were deliberately attempting to create a conflict between the Rulers and the people.

"They (the opposition) want the people to be angry with the Rulers whenever there is a wrong-doing by a member of the Royal families.

"The opposition is only taking this opportunity to gain political mileage as they have never liked constitutional monarchy and have shown preference for

an imam-style of leadership.

"They want the people to oppose the Rulers.

"That is why Umno has to take action to protect the Rulers and prevent them from doing things that will anger the people," he said.

Dr Mahathir said the Supreme Council also agreed to provide the necessary assistance to Sabah Umno in establishing the various divisions in the state.

He was confident that the state liaison committee headed by his deputy, Encik Ghafar Baba, will get the fullest co-operation.

He said Umno would provide the manpower and expertise to Sabah Umno to establish the divisions.

On the anti-hopping laws of certain states, Dr Mahathir said Umno would refer the matter to its legal advisers for further action.

□ SEE PICTURE ON P4