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Mahathir-Umno

UMNO CONSTITUTION TO BE AMENDED TO DISQUALIFY LATE OBJECTIONS 8

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KUALA LUMPUR, Oct. 9⁹³ (Bernama) -- UMNO President Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today the party's constitution and regulations would be amended to prevent irresponsible people from invalidating party meetings in future.

He said the proposed amendments would ensure that irresponsible groups did not have the opportunity to claim that a meeting was invalid on grounds that it was attended by members who were bankrupts or non-members after they had lost in contests for posts.

"We do not want people who deliberately bring along bankrupts or non-members to meetings so that if they lost in the contest, they can claim the meeting was unlawful," he told reporters after chairing the monthly meeting of the party's Supreme Council at the party headquarters at the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC) here.

The proposed amendments would require objections to a meeting being held to be made before it commenced.

This meant that any objection made after the meeting would not be entertained, he said. -- more

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Mahathir-Umno 2 Kuala Lumpur

Dr Mahathir said the amendments were necessary as there had been cases of party members deliberately bringing along bankrupts or non-members to meetings with the aim of using their presence to frustrate the meetings when they lost in the elections.

"They deliberately do it... so, if they want to accuse (that anyone present at the meeting should not be there) they must do so before the meeting," he added.

This way, those who were not eligible to attend the meeting would be asked to leave, he said.

He emphasised, however, that objections to any member attending a meeting must be backed by hard evidence.

This was to ensure that party members did not abuse the procedure to make unfounded allegations.

Dr Mahathir said the Supreme Council expelled eight members who took party matters to court in accordance with Article 18.3 of the constitution.

Five were from Perak, two from Pulau Pinang and one from Kelantan. -- more

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Those from Perak were Zaimi Mohamed Noor (Kampung Pulau Tiga branch), Mohamed Disa Mat Aras (Kampung Pulau Tiga) and Ishak Sapar (Lubuk Katak), all from the Tapah division and Ahmad Murad Zohudi (Changkat Larang) and Yeop Kamarudin Yang (Kampung Sri Indah), both in Batu Gajah division.

The others were Ishak Mohamed (Mak Mandin) and Mohamed Suhaimy Abdul Samad (Kampung Perlis), both in Bagan division, Pulau Pinang, and Ariff Mansor from the Khatib Ali branch in Pengkalan Chepa division, Kelantan.

Dr Mahathir said they could appeal to the council.

UMNO Secretary-general Datuk Mohamed Rahmat said a committee would be formed to study the party constitution and regulations pertaining to objections to party meetings.

The amendments were only expected to be implemented next year because of insufficient time to table them at the general assembly to be held in another 26 days, he added.

Mohamed, who is the Information Minister, said the people behind the eight expelled members also faced expulsion. -- Bernama

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▼09/10/17-21MST