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HASSAN HARUN WITHDRAWS FROM UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL CONTEST

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 2 (Bernama) -- Umno Supreme Council appointed member Hassan Harun announced today he has withdrawn as a candidate in the party elections in October.

He said he decided not to contest for a seat in the council in order to concentrate on the "roadshow" to explain the programme to corporatise the Umno-sponsored Koperasi Usaha Bersatu Malaysia Berhad (KUB) which clashes with the run-up period to the party elections.

"During the roadshow, I might meet KUB members who are delegates to the Umno general assembly. To avoid contravening the no-campaign party ruling, it is better for me to withdraw now," he told reporters after the launching of the "Canggih" brand of school uniforms produced by KUB.

The brand was launched by Education Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

Hassan, who is chairman of KUB, said Prime Minister and Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad agreed with his decision after being informed about it this morning.

He said he would notify party secretary-general Datuk Mohamed Rahmat of his withdrawal soon.

KUB is scheduled to be corporatised early next year. -- BERNAMA

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