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Muhyiddin-resolutions

TASK FORCE TO SCRUTINISE CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS

LANGKAWI, April 13 (Bernama) -- A special task force headed by the National Sports Council (NSC) Director-General has been given two weeks to study and ensure that all resolutions adopted at the National Sports Convention achieve their objectives.

Youth and Sports Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said today the task force would scrutinise the resolutions before submitting its report and recommendations to the Cabinet for consideration.

"What is our action after this? Will the convention and resolutions adopted this morning remain mere resolutions of academic interests only?" he said when closing the three-day convention opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad here.

Muhyiddin, however, said the changes might not happen overnight but hoped that the objectives could be realised between five and 10 years from now.

Resolutions passed at 12 workshops covered various aspects, including calling for a wider government role in sports development, better coordination among government departments, streamlining the overlapping roles of sports bodies, adopting the sports science approach and a more aggressive media coverage.

Giving an assurance that the government would continue to play its role to develop sports, he hoped that sports associations would continue their activities voluntarily but with a professional approach.

He said Dr Mahathir had consented to the setting up of the National Sports Foundation to promote "Sports For All" concept.

"All these involve heavy financial resources and the ministry will use all its existing facilities and may request for more allocations under the mid-term review of the Seventh Malaysia Plan," he said.

"I will discuss with several corporate leaders the provision of funds for the proposed foundation. We hope to set up more clubs to activate sports activities at the grassroots level," he said.

Muhyiddin said Malaysia was in dire need of a masterplan for sports facilities nationwide to assist in the development of sports infrastructure at the national, state and district levels.

He said Prof Dr Federick Roskam from Germany would be appointed by the ministry as the consultant to help Malaysia draw up the masterplan.

On calls for the creation of a national sports model, Muhyiddin said it was in fact already in existence and only required concerted efforts to strengthen it.

"What is important is to improve the level of professionalism among the administrators of sports associations. I will discuss with sponsors of Rakan Sukan (Partner in Sports) to channel some money for this purpose," he said.

Touching on the roles of the Olympic Council of Malaysia (OCM), Muhyiddin said although certain groups have claimed it was inactive, the OCM was still important and needed to be retained as long as there were Olympic Games and related activities.

Nevertheless, OCM must re-evaluate its roles to suit the present requirements and to meet the country's aspirations, he added. -- Bernama

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