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Abdullah-Umno

UMNO MEMBERS HAVE NO REASONS TO REJECT SUPREME COUNCIL'S DECISION

PULAU PINANG, May 5 (Bernama) -- Umno membership has no plausible reason to reject the decision of the party Supreme Council that party divisions can only nominate Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed and Datuk Sri Anwar Ibrahim as the party president and deputy president respectively for the party general elections this October.

Supreme Council Member Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said today the no-contest decision against the two incumbents was already made at Umno General Assembly last year, and it had the unanimous support of delegates.

"I don't expect members to come up with much argument over the matter," he told reporters after launching the "Gerakan Desa Wawasan" programme at Kampung Sungai Pinang here today.

Answering questions, he said he was unaware of anyone offering himself to contest the party president's or deputy president's post.

Abdullah, who attended the Supreme Council meeting in Kuala Lumpur yesterday said the decision was made unanimously, and added that there was not a single objection heard.

The Supreme Council yesterday also resolved to reject nominations other than those for Dr Mahathir and Anwar, for the two top party posts.

On the decision to defer the date for the party campaign from July 1 to August 1, Abdullah said this was a good move since it gave time for the various divisions to proceed with their activities in peace, without the feeling of being pressured.

Until recently, several divisions felt they were pressured because every candidate for the contest had come to ask the divisional heads to arrange for meetings with other party officials, he said.

"Some had even asked for various assistance and support, and this had certainly affected their routine duties." he added. --BERNAMA

RA AR ABG