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Deputy State Umno liaison heads named

Vijayan Menon; Ramlan Said; Sarban Singh

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. - Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today announced the list of deputy heads of State party liaison committees.

The Prime Minister made the announcement after chairing a three-hour supreme council meeting at the party headquarters.

They are Datuk Azmi Khalid (Perlis), Datuk Abdul Hamid Othman (Kedah), Datuk Annuar Musa (Kelantan), Datuk Dr Yusof Nor (Terengganu), Datuk Shariff Omar (Penang), Datuk Megat Junid Megat Ayob (Perak), Datuk Sabbaruddin Chik (Pahang), Datuk Abu Hassan Omar (Selangor), Datuk Khalid Yunus (Negri Sembilan), Datuk Syed Hamid Albar (Johor), Datuk Dr Suleiman Mohamed (Kuala Lumpur), Datuk Mohd Ali Rustam (Malacca) and Datuk Abdul Ghafur Salleh (Sabah).

Dr Mahathir also announced the chairmen of the respective party bureaus.

They are deputy president Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim (economy), Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak (education), Yusof (information), Abu Hassan (consumer affairs), Abdul Hamid (religion), Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi (foreign affairs) and Datuk Mustapa Mohamed (social and public complaints).

The council also discussed Barisan Nasional's defeat in the Pulau Chondong by-election on Jan 6 and decided that a study would be carried out by the information bureau.

On the entry of former Parti Melayu Semangat 46 members to Umno, Dr Mahathir said it was decided that they would have to become members of existing Umno branches in their respective areas and not be allowed to set up new ones.

"They can either refer directly to the respective branches or liaise with the party headquarters on their admission."

Dr Mahathir also announced the dates for the general assembly which had been set from Sept 3 to 7.

"The pre-council will be on Sept 3, the Youth and Wanita assemblies the following day while the assembly proper will be held from Sept 5 to 7," he added.

Dr Mahathir said the word "Baru" would be dropped from the party's name and an application would be made to the Registrar of Societies.

He also said the council endorsed the country's foreign policy of being on good terms with developing nations and helping them.

"It is clear that these countries welcome the support given by Malaysia for their development."

He said the decision to repeal the Rent Control Act 1966 was also discussed and the council had sought the co-operation of all State Governments to support the move to abolish the Act.

The council felt that State Governments should not carry out excavation for the laying of communication cables independently but co-ordinate such works with other telecommunication companies.

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