

08 NOV 1998

Abdullah-Mahathir

ABDULLAH THANKS DR MAHATHIR FOR APPOINTMENT

JOHOR BAHRU, Nov 8 (Bernama) -- Umno vice-president Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi today conveyed his gratitude to Prime Minister and Umno President Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for appointing him as the Pulau Pinang Umno Liaison chief, succeeding Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

He said he felt honoured by Dr Mahathir's confidence and faith in him to hold the post which fell vacant following Anwar's expulsion from Umno on Sept 3.

He said he would strive to ensure Umno members in Pulau Pinang were committed to the party's struggles in realising the needs of the country, race and religion.

" We (the Pulau Pinang Umno) will be loyal and provide unwavering support to the party's leadership as well as work closely with Umno leaders in other states," he told reporters when asked to comment on his appointment.

Dr Mahathir announced the appointment after the Friday's meeting of the Umno Supreme Council, the party's highest decision-making body.

Abdullah said it was crucial for Umno members to close ranks and enhance their unity given the current situation in the party.

"It is in situations like this party members must unite and be disciplined to enhance Umno's strength and stability," he said.

He also gave an assurance the Pulau Pinang Umno would implement all programmes entrusted to it and abide by the party's constitution.

-- BERNAMA

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