

03 SEP 1998

Anwar-Meeting

ANWAR ATTENDS SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 3 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, who was dismissed as Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister yesterday, attended the Umno supreme council meeting here tonight.

Prime Minister and Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad arrived at 8.05pm to chair the meeting.

Dr Mahathir is expected to brief supreme council members on the reasons for Anwar's removal from the Cabinet at the meeting which is expected to decide on Anwar's positions in the party.

Anwar is Umno deputy president and Pulau Pinang Umno Liaison Committee chief. He also heads the Permatang Pauh Umno division.

Anwar, 51, who said this evening that there is a conspiracy at the highest level to ruin him, arrived at 8.33pm and immediately took the lift to the 39th floor of the Menara Tun Hussein Onn at the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC) where the meeting is held.

Hundreds of Anwar's supporters had gathered at the PWTC lobby to welcome him amid shouts of "Hidup Anwar" (Long Live Anwar) and "Keadilan Untuk Anwar" (Justice For Anwar)

Security was tight but the situation was under control.

Umno vice-president Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, Information chief Datuk Dr Yusof Nor, secretary-general Datuk Sabbaruddin Chik and Treasurer Tun Daim Zainuddin were also present. Daim arrived at about 8.25pm.

Umno Youth chief Datuk Ahmad Zahid Hamidi and Wanita head Datuk Dr Siti Zaharah Sulaiman were also present.

One of the vice-presidents Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi is not present at the meeting as he is attending the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Summit in Durban, South Africa.

-- BERNAMA

TEAM TS