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Anwar-Zaharah

SUPREME COUNCIL MEMBERS SINCERE IN THEIR DECISION TO EXPEL ANWAR

BANDAR PERMAISURI, Sept 4 (Bernama) -- Umno Supreme Council members were sincere in their unanimous decision to expel Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim from the party, Wanita Umno chief Datuk Dr Siti Zaharah Sulaiman said today.

They had set aside their personal sentiments (having good relations with Anwar) in making the decision at the council meeting chaired by Prime Minister and Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad last night.

"The council expressed full support for Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to sack Anwar to protect the interests of the party and country particularly at a time when the nation was grappling with economic problems," she told reporters after attending a character-building camp for 300 Wanita Umno members, near here.

She said Anwar was given an opportunity to defend himself against the allegations levelled at him.

She said it was Wanita Umno's stand that party leaders facing personal problems must relinquish their party positions so as not to associate the party with their problems.

She said Wanita Umno would explain Anwar's expulsion and the economic problems faced by the country to party members nation-wide.

Meanwhile, Terengganu Menteri Besar Tan Sri Wan Mokhtar Ahmad said it was a consensus decision to sack Anwar and not a one-man decision.

"Council members were not forced (to make a decision) and we were unanimous in our decision," he told reporters here after opening a character-building camp organised by the State Umno Youth.

-- BERNAMA

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