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Umno Youth to issue statement tomorrow

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. - Umno Youth's international affairs bureau will make an official statement on Monday on the current issues affecting bilateral relations between Malaysia and Singapore.

Its chairman, Datuk Hishammuddin Tun Hussein, said they were monitoring the measures taken by the Singapore Government and the contents of its media reports.

"We will make an official statement that is based on concrete grounds in Johor on Monday," he said.

Speaking to reporters after launching the Malaysian Timber Council's Malaysia's Green Attractions guidebook at the Lake Gardens here, Hishammuddin said the movement recently met with youth leaders in the BN coalition to discuss current issues and gather ideas on how to resolve them.

"I appreciate the staunch support given to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir in resolving the issues, especially those which affect the country's sovereignty and rights.

"These matters must be resolved in a matured and wise manner," he said.

To a question on whether Umno Youth had become a "toothless tiger" in the light of prevailing current issues, Hishammuddin said it would not benefit anyone for the movement to issue strongly-worded statements without considering the implications.

"We should not be rash as these current issues are linked to our relations with other countries and it may have an effect on our future generation.

"Before making any decision, we should always be aware of the repercussions that may result," he said.

He added that time would prove the movement's decision in maintaining its silence was right because "our enemies are just waiting to provoke our leaders to fight among themselves, to cause a split in society and ensure our vision is not achieved".

"We must act in a matured way and think of ways to cooperate with our Prime Minister to overcome the country's present economic problems."

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