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UMNO TO MAP OUT STRATEGIES TO COUNTER BASELESS ALLEGATIONS

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 6 (Bernama) -- Umno will map out strategies to counter baseless allegations levelled by certain groups against the party and its leaders, Prime Minister and Umno President Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said tonight.

Umno would seek the cooperation of the local media to counter the accusations, he told a news conference tonight after chairing the party's Supreme Council meeting, which lasted more than three hours.

Asked whether Umno would be accused of using the local media, Dr Mahathir said: "If the press wants to allow it to be used by those opposed to Umno, give it a little balance so that it can also be used by Umno."

He said the foreign media had made their stand to be anti-Umno and the government could not do anything about it.

"At least, the local media must be balanced in their reports," he said.

Dr Mahathir, who is also the First Finance Minister, said the Supreme Council also discussed the economic problems besetting the country and the 1999 Budget tabled by him in Parliament on Oct 23.

-- BERNAMA

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