

13 JAN 1999

ABDULLAH BADAWI APPOINTED DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF NEAC

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 13 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi has been appointed Deputy Chairman of the National Economic Action Council (NEAC), it was announced today.

The NEAC in a statement said Abdullah was also a member of the NEAC Exco with immediate effect.

"I welcome Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's decision to appoint him to the NEAC," the council's Executive Director and First Finance Minister Tun Daim Zainuddin said in the statement.

He said this reinforced the importance placed on national economic efforts now successfully under way.

Daim, who is also Minister of Special Functions, noted that through his well-established international networks and vast experience gained during his many years as Foreign Minister, Abdullah would help boost confidence in Malaysia, both locally and overseas.

Given the priority of ensuring that the National Economic Recovery Plan's recommendations continue to be implemented with urgency, the nine-member NEAC Exco meets daily except on Wednesdays when the weekly Cabinet meetings are held.

Chaired by Dr Mahathir, the NEAC Exco members also include Bank Negara Malaysia Governor Tan Sri Abul Hassan Sulaiman, Chairman and Chief Executive of the Institute of Strategic and International Studies Malaysia Tan Sri Dr Noordin Sopiee and Economic Planning Unit Director-General Datuk Dr Samsudin Hitam.

The other two members are Federal Flour Malaysia Bhd's Managing Director Oh Siew Nam and head of the NEAC Secretariat Dr Sulaiman Mahbob.

-- BERNAMA
MFJ SA AAM