

13 JAN 1999

NEAC-ABDULLAH

DPM ABDULLAH BADAWI APPOINTED DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF NEAC

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 13 (Bernama) -- Deputy prime minister and home affairs minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi has been appointed deputy chairman of the National Economic Action Council (NEAC), it was announced today.

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

"I welcome Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's decision to appoint him (Abdullah) on board the NEAC," said the council's executive director and first finance minister, Tun Daim Zainuddin, in the statement.

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

Daim, who is also minister for special functions, noted that through his well-established international networks and vast experience gained during his many years as foreign minister, Abdullah will help to 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 Cabinet Wednesdays.

Chaired by Dr Mahathir, the NEAC Exco members include Abdullah, Daim, Bank Negara Malaysia's governor Tan Sri Abul Hassan Sulaiman, Institute of Strategic and International Studies Malaysia's chairman and chief executive Tan Sri Dr Noordin Sopiee and Economic Planning Unit's 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

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