

18 JUN 1999

DR MAHATHIR OPENS 53RD UMNO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

KUALA LUMPUR, June 18 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister and Umno President Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today opened the 53rd Umno General Assembly at the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC) here.

Earlier he raised the party's red and white flag which had a green kris on a yellow oval background, at its headquarters, to signify the assembly was in session.

The assembly is being attended by 2,034 delegates. The opening ceremony at the Dewan Merdeka of the PWTC was also attended by members of the diplomatic corps and leaders of Barisan Nasional component parties.

Representatives of political parties from several countries including Myanmar, Bosnia Herzegovina, Singapore, Laos, Iraq, Sudan, China, Thailand, the Philippines, Cuba and Indonesia were also present.

Umno Secretary-General Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob in his report said as of May 31 this year Umno's membership stood at 2,771,768.

The Umno Youth and Wanita Umno assemblies were held yesterday.

-- BERNAMA

NZ MAI AAM