

# Decision on applications by 4 parties to join BN deferred

**KUALA LUMPUR**, Tues; members as possible. The Barisan Nasional (BN) supreme council today agreed to postpone the decision on applications by several parties to join the coalition. **SUN 26. 7. 2000**

BN chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said each of the 14 component parties had been told to think about the matter and come up with a decision.

"We are of the opinion that it is good for the parties to try to attract as many

"With regard to the applications, it is postponed for the moment to allow the component parties to think and decide (about it)," he said after chairing the meeting at the Umno headquarters here.

Elaborating on the matter, BN secretary-general Tan Sri Mohamed Rahmat said four registered political parties had submitted their applications.

They are the Indian Pro-

gressive Front (IPF), Kongres India Muslim Malaysia (Kimma), Berjasa and Parti Punjabi Malaysia (PPM).

"We have decided to postpone the decision as any decision reached must be unanimously agreed by all members.

"But this does not mean that there were any objections or rejections.

"There were several suggestions as to how to resolve the matter, therefore, we are now looking for a formula

which is acceptable by all," he said.

Mohamed said component parties had been told to consider the issue until a decision is reached and brought to the next BN supreme council meeting, which is held twice a year.

Asked when the next meeting would be, he said the date was not fixed yet.

He also added that the coalition may convene a special meeting if it is necessary