

Mahathir to consult Dollah on Umno council appointments

BY CLAUDIA MAY 2000
THEOPHILUS,

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon: The 10 appointees to the Umno Supreme Council may not be named when the new team meets for the first time since the elections on June 6.

Prime Minister and Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said he has yet to decide because he wants to consult his deputy, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

"I have not decided yet. I'm still considering . . . Datuk Dollah is still away I thought I would consult him first.

"But as pointed out by the (Umno) secretary-general (Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob), it's not necessary that we appoint

all the ex-officio people on that day . . . maybe later," he said after opening the 5th Asia Oil and Gas annual conference on *Market Positioning In The New Age* here today.

On reports that three Wanita members will be appointed to the supreme council, Mahathir said anyone is free to speculate.

All five Wanita candidates lost in their bid for a seat in the council in the party elections two weeks ago, prompting many women delegates, including newly-elected chief Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz, to request for at least two Wanita candidates to be appointed.

Rafidah is already a supreme council member by virtue of her position as Wanita chief.