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Hishammuddin-Puteri

IRON OUT DIFFERENCES OF OPINION ON PUTERI UMNO, SAYS HISHAMMUDDIN

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 8 (Bernama) -- Differences of opinion concerning Puteri Umno, the proposed women's wing for the younger generation, need to be ironed out for the party to be strengthened, said Umno Youth chief Datuk Hishammuddin Tun Hussein.

"I hope these differences will be ironed out ... through the Umno management committee and the Supreme Council," he told reporters here today after announcing a national Putera Merdeka sports carnival.

The three-day sports carnival, organised by Umno Youth, will be held in Kuantan from Oct 13.

Hishammuddin said support from the younger generation was vital for Umno as a recent Umno Youth survey found some 4.7 million people in the country aged below 40 are not affiliated with any association or political party.

Hishammuddin, the Youth and Sports Minister, said there is a need for Umno to forge closer ties with this target group.

Asked about perceptions of overlapping roles by Puteri Umno and Wanita Umno, Hishammuddin said: "Both have the same objectives, namely to garner the support of the younger generation for the party".

"Like it or not, the views, acceptance and participation of the younger generation have to be taken into account in the rejuvenation of Umno."

In a dialogue with Malaysian students in Manchester yesterday, Prime Minister and Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said Puteri Umno will be set up on a par with Umno Youth although there were some differences of opinion within the party concerning Puteri Umno's position.

Hishammuddin said Umno Youth has always been open to ideas on strengthening the party.

-- BERNAMA

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