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Council-Reaction

MUHAMMAD IS THANKFUL FOR BEING MADE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

KUALA LUMPUR, June 30 (Bernama) -- Umno vice-president Tan Sri Muhammad Haji Muhamad Taib said his appointment as deputy chairman of the Selangor Umno Liaison Body would enable him to strengthen the party at the state level.

"I think the time passes and the situation changes, so we have to help each other in the interest of the party and the Malays," he told Bernama when contacted today.

He said this when asked to comment on his appointment as Selangor Umno deputy chairman which was announced by Umno secretary-general in a statement read by party executive secretary Datuk Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor.

The statement also announced the appointment of 10 members of the Umno supreme council.

Thanking Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for the appointment, Muhammad said he could play a role in further strengthening the party in Selangor.

Asked whether he could work together with Selangor Umno Liaison chairman Datuk Seri Abu Hassan Omar, Muhammad said: "I can work with him all the time and there is no problem."

Azimi Daim, 36, who was appointed supreme council member, said his appointment was a challenge to the younger generation to strengthen the party.

"I will strive to work together to strengthen the party and forge closer relations with the younger generation," he said when contacted from here.

He said as a member of the younger generation, he was closer to the youths and this was in line with the Umno vision of strengthening the party through the participation of various generations.

Azimi, who is also Kulim/Bandar Baru Umno Youth head, was once private secretary to Datuk Seri Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir when he was Deputy Human Resources Minister.

Perak Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Tajol Rosli Ghazali, who was appointed chairman of the Perak Umno Liaison Body, said the appointment of new and old faces in the supreme council was what party members aspired for.

He also said that the appointment of Tan Sri Ramli Ngah Talib as deputy chairman was an effort towards strengthening party solidarity.

"His (Ramli's) experience in leading the state as Menteri Besar and chairman of the State Liaison Body over the past 17 years can help us in strengthening the party to recapture the seats we lost in the last general election," he said.

Ramli, who moved to Kuala Lumpur as Deputy Transport Minister after the last general election in November, was previously the Perak Umno Liaison chairman.

-- BERNAMA

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