

15 OCT 2000

Abdullah-Puteri

WANITA UMNO'S PROPOSALS ON PUTERI UMNO TO BE DISCUSSED TOMORROW

JOHOR BAHRU, Oct 15 (Bernama) -- Umno deputy president Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said today proposals made by Wanita Umno on the formation of Puteri Umno will be discussed in tomorrow's supreme council meeting in Kuala Lumpur.

" The important thing is that Puteri Umno must have a place in Umno so that they can jointly carry put various activities for the party's benefit besides working hand-in-hand with Wanita Umno and Umno Youth," he told reporters here.

Abdullah, who is Deputy Prime Minister, hoped that Puteri Umno could forge closer ties and cooperation with Wanita Umno so that there would be better understanding between them to prusue the party's struggles.

He was asked to comment on a press report today that Wanita Umno would suggest to the supreme council tomorrow that the Puteri Umno head be appointed as a member of the council and not with the status of a vice-president.

Under the original proposal, Puteri Umno would be an independent wing from Wanita Umno with its own branches, divisions and executive committee members.

It was also suggested that the Puteri Umno head must be of a vice-president status aged 40 and below.

Prime Minister and Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said recently that Wanita Umno's conflicting views on Puteri Umno were an internal party matter that could be resolved amicably.

The setting up of Puteri Umno was raised by supreme council member Azalina Othman Said.

Wanita Umno, in its meeting with Abdullah last Wednesday, agreed to the formation of Puteri Umno but wanted its organisational structure to be studied.

-- BERNAMA

MKO TS