

Money politics culprits can't escape

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Umno to make sure stern action is taken against them, says Mahathir

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KUALA LUMPUR, Mon: Umno will lodge police reports and refer to the Anti-Corruption Agency (ACA) for further action, besides taking disciplinary action, against candidates found guilty of using money politics. It does not matter if they won or lost.

Party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad

said today action will still be taken despite the division elections being completed and the candidates elected.

"The candidates' election will be considered null and void if they are found to be involved in money politics," he told a press conference after chairing the party supreme council meeting.

Mahathir said Umno is of the opinion that those involved in money politics are betraying the party's struggle and stern action should be taken against them.

He said the supreme council members fully support the decision as complaints of money politics have been on the rise during the divisional elections.

The disciplinary board has received quite a number of complaints.

He also said there will also be no cabinet reshuffle although several deputy ministers lost in the elections.

Mahathir said the meeting discussed Puteri Umno which should be given full support by all members,

including Wanita Umno, in order for it to increase its membership.

He said Umno veterans have agreed to hold a convention and having discussions with Puteri Umno members.

On Beserah state assemblyman Datuk Fauzi Abdul Rahman's complaints against Umno secretary-general Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob, Mahathir said party deputy president Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and he have received a preliminary report from the special committee.