

20 JUN 2001

Umno-Youth (representatives)

NO UMNO YOUTH EXCO REPRESENTATIVES TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

KUALA LUMPUR, June 20 (Bernama) -- For the first time, the Umno Youth executive council will not be sending representatives to attend the party's general assembly tomorrow.

This is to allow the movement's leaders at the divisional level to fill the 10 places as delegates to the general assembly to be opened by Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The decision was made after today's assembly of the Umno Youth accepted two proposals during the process of selecting delegates to represent the movement to the general assembly.

As Umno Youth permanent chairman Datuk Khalid Yunus moved for the proposals be agreed, the delegate from Rantau Panjang division Shaari Mat Husin stood up, saying that he wished to propose another list.

Khalid then suggested that five names be picked up from the first list and another five names from the second list but this was objected to by some delegates.

At this point, the movement's leader Datuk Hishammuddin Tun Hussein suggested that the issue be put to vote.

However, the executive council agreed instead to give way to those listed in the second list.

Hishammuddin, met by reporter later, said it was a normal thing in any democracy and would not jeopardise the movement.

"The executive council has no problem over it. The important thing is not about being a delegate but about translating the direction set up the Umno Youth," he said when asked to comment on the issue.

Meanwhile, the movement's vice-head Datuk Abdul Aziz Sheikh Fadzir said that in the past the Umno Youth delegates included members of the executive council.

But this time around it was different, reflecting true democracy in the Umno Youth, he said.

The Umno Youth assembly was attended by over 600 delegates.

--BERNAMA

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