

10 FEB 2001  
Mahathir-Puteri  
PUTERI UMNO SET UP TODAY

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 10 (Bernama) -- The Umno supreme council agreed to set up Puteri Umno, a new wanita wing comprising younger women, effective today, party president and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said tonight.

He said the council, the party's highest decision-making body, also fixed the membership age for the wing to be 35 and below.

"I agree to the formation of Puteri Umno from today. The age limit is 35 and below," he told reporters after chairing the meeting at party headquarters at the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC) here.

Dr Mahathir said a pro-tem committee had been set up at federal level to set up Puteri Umno at national and state levels.

Wanita Umno chief Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz was reported to have said on Dec 15 that the movement had agreed to fix Puteri Umno's membership age limit at 30 and below.

She had said the age limit was decided after taking into account the views of Wanita Umno leaders from the states and divisions.

Rafidah, who is also International Trade and Industry Minister, was also reported to have said that Puteri Umno would have its own uniform and an anthem to portray its distinct image.

Dr Mahathir said on Jan 12 that the supreme council had temporarily deferred its decision on the inception of Puteri Umno as discussions at the meeting centred mainly on Malay unity.

-- BERNAMA  
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