

11/02/2001

Puteri Umno: It's official

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. - Bumiputera women who are 35 or below will be eligible to join Puteri Umno, the formation of which was approved by the Umno Supreme Council today.

Party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said a pro-tem committee at the national level would be established to oversee the formation of the wing.

The formation of Puteri Umno is aimed at attracting younger women into the party.

Speaking at a Press conference after chairing a three-hour meeting of the council at the party headquarters in Menara Dato' Onn, the Prime Minister said the establishment of Puteri Umno took immediate effect.

"The national pro-tem committee would assist the formation of state-level pro-tem committees," he said.

On who would be heading the national pro-tem committee, Dr Mahathir said this had not been decided yet.

The setting up of Puteri Umno was announced by Dr Mahathir on July 10.

It is aimed at attracting young women who are interested to join Umno but did not wish to be a part of Wanita Umno, which they perceived as being made up of older women.

The original suggestion was to limit the membership to those 40 years and below, similar to those of Umno Youth.

However, Wanita Umno objected to this and instead proposed that the age be limited to those 30 and below.

Wanita Umno has also proposed that the head of Puteri Umno be appointed as supreme council member; the wing to function as a separate entity, with its own branches and divisions.

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