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Abdullah-Assembly

THREE-DAY UMNO GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO BEGIN ON JUNE 21/BM

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 22 (Bernama) -- The Umno general assembly will be held for three-days beginning June 21, Deputy President Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said today.

He said the Youth and Wanita wings will hold their respective assemblies on June 20.

Abdullah, who is also the Deputy Prime Minister, said this was decided at the Umno Supreme Council meeting today, chaired by Party President Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the Umno headquarters here.

Speaking to reporters, he said the Supreme Council also agreed with the formula stipulated by the Umno Management Committee to establish a Puteri Umno protem committee.

The protem committee will comprise 20 members, seven to be picked by the Supreme Council while the rest by each of the state Umno liaison office.

Abdullah said state Umno liaison offices will suggest the name of one Umno member who meets the Puteri Umno criteria, including the age requirement of 35 years and below.

On Feb 10, the Umno Supreme Council officially agreed to set up Puteri Umno and fixed a maximum age limit of 35 years to qualify for membership.

Abdullah was also asked if a decision has been made as to who will become Puteri Umno Chief.

"Not yet, we hope one of those named will become the head because later we will also submit the final approval relating to Puteri Umno's rules and regulations," he said.

He also said the Supreme Council agreed with the suggestion by the Umno Management and Discipline Committee, chaired by Abdullah, that the code of ethics governing Umno elections will also apply for Puteri Umno.

"We will use the long existing elections code of ethics which we have studied thoroughly but with slight amendments to suit the changes made in the constitution," he said.

The existing Umno Elections Code of Conduct was distributed to 165 divisions before party elections in May last year.

Abdullah also said "anybody" can officiate a division delegates meeting.

"Anybody can do it. There is no restriction on who can officiate a division meeting," he said.

Abdullah said the Supreme Council has agreed for the setting up of a state level party election committee.

"The committee will coordinate any problem that may arise at the divisional level throughout the duration of the branch and division delegates meetings," he said.

-- BERNAMA

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