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Rafidah-BN

WANITA BN WANTS REPRESENTATION IN BN SUPREME COUNCIL, SAYS RAFIDAH

KUALA LUMPUR, July 8 (Bernama) -- The Wanita Barisan Nasional (BN) wants the BN Constitution amended to enable the movement's head and BN Youth chief to be members of the BN supreme council, the ruling coalition's highest decision-making body.

Wanita BN chief Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz said the movement's intention was agreed to by the wanita wings of all the 13 BN component parties which met here today.

The request would be forwarded to Prime Minister and BN chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad soon, she said.

"We are informed today that even if we want to do anything, we are not mention in the constitution. The time has come for the Wanita BN and Youth be incorporated in the constitution. (If not) We work on the initiative and goodness of our hearts," she told reporters after chairing the Wanita BN meeting here today.

Article 7 of the BN Constitution states that the supreme council members consists of the chairman, deputy chairman, secretary-general, treasurer-general and three representatives from each component party as members.

"We would like (the BN Constitution) to add wanita BN and youth heads (into the supreme council) because we are two operating components.

"More than half of the component party members are women and it makes sense that we get represented," he said.

While waiting for such an amendment to take place, a process which could take quite some time, she said Wanita BN would appreciate it if its representative could be invited to attend the supreme council sessions.

"We will be very happy to attend to enable us to know what is in the minds of our leaders so that we can carry (the message) down to others in Wanita BN," she said.

Rafidah said Wanita BN currently had 2.2 million members, with Wanita Umno itself having 1.2 million. The figure is almost half of the 5.7 million members of the BN component parties.

-- BERNAMA

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