

# MAAU to seek PM's intervention

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PENANG: The Malaysian Amateur Athletics Association (MAAU) will send a memorandum to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in a bid to stop them from being suspended or de-registered.

MAAU president Datuk Syed Mohamed Aidid Syed Murtaza said the memorandum will give a true picture of the association's works in the wake of the recent bad publicities in the media.

"The memorandum is not an appeal. It is merely to enlighten our Prime Minister on MAAU's history and achievements since its inception in 1906," said Syed Aidid after chairing a special council meeting in Penang yesterday.

The final MAAU council meeting which was scheduled for yesterday was postponed and replaced with the special meeting to discuss the threat of suspension and de-registration.)

"We have received unanimous support from the council and have subsequently formed a task force to prepare the memorandum, of which a copy will also be forwarded to the Sports Minister."

On the question about the relevancy of the memorandum, Aidid said that it was to explain MAAU's views on what they have read in the newspapers and also to share their opinions on what MAAU has done towards the development of athletics since 1906.

"We are volunteers and we have served diligently at all levels, from the schools, colleges, districts,

States until the national and international levels. Even the private sector was not left out by us."

On the impending show cause letter from the Sports Commissioner, Aidid added that they will call for a council meeting immediately when they receive it.

The Sports Commissioner Datuk Mahamad Zabri Min was earlier reported as saying that he will issue a show cause letter to the MAAU tomorrow.

The MAAU council also unani- mously agreed that with immediate effect, only the president is able to make press statements.

"If any council member, other than the president, speaks to the media, the president has been empowered to immediately suspend the member," said Syed Aidid.