

# 40-member CC set for new term

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KUALA LUMPUR: The 40-member MCA central committee led by president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik is set to be returned unopposed for the 2002/2005 term during nomination on June 24.

This is in tandem with the party's peace plan, which maintains the status quo for all incumbent leaders from division level upwards.

MCA headquarters elections steering committee chairman Datuk Seri Dr Ting Chew Peh said yesterday that there was no need for negotiations on the list because all its incumbents were staying on.

He said nomination would be held at Wisma MCA here between 1pm and 5pm and only the list of current central committee members would be up for nomination so that all the candidates can be returned unopposed for another term.

Dr Ting said the steering

committee and central committee would hold their respective meetings an hour after nomination closed to endorse the list.

He said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad would open the MCA annual general meeting at Wisma MCA on June 29.

"It is only a one-day event instead of the usual two days if it is an election year because there is no polling under the no-contest elections this time," he told reporters after chairing an MCA Education Bureau meeting here yesterday.

Dr Ting said central committee nomination for the Wanita and Youth movements would also be held at Wisma MCA on June 24.

Both movements would also be putting up their respective lists - under which the incumbents are also to be returned unopposed - on nomination day.

The Youth would have its

AGM at Wisma MCA and Wanita at Putra World Trade Centre on June 28, he added.

On the continuing disputes faced by MCA Youth over the filling of vacancies for its line-up in certain states and at central level after the incumbents involved exceeded the 45-year-old age limit, Dr Ting said there were three channels to find a resolution. These ranged from the three-man panel to the nine-man special committee and MCA central committee.

The three-man panel was set up on Dec 20 last year to take over the trouble-ridden Youth central committee and its national Youth chairman Datuk Ong Tee Keat was implicated in the fracas at its AGM last Aug 3.

The nine-man special panel is headed by Dr Ling to ensure the implementation of the peace plan while the central committee is empowered to endorse the new line-up.