

# ***Puteri accepted as third wing of Umno***

STAR ~~15~~ 21 JUN 2002

PUTERI UMNO has been formally accepted into the party following the adoption of amendments to the Umno constitution during the special general assembly yesterday.

Chairman of the Umno special committee on amendments to the Umno constitution, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, in tabling the proposed amendments, said they were intended to confirm the status of Puteri as a formal branch of the party and to outline the movement's role and functions.

The amendments were also intended to determine Puteri's leadership at all levels.

The amendments were Clause 8 (general assembly), Clause 9 (supreme council), Clause 12 (liaison committee), Clause 14 (division), Clause 15 and 18 (division and branch committees) and Clause 21 (Umno Youth, Wanita and Puteri movements).

Muhyiddin said Puteri Umno chief Azalina Othman



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Said would be one of the six Umno vice-presidents, of which three are elected. The other appointed vice-presidents are the Youth and Wanita chiefs.

Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad announced the formation of Puteri Umno on Aug 3.

Earlier, when debating the motion on the tabling of the

resolution to accept Puteri, Kangar Wanita chief Azahani Ali, who spoke on behalf of Wanita, said the movement welcomed Puteri into the party.

She said the formation of Puteri would help the party to woo the younger women to join the party.

Azahani said Puteri now had 35,378 members, which she said would make women the majority of Umno members.

There are now 642,353 Umno Youth members and 883,699 male Umno members aged above 40.

Azahani said Wanita members now stood at 1,278,138.

"Youth and Puteri are the two wings of the party, we as Wanita members are willing to act as the backbone of Umno."

Youth assistant secretary Zulkifli Alwi, who spoke on behalf of the movement, said the move to constitutionalise the Puteri proved the dynamism of Umno towards achieving its vision.