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BN to meet on Jan 23 over PBS application

KOTA KINABALU, Wed. - The Barisan Nasional supreme council will meet on Jan 23 to decide on the application of Parti Bersatu Sabah to rejoin the coalition it left in 1990.

Sabah BN chairman Datuk Chong Kah Kiat said he received a fax from the BN headquarters in Kuala Lumpur informing him of the meeting.

"I welcome them and do not see any problems with their application," said Chong, who is Chief Minister, after chairing the weekly State Cabinet meeting at Wisma Innoprise today.

Chong also said he did not expect members of the coalition in Sabah to object to the application which was submitted to BN chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on Nov 15 last year.

"All component parties have expressed their views ... there was good response not only from Sabah, but also in the peninsula."

All 13 BN component members, including the four Sabah-based parties are expected to raise no objection to the PBS application.

Chong also said PBS president Datuk Seri Joseph Pairin Kitingan did not set any conditions when he applied to rejoin the BN.

"I met him (Pairin) on several occasions and he never once demanded for anything. I believe they applied in good faith," he said.

Asked if the BN had placed any conditions on PBS in view of the fact it once left the coalition, Chong said there was no need to do so.

"They are not children, they know the consequences of their actions. PBS has experience (of leaving) and it is up to them if they want to repeat the same thing."

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