

Unite to face polls, Kelantan Umno division leaders urged

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PUTRAJAYA: Kelantan Umno liaison chief Datuk Mustapa Mohamed has urged all division leaders in the state to adhere to the advice by party leaders for them to unite and work as a team in facing the coming general election.

He said if all division leaders were sincere in wanting to wrest power from PAS, they would have to mend their ways and take to heart the advice given by party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and deputy president Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi during the recent Umno general assembly.

"If we are truly loyal to the party, then we must not only heed the advice of the leaders,

but also conduct ourselves based on that," he told reporters after chairing the 24th meeting of the National Consultative Group on Globalisation yesterday.

He was referring to the advice by both Dr Mahathir and Abdullah for all party members to support leaders, who have been elected or appointed and to reject those who were willing to work with the party's enemies for personal gain.

Mustapa said this when asked to comment on letters published in a Bahasa Malaysia daily claiming there was an ongoing attempt among several division heads in Kelantan to topple him as the state liaison chief.

Another letter claimed that

not all those who voted for PAS in the last general election believed in the party, but many were actually protesting against the goings-on in Umno due to the internal squabbling among division leaders for posts and other privileges.

On the meeting of the National Consultative Group on Globalisation, Mustapa said it recommended that the Government carry out an in-depth study to gauge the impact on the economy of globalisation and Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) signed by individual countries in the region.

He said a more detailed study was needed to identify the threats and challenges posed by globalisation and the FTAs as well as the benefits.