

28 FEB 2003

Abdullah-Consultative

GOVT WILL CONSIDER PROPOSAL ON CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 28 (Bernama) -- The government will consider a proposal to set up the National Vision Consultative Council to ensure that the country is on track to achieve its vision.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said today that the idea to set up the council was a good one.

"The government has to decide, but I think the idea is effective and practical," he told reporters after addressing a public forum on Vision 2020, here.

He was asked to comment on the proposal by the chief executive officer of the Asian Strategy and Leadership Institute (Asli), Datuk Micheal Yeoh, to set up the council to monitor the implementation of Vision 2020 to make the country a developed nation by that year.

Yeoh, in his foreword for the forum, had proposed that the council be set up as soon as possible to ensure that the country's visions like Vision 2020 are on track to achieve their objectives.

Meanwhile, in his speech, Abdullah said that he would continue with Vision 2020, the brainchild of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad which was launched on Feb 20, 1991.

"I'm committed to the 2020 policy. We must implement this policy and I hope that our children in school will be educated on Vision 2020," he said to applause.

He said the country's leaders, right from the time of its first prime minister Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj, had maintained continuity in implementing its policies.

Although some leaders might not see the policies to the end, their successors would pick up the cudgel to ensure that the policies achieved their objectives, he added.

-- BERNAMA

AT RV JK