

10 AUG 2003

MCA-Mahathir

MCA PASSES RESOLUTION THANKING DR M FOR NATION-BUILDING EFFORTS

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 10 (Bernama) -- The MCA today passed a resolution expressing its gratitude to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for his immense contributions to nation-building.

The resolution comes in the wake of Dr Mahathir's impending retirement in October.

It is among 15 resolutions adopted at the party's 50th Annual General Meeting here which was declared open by Dr Mahathir, who is also Barisan Nasional (BN) Chairman.

The party, the second major component of the ruling BN, also endorsed a resolution supporting Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, who will succeed Dr Mahathir.

Resolutions on party affairs, economy, education and social were also passed at the one-day assembly, the first under Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting and Datuk Chan Kong Choy leadership. Ong and Chan were elected as president and deputy president, respectively, on May 23.

Assembly Speaker Datuk Yik Phooi Hong said all the resolutions were passed unanimously by the delegates when they were tabled for approval.

The assembly also passed a resolution urging the MCA leadership to request for more seats from the Barisan Nasional (BN).

It called on party members at all levels to work closely to prepare for the approaching general election to ensure BN's resounding victory.

On party affairs, the assembly passed a resolution conveying its gratitude to former president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik and former deputy president Datuk Seri Lim Ah Lek for their contributions to the party and nation.

The delegates also endorsed the Ong-Chan leadership and urged members to give their undivided support to reunite and establish political strength.

On economy, the party pledged its support for the government's efforts to implement the "Package of New Strategies" to stimulate economic growth after the national economy was affected by the Iraqi war, the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and uncertainties in the global economy.

The assembly also urged the government to simplify bureaucratic procedures in implementing loan schemes to enable small-and medium-scale entrepreneurs to play a crucial role in revitalising the national economy.

Another resolution urged the decision-making Central Committee to monitor the implementation of the formula to ensure the character of Chinese primary schools was retained.

A resolution calling on the government to take immediate action to tackle the rampant pornography malaise in the country was also adopted.

-- BERNAMA

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