

10 AUG 2003

MCA-Assembly

MCA HOLDS 50th ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 10 (Bernama) -- The MCA today held its 50th annual general assembly here, opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is the Barisan Nasional (BN) chairman.

Also present were Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and leaders of BN component parties.

The MCA general assembly was the first held under new party president Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting and his deputy Datuk Chan Kong Choy.

The event was attended by more than 2,000 delegates who included former party presidents Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik, Tan Sri Lee San Choon and Datuk Dr Neo Yee Pan.

Among the other veteran leaders who attended the function are former deputy president Datuk Seri Lim Ah Lek, Datuk Tan Cheng Swee, Datuk Wong Seng Chow, Datuk Lew Sip Hon, Datuk Seri Kee Yong Wee, Woon See Chin and Datuk Dr Tan Tiong Hong.

Apart from the speeches by Dr Mahathir and Ong, the highlight of the one-day event is the proposed amendments to the party constitution to limit the tenure of the MCA president to a maximum of nine years.

The voting on the proposed amendment would be conducted by a show of hands and secret balloting would only be conducted if one-third of the delegates present requested for it.

Yesterday, the Youth and Wanita assemblies endorsed the proposed amendments to limit the tenure of the Youth and Wanita chiefs to a maximum of nine years.

The assembly is also expected to pass a resolution to pledge full support for Ong and Chan who assumed the post last May 23 apart from recording the party's gratitude to Dr Ling and Lim for their services to the MCA.

There would also be a resolution to record the party's gratitude to Dr Mahathir, who is stepping down as the prime minister in October, for his services and contributions to the people and nation, besides pledging MCA's full support for Abdullah as his successor.

-- BERNAMA

AT AZZ ZUL