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ABDULLAH'S CALL SHOWS HIS COMMITMENT TO WORK WITH THE PEOPLE

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 2 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi's call to Malaysians "to work with him and not for him" signifies an era of a more consultative government under his leadership, said social activist Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye today.

Lee, who is the Vice-Chairman of Malaysia Crime Prevention Foundation (MCPF), said non-governmental organisations should respond positively and work with the new Prime Minister for the betterment of the country.

Abdullah made the call in his maiden speech as Prime Minister at a rousing welcome home ceremony for him in Penang yesterday, a day after being sworn-in as the country's fifth head of government at Istana Negara, succeeding Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"Asking the rakyat to work with him touches on the fundamental principle of participatory democracy which is vitally needed to deal with the multifarious problems of the nation while at the same time build on the nation's successes and move on to greater heights of achievements," said Lee in a statement.

"It is hoped that Pak Lah's sincere commitment to work with the people will be emulated by his Cabinet colleagues, the state administration, local authorities as well as the civil service," he said.

-- BERNAMA
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