

25 APR 2004

MCA-Disciplinary

CHAN TIPPED TO BE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

KUALA LUMPUR, April 25 (Bernama) -- MCA Deputy President Datuk Seri Chan Kong Choy will be appointed as the party's disciplinary committee chairman to succeed Datuk Kam Woon Wah, who has tendered his resignation letter recently.

According to a party source Chan is likely to be appointed to the post when the Presidential Council convenes its first meeting after the general election on Tuesday.

"Beside the chairman, other committee members will also be changed," the source told Bernama today.

The current four committee members are Datuk Dr Wee Khoon Hock, Datuk Wong Seng Chow, Datuk Chan Kit Chee and Datuk Wang Choon Wing. They were appointed together with Kam on Aug 29, 2002.

The four veterans reportedly will be replaced by two MCA vice-presidents, chief of the Wanita MCA and Youth Chief, the arrangement in the past prior to the MCA crisis.

The vice-presidents are Datuk Dr Chua Soi Lek who is also Health Minister and Datuk Fu Ah Kiew who is also Deputy Higher Education Minister. The MCA Youth Chief is Datuk Ong Tee Keat while the Wanita MCA Chief is Datuk Dr Ng Yen Yen.

"Ong and Dr Ng had served in the committee under the chairmanship of Datuk Seri Lim Ah Lek who was also MCA Deputy President," the source said.

Lim was the committee chairman for two terms from 1996 until 1999.

The five veterans were appointed to the disciplinary committee following a 14-month long crisis within the party between two factions -- one led by the then president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik and the other by Lim.

Both resigned from their respective posts under the final phase of the peace plan brokered by the former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad on May 23 last year. They were succeeded by Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting as

president and Chan as deputy president.

The source also said the disciplinary committee could also be expanded to include seven members.

The source said the two additional members could be MCA deputy treasurer-general Datuk Donald Lim, who is also Deputy Information Minister, and organising secretary Datuk Ong Ka Chuan.

Under Kam leadership, the disciplinary committee had carried out several high profile cases such as investigations against Datuk Ong Tee

Keat for tarnishing the party's image, against two Penang MCA assemblymen,

Lim Boo Chang and Tan Cheng Liang for not voting against a DAP motion and

drafting the party's code of conduct.

Chan meanwhile is not available for comment as he left for Europe for a two-week official visit tonight.

-- BERNAMA

AT HM ABG