

11 MAY 2004  
MCA-Resign  
MCA DISCIPLINARY BOARD RESIGNS

KUALA LUMPUR, May 11 (Bernama) -- The MCA Presidential Committee meeting here today accepted the resignation of the five-member party Disciplinary Board, MCA secretary-general Tan Sri Dr Ting Chew Peh said.

The party's decision-making body, the Central Committee (CC), would appoint new members at the next meeting, he told reporters after the three-hour Presidential Council meeting at the party headquarters here.

The MCA Disciplinary Board members are Datuk Kam Woon Wah (Chairman), Datuk Dr Wee Khoo Hock, Datuk Wong Seng Chow, Datuk Chan Kit Chee and Datuk Wang Choon Wing. They were appointed to the Disciplinary Board by the CC on Aug 29, 2002.

The five-member disciplinary board, known as "the five party veterans" was appointed after the term of the Disciplinary Committee led by former Deputy President Datuk Seri Lim Ah Lek expired on July 27, 2002.

The decision to appoint the five party veterans to the Disciplinary Committee was made at that time by the CC after they said that they wanted a new team which was not related to past events.

This followed the 14-month long internal party crisis with one faction headed by the then president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik and Lim heading another faction.

Both have resigned from their respective posts under the final phase of the peace plan brokered by former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad on May 23 last year. They were respectively replaced by Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting and Datuk Seri Chan Kong Choy.

During their tenure in the Disciplinary Committee, they have handled several high-profile cases such as investigation against Youth Chief Datuk Ong Tee Keat who was accused of tarnishing the party's image.

They were also involved in the investigation against two Penang MCA state assemblymen, Lim Boo Chang and Tan Cheng Liang in a

controversy over the duo's decision to abstain from voting against a DAP motion. They have also been tasked to draft the party's code of conduct which was subsequently adopted by the party.

At the same press conference, Dr Ting also announced that the party would be using new membership application forms, effective June 1.

"If compared to the old application form, the new application form requires a photo of applicants to avoid the misuse of identity cards (I.C.)," Dr Ting said.

He also said that all new applicants have to list down all their academic qualifications, from secondary to tertiary education level.

"The other difference of the (new) form is that right we will only need one witness for the new application, but in the past, we needed one proposer and one seconder for the new applicant," he added.

He said the processing time for the new application would be faster than before because party headquarters would take over the process if there were complaints from applicants that their applications had not been processed by the branches.

"Within two months, if the application is not processed by the branch council then the headquarters will take over the application processing," Dr Ting said.

-- BERNAMA  
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