

09 JAN 2004

Abdullah-Umno

NAJIB TO CARRY OUT DUTIES OF DEPUTY UMNO PRESIDENT

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 9 (Bernama) -- Umno vice president Datuk Seri Najib

Tun Razak, who was appointed Deputy Prime Minister two days, will carry out the duties of Umno deputy president with immediate effect, Prime Minister

Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said today.

Abdullah, who is acting Umno president, said that the Umno Supreme Council also decided at its meeting today that Najib be appointed chairman of the Umno Management Committee.

The Supreme Council also nominated Umno vice president Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin as a representative of the party in the Barisan Nasional

(BN) Supreme Council, he told a media conference after the Umno Supreme Council meeting here.

He said that Muhyiddin was nominated to fill the quota for Umno following the retirement of Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad as Prime Minister and Umno president in October last year.

The BN component parties are each allowed three representatives in the BN Supreme Council. Currently, Abdullah and Najib are Umno's existing representatives in the BN Supreme Council.

Abdullah said that the decision to have Najib carry out the duties of the party's deputy president was not unusual.

"Previously, when I was Deputy Prime Minister (and Umno vice president), I was carrying out the duties of the Umno deputy president until the party elections," he said.

The Prime Minister said that the Umno Supreme Council also passed a resolution to support the appointment of the Deputy Prime Minister and the cabinet reshuffle.

Abdullah also spoke at the Umno Supreme Council meeting on the importance of the country to maintain good relations with neighbouring countries.

Asked how he plans to ease the tension between Malaysia and Singapore, Abdullah replied: "Talk."

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