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Call for Dr M to withdraw resignation

KOTA KINABALU, Sat. - The Tawau Umno division today passed a resolution calling on Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to withdraw his decision to step down as Prime Minister and Umno president.

Division head Datuk Abdul Ghapur Salleh said Dr Mahathir's dynamic, pragmatic and visionary leadership was still needed in the wake of developments in the world. "Tawau Umno is of the opinion that Malaysia still needs his leadership and guidance and we call on him to continue holding the two posts."

In response, State Umno liaison committee chief Datuk Musa Aman said as far as Sabah Umno was concerned such a resolution should not have been raised.

This is because Sabah Umno had resolved to respect Dr Mahathir's decision to resign from the two posts and agreed with his decision of naming Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi as his successor.

"That (resolution) is the view of the Tawau division chief," he said after opening the Labuan Umno division delegates' meeting.

Dr Mahathir had in June announced that he would quit the two posts after the Organisation of the Islamic Conference summit in Kuala Lumpur in October.