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Umno management committee to have final say on resolutions

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. - Umno's management committee will have the final say in determining the resolutions to be tabled at the party's annual general assembly next month.

Party deputy president Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said today that "controversial" resolutions including those proposed by Puteri Umno for automatic registration of membership and an extension in the age limit for its chief, should be formally discussed at a later date.

"Puteri Umno divisions are free to pass resolutions. However the management committee will discuss them before they are tabled.

"We will give due consideration to all resolutions before deciding whether to accept them without debate, to be debated or rejected," said Abdullah after chairing the BN management committee meeting at the Putra World Trade Centre.

He said this when asked about resolutions proposed by some Puteri Umno divisions which had created tension among Umno members.

Abdullah, who is also the BN deputy chairman and Deputy Prime Minister, said the normal resolutions to be discussed were on politics, the economy and religion.

On preparations for the next general election, he said BN was not afraid to face it as an election would have to be held when the time comes.

"We are ready and not afraid to face the general election as we must go to the people and get a new mandate. And also we have done our best for the people and thus we are in fact excited to have it.

On today's meeting, Abdullah said a mass gathering in conjunction with the BN's 50th anniversary celebration would be held at Merdeka Stadium in September.

"All BN component parties have been given specific tasks for the gathering. We have today discussed the reports which were submitted by the various committees and the preparations are proceeding smoothly.

"Tentatively, we have agreed to have the gathering in September but it all depends on the approval of our chairman (Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad). The theme for the celebration is "Power sharing leads to Malaysia's success."