

## **Najib: Back leaders endorsed by rakyat, not just by Umno**

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**By Nigel Aw**

Umno president and Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak has urged Umno delegates to the coming party elections to back leaders not only endorsed by the party, but more importantly, by the people at large.

"If we want Umno to be accepted by the rakyat and be a party of the rakyat's choice, then we have to emphasise on leaders that the rakyat are comfortable with, so that these leaders can reflect a positive image to the people.

"I am confident that Umno members will elect leaders who will put Umno on a strong foundation, and that the leaders will be accepted by both the party and rakyat," Najib told a press conference after chairing the Umno supreme council meeting in Kuala Lumpur this evening.

Najib said such leaders are essential as they would lead the party into the next general election.

"The most important thing is that we not only want leaders to succeed in the party but also in a general election," he said.

Meanwhile, Najib also announced that the representative meetings for all divisions and the simultaneous election of the Umno supreme council members will be held on Oc 5.

Prior to that, the the simultaneous election for party wings will be held on Sept 28.

The registration of candidates for all positions at the central, wings and divisional levels will be held on Sept 7 at the respective states' Umno liaison building.

The Umno general assembly will then be held from Dec 2 to 7, announced Najib.

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