

## **Umno leaders offer to help solve 1MDB woes**

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**By Alyaa Azhar**

Several Umno supreme council members have offered their expertise in helping find solutions for the debt-ridden 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB).

Umno president Najib Abdul Razak said this today at a press conference after a party supreme council meeting at the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC) in Kuala Lumpur today.

"The supreme council has given its support to solve the problems plaguing 1MDB. Several supreme council members have offered their expertise to solve the problem on stern action that can be taken.

"Therefore, on the advice of the supreme council, the government will consider this and will take further action."

Najib added that he also appreciated the constructive ideas given by his deputy, Muhyiddin Yassin during the meeting.

"I met him and we had a heart-to-heart chat this morning and I told him we would have many more of such chats to ensure that the Umno leadership is strong and that no quarter can divide us," he said.

Najib said the supreme council members want the Auditor-General's investigations on 1MDB to be expedited as the rakyat wanted to know the outcome.

"I hope the Auditor-General will make a statement on when the report can be submitted to the Public Accounts Committee (PAC).

"The supreme council expressed hope that stern action will be taken against those responsible. This will depend on the report," he said.

### **TH deposits government guaranteed**

Najib also assured Lembaga Tabung Haji (TH) depositors need not worry about their deposits as all deposits in the savings fund are guaranteed by the government.

"So the issue of contributors withdrawing their deposits from Tabung Haji does not arise," he said.

There have been reports of contributors withdrawing deposits following TH's purchase of 1MDB land.

Last Wednesday, a blog leaked documents claiming TH had purchased 1MDB's land in a bid

to help the cash-strapped 1MDB, which has accumulated a staggering debt of RM42 billion.

This translates to a purchase of RM2,773 per square feet by Tabung Haji, while 1MDB reportedly bought the land for only RM64 per square feet from the government.

It was later confirmed that Tabung Haji had paid RM188.5 million for 1.56 acres of the 70-acre Tun Razak Exchange land owned by 1MDB.

1MDB had purchased the entire 70 acres from the government for a mere RM194.1 million.

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