

## **Zahid: Arabs gave RM2.6b to keep Umno in rule**

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**Zikri Kamarulzaman**

Deputy Prime Minister Ahmad Zahid Hamidi claims he has met the chief investment officer and wealth trustee of the Arab family said to be behind the alleged RM2.6 billion donation transferred into Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak personal accounts.

Zahid said it was the same family the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission had reportedly met.

"When I asked them why they donated US\$700 million to Malaysia, they said, 'Malaysia is not the only country we are channelling our money to. There are many more friendly Muslim countries who we are donating to.'

"They want Umno and BN to continue ruling the country," Zahid told delegates at the Sri Gading Umno division annual meeting today.

The Umno vice president, who did not name the family, said he has also seen the original documents of the transfer, and cited this as proof that no Retirement Fund Inc (KWAP) money had gone into Najib's accounts.

### **Najib yet to be questioned**

Zahid, who is a former banker, then detailed how the transactions took place.

"The first US\$100 million was in Najib's name. The subsequent transfer went through various transfers because the donor did not want there to be a single cheque in Najib's name," he said.

Zahid claimed the donation was made among others as a token of appreciation for Malaysia's purported counter terrorism efforts.

The MACC has reportedly interviewed the donor, and said the money had not come from debt ridden 1MDB.

However it said the donation is still being probed, and plans to question Najib about it.

While much attention has been on the US\$681 million deposited into the private bank accounts of Najib, less attention has been placed on another RM42 million which entered his accounts.

According to Wall Street Journal, the RM42 million came from state-owned SRC International, which had loaned RM3.8 billion KWAP.

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