

**Crack down on those out to sow discord, says MCA Youth chief**  
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KUALA LUMPUR – National unity will be a pipe dream if Barisan Nasional does not check extremists and extremist groups, says MCA Youth.

It was also in the best interest of the ruling coalition to do so as such action would allow it to regain the support of all Malaysians, it said at the start of its annual general meeting (AGM) today.

The lack of action against figures of authorities who had uttered racist remarks in recent weeks have only emboldened Malay rights group which worked along racial lines.

MCA Youth chief Dr Wee Ka Siong said the movement supported various programmes under the leadership of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, said the 1Malaysia concept would unite multi-ethnic Malaysians, and create a more harmonious and progressive society to lead the country.

According to *The Star*, he also highlighted the need to review policies that hindered the country's economic development.

MCA deputy president Liow Tiong Lai reminded the Youth that they were the party's frontliners and that they were also responsible in grooming future leaders.

"The country would move into the next level of development within the next 10 years, and the Youth has the responsibility to make it happen," he said when opening the AGM at Wisma MCA here.

On regaining the people's support for Barisan, Liow said the MCA must rectify its weaknesses - inability to read the people's mind accurately and its low profile when publicising Barisan's contributions.

He said the Opposition had capitalised on MCA's weaknesses to attack the Government.

A total 888 or 51% of the 1,736 Youth central delegates attended the one-day AGM.

At the Wanita MCA AGM, the wing's chief Yu Chok Tow said the next general election would determine whether the 61-year-old MCA would still be relevant.

She said the wing had started training sessions for its members in several states to prepare them for the elections.

On party affairs, Yu urged the leadership to amend the party constitution for direct election for the post of president, Youth chief and Wanita chief in the elections in 2014.

Other points raised at the AGM:

- MCA Youth wants the government to allow students to take part in politics.
- Youth members are encouraged to use social media tools such as Facebook and Twitter to reach out to voters.

MCA holds triennial elections and the next election is due in 2011.

A total of 1,136 or 56% of the 2,035 Wanita central delegates attended the one-day AGM opened by MCA secretary-general Kong Cho Ha at Berjaya Times Square here today.

Kong, in his speech, said the party would look into the mechanism for direct election in 2014, adding that the party constitution must be amended for this to take effect.

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