

Umno debaters urged to keep their cool
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KUALA LUMPUR -- Debaters to the Umno General Assembly have been urged to exercise restraint and be accountable when raising issues, said party vice-president Hishammuddin Hussein.

He said although proposers, seconders and debaters were given the leeway to voice out the predicament of the grassroots, they should discuss the matter wisely and responsibly.

Hishammuddin, who is also Umno Resolution Committee chairman, said they should not be carried away and allowed the situation to be exploited by certain quarters.

"They must argue the issues based on reality especially when defending the Malay agenda.

"Although it is a matter of the heart and soul to defend Umno's struggle, the political landscape must be seen purely from the political stand point," he said when commenting on a closed door briefing for the debaters by Umno Deputy President Muhyiddin Yassin at Riverside Restaurant, PWTC here Tuesday.

Three motions will be debated by Umno wings tomorrow while the General Assembly starting Thursday will dabble on the presidential address and the economic, education and religious resolutions.

Hishammuddin Hussein calls for restraint in debate
Umno Supreme Council member Dr Awang Adek Hussin said Muhyiddin also reminded debaters not to hurt other people's feelings, particularly when defending the Malay rights.

"They can speak what they feel is right but think of the possible responses as we do not want to disrupt the atmosphere. So, be wise when voicing out your grievance s," said Awang Adek.

Umno Youth deputy chief Razali Ibrahim said the debate should not be used avenue to vent anger and emotions, instead there should be substance in the argument and not hurt the sensitivities of other parties.

"But we should not deceive ourselves by concealing facts. It will not benefit Umno," he said, adding that debaters should contribute to fine-tuning the resolutions.

Umno permanent chairman Badrudin Amiruldin said debaters could be vocal but should not insult others and make excessive criticism.

"Islam teaches us to be moderate, accord among ourselves and show good examples to others," he said.

A total of 4,907 delegates will be attending the general assembly. - Bernama

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