

**Engagement With Stakeholders Essential In Drafting New Security Laws**  
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KUALA LUMPUR -- Engagement process with the stakeholders is essential before two new security laws replace the Internal Security Act 1960 (ISA) could be tabled in Parliament, said Home Minister Hishammuddin Hussein.

He said, engagement with stakeholders including the Bar Council, human rights groups and Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (Suhakam) is important in obtaining the necessary views on what the new laws should entail.

Speaking to reporters at the Parliament lobby here on Wednesday, Hishammuddin said although it had not been determined who would be engaging with the stakeholders, he was of the opinion that it would be best for the Attorney-General to organise such sessions.

Reiterating that the drafting process of the proposed security laws were still ongoing, Hishammuddin declined to comment whether it would be tabled during the current Dewan Rakyat sitting.

On another matter, Hishammuddin said the ministry was monitoring closely claims that Opposition Leader Anwar Ibrahim had obtained a manual book written by a branch from the National Endowment For Democracy (NED) for the purpose of winning the general election.

"We are taking the wait and see approach. We want to gather more facts before deciding the next step. What I want to stress is that, there will be no compromise on any attempt to spark racial or religious tension by anyone," he said.

Selangor Umno liaison committee secretary Mohd Zin Mohamed claimed that the book contained information on ways to topple the Barisan Nasional government by using various dirty techniques.

NED website stated that it is a private, non-profit foundation dedicated to the growth of democratic institutions worldwide.

(Bernama)