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BN youth to focus on next 50 years

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KUALA LUMPUR: Barisan Nasional youth wings will celebrate the country's 50th year of independence by giving special focus to the future.

Deputy Umno Youth chief Khairy Jamaluddin said the "Merdeka Youth Gathering" will see all the BN youth wings pledging to work towards the vision outlined for the country for the next 50 years.

"We have a shared responsibility to achieve the mission and vision of 2057 as outlined by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, who wants not only a developed country, but a truly distinctive and exceptional Malaysia.

"The oath led by (Umno Youth chief) Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein will be very forward-thinking to

see what we can do in the next 50 years," he said at a press conference at the Umno headquarters yesterday.

Khairy said the gathering would also act as a platform to galvanise the youth wings' election machinery into action.

He said orange wristbands with the words *Sedia Gempur* (Ready to Rumble) will be dis-

tributed and worn until the BN emerged victorious at the next general election.

The "Merdeka Youth Gathering" will take place on Aug 26 at the Putrajaya International Convention Centre with Abdullah as the guest of honour.

All presidents of the BN component parties will also be invited.