



Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia chairman Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad at a press conference after chairing the party's Supreme Leadership Council meeting in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. With him are party president Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin (second from left), deputy president Datuk Seri Mukhriz Mahathir (fourth from left) and secretary-general Datuk Marzuki Yahya (left). PIC BY ZULFADHLI ZULKIFLI

NEW CHAPTER

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BERSATU EXPANDING TO SABAH

Former Sabah Umno members don't want to join Warisan, says Dr Mahathir

KUALA LUMPUR

PARTI Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia will spread its wings to Sabah, party chairman Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said yesterday.

He said Bersatu's Sabah chapter would be established soon and the person heading it would be appointed later.

Dr Mahathir said Bersatu wanted to establish its Sabah chapter so that Sabah Umno members

who had quit their party could cross over.

He said the former Umno members did not wish to join Parti Warisan Sabah — the Sabah ruling party friendly to the Pakatan Harapan coalition, which comprises Bersatu, PKR, DAP and Amanah.

"A problem arose when the Umno leaders quit their party and Sabah Umno was dissolved.

"They did not wish to join Warisan, but wanted to join Bersatu," he said, adding that

those who wanted to join Bersatu would be subjected to a thorough screening.

"The three conditions we have set are that they must quit Umno, become independent elected representatives for some time, and they will have to undergo a tight selection process individually, and not as a group," he said after chairing a Bersatu Supreme Leadership Council meeting here yesterday.

Dr Mahathir said Bersatu was spreading its wings to Sabah not to challenge or oppose Warisan, which is led by Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Shafie Apdal.

He said anyone could join

Bersatu in Sabah, except members of PH parties, namely PKR, DAP and Parti Amanah Negara, as well as Warisan.

On whether the decision to open the Sabah chapter was discussed with the Warisan leadership, Dr Mahathir said there wasn't a need to do so.

"We are going to Sabah to strengthen Shafie's government. We are not opposing Warisan.

"We made the decision after studying the situation in Sabah, where they (former Sabah Umno members) did not want to join Warisan but wanted to join Bersatu," he said, adding that the decision did not require the agreement of other PH parties.