

SNAP To Elect New President This Sunday
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KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 13 (Bernama) -- The Sarawak National Party (SNAP) will have a new president when its triennial general assembly (TGA) convenes this Sunday, after its current president Edwin Dundang Bugak decided not to seek re-election.

Talk is that Edmund Stanley Jugol, party secretary-general for the last nine years, is likely to succeed Dundang. Local media have reported that Jugol won the presidency uncontested when nominations for the party polls closed last Friday.

"Let's wait until Sunday," he said when contacted by Bernama. "I have no comment at the moment."

Stanley is a former political secretary to the Chief Minister, but he resigned after he was appointed SNAP secretary-general in 2003.

The TGA of the 51-year-old party was originally slated to be held last Sept 25, but was rescheduled to this Sunday after one of the presidential candidates, Michael Lias, was found to have dual party membership.

Lias joined the People's Progressive Party (PPP) in 2009 while still a SNAP member, and was consequently disqualified from the contest.

He lodged a complaint with the Registrar of Societies (ROS) about his disqualification, and a probe was carried out last month. The findings of the investigation have not been released.

SNAP had its registration revoked by the ROS in 2002 because of its failure to resolve a leadership feud, but the party managed to overturn the de-registration through judiciary review in 2010.

For the office of deputy president, there is only one candidate: former assemblyman Keding Wan. Five candidates are vying for seven vice-president positions, namely Frankie Nyombui, Roland Teo, lawyer Anthony Liman, Dayrell Walter Entrie and Gan Giam. Two seats will remain vacant for the time being.

Under the party constitution, the president will appoint the party secretary-general, treasurer and publicity chief.

However, many political observers believe this Sunday's SNAP assembly will be a tame affair.

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