

Nazir Razak moots new Consultative Council as political, economic uncertainty weighs
Malay Mail Online
August 20, 2015

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 20 — Putrajaya should convene a national consultative council to discuss the country's future amid widening political and economic uncertainty, Datuk Seri Nazir Razak suggested.

Utusan Malaysia quoted the CIMB Group chairman as saying that the first council was formed back 1970 to discuss critical issues around preserving harmony and fostering unity amongst Malaysians after the May 13, 1969 race riots.

The brother to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said the time had come for a second council to be formed, as there appears to be a disconnection between the government and the people.

“We need to sit down together to discuss what needs to be done to make structural changes for the future and the next generation. God willing, there will be people who will listen,” Nazir had reportedly said.

The first consultative council was chaired by Nazir's father, the late Tun Abdul Razak.

Nazir said that Malaysia was currently going through difficult times political and economically and that restructuring was needed in order to fix the country's direction and goals.

“It is also time to study and determine the country's direction for the future, which includes ensuring more business opportunities...how businesses are conducted in the future, how the government implements policies, and how the government is too involved in businesses,” he added.

The ringgit has lost nearly a fifth of its value versus the US dollar since last year and is currently trading around 4.09 to the greenback, while Malaysia' gross domestic product slowed to 4.9 per cent in the last quarter — the slowest in two years.

Putrajaya is also embroiled in a controversy over a RM2.6 billion donation deposited into the prime minister's personal accounts prior to Election 2013.

Copyright © 2015 Malay Mail Online

Sources: <http://www.themalaymailonline.com/malaysia/article/nazir-razak-moots-new-consultative-council-as-political-economic-uncertain>