

Najib Announces Formation Of National Consultative Committee On Political Funding
Bernama
Aug 14, 2015

PUTRAJAYA, Aug 14 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak today announced the formation of the National Consultative Committee on Political Funding (JKNMPP) to draw up a political funding action plan of integrity that is comprehensive and inclusive.

The prime minister said the JKNMPP would come up with an action plan for political funding with integrity through necessary reforms and improvement of the law within one year and subsequently implement it before the 14th General Election (GE14).

For the moment, he said, there was no regulation on political funding that could determine whether it was right or wrong, although there were several regulations on election expenses.

"It is hoped that this plan will boost confidence not only among political party members, but also to the people at large and the future generation," he said at a media conference here today.

Najib said the JKNMPP would be chaired by the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Paul Low while Datuk Seri Idris Jala would be the deputy chairman.

The Malaysian Institute of Integrity (IIM) would act as the JKNMPP Centre for Reference and Consultation, assisted by a secretariat and the allocation provided by the Integrity and Governance Division (BITU), of the Prime Minister's Department.

He said the JKNMPP was to determine the consultative process at all levels and would take into consideration the views of everyone.

The JKNMPP would comprise members from the political parties, community leaders, academicians, thinkers, representatives of related government agencies, representatives of the private sector, representatives of civil society organisations and interested groups, including the younger generations, he said.

"The JKNMPP would consider all aspects of political funding regulations including changes of institutions, monitoring and enforcement of the laws and new regulations," he said.

Najib also said that the JKNMPP would act as the adviser to the government in matters concerning political funding of integrity.

Najib said the planned political funding with integrity would tackle issues on political funding where he had personally raised the matter since 2009 but this did not get any response.

He said there was an urgent need to regulate political funding to ensure responsibility and

transparency in order to encourage healthy political practices.

The initiative was also part of the agenda of the Government Transformation Plan (GTP) and National Key Result Areas (NKRA) to create governance and a check and balance mechanism," he said.

Najib said the committee would also provide the forum for its members to present their ideas to ensure a political funding mechanism and model that had integrity.

"The committee will also supervise efforts for consultative dialogues with every strata of society throughout the country.

"The consultative process will be based on regional and international best practices," he said.

Meanwhile, Low said the committee was prepared to begin its task immediately.

"We already laid the ground work about two to three weeks ago," he said.

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