

**No plot to bar Muhyiddin's speeches, it was wings' request, say Khairy, Zahid**  
**Malaysian Insider**  
**Nov 25, 2015**  
**By Mohd Farhan Darwis**

Umno deputy president Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin will not be allowed to officiate the party's Youth, Wanita, and Puteri assemblies during the annual general meeting next month following a request by the heads of the wings themselves, vice-president Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said.

He said the decision was made by members of the Umno Supreme Council to respect the request of the heads of the three wings.

"It is a request from the wing chiefs. The supreme council respects their requests," he told reporters after an event at the Putra World Trade Centre today.

This was confirmed by Umno Youth chief Khairy Jamaluddin, who was also present at the press conference.

"I confirm what Zahid has said. It was a request from me, Wanita and the Puteri wings. The officiating ceremony is not in the party's constitution and it is only a convention," he said.

"There was no intention to silence anyone, I thought it was best to do it in our own capacity," added Khairy, who is also youth and sports minister.

Najib announced yesterday that Umno would do away with its tradition of having its deputy president and vice-presidents officiate the Youth, Wanita, and Puteri wing assemblies, in order to create a "positive atmosphere".

The chiefs of the respective wings would officiate the meetings, he said.

The decision was reached during an Umno supreme council meeting at Parliament yesterday, from which Muhyiddin and vice-president Datuk Seri Shafie Apdal were absent.

The move comes amid discord in the lead ruling Malay party following Muhyiddin and Shafie's removal from Najib's cabinet in July after being critical of his handling of 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB), which is mired in debt.

There had been speculation as to how the party would deal with allowing Muhyiddin, who, following tradition, would have given opening speeches at the wing assemblies.  
– November 25, 2015.

Copyright © 2015 Edge Insider Sdn Bhd

Source:

<http://www.themalaysianinsider.com/malaysia/article/muhyiddin-not-allowed-to-officiate-umno-wings-assemblies-says-zahid>