



Taufiq (right) presenting Abidin with a token of appreciation for officiating the seminar while Noorliza looks on.

Call to help govt resolve environment issues

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KOTA KINABALU: While pursuing development of the country, public awareness of the importance of conservation and preservation of the environment must always be emphasized, said Assistant Minister to the Chief Minister Datuk Abidin Madingkir.

Abidin stressed that rapid development in the economy and progress in various industries have led to environmental criminal activities such as river water pollution due to chemical waste.

"Such problems have affected the quality of human life and natural ecosystems. Therefore, it is our shared responsibility as an inclusive society to assist the government in resolving issues related to the environment," he said when officiating the Sanitation Management Awareness Seminar for Environmental Conservation of

Kota Kinabalu City at Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS), here recently.

The seminar was organized in collaboration with UMS, Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) and Kota Kinabalu City Hall (DBKK).

According to Abidin, the collaboration of academics from UMS and UPM, the involvement of DBKK, state government agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and community representatives proves that the Sabah government is serious in fostering sanitation awareness for environmental conservation, especially in Kota Kinabalu.

This seminar proves the government's concern and responsibility to provide guidance on how the environment can be managed wisely and responsibly.

This seminar can also encourage the involvement of policy makers, activists, NGOs,

academics and community representatives in planning sanitation management strategies through the sharing of their experiences for the common good," he said.

Abidin expressed hope that issues discussed in the seminar can provide benefits and positive impact to all those involved in facing challenges, especially in matters related to environmental conservation.

Also present were UMS Vice Chancellor Prof Datuk ChM Ts Dr Taufiq Yap Yun Hin; Kota Kinabalu City Hall Mayor Datuk Norliza Awang Alip; Borneo Marine Research Institute director Prof Madya Dr Sitti Raehanah Muhamad Shaleh; and Global Wastewater Initiatives Programme, United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP), Implementation Work Committee chief Prof Ts Dr Rahinah Ibrahim.