

UMS prepares for autonomy status

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KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) has been selected as one of the four higher learning institutions in Malaysia to undergo an audit to gauge its readiness for autonomy status.

According to UMS Vice Chancellor, Prof Datuk Dr Kamaruzaman Haji Ampon, the audit is part of the second phase of the University Good Governance Index (UGGI) autonomy preparation.

"This is in line with the country's second phase of the higher learning institutions' action plan (Critical Agenda Project), as announced by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak in the 10th Malaysia Plan in June

2010," he explained.

"What is important is not only for a university to have the best management but also a high level of integrity, in line with the human governance concept," he added.

He said that the announcement showed the government's commitment to grant the autonomy status to deserving universities, so that it may achieve the standard and performance and be at par with the world's best institutes.

Kamaruzaman said this while officiating at the university's Integrity Month at the UMS Library, here, yesterday.

There will be four aspects audited under the UGGI, namely institutional governance, finance, human resource management and academic governance.