

UMS explores cooperation in Seoul

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KOTA KINABALU: The recent working visit of a Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) delegation to Seoul, South Korea brought a two-pronged agenda in strengthening the university's international recognition.

UMS delegation involved academic and administrative staff from the Faculty, Business, Economics and Accounting (FPEP), Research Management Center (PPP), and UMS External Center (PLUMS), which was led by Vice Chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Kasim Mansor.

Dr Kasim said that the working visit, among other things, was to explore opportunities for cooperation with industry and universities in Seoul.

"Among the main agendas of this visit is to discuss the potential of UMS as an industry partner from the aspect of research that meets the needs of the market, as well as identifying modules that are suitable for living laboratories or incubators



Dr Kasim (sixth left) with the UMS delegation taking a picture with Datuk Lim Juay Jin at the Malaysian Embassy office in Seoul.

for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) at UMS.

"In addition, one of the main focuses of UMS through the FPEP is to benchmark towards global accreditation, which is a recognition by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) by 2027," he said in a statement on Wednesday, after paying a

courtesy call on the Malaysian Ambassador to South Korea, Datuk Lim Juay Jin.

According to him, one of the issues highlighted during the discussion with Lim was how UMS plays an important role as an institution or higher education hub in the Borneo region that is able to produce competitive, innovative and

creative students in line with the development of the industry that is able to have an impact on economic development.

"In addition, UMS is also seen as an educational institution that has diversity and capability in promoting edu-tourism, mobility of UMS students and staff, summer course and also the potential for twinning programs

with universities in South Korea.

"This is seen to be able to have a positive impact on economic development from the tourism aspect in Sabah," he added.

Dr Kasim along with the UMS delegation also paid a courtesy visit to the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA) in Seoul.

The UMS delegation was welcomed by the director of MIDA Seoul, Ruhizam Idris and the deputy director of MIDA Seoul, Derrick Tanggapan who is also a UMS alumni.

Dr Kasim informed that the hour-long discussion included a presentation on the role of MIDA Seoul in trying to attract the interest of South Korean investors to develop branches or industrial hubs in Malaysia, and the state of Sabah, in particular.

"Among the main issues that were highlighted throughout the discussion was the role of UMS in producing talented graduates who lead to Industrial

Revolution 4.0, including aspects of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG), new energy technology and electronic vehicles, in line with the needs and development of the South Korean industry today.

"Through the essence of the information provided by MIDA Seoul, UMS is confident of producing capable graduates in line with the development of technology and industry. This can be seen through the FPEP initiative in an effort to obtain global accreditation by AACSB which will help future UMS graduates gain global recognition from the aspects of quality and marketability," he said.

Also participating in the working visit were the Dean of FPEP, Associate Professor Dr Rahimie Abdul Karim; director of PPP, Professor Dr Jumat Sulaiman; director of PLUMS, Dr Lim Thien Sang; and FPEP Entrepreneurship Unit Director, Associate Prof Mat Salleh Ayub.