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UMS confident new legal framework will enhance graduate quality

Borneo Post (KK), Malaysia



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KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) supports the government's efforts to abolish the Universities and University Colleges Act 1971 (AUKU) and its commitment to review and reform the new legal framework, which is expected to enhance graduate quality and human capital development in the state.

UMS Vice-Chancellor Datuk Kasim Mansor said the move would play an important role in strengthening the public university ecosystem to ensure it remains relevant to current and future needs.

"Every reform should be viewed as an opportunity to further enhance the quality of education, governance, student development and the university's ability to produce knowledgeable, integrity-driven and competent graduates who are ready to face an increasingly challenging working environment and society," he said in a statement on Thursday.

He said the reform was particularly important for Sabah, which requires quality human capital to contribute to various strategic fields, including the professional sector, public service, industry, technology, entrepreneurship, healthcare, education and community development.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri

Anwar Ibrahim on Thursday said that the government was committed to abolishing AUKU 1971, with a new bill to replace it expected to be tabled in Parliament this year.

Kasim said UMS would continue to strengthen students' learning experiences through industry engagement, leadership development, digital skills, entrepreneurship and exposure to real-world societal challenges.

He said the move was important to ensure that UMS graduates not only possess good academic qualifications but are also able to contribute effectively after completing their studies.

Kasim stressed that any higher education reform should be implemented in an orderly, inclusive and balanced manner, taking into account the interests of students, universities, the government, industry and society.

"Ultimately, the measure of the success of any higher education reform is the extent to which it helps us produce quality graduates and empower human capital," he said.

He added that in line with the 'The Brain of Borneo' slogan, UMS was committed to becoming a driver of knowledge, talent and innovation in support of the Sabah Maju Jaya agenda towards building a more advanced, competitive and prosperous state. — Bernama



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SUMMARIES

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