



Chen (fourth left) exchanging the MoU with Harun while others look on.

## UMS to set up research centre with China

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**KOTA KINABALU:** Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) is in the process of establishing a RM2.5 million research centre on green technology in collaboration with Centro Ecotech Energy Technology (Dongguan) Co Ltd, China.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the two parties yesterday, which UMS vice chancellor Datuk Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah deemed a strategic collaboration towards research in the specific field.

Harun said the research centre would be used for research and commercialization of green technology, in both local and hopefully, the international market.

The research will be mainly focusing on energy saving. Centro Ecotech, supported by the China municipal council and government, will provide the funding for the research centre.

On the part of Centro Ecotech, Harun said the collaboration would improve the company's product quality image.

Harun said Centro Ecotech was a high-tech energy based company that embraced green technology, which was in line with the aim of UMS's Eco-Campus that focused on the concept of eco-friendliness in all aspects of life, in and out of the campus.

"On top of the expertise exchange and technology transfer, we will also be collaborating with Centro Ecotech in developing Energy Efficient Cleanroom Control and a Building Automation System.

"In addition, efforts in commercialization will be made according to international standards to ensure the products are of the highest quality," he said at the signing of MoU.

Meanwhile, senior deputy registrar of UMS, No'man Datuk Hj Ahmad, said some of the Chinese counterparts were interested in setting up factories in Sabah, and use Malaysia as a platform for their future export market.

"This is because they feel that

Malaysia is good in penetrating other countries, for instance, Indonesia, Middle the East and Europe."

On the other hand, Centro Ecotech Energy Technology (Dongguan) Co Ltd chairman Bingguang Chen said there have been many university-enterprise partnerships worldwide, and he believed that the collaboration forged between UMS and Centro Ecotech would create a new phase in terms of technical research for both parties.

He added that the collaboration would not only deepen the understanding of the market, but also could accurately determine the market evaluation and application of technology development and product research and development (R&D).

Also present at the event were deputy director of the Science and Technology Bureau of Dongguan City, Yan Ji Rong, Centro Ecotech Energy Technology (Dongguan) Co Ltd director of overseas Daniel Kwok and other delegates from China.