



SIGNING OF MoU ... Dompok (seated, 3rd from left) witnessing the MoU signing ceremony between BTI and UMS yesterday.

MoU on devt of human resources for tourism

KOTA KINABALU: The Borneo Tourism Institute (BTI) together with the Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) will be working together to develop human resources for the tourism sector.

BTI Course Development director Danny Chew said his establishment would be looking into the provision of Nature Tourism Vocational skill while the UMS would take care of the academic sector.

"This would contribute efficiently and effectively in the development of skilled human resources in this field," he said.

In his speech, he said that nature for tourism in its various terms had been identified as Malaysia's sub-component of tourism for economic resources diversification.

He said it had also been identi-

fied as Non-Timber Forest Product (NTFP), an alternative to the timber industry.

On the MoU, he said it was a privilege for him to be able to collaborate with a full-fledged university in the State, adding that the BTI which was synonymous with tourist guide training had always had a close relationship with the UMS on conversation through nature tourism since its (UMS) inception in 1995.

He also said that through a *Smart Partnership* the development of competent frontiers would be achieved.

Chew later told reporters that courses comprising one month, three months and nine months would have 30 participants in each course.

He said the courses would commence as soon as possible.