



Tangau (centre) witnesses the exchange of documents between UMS and Thailand's Prince of Songkla University in conjunction with the International Conference on Marine Science and Aquaculture. UMS was represented by its vice chancellor Datuk Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah (second left) and Prince of Songkla University by its vice president (Pattani Campus) Prof Dr Imjit Lertpongsoombat (third right). - Bernama Photo

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Winnability factor important in seats distribution

KOTA KINABALU: The winnability factor is an important aspect to be considered in the distribution of new state seats in Sabah, says United Pasokmomogun Kadazandusun Murut Organisation (UPKO) acting president Datuk Madius Tangau.

He said there was no use for the party to demand for new seats if there was no possibility for its candidate to win.

"I don't see any problem with the distribution of the new seats because at the end of the day, what matters most is the winnability factor.

"What's the point of demanding for a new seat if we cannot win it? We have our own principles and we have inform the (Barisan Nasional (BN)) top leadership about it for their consideration," he told reporters after opening the International

Conference on Marine Science and Aquaculture here on Tuesday.

Tangau, who is also Tuanan Member of Parliament, said the seat distribution would be solved through discussion with other BN component party leaders in Sabah.

However, he said UPKO would not make an issue out of the new seats distribution as the party had been entrusted to fill the seats allocated during the previous election.

On the party's preparation for state election, Tangau said UPKO was always prepared to face the challenges.

When asked whether the party had decided on candidates to be fielded at the next general election, Tangau said it was not a problem as the UPKO only has four parliamentary and four state seats.

Meanwhile, the two-day conference themed 'New Frontiers in Sustainable Development of Marine Bioresources' is organised by Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Borneo Marine Research Institute as a platform to discuss critical issues related to marine science and aquaculture.

Tangau, who is also Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, in his speech earlier, also said that the resolutions of the conference will contribute to new knowledge in the sustainable conservation of marine science and aquaculture.

Also present were UMS vice-chancellor Datuk Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah and Borneo Marine Research Institute director Prof Dr Rossita Shapawi. - Bernama