

Consider Borneonisation safeguards when considering new UMS VC – Maximus

BP 29.5.2017

KOTA KINABALU: The Ministry of Higher Education should be mindful of the Borneonisation safeguards as contained in the Malaysia Agreement 1963 when selecting the new Vice Chancellor for Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS).

“I have raised the matter with the Minister of Higher Education Datuk Seri Idris Jusoh in the last Cabinet meeting and he has confirmed that the selection committee has not forwarded any recommendation for new VC for UMS,” said Energy, Green Technology and Water Minister Datuk Seri Dr Maximus Ongkili in a statement, yesterday.

He stressed that current debate on the subject on the appointment

of new Vice Chancellor for UMS is only speculative.

“As acting Parti Bersatu Sabah president, I have conveyed to him (Idris) that it would not be acceptable for the selection committee to conclude that there is no qualified Sabahans to fill the post of VC since the last two VCs were local Sabahans,” he said.

While acknowledging the selection for the post of vice chancellor require excellence in academic credentials and proven skills in management be fulfilled, he said the ministry should be mindful on the Borneonisation safeguards as contained under the MA63.

“That safeguard simply states

in the appointment of senior posts in the federal civil service priority must be given to officers of local origin.

“I am confident that the Ministry of Higher Education will comply to this MA63 safeguard,” he said.

Netizens are abuzz with news that non-Sabahans have been recommended to take over as vice chancellor post at UMS.

It was reported in the media that the UMS Board of Directors has recommended two non-Sabahans to take over from Professor Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah, who is due to retire next month.

Netizens have slammed the recommendations and the omission on Sabahans.