

Consider MA63's Borneonisation safeguards when considering new UMS VC

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 Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water, Datuk Seri Dr Maximus Ongkili (pic).

He stressed that the current debate on the subject on the appointment of a 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," Ongkili said.

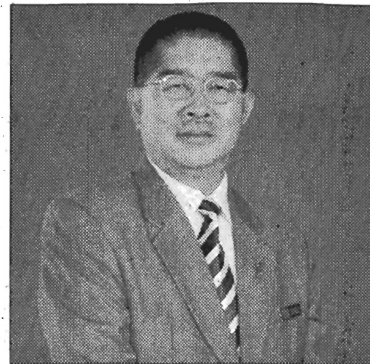
While acknowledging the selection for the post of vice chancellor required excellence in academic credentials and proven skills in management, the Ministry should be mindful of the Borneonisation safe-

guards as contained under the MA63, he added.

"That safeguard simply states that 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 with this MA63 safeguard," he said.

Netizens are abuzz with news that



non-Sabahans have been recommended to take over as vice chancellor of UMS.

It was reported in the media that the UMS Board of Directors had 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 of Sabahans.