

Petition to demand Sabahan V-C

for UMS

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KOTA KINABALU: Gabungan Muda Sabah (Gema) will submit a petition to demand the appointment of a Sabahan as Vice-Chancellor of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS).

Organising Chairman Jovilis Majami, who is also Youth Chief of Parti Harapan Rakyat Sabah (Harapan Rakyat), said in a statement here Monday that the group will submit a letter to inform the Karamunsing police that a signed petition will be submitted to UMS on June 16.

Apart from that, another letter of notification will be sent to the Ministry of Higher Education informing that Gema will be organising a petition signing and that it will be submitted to the UMS administration office on June 16 at 2pm.

"The Ministry of Higher Education should take heed and honour the Borneonisation safeguard as contained in the Malaysia Agreement 1963 and the Inter-Governmental Committee Report 1962 when selecting candidates for the Vice Chancellor post in UMS," he said.

"The Federal Government must take an open-minded approach and heed the sensitivities of the people of Sabah and the Malaysia Agreement 1963 honoured, respected and preserved 54 years since the formation of Malaysia.

"It is unfortunate that Sabah, being equal partners with Malaya and Sarawak, is far behind in terms of infrastructure development and even education.

"Accordingly, the appointment of a Sabahan Vice-Chancellor will be one of the steps to uphold Sabahan rights under the Malaysia Agreement 1963," he added.

Jovilis, in demanding the appointment of a Sabahan, invited all 'Anak Sabah' to stand up regardless of their respective political background and beliefs and voice out the rights and aspiration for the future of the next generation.

"Our intention is not to disrupt the learning system and administration of education in Malaysia but the objective is to advise the Federal Government to respect the rights of the people of Sabah and the State Government to defend our rights, and not allow itself to become puppets of the Federal Government," he said.