



MoU exchange between GSM and UMS.

Geoscience-related research crucial to ensure sustainability

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KOTA KINABALU: The National Geoscience Conference 2019 (NGC 2019) returns for its 32nd edition this year with the theme "Geoscience for The Earth's Sustainability".

It aims to discuss potentials, risks and crisis as well as management methods that are in line with modernisation, within science and technology practices everywhere.

A premier Malaysian geoscientific event, it is jointly organised by the Faculty of Science and Natural Resources, Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) and the Mineral and Geoscience Department Malaysia (JMG), from October 1-3 at The Palace Hotel, here.

UMS Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr Taufiq Yap Yun Hin said that geoscience-related research is crucial to ensuring the survival and sustainability of Malaysia.

"Hence, the NGC 2019 is a platform for bringing together experts from various agencies, whether government or non-governmental organisations to share their findings."

He said this in his speech read by UMS Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic and International) Professor Dr Rasid Mail, here, Tuesday.

Malaysian Mineral and Geoscience Department Director General Datuk Shahar Effendi Abdullah Azizi said the recognition and awareness by the public at large regarding the important role of geoscience and geological inputs is still low.

"Therefore, it is of utmost importance that the geologist and geoscientist community work closely and make it a priority in our agenda to promote the awareness to the general public of the important role played by geoscientists and also geological inputs," said Shahar.

He said the conference would be a forum of discussion for current research and development for disciplines of geology, mining (and quarrying) and applied techniques in geoscience.

Several key topics include disaster risk reduction, engineering geology and rock mechanics, mining and quarrying, geotourism, and petroleum geology, among others.

"It is hoped that the outcome of the conference will further highlight the geology, geoscience and engineering contributing to development sustainability, economic well-being and betterment of life for our society," he said.

Meanwhile, during the opening event, GSM and UMS (Science and Natural Resources Faculty) signed a Memorandum of Understanding to declare a mutual intention to encourage and promote co-operation in teaching and research

At NGC 2019, a total of 170 participant registrations were received from Malaysia, of which 113 technical papers were accepted for oral presentation, 37 technical papers for poster presentations and approximately 20 registered general participants.