

19/08/1997

## Institute for small and medium enterprises proposed

KOTA KINABALU, Mon. - Umno Sabah has proposed the setting up of an institute for small and medium enterprises to improve the participation of Bumiputera entrepreneurs in the economic development of the State.

State Umno liaison chief Datuk Osu Sukam said the proposed institute would help small and medium enterprises to develop and expand their business.

He said Umno would seek help from Universiti Malaysia Sabah's Administration and Business faculty to draw up a plan for the institute.

"I also hope that successful entrepreneurs and corporate figures in the State will assist in setting up the institute," he said in his policy speech at the Sabah Umno convention.

The convention, attended by more than 1,500 delegates and observers, was opened by Prime Minister and Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday.

Osu said the Rural Development Strategic Plan formulated by the Institute for Development Studies, Sabah, could be used as a guide to enhance the economic standing of the rural people.

"I was told that the plan is a comprehensive document which will ensure that the rural population will not be left out from the mainstream of national development," he said.

He expressed hope the plan would not only improve the livelihood of the rural people but would also result in the creation of more jobs.

(END)