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Yong-resign

CHIEF MINISTER YONG TO HAND IN RESIGNATION LETTER ON WEDNESDAY

By: Jackson Sawatan

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, May 21 (Bernama) -- Datuk Yong Teck Lee whose two-year term as Sabah Chief Minister ends on May 28 will hand over his resignation letter to the Yang Dipertua Negeri on Wednesday.

Yong who is here to attend a business forum said his resignation would be effective from May 28 when Chief Minister-Designate Tan Sri Bernard Dompok would take his oath of office.

"The Istana Negeri has consented to the swearing-in ceremony being held on May 28 at 10am," he told Bernama in an interview.

Yong said he would also handover the chairmanship of the Sabah Barisan Nasional to Dompok on May 27 at the State BN office, Putatan Square.

Yong said he would ensure a smooth and orderly transition of power.

He said all parties and groups should support the new Chief Minister.

"As the name of the new Chief Minister had been announced it is only right that everyone gives full support to the decision of the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad," he said.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim announced the name of the new Chief Minister in Kuala Lumpur today on behalf of the Prime Minister and Chairman of the ruling Barisan Nasional. Dr Mahathir is in hospital recuperating from an ankle operation.

Dr Mahathir had told the Sabah people during the last state election that if the Barisan Nasional was returned, the BN would introduce the rotation system under which a leader from the three main communities in Sabah -- Muslim Bumiputeras, Chinese and non-Muslim Bumiputeras -- would each serve as Chief Minister for a two-year term. The Muslim Bumiputera and Chinese communities have had their turn.

-- BERNAMA

JS AAM