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Osu to remain as State liaison committee chief

KOTA KINABALU, Fri. - Former Chief Minister Datuk Osu Sukam will continue to be the chairman of the Sabah Umno liaison committee until the next party election in 2003 unless the party leadership decides otherwise.

Sabah Umno information chief Senator Datuk Karim Ghani said Osu's position in the liaison committee was clear and there was no indication that he would be replaced.

He stressed that Osu's appointment as chairman was made by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is Umno president, and he also had the prerogative to appoint deputy chairman, secretary and treasurer of the committee.

"There is also no reason why he should be replaced," said Karim in an interview today.

"On the other hand, if he is not holding any posts in the State Cabinet or the Federal Cabinet, maybe some people think he is no longer effective.

"However, this is up to the Prime Minister."

When asked if members of the liaison committee generally believed that Osu should be maintained, Karim said the committee had not had a meeting since Osu completed his two-year term as Chief Minister.

Osu was replaced by Liberal Democratic Party president Datuk Chong Kah Kiat, who was sworn-in before the Yang di-Pertua Negeri Tun Sakaran Dandai as the 13th Chief Minister of Sabah on Monday.

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