

# Malaysia-French varsity given Cabinet go-a head

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** The Cabinet has agreed to the setting up of a Malaysia-French university here.

Education Minister Tan Sri Musa Mohamad said the matter was discussed by French President Jacques Chirac with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad when the former was here for a visit last week.

The ministry will work with

the French Embassy to set up the university.

"I foresee the university focusing on technical education as that is among the strengths of French universities," Musa said after his weekly post-Cabinet meeting yesterday.

Musa also announced that a Chair in Occidental Studies would be set up at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM).

Last month, the Cabinet approved the proposal following Dr Mahathir's call for Asians to understand Europeans better in order to deal with them effectively.

On the university designated to establish an institute on Dr Mahathir's Thoughts, Musa said Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM) in Kedah had been appointed to set up the body.