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Rotation of CM's post to stay for now

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KOTA KINABALU, Tues. - Any decision on the system to rotate the Chief Minister's post in Sabah must be for the good of the State and the people, Sabah Umno chief Datuk Musa Aman today said.

He agreed with Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi that the rotation system would remain until all parties involved could come up with a power-sharing alternative.

Musa was speaking after chairing a meeting to discuss preparation for the ground-breaking ceremony for the Sabah Umno building here.

Asked if it was necessary for the State Barisan Nasional to meet to discuss the issue, he said Chief Minister Datuk Chong Kah Kiat, in his capacity as State BN chairman, would decide on the matter.

Several State Umno leaders had proposed a review of the system after Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) president Datuk Seri Joseph Pairin Kitingan made a statement that his party, although now a BN component member, was holding to its stand that the system should be scrapped.

Pairin, however, said that the PBS would abide by whatever decision made by the BN leadership on the matter.

On the ground-breaking ceremony for the Sabah Umno building, Musa said it was expected to be officiated by Prime Minister and Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"All preparations are in place and we are awaiting confirmation on the date from the Prime Minister's office," he said.

The ground-breaking would coincide with the 12th anniversary of Umno's expansion to Sabah.