

**Sarawak mulls curb on 'unhealthy political practices'**  
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The Sarawak cabinet will decide at its meeting next Thursday, whether to formulate legislation based on a proposed White Paper to curb unhealthy political trends in the state, Deputy Chief Minister Dr George Chan said today.

He said a motion to approve the White Paper, which was tabled and passed at the recent state legislative assembly session, covered individuals, organisations and media to prevent the escalation of dangerous politics employed by outsiders, especially politicians.

Dr Chan said it would most probably be prepared by the Speaker, Mohamad Asfia Awang Nassar.

He was speaking to reporters after opening the Third International Conference on Solid State Science and Technology 2010 in Kuching.

Should the White Paper be endorsed by the state government, Sarawak is set to become the first state to have its own set of guidelines to curb unhealthy political practices which might disrupt racial harmony or cause religious tension.

On concerns that it might be used by the authorities to restrict opposition leaders from coming into Sarawak, Dr Chan said, it was not aimed at targeting anyone.

The Sarawak state assembly, which last convened from Nov 1-10 this year, had passed a motion for the state government to prepare and publish a 'White Paper'.

- Bernama