

MCA wants new blood

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Party must have support from all age groups, says Ong

KOTA KINABALU: MCA must strive to attract the young to ensure that it gets support from a cross section of the community.

President Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting said this was in line with the party's target of having balanced support among the young, middle-aged and the older generation.

"It is important that the younger generation realise their political strengths," he said when opening the Sabah MCA convention at the Kian Kok middle school hall here yesterday.

He said it was also advantageous for the party to recruit the young as many of them possessed valuable talents.

In this regard, Ong had asked Sabah MCA to embark on a campaign to recruit more of those aged between 21 and 35.

He said MCA elected representatives at Federal and state levels were sensitive to Sabah's development needs.

Asked by reporters on measures the MCA had taken to ensure that the Chinese community continues to support Barisan Nasional in view of DAP's recent electoral success in Sarawak, Ong said:

"We have always worked hard to ensure that the existing support for the party and Barisan is constantly strengthened.

"Among the younger generation for



MEN IN WHITE: Ong (left) and MCA deputy president Datuk Seri Chan Kong Choy (second from right) and vice president Datuk Dr Chua Soi Lek (right) chatting with Sabah MCA chairman Datuk Edward Khoo in Kota Kinabalu yesterday.

example, we are taking steps to explain current events taking place in the country," he said adding that this would ensure that the Opposition could not exploit the issues.

The 600 delegates representing

Sabah MCA's 25 divisions unanimously endorsed the implementation of the nine-point party platform.

This was among the eight resolutions adopted at the one-day meeting.

The other resolutions include asking

for a speedy decision on the permanent site of the Tunku Abdul Rahman College campus, opposing any move to increase electricity tariffs in the state and calling for state administration appointments to be based on merit.