KOTA KINABALU: A total of 4,579 students have been admitted into Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) for its 2016/17 academic year. The number shows a slight increase compared to the 4,481 students of the previous 2015/16 year intake.

UMS Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Datuk Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah said the number of international students enrolled at the university also showed an increase to 168 from 138 previously. He said there were two students from Vanuatu who registered for this year’s intake. The rest were from countries such as China, Brunei, Germany, South Africa, Thailand, Indonesia, Tanzania, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Korea and Timor Leste.

“The increase in the number of foreign student enrolment indicates that UMS has received wider attention,” Harun told reporters at New Student Registration Day Programme in conjunction with the Orientation Week 2016/17 held at UMS’s E Residential College yesterday.

He said most of the foreign students were pursuing bachelor’s degree courses in the Faculty of Business, Economics and Accounting, Faculty of Science and Natural Resources and Faculty of International Finance, Labuan campus.

For the Malaysian student intake, Harun said the number also showed an increase from 2,021 to 2,107 and the number of Sabahan students also increased by 86.

“Students from Peninsular Malaysia and Sarawak make up 52 per cent of the total intake, numbering 1,927 and 377 respectively.

“In addition, 13 students are Persons with Disabilities (OKU),” he added.