KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) will embark on another milestone in the academic field with the signing of a MoU with Asia e-University (AeU) yesterday.

The MoU will encourage the expansion of the university’s online distance learning programme globally in the higher education sector with AeU as a gateway university to develop and expand the programme, hence generating impact towards the national economy.

UMS’s vice chancellor, Vice chancellor, Prof Datuk Dr Kamaruzaman Haji Ampun said this at the signing here.

The university, he said, aimed to increase the intake of international students, to enhance academic reputation of UMS and other institutions of higher learning as well as to contribute to economic growth.

Dr Kamaruzaman also said the signing of the MoU signified the importance and participation of UMS in the entry point projects – also known as EPP6 of the NKEA under the Economic Transformation Programme (ETP).

As initial collaboration with AeU, Dr Kamaruzaman said two such programme had been identified – Master of Human Capital Management and Master in Education Management.

Meanwhile, he said as a higher learning institution, UMS has not only been gearing itself towards the vital role of producing competent human resource but it also aimed to position itself as a premier research and innovation university.

At the MoU signing yesterday, the AeU was represented by its president Prof Dato’ Dr Ansary Ahmed.