KOTA KINABALU: UMS Link Holdings Sdn Bhd has agreed to embark on the UMS Link International Precinct (UIP) project to provide high quality facilities and services to the UMS community. It will be developed by Goldenmas Development.

It has purchased a 5-acre area fronting lBorneo and will build and lease it to UMS Link for 30 years after which the latter will take over from Goldenmas to manage the property.

The whole area can accommodate a population of 2,000 and the prestigious precinct will become an additional hot spot along Jalan Sulaman.

Group Chairman of UMS Link Holdings Sdn Bhd., Datuk K.Y. Mustapha said it can also accommodate foreign students and create a conducive environment for studying.

Mustapha said 60 per cent of the revenue from UMS Link would be generated to UMS.

Chairman of the Board of Directors of UMS, Tan Sri Datuk Abdul Hamid Egoh, meanwhile, urged the UMS academic community to utilise the precinct as a venue for nurturing, developing and producing quality human capital for the state and the nation.

“The conventional way of classroom learning is no longer sufficient to generate talents in view of the highly competitive world of today,” he said.

He was speaking to reporters at a news conference after witnessing the signing ceremony of the purchase, build, lease and transfer agreement (PBLTA) between UMS Link Holdings Sdn Bhd and Goldenmas Development Sdn Bhd at Sutera Harbour here yesterday.

Hamid hoped construction of the UIP project by Goldenmas Development, which is immense with huge financial costs, would run smoothly.

Since its inception in 1994, UMS has produced some 37,000 graduates. It has 13 schools and institutes with a teaching staff of 914 supported by 1,411 non-academic staff in administration and other needs of a modern university.

Today, UMS has more than 17,000 undergraduates and postgraduates pursuing their studies including 507 international students who represent 3 per cent of the total student population.