



Musa (fourth right) signing the plaque of a time capsule to commemorate the launching of the Malaysian Veteran Artists Association day at University Malaysia Sabah. BP 26/09/2011 A2

UMS urged to prepare comprehensive plan on film industry

KOTA KINABALU: Chief Minister Datuk Seri Musa Aman wants Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) to prepare a comprehensive strategic plan that would make the creative industry, particularly film-making, yet another state economic generator.

He said this was important, considering the industry's potential to be developed into a higher level.

"I hope UMS and the relevant government agencies, whether at state or federal level, could work together to draw up the strategic plan.

"If other countries like the United States, India, Hong Kong and Korea can turn the industry into an economic generator, I am confident, with

the plan and the creativity of our local children, we can too," he said when launching Malaysian Veteran Artists Association (SENIMAN) Day at the UMS Recital Hall here yesterday.

Musa said development of the film industry in Sabah, especially in television programme production, was becoming more enterprising.

"A lot of local production companies have used Sabah as a filming and drama location and the number keeps increasing. This would create more job opportunities," he noted.

The chief minister also encouraged industry students and stalwarts to use the new media for

its positive elements to enhance their creativity and professionalism.

Meanwhile, Musa hoped more films and documentaries would be produced on Sabah's history relating to the struggles and success of the early defenders, right up to the current leaders, in upholding the state.

Present were Seniman president Datuk Ismail Hudson, UMS vice-chancellor Datuk Professor Kamaruzaman Haji Ampon, Assistant Tourism, Culture and Environment Minister Datuk Bolkihah Ismail, Deputy State Secretary Datuk Joseph Gontavid, members of Seniman, several veteran artists and students of UMS.