



INTERNATIONAL Convener of the World Conference of Science and Technology Education Elaine Horne poses for a photo while other delegates are in their group discussion.

Kuching hosts international confab on science and technology education

BY NATASHA CHRYSTAL JEE

KUCHING: Kuching was chosen to be the host for the Fourth International Council of Association for Science Education (ICASE) World Conference on Science and Technology Education held at Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) here.

International Convener of the World Conference of Science and Technology Education Elaine Horne, said about 40 delegates comprising mostly science teachers from European and Asian countries attended the declaration discussion.

"The idea of the discussion was that the delegates contributed ideas and exchanged ideas relating to science education and environmental education," said Elaine during the Kuching Declaration Group discussion held at UNIMAS, Kota Samarahan, here yesterday.

She stated that the discussion was also about how teachers could teach in classroom to enable students to have a better quality of science and environmental education.

"We hope that the ideas presented in the documents can be accepted throughout the world; it is up to the people to see whether it is relevant for the country or not," stressed Elaine.

She pointed out that it was very important to have a quality education on science, technology and the environment because all of that were parts of

everyone's life.

"We have to build the passion in young children to learn about science and the environment and have a better understanding about it. We all know that the environmental issues are out of hand, and by teaching them about science and environment, the importance of preserving nature, only then they will know how to contribute back as a responsible human beings," pointed out Elaine.

The International Council of Association for Science Education (ICASE) was established in 1973 to extend and improve science education for children and young people throughout the world. Today, ICASE is a vast network of science teachers associations, institutions, foundations and companies, working together to promote science and technology education around the world. ICASE facilitates communication and cooperation at national, regional, and international levels.

Throughout the world, people and societies in which they live are profoundly influenced by science and technology.

The improvement of quality of life and the achievement of sustainable development place a high demand for scientific and technological literacy on all citizens. ICASE has worked with member organisations in over 75 countries to support science educators in their important role of developing such literacy.