

Dr M: Local firms can gain by joining CPSP

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KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. — More local companies have been urged to join the Commonwealth Consultative Group on Technology Management-Private Sector Partnership (CPSP).

At present, only two local companies — YTL Corporation Bhd and the Sapura group of companies — are members of CPSP.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said companies could, among other things, benefit from research by joining CPSP. He was speaking at the launching of CPSP, the Malaysian Industry-Government Group for High Technology (MIGHT) and the inception meeting of the Industrialists' Steering Group in Kuala Lumpur today.

He urged local industrialists to support and join the CPSP as this would strengthen their resources.

"It is hoped that CPSP and MIGHT will work together in prospecting for technology and come up with an agenda of action for industrial competitiveness for the country."

Dr Mahathir said the Commonwealth Consultative Group on Technology Management's (CCGTM) own co-operative network might need to look into a more effective form of management while still maintaining traditional links.

"CCGTM may formulate a complete forward strategy for the next five years based on the new CPSP at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Cyprus this year." He said the group needed to focus on the new qualitative change for the CCGTM and to establish

a new formula to manage and resource CPSP.

"This may involve a shift from the traditional multi-lateral funding towards a co-operative resourcing from government organisations, companies, CCGTM members and others."

The partnership, he said, could take advantage of the strategic geographic positions of Commonwealth countries on all continents, and their varying levels of sophistication, to promote business through the transfer of the best practices in technology management.

Dr Mahathir said in the

current trend towards globalisation of business, a strong public-private sector partnership was not only necessary but also critical.

"It is through the nurturing of partnership between the public and the private sectors at both national and international levels and the co-operation among them that process in globalisation can be fully exploited.

"These partnerships, however can only be effective if they operate as co-operative networks innovatively, allowing for flexibility, adaptability and mutual trust.

MIGHT has been formed to prospect for business opportunities for the country through strategic exploitation of technology to achieve Vision 2020 aims.

The Prime Minister said the Government-industry partnership must work towards strengthening the country's current comparative advantage to sustain and even enhance its competitiveness.

"This can be achieved through technology-based businesses developed on local or foreign-sourced technologies or those originating from strategic

alliances." He said MIGHT must involve the participation of as many and as wide a spectrum of local companies as possible for multi-perspective views that will enable actions at both micro and macro levels.

Larger membership will increase the possibilities and opportunities for new businesses through strategic alliances in the emerging mode known as virtual corporation. On the Commonwealth, he said it had become more effective but more emphasis should be given to developing countries.