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M'SIAN TEAM IN BOSNIA TO SCOUT FOR BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

By: E. Sivabalan

SARAJEVO, April 12 (Bernama) -- A Malaysian trade mission is in Bosnia-Herzegovina to promote Malaysian products and to look for new investment opportunities, including joint-ventures.

The team, headed by Holland-based Trade Commissioner Dzulkili Mahmud arrived here on Wednesday and will hold talks with local businessmen.

"We will be looking for opportunities to help in the reconstruction of Bosnia where we will get Malaysian investors to put their money here either through direct investment or joint-ventures," Dzulkifli told Bernama here today.

Dzulkifli, who is with the Malaysian Trade Development Board (MATRADE), said a trade fair to promote Malaysian products will be held in Zagreb for five days beginning April 16.

"This country offers very good opportunities in term of trade investment and tourism," he said, adding that products such as consumer and electrical goods could also be imported here.

He said Malaysian investors should grab the opportunities in this Balkan state now before it was too late because there were many business opportunities here especially in the gas and oil industry.

"The businessmen here really feel very close to us and we should grab this opportunity. We don't want to be too late," he added.

Dzulkifli said Malaysian investment in Bosnia was now "very negligible" and should be increased.

He said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will be leading a 22-member business delegation to Bosnia during his visit here next week.

Dr Mahathir will address a business forum organised by the Sarajevo Chamber of Commerce on April 19.

Dzulkifli also said a business forum called "Doing Business in Bosnia-Herzegovina" will be held in Kuala Lumpur soon.

This forum, he said, is aimed at informing Malaysian investors of the potentials that could be tapped in Bosnia and they would also be given first hand information on the facilities available here.

Dzulkifli said he held talks with an oil company here called Energivest and found out that the company was interested in forming joint-ventures with Malaysian investors.

"In fact, these companies (government operated) are interested to learn Malaysia's privatisation concept," he added.

Dzulkifli said his team will be in Bosnia for a month. -- BERNAMA

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