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SABAH TO SET UP INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

KOTA KINABALU, June 24 (Bernama) -- Sabah will set up an Information Technology Council to spearhead the application and development of IT in the state, Chief Minister Datuk Yong Teck Lee said today.

He said the council will be headed by him while the state's think tank Institute for Development Studies (IDS) will served as its secretariat.

"The key mission of the IT Council is to enhance the international competitiveness of Sabah through strategic application and development of information technology," he said in a speech at the conference on Developing Competitive Edge Through Information Technology organised by IDS.

The speech was read by Deputy Chief Minister and Industrial Development Minister Datuk Tham Nyip Shen. Tham later told reporters that the council will be launched next month.

Yong said the council will function as an advisory and consultative body to promote and exchange ideas within the framework set out in the Sabah Outline Perspective Plan (OPPS) and Vision 2020.

He said the council's members will be appointed from the public and private sectors.

Yong outlined ten functions for the council which include initiating and coordinating the establishment of a Sabah Business Information Network and a Public Service Information Network.

Tham told reporters the IT Council will get advice from the Malaysian Institute of Microelectronics System (Mimos) and the national IT council chaired by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad. -- BERNAMA

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