

13 AUG 1996

Fujian-Convention

WORLD FUJIAN ASSEMBLY TO BE FORMED IN LANGKAWI

LANGKAWI, Aug 13 (Bernama) -- The formation of World Fujian Assembly is expected to be the main item on the agenda of the Second World Fujian Convention beginning here Friday.

This follows the resolution of the first convention in Los Angeles, United States, in 1994 that the assembly be officially formed at its next gathering.

And looking at how actively involved Malaysia has been in the convention, the first chairmanship of the assembly is highly expected to be given to the country.

Federation of Hokkien Associations of Malaysia executive secretary Lim Chuan Boon said today the chairmanship was likely to be given to Malaysia purely based on its past and present commitment.

"This was evident at the First World Fujian Convention where Malaysia formed the biggest delegation to the gathering and the organiser noticed our commitment," he told Bernama, here.

The Federation of Hokkien Associations of Malaysia is organising the two-day convention to be opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the Mahsuri International Exhibition Centre at Padang Matsirat.

Lim said that because of its commitment, Malaysia was also selected to host the second convention and it had, in a short time, successfully attracted about 2,500 Hokkian leaders from all over the world.

About 180 people attended the first convention.

Lim said that apart from the formation of the assembly, a seminar on Malaysia-Fujian Trade Investment Opportunities would also be held during the convention.

"We are also organising an investment opportunities exhibition and four government agencies have confirmed participation together with about 12 exhibitors from the Fujian Province in China," he said.

The four agencies are the Malaysian Industrial Development Authority (Mida), Palm Oil Research Institute Malaysia (Porim), Malaysian Timber Council and Malaysia Tourism Development Board.

Lim said the Fujian exhibitors would be led by the Fujian Province Executive Vice-Governor, Wang Jian-Shuang.

"While trying to get more investors to come to the country, we are also treating this convention as an effort to promote Malaysia and Langkawi as a tourist destination.

"This is our main agenda in accepting the offer to host the convention," he said.

Among the corporate figures who have confirmed participation are the chairman of Singapore OUB Wee Cho Yaw, Resorts World chairman Tan Sri Lim Goh Tong, Berjaya executive chairman Tan Sri Vincent Tan, president of Farlim Group Dr Lim Gait Tang and YTL Corp chairman Tan Sri Yeoh Tiong Lay.

The convention will see the biggest gathering of Hokkien leaders and corporate figures in the world. -- BERNAMA

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