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Cerf-MSc
ADVICE FOR THE MSC

KUALA LUMPUR, June 28 (Bernama) -- The proposed Multimedia Super Corridor project will benefit greatly from an exchange of experience and ideas from other countries with similar projects, said Vinton G. Cerf, the inventor of the Internet.

"Look for other parts of the world that would like to pursue similar experiments, and work together with them so that we get as much understanding from around the world of the kinds of solutions that this technology (Internet) introduces and perhaps share the ideas," he said.

The MSC is a designated 50 by 15 kilometre IT hub encompassing twin intelligent cities Cyberjaya and Putrajaya, the Kuala Lumpur City Centre (KLCC) and the new Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Sepang (KLIA).

Cerf, known as the Father of the Internet, was here for the Inet '97 conference. He has been to the country twice and hopes to meet Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who mooted the idea for the setting up of the MSC.

Dr Mahathir is on a two-month leave overseas.

Cerf applauded Malaysia's cooperation with Hungary in making the Hungary Information Technology and Innovation Park (Infopark) as the MSC base in Europe as part of its international partnership.

According to Cerf, it is important for the MSC not to be too totally focussed on providing high bandwidth infrastructure and applications as it also needs to focus on software applications that could work across a wide range of bandwidth capabilities.

"Don't forget, a large part of the world is not going to be able to afford the large bandwidth capabilities," said Cerf who is now serving as a trustee for the United States-based Internet Society.

He said unless applications in the MSC could work across different capability, electronic commerce which is the MSC flagship application, could not be propagated very widely.

"It will take a long time to put the high capacity facilities of the MSC everywhere (in the country), so we have to make it work over a broad range of functionality and capacity in order to realise it," he said.

He said the MSC should also reach the rural parts of the country where people in places with a lower bandwidth capacity than the fibers in the MSC could still be a part of the project and benefit from the Internet. --

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