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Alcatel-MSA

ALCATEL TELECOM TO EXPAND ACTIVITIES IN MALAYSIA

KUALA LUMPUR, June 8 (Bernama) -- Alcatel Telecom will reposition and expand its partnership and activities in Malaysia to better take advantage of the opportunities offered by the Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC).

This was stated by Alcatel's French subsidiary General Manager Gerard Dega in Paris after visiting Malaysia recently.

"Because of the scope and perspectives of the MSC, we are now reassessing our global partnership with Malaysia so that we can best meet the challenges raised by this fantastic initiative," Dega said in a statement released by Alcatel Telecom today.

He said the development of the MSC can effectively rely on Alcatel's unique range of telecommunication technologies and expertise and the company was ready to engage in the set up of the most advanced infrastructure for the MSC as well as to further develop its R&D activities in multimedia.

At present, Alcatel Telecom was running a software development centre in its Penang-based joint-venture where several dozen Malaysian engineers had been working on corporate programmes such as ATM infrastructures or broadband network management.

They were interlinked to other Alcatel Telecom software development centres in Europe and the United States via high-speed satellite circuits.

Dega said Alcatel had decided to set up a new regional competence and support centre in Cyberjaya near here to serve all multimedia networks installed in Asia.

The centre will be located in the new headquarters of Alcatel Telecom in Malaysia at Cyberjaya.

Alcatel, which is one of the 41 founding members of the MSC, was given the Pioneer Blue Helmet by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad when he officiated the ground breaking ceremony in Cyberjaya on May 17.

Alcatel Telecom recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Universiti Telekom (Unitele) which has the responsibility of setting up the Multimedia University in Cyberjaya.

The partnership should include Multimedia Chair and R&D activities for the training of PhD students, the provision of the ATM switch, the sponsorship of scholarships and the access to some of the most advanced research and training centres in Europe.

Several top-level delegations from the Multimedia Development Corporation (MDC) and from Unitele have already visited Alcatel research centres in France.

-- BERNAMA

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