

19 MAY 1997

ANWAR TO DELIVER KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT OIL AND GAS CONFERENCE '97

KUALA LUMPUR, May 19 (Bernama) -- Acting Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim will officiate and present the keynote address at the 2nd Annual Asia Oil and Gas Conference and Exhibition (AOGC) 1997 to be held here from June 9.

Announcing this today, Asian Strategy and Leadership Institute (ASLI) president Mirzan Mahathir said the two-day conference, themed "Asia: Preparing for the Next Millenium" organised by ASLI and Conference Connecting Inc, will be hosted by Petroliam Nasional Bhd (Petronas).

He said some 30 foreign and local prominent speakers, who are experts in the oil and gas industry, will present 16 topics addressing future trends, strategic issues and challenges facing the petroleum industry in the Asia Pacific.

The event will bring together key players in the oil and gas industry to deliberate on issues concerning the economy, governmental regulations, the deregulation process, supply availability as well as future direction of the petroleum industry.

"AOGC 97' will be the premier forum for companies to interact, discuss common issues and areas for mutual co-operation and forge new strategic alliances," he told a press conference.

He said to ensure high-quality and success of the event, a major one in the region, the organisers have appointed a distinguished six-member advisory panels and a prominent eight-member management council.

Members of the advisory panel are Petronas chairman Tan Sri Azizan Zainul Abidin, India's Ministry of Petroleum & Gas Secretary Dr Vijay Kelkar, Petroleum Authority of Thailand (PTT) chairman Sivavong Changkasiri, Philippines National Oil Co (PNOC) president Raul Manglapus, PETROVIETNAM chairman Dr Ho Si Thoang and Singapore Petroleum Co Ltd (SPC) chairman Tan Boon Teik.

The management council comprises Petronas president and chief executive officer Datuk Mohd Hassan Marican, director of Programme on Resource, East-West Centre, Dr Fereidun Fesharaki, Shell Malaysia Ltd chairman and chief executive officer Megat Zaharuddin Megat Mohd Noor, Indonesian Institute for Energy Economics chairman Prof Dr Subroto, Institute of Energy Economics director, Japan, Dr Tsutomu Toichi, Esso Malaysia chairman and chief executive officer Philip J. Dingle, Korea Energy Economics Institute advisor Dr Hoesung Lee and Conoco Asia Pacific Sdn Bhd president Paul W. Lashbrooke.

The response from participants is tremendous, Mirzan said, adding that more than 400 industry players from all over the world have registered for the event.

"Like in last year's AOGC, most who have registered are from Europe," he said. -- BERNAMA

RIZ GC