

25 JUL 1997

Dialogue-arrival

BOTSWANA PRESIDENT ARRIVES FOR LANGKAWI DIALOGUE

LANGKAWI, July 25 (Bernama) -- Botswana President Sir Ketumile Masire arrived today for the third Langkawi International Dialogue 97 on Smart Partnership from July 28 to 30.

He was greeted on arrival by Science Advisor to the Prime Minister Tan Sri Omar Abdul Rahman who is also the dialogue joint secretary.

Masire, who is leading a 25-member delegation arrived, by executive jet here at about 10.30am.

His delegation includes Foreign Affairs Minister Lt Gen M.S Merafhe and Commerce and Industry Minister K.G. Kgoroba.

The dialogue will bring together 250 government leaders including 16 heads of government as well as ministers from all around the Commonwealth, top corporate figures worldwide and local trade union leaders.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will deliver a keynote address at the opening to be held at the Berjaya Beach and Spa Resort in Burau Bay.

Dr Mahathir is the patron and advisor of the dialogue. Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim will also attend the dialogue.

Meanwhile, more dialogue participants are scheduled to arrive tomorrow.

They are Jordanian Prime Minister and Defence Minister Dr Abdul Salam Al Majali (and his nine-member delegation), Mauritius Prime Minister Dr Navin Ramgoolam (and his 18-member delegation), South African President Representative JT Radebe who is also Minister of Public Works, Namibian President Dr Sam Nujoma (and his 30-member delegation) and Zimbabwe President Dr Robert Mugabe (and his 41-member delegation).

Ghanaian Vice-President Prof John Evans Atta Mills and his 11-member delegation will also arrive tomorrow while Ugandan Vice-President Dr Specieza Wandira Kazibwe and his 30-member delegation on Sunday.

This is the first time Ghana and Uganda are sending representatives to the dialogue which is jointly organised by the Malaysian Industry-Government for High Technology (MIGHT) and Commonwealth Partnership for Technology Management (CPTM). -- BERNAMA

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