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Malawi-Investment

MALAYSIAN COMPANY MAKES ITS MARK IN AFRICA

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BLANTYRE (Malawi), May 1 (Bernama) -- Malaysian-based G-Two Holdings Berhad may not be well known back home, but it is definitely making waves in this southern African country and even has plans to expand to other parts of the continent.

The construction-based joint-venture company with Yayasan Wilayah is currently undertaking a massive RM3 billion new satellite township project on a 800-hectre land and a RM70 million international standard hotel project in Malawi.

Its executive chairman, Datuk Lim Huah Leong, told Bernama here today that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is due to arrive in this commercial and industrial city of Malawi later today for a three-day official visit, is expected to perform the ground-breaking ceremony for the hotel project here tomorrow.

The 188-room hotel project will be undertaken by Malawi Resort World Limited, 74 per cent controlled by Malaysian investors and the rest by the Malawi Development Corporation. It is expected to be completed by end of next year.

The hotel would have a convention hall, restaurant, swimming pool and a shopping arcade which are currently lacking in the hotels in Malawi.

The satellite township project would include the construction of low-cost units in Malabada-Nadirande near here. The project would be completed in stages within 15 to 20 years, said Lim, who has kept a somewhat low profile of his business activities outside Malaysia.

Lim said the company is also in the final stages of wrapping up a deal with the Malawian government to build and upgrade Malawi's highways.

G-Two, which is eyeing a Second Board listing on the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange, is the first Malaysian company to operate in Malawi besides Telekom Malaysia Berhad.

Lim said his company has plans to expand to other African countries "but it will depend on the prohrress of projects in Malawi" which he said was progressing well.

Asked about his success in penetrating the African market, Lim said: "One must go in slow and steady without expecting immediate profit. We should understand the feelings and the cultures of the local people before doing business with them."

G-Two's project in Malaysia include the construction of Melaka's first floating World Trade Centre facing the beach in Klebang.

The RM80 million trade centre will include a convention centre with a 3,000-seat capacity, an exhibition centre, a theatre, an opera house, a helipad and a marina. -- BERNAMA

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