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Halim-ISO

MANAGEMENT MEETINGS TO REVIEW ISO 9000 PROGRESS REPORT

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 7 (Bernama) -- Senior federal and state government officers have been asked to review the progress of the implementation of the ISO 9000 quality standard as the main agenda in their management meetings.

Chief Secretary to the Government Datuk Abdul Halim Ali said the move was necessary to gauge the progress and identify problems faced in implementing the quality standard.

"At federal level, I will ensure the progress reports are tabled in main management meetings I chaired," he said when closing the MS ISO 9000 national symposium here today.

The two-day symposium opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday discussed six working papers tabled by local and foreign experts.

He said implementation of the ISO 9000 standard in the public sector was a new approach and hence, would face teething problems in the initial stages of implementation.

He urged government officers to read "Forum MS ISO 9000" a new publication of the Malaysian Administrative Modernisation and Manpower Planning Unit (Mampu).

Halim said top management group should take the initiative to improve their understanding on the approach through discussions at agency level, reading books and magazines.

He also hoped that Mampu, the main agency entrusted to implement MS ISO 9000, would coordinate training programmes in collaboration with government training institutions like the National Institute of Public Administration and Aminuddin Baki Institute.

"Our objective is to develop our civil service to be the best and of world standard," he said.

Commenting on the staggered working hours implemented in five government departments on Jan 2, Halim said the system was proceeding smoothly and well accepted by the people.

"We have not received any complaints on the system which is carried out on a six-month trial basis," he added. -- BERNAMA

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