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Might to beef up its board of directors

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TO ENSURE that the objectives of the Malaysian Industry-Government Group for High Technology (Might) are achieved, members of this non-profit organisation have agreed to increase the size of its board of directors from 15 to 22 directors.

Might joint chairman Tan Sri Tajudin Ramli said the increase is necessary to allow more members from a diverse business and management background to participate in the decision making process.

"With the increased participation from the public and private sectors, Might must be allowed to function as a full-fledged company and it should be given the privilege and opportunity to participate in technology and business venture, although not actively involved in the business activities," Tajudin said.

He was speaking at Might's extraordinary general meeting in Kuala Lumpur last Saturday.

Might, he said can provide a guiding hand and play an advisory role to its partners involved in high technology ventures.

"The 'hands-on' experience in technology business management will strengthen further our competence in ensuring that the nation achieves its goal of Vision 2020," he stressed, adding that despite the active role, Might will remain as a non-profit organisation.

"The revenue or any proceeds derived from its ventures will be retained to support our main activities and future programmes," he said.

The EGM also approved of Might's proposal to participate in technology business ventures.

Tajudin said the time has come for Might to chart new ground especially in supporting the nation's agenda in multi media and advanced manufacturing with the high utilisation of skilled labour, automation and robotics industries.

The much-used "globalisation" and "borderless world" phrases, he said reflect the growing trend of the global economy and "we in the industry as well as the public sector should not lag behind in the acquisition of new and right technology."

"In our areas of concentration such as telecommunications, aerospace and automation, we have to be prepared to face the competitive challenges of the international arena," said Tajudin, who is also executive chairman of Malaysia Airlines.

Might, launched in February 1994 by the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, is managed by the Special Unit for High Technology under the office of the Science Adviser in the Prime Minister's Department.

It is a partnership between the industry and the public sector.

Its main mechanism for looking for business and technology is through the setting up of Might Interest Groups.

Its major project is the annual Langkawi International Dialogue which Tajudin commended has proven to be a success in giving greater linkages and partnership to members.

He added, "Let's not forget that success is a moving target. Be it in the private sector or public sector, we should pool all our strength and resources and focus on achieving competitiveness and excellence."