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RSC-AP SEEKS TO HELP 70 MILLION OF THE POOREST

SUNGAI PETANI, Aug 9 (Bernama) -- The Regional Steering Committee on the Advancement of Rural and Island Women, Asia Pacific region (RSC-AP) has called for a united effort to mobilise resources and technical assistance to help about 70 million of the poorest in Asia

Its chairperson, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Ali, said this was the greater challenge for RSC-AP by the year 2005.

"I hope RSC-AP members could implement the micro credit or micro finance programmes in their countries to help the poorest, she said at the closing ceremony of the RSC-AP Micro-Finance Management Training Workshop here today.

About 50 leaders from 16 Asia Pacific countries participated in the eight-day workshop.

Dr Siti Hasmah said the RSC-AP secretariat in Malaysia was willing to offer further assistance by providing technical training programme and other help.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir had on numerous occasions expressed his desire to see that Malaysia shared whatever expertise and experiences particularly on successful rural development with other countries in this region and in South-South cooperation, she said. --

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