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Conference

COMMONWEALTH PRESS UNION TO DISCUSS MANAGING ECONOMIES

KUALA LUMPUR, June 2 (Bernama) -- The Commonwealth Press Union (CPU) biennial conference here in October will discuss Asian regional trends and management of economies in good and bad times, an official said today.

This is the first time Malaysia is hosting the conference from Oct 26 to 29 to be held at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel.

CPU executive director Mark Robinson said 150 people are expected to attend the conference which Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is expected to open.

Commonwealth Secretary-General Chief Emeka Anyaoku will address the opening session of the conference which carries the theme "Eye of the Tiger".

"This is a partnership of sharing ideas and ideals," he said at a media briefing on the conference at the National Press Club here.

Discussions on the regional trends will incorporate an overview of the Asian economic situation and the socio-political questions in South East Asia, he said.

Issues relating to human rights within the Commonwealth, conflict resolution, press freedom, digital age and its implications and the environment would also be discussed.

Robinson said preceding the conference a CPU Editors Forum would be held at Universiti Sains Malaysia from Oct 21 to 23 to discuss issues concerning themselves and the technical aspect of the profession.

The London-based CPU was established in 1950, among others to uphold the values of the Commonwealth, promote the welfare of its Press, support the interests of publishing bodies and conduct training programmes.

Currently the CPU has 750 members from 53 Commonwealth member states. Malaysia has seven members in the CPU.

At the function Robinson received a mock ticket from Malaysia Airlines to sponsor 20 editors from the developing countries in Commonwealth.

Also present were chairman of the Malaysian CPU chapter and New Straits Times Group Editor Datuk Kadir Jasin, Utusan Melayu Deputy Group Editor Khalid Mohd, adviser to The Star Datuk V.K. Chin and Sin Chiew Jit Poh senior writer James Wong.

-- BERNAMA

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