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26 confirmed for MSC panel meeting

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. - Dr Stan Shih of Acer Inc and Jim Manzi of Nets Inc are among 26 international figures who have confirmed their attendance at the Multimedia Super Corridor's International Advisory Panel meeting this month.

Sixteen of those attending are members of the IAP, while 10 others are attending as representatives/observers.

Scheduled for Feb 12 and 13, this will be the IAP's second meeting and will include new members of the panel, which had only 29 members during its first meeting on Jan 16 last year at Stanford University.

Others who have confirmed attendance include:

- \* Dr Kenichi Ohmae of Ohmae & Associates;
- \* Prof Shumpei Kumon of the International University of Japan;
- \* US Centre for Strategic & International Studies senior adviser Ambassador Diana Lady Dougan;
- \* EDS Corporation president and CEO Lester Alberthal;
- \* Prof William Miller of Stanford University's Graduate School of Business;
- \* Madge Networks chairman and CEO Robert Madge;
- \* Motorola chairman Gary Tooker;
- \* Nippon Telegraph & Telephone president Jun-Ichiro Miyazu;
- \* Silicon Graphics World Trade International Division chairman Bob Bishop;
- \* Sony Corp president & CEO Nobuyuki Idei;
- \* Alcatel Alsthom chairman and CEO Serge Tchuruk;
- \* Ericsson president and CEO Dr Lars Ramqvist;
- \* NEC chairman Dr Tadahiro Sekimoto;
- \* Lucent Technologies chief operating officer Ben Verwaayan.

The meeting will see the participation of 15 additional members over the original 29, an expansion to include multimedia sectors such as animation and content development.

The new members include Kumon; Tchuruk; British Telecom Centre CEO Sir Peter Bonfield; Cisco Systems Inc president and CEO John Chambers; DHL chairman Patrick Lupo; Kingdom Holding Co chairman Prince Al-Waleed Talal Al-Saud, Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers founding partner John Doerr and Nokia Group president and CEO Jorma Ollila.

Other newcomers are Reuters CEO Peter Job; Motion Picture Association of America chairman and CEO Jack Valenti; University of Cambridge vice-chancellor Prof Alex Broers, Bloomberg president and CEO Michael Bloomberg and Intel Corporation (Chandler) president and COO Craig Barret.

The meeting, a closed-door affair, will be opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Three MSC-status companies - a Malaysian company, a local-foreign joint venture and a foreign operation - will make presentations to give the IAP members a sense of what is happening on the ground and to show how the MSC is translating into reality.

Participants will deliberate on issues such as the future of e-commerce, tax implications of e-commerce, the effects of the Internet on society and industry convergence.

There will also be a session for IAP members to review and determine if the MSC's development is proceeding in the right direction, including in terms of human resources, physical infrastructure, environment, and

research and development culture.

Microsoft CEO Bill Gates is not attending.

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