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PM to chair meeting of MSC advisory panel

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GLOBAL advisors to the Multimedia Super Corridor project will attend a two-day meeting at Cyberjaya, Selangor from Feb 12.

So far, 15 of the International Advisory Panel members have confirmed their attendance, Multimedia Development Corporation Sdn Bhd executive chairman Tan Sri Dr Othman Yeop Abdullah said yesterday.

Another 19 are unable to attend but eight are sending representatives to the second IAP meeting, which will be chaired by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The IAP membership has now expanded to 41, up from the 29 when the first IAP meeting was held on Jan 16, last year at Stanford University in California.

Othman said the increased membership was due to the need to include experts from various areas relevant to the development of the MSC.

"Initially, we thought that members should come from only a specific industry. However, we realised that there are other personalities who can contribute to the MSC."

The IAP advises MDC which is the one-stop agency entrusted with the task of developing the MSC.

During the closed-door meetings, IAP members will be updated on the status of developments in the MSC.

Also, three MSC-status companies will be invited to do a presentation at the meeting to give other members a feel of what is taking place at ground-level and also promote the awareness that the MSC project has gone beyond the concept stage.

Othman also said that the current economic problems has had minimal impact on developments in the MSC. This is largely due to the MSC being a priority project and because also most of its investments are in human resources.

The MSC project is envisioned to be the driving force of the nation's economy in the coming years with new products, technologies and services being created and offered.

To support creative environment anticipated to be fostered by the project, conducive working environments - including a resort-like setting and a 2.5 Gigabit per second fibre optic trunk network - are offered.

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