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## Charting future of Bumi enterprise

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KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. - The fourth Bumiputera Economic Congress will chart a two-pronged approach for the future of the Bumiputera Commercial and Industrial Community.

Problems faced by entrepreneurs still reeling from the recent economic downturn will be closely examined, but the solutions that KEB IV are to offer will also aim to reach the ultimate goal of the congress.

"KEB IV aims to prepare Bumiputeras for a knowledge-based economy," Minister of Entrepreneur Development Datuk Mustapa Mohamed said after chairing a meeting with KEB IV's session chairmen and authors of the working papers to be presented.

The congress is jointly organised by the Ministry and the Malay Chamber of Commerce Malaysia (DPMM).

Also present was DPMM president Tan Sri Tajudin Ramli. He said the congress, with over 60 resolutions to be discussed, was very important for the Malay community.

"As such, I urge all Bumiputeras to follow the developments of the congress, and to consider the ideas and issues which will be discussed," he said.

Over 700 participants have signed up for the two day congress which will be held at the Putra World Trade Centre beginning this Friday.

Attendance is expected to reach 1,000, with a minimum 50 participants each from Sabah and Sarawak. Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will officiate KEB IV.

Participants will be able to interact with the Prime Minister in a dialogue session on the opening day. Two working papers will be presented in a session chaired by Deputy Entrepreneur Development Minister Datuk Idris Jusoh.

The first is on "The Achievements of Bumiputeras in the Economy," to be delivered by Economic Planning Unit director general Datuk Dr Samsudin Hitam.

Yayasan Guru Malaysia Bhd chairman Tan Sri Dr Wan Mohd Zahid Mohd Noordin will present the second working paper on "The Achievements of Bumiputeras in Education."

Seven workshops are scheduled for KEB IV. The first, "Strengthening Bumiputera involvement in the Trading and Industrial Sector," will be chaired by Tajudin.

Kumpulan Guthrie Bhd group chief executive Tan Sri Abdul Khalid Ibrahim will present a working paper on the topic.

The second workshop, "The Development in the Education and Utilisation of Manpower in fulfilling th Bumiputera Agenda," will be led by Mara chairman Ruhanie Ahmad.

The session's working paper will be delivered by Universiti Utara Malaysia deputy vice chancellor Professor Datuk Dr Mohd Salleh Din.

KEB IV's workshop on, "The Development of Bumiputera Involvement in Information Technology and Communications" will be chaired by Multimedia Development Corporation executive chairman Tan Sri Dr Othman Yeop Abdullah.

A paper on the topic will be delivered by AIMS Technology Sdn Bhd chairman Senator Datuk Ghazi Ramli.

The fourth workshop, which delves into, "The Development of Bumiputera Involvement in High Technology," will be led by the Scientific Advisor to

the Prime Minister's Department Tan Sri Dr Omar Abdul Rahman.

Malaysian Industry-Government Group for High Technology chief executive Dr Ahmad Tasir Lope Pihie will present a paper.

The fifth workshop is titled, "The Role of Trust Agencies and Public Sector Companies as Catalysts in the Development of Bumiputera Entrepreneurs."

The session will be chaired by Perbadanan Johor chief executive Datuk Muhamad Ali Hashim. A working paper will be delivered by Permodalan Nasional Bhd (PNB) group chief executive Hamad Kama Piah Che Othman.

The sixth workshop is titled, "The Role of Financial Institutions in Enhancing the Creation of a Trade and Industry driven Bumiputera Community."

To be chaired by Bank Negara assistant governor Dr Awang Adek Hussin, the workshop's paper will be presented by Malayan Banking Berhad executive director Datuk Ismail Shahudin.

The final workshop will be on "Inculcation of Cultural and Religious Values in Creating a Competitive Bumiputera Individual."

Institute of Islamic Understanding, Malaysia (IKIM) director general Datuk Dr Ismail Ibrahim will chair the workshop.

Two working papers will be delivered by National Writers' Federation head Tan Sri Professor Ismail Hussein and Universiti Tun Abdul Razak deputy president of academic and student affairs Dr Syed Abdul Hamid Aljunid.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi will chair the plenary session on the closing day.

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