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CIO-ROLE

CIOs SHOULD ADOPT NEW MINDSET IN DEFINING FUTURE ROLE

KUALA LUMPUR, April 6 (Bernama) -- Corporate chief information officers (CIOs) in major corporations are urged to adopt a new mindset about their future role in major corporations as information management is moving to the centre stage.

Energy, Communications and Multimedia Minister Datuk Leo Moggie said CIOs should assume new responsibilities that go far beyond the technical service role that once defined their position.

"CIOs of the future will have to forge new relations with top corporate decision-makers as they (CIOs) effectively move into the circle of corporate planners at the highest level," said Moggie.

This is because the role of "the next generation of" CIOs also involves corporate planning and decision making, he added.

His speech was delivered by Deputy Secretary General of the Ministry Dr Abdul Halim Shafie at the opening of the first annual CIO conference organised by Asian Strategy and Leadership Institute (ASLI).

Also present was ASLI president Mirzan Mahathir.

"There must be a change of mindset in the way the CIOs appreciate their role in the company and the wider influence they may wield in the future," Moggie said.

He added these changes (of the CIOs' role) are now beginning to be felt in the world's major corporations, although there are many significant national differences in the how the CIO role is evolving, amidst the globalisation of the world economy and rapid unification of the European economies.

He said the coming of age of corporate information technology will mean that CIOs must radically rethink their jobs, incorporate new business skills, start new relationships with corporate leadership and adopt new responsibilities for strategic thinking.

"Many of the existing rules which apply in today's economy can no longer be applied in the digital economy, and this means CIOs must adapt with the changing times," he said. -- BERNAMA

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