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Airport

MAHATHIR TO OPEN NINTH ACI-PACIFIC CONFERENCE

KUALA LUMPUR, July 16 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will open the Ninth Airport Council International (ACI)-Pacific Regional Assembly and Conference here on Sunday.

The three-day assembly and conference is the first to be held in Southeast Asia and will be attended by 250 participants and guests.

Malaysia Airports Sdn Bhd managing director Datuk Khairuddin Ibrahim told a news conference here today that the theme for this year's conference is "Next Generation Airports".

He said the theme was chosen in view of the current evolution in the aviation industry, which was steering airport operators and airlines into a new dimension in air travel in the new millennium.

"Airports are no longer mere entry and exit points for travellers. They are destinations in their own right, where a significant amount of connectivity, transglobal business and transit leisure take place," he said.

Khairuddin said the conference would be focussing on technical, economics, environmental, facilitation, safety, security and small airport issues.

Among the 27 speakers at the conference will be Kuala Lumpur International Airport designer Kisho Kurokawa, who is president of Kurokawa and Associates.

The ACI is a world organisation for airports with 500 members that manage over 1,300 airports in 160 countries.

-- BERNAMA

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