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GOVT-CONTRACTS

M'SIAN GOVT AWARDS RM35 MLN CONTRACT TO SAPURA CONSORTIUM

KUALA LUMPUR, May 12 (Bernama) -- The Malaysian government today awarded a RM35 million contract to a Sapura-led consortium for the development and implementation of the pilot phase of the Generic Office Environment (GOE) under the Electronic Government flagship application.

The consortium members comprise Sapura Advance Systems Sdn Bhd, Microsoft Knowledge Capital Centre Sdn Bhd, Hewlett Packard Sales (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd and EDS MSC Sdn Bhd.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today witnessed the contract signing between the Malaysian government, which was represented by Chief Secretary Tan Sri Abdul Halim Ali, and Datuk Shahril Shamsuddin, chief executive officer of Sapura Group, who represented the consortium.

Halim told reporters later that this is the third contract awarded by the government under the electronic government flagship application, with the earlier ones being the RM99 million contract for human resource management information system and the RM50 million project monitoring system.

Another two more contracts, which are still under negotiations, are for electronic kiosk and electronic procurement.

All these applications are expected to be ready by next year, he said but added that some applications will be ready much earlier.

"We will then evaluate them. If they are a success, we will roll them out to the other departments," he said.

Meanwhile, the GOE will provide a fully-integrated and paperless office environment for the Prime Minister's Office by deploying multimedia information technology.

The software development will take 11 months and this pilot phase will cover six agencies within the Prime Minister's Office.

The three main modules to be built in this phase are the enterprisewide information management system (EIMS), enterprisewide communications management system (ECOMS) and enterprisewide collaboration management system (ECOLLMS).

EIMS will provide a universal interface for users to manage, find, retrieve and compose information as needed for day to day operations while an integrated ECOMS and ECOLLMS will enable users to communicate and collaborate better to ensure a more effective work flow.

The latter two also involve communication and collaboration among workgroups through messaging systems, electronic meetings, bulletin boards, meeting management, decision tracking and discussion forums.

Halim said the implementation of the GOE will also see the establishment of the electronic government laboratory (EG Lab) that will act as a common user facility for the consortium and other interested parties, including small and medium enterprises (SMEs), to test new products and the integration of applications.

Working in parallel to building the GOE application, the Sapura Consortium will carry out an integrated Change Management and Business Process Reengineering Program which will ensure that users of the new system are trained, ready and able to work in the new technology environment.

Other collaborative partners within this consortium are Accurate Network Systems Integration, Arthur D. Little, PNB-IT, Optika Technologies and Intel Electronics. -- BERNAMA

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