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OIC-Media
KHALIL OPENS ICFM MEDIA CENTRE

KUALA LUMPUR, June 26 (Bernama) -- Information Minister Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob opened the Media Centre for the 27th session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM) at the Malaysia International Exhibition Showroom (Mines) in Seri Kembangan here today.

The centre will serve about 400 local and foreign media representatives from 24 countries who have converged here to cover the four-day meeting to be opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad tomorrow.

The centre offers state-of-the-art facilities for the transmission of news, news photographs and television footages.

The main press centre, manned by Bernama, also offers Internet and e-mail access as well as the agency's computer-based realtime news service called Newslink.

Forty computers are provided for newsmen to process their stories. For those pressmen who are less IT-savvy, typewriters are also available.

The centre is located about 1.5km from the Palace of the Golden Horses hotel, the venue of the ICFM meeting, to which a shuttle service is provided.

The centre was set up by the Information Ministry which is heading the ICFM Publicity and Media Committee.

Apart from Bernama, departments and agencies under the ministry involved in the running of the media centre are Radio and Television Malaysia (RTM), Information Department and Filem Negara.

About 1,000 delegates from 56 Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) member nations will attend the ICFM being held in Malaysia for the second time. The first was in 1974.

Khalil toured the working areas for journalists, photographers and broadcasters.

Meanwhile, Kambiz Shamsi from the Iran Republic News Agency (IRNA) said he was impressed with the facilities at the centre.

"It is really well organised," he said.

Officials from Qatar, which will host the next ICFM, are also studying the set-up of the centre.

-- BERNAMA

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