

19 NOV 2000
LID-OPENING
LID 2000 OFFICIALLY STARTS TODAY

LANGKAWI, Nov 19 (Bernama) -- The Langkawi International Dialogue 2000 (LID 2000), a gathering of top-level government leaders, academia, corporate chiefs and media experts, officially starts here today.

LID 2000 is the second leg of the Global 2000 Smart Partnership Dialogue. The first leg was the Southern Africa International Dialogue (SAID 2000), which was held in Maputo, Mozambique, last August.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad arrived here this morning to attend various sessions connected with propagating the smart partnership concept and officially open the dialogue at the Mahsuri International Exhibition Centre tonight. All other sessions will be held at the Berjaya Langkawi Beach and Spa Resort.

The prime minister is the convenor for the session on Commonwealth Partnership for Technology Management Ltd (CPTM) Fellows and a special session on "Making Progress & Sharing Practical Experiences" today.

At the last count, more than 350 delegates from more than 20 countries will participate.

More foreign leaders will arrive today for the four-day event. Lesotho Prime Minister Dr Pakalitha Mosisili and his Swaziland counterpart, Dr B.S. Dlamini, Namibian President Dr Sam Nujoma and Mozambique President Joaquim Alberto Chissano have arrived to share their thoughts on smart partnership.

The dialogue, themed "Global Trends and Emerging Economies", is jointly organised by the Malaysian Industry-Government Group For High Technology (Might) and CPTM. -- BERNAMA

RIZ YBY