

25 APR 2001  
WEDC-ECONOMY  
PM TO OPEN ECONOMIC DEVT CONGRESS

KUALA LUMPUR, April 25 (Bernama) -- The 10th World Economic Development Congress (WEDC) to be held in Kuala Lumpur in late June will be officially declared open by the Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Marking the first time that such a meeting is being held in Southeast Asia, the assembly provides the local people with the opportunity to directly hear Western and Asian world leaders addressing the reality of future global economic development and its implications for Asia-Pacific business.

"The WEDC gives the opportunity to the countries of Asia to give to the rest of the world, particularly infrastructure providers from Europe and the United State, a clear picture of their economic outlooks and the development priorities over the next decade," said managing director of EcoEvent Sdn Bhd, Jamal Nasir in a statement here today. (EcoEvent outbid other organisers to bring WEDC to Malaysia.)

Jamal said that top-level management from Malaysia and the region would be able to gain access to and network with world business leaders, as well as to put their views on global development direct to world opinion makers and decision takers.

"At the same time, we believe WEDC Kuala Lumpur will have major implications for international perceptions of Malaysia and the region," he said.

He added that the focus of WEDC KL, under the general theme of "Infrastructure, Internet and the New Economy", would be electronic commerce (e-commerce), the global integration of markets, and infrastructure for production and consumption in the technology economy.

Specific sectors to be adressed include energy, information technology (IT), telecommunications and water. -- BERNAMA

FAY SEL