

31 JUL 2002
ICT-WEEK
MSIA-IAP MEETING TO BE PART OF M'SIA ICT WEEK

KUALA LUMPUR, July 31 (Bernama) -- This year's meeting of the International Advisory Panel (IAP) for the Multimedia Super Corridor to be held from Sept 5-7 will be held during the "Malaysia ICT Week 2002," a national event which will combine major ICT activities in the country.

The IAP would be chaired by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The ICT week from Sept 3-7, 2002, coordinated by the Energy, Communications and Multimedia Ministry, would bring together all ICT-related activities including high level meetings, conferences and exhibitions organised separately by different groups as one national event, the ministry's Parliamentary Secretary, Chia Kwang Chye, said here today.

Themed "Communications, Multimedia and You," the event would incorporate the Multimedia Super Corridor-Asean Communications and Multimedia Export & Forum (MSC-ACM & National E-Commerce Expo), the MSC-Multimedia Asia Expo and the MSC-IAP Business Summit, he told a media briefing.

About 20,000 trade visitors and delegates are expected to attend the week-long events.

The week would also see an ICT seminar aimed at empowering women with the relevant tools organised by PUSPANITA (Persatuan Suri dan Anggota Wanita Perkhidmatan Awam Malaysia), he said.

Chia said that a major objective in combining all ICT events was to maximise the impact from efforts to position Malaysia as an ICT hub.

He said that the Malaysia ICT Week 2002 also aimed to further bridge the digital gap among Malaysians as information was an important asset for both individuals and nationally, without which the country would be left behind.

ICT awareness in the country might not be sufficient which was why people need to participate and equip themselves with ICT tools sufficiently and in the process enable the country to compete internationally, he said.

Some 300 exhibiting companies from 25 countries would showcase the latest in emerging communications and multimedia technology and solutions ranging from gizmos in mobile communications, wireless broadband, high-speed Internet access to satellite solutions and e-security and enterprise network.

As for the MSC-Multimedia Business Summit, speakers would include members of the MSC-IAP who would provide updates on the latest trends and developments, cutting edge studies and directions in policy and practice in ICT.

Some of the topics up for discussion include "cyber-terrorism, 2.5G or 3G, challenges for the Asian Telecommunications Sector, creating a dynamic marketplace -- the Asean initiative, as well as the assessment of the MSC by IAP members.

Besides some 30 free technology seminars, there would be new product launches and presentations including the introduction for the first time in Malaysia of "i-mode" by NTT Docomo of Japan.

Among other events include the 2nd National E-Security seminar hosted by the Malaysian Communications & Multimedia Commission (MCMC) catering to the increased needs of the industry in having a secure e-environment with discussions mainly on prevailing issues and threats to the network system.

-- BERNAMA

MR KTC