

More to attend 7th IAP meet in Sept

■ By KAMARUL YUNUS

THE Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC) continues to receive international recognition, with a larger turnout of members expected at the seventh MSC International Advisory Panel (IAP) meeting next month.

Multimedia Development Corp senior vice president Dr Muhammad Ghazie Ismail said a total of 17 IAP members and 14 representatives have confirmed their participation in the meeting scheduled for September 4-5.

"This was an increase from 14 members and 12 representatives who attended the meeting last year.

"In fact, this was the largest turnout of members and representatives since IAP was established seven years ago," he told a media conference in Cyberjaya yesterday.

Contrary to critics, Muhammad Ghazie said this proved that the MSC has been successful and on course to achieving its goal as a regional hub for information technology.

Last month, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had also quashed scepticism about the viability of the MSC by stressing that the MSC had been able to attract more than 800 companies.

At the opening of Ericsson's RM80 million Malaysian headquarters and regional hub on July 29, Dr Mahathir had said that the MSC and its flagship hub-city, Cyberjaya, were moving successfully in the envisaged direction and were not a failure as some critics believed.

He (Dr Mahathir) had said the MSC's success could also be measured in the overwhelming interest shown by technology-based corporations, foreign and local, in operating from the "intelligent" area.

On the seventh IAP meeting, Muhammad Ghazie said the meeting will witness two new members who have been promoted from representative status. The two new members are Satyam Computer Services chairman Ramalingam Raju and Dennis Robertson of Illinois Institute of Technology.

Others attending include University of Cambridge Vice Chancellor Emeritus Professor Sir Alec Broers, Motorola executive vice president