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Film-Festival

KUALA LUMPUR WORLD FILM FESTIVAL TO BE AN ANNUAL AFFAIR

KUALA LUMPUR, April 4 (Bernama) -- The Kuala Lumpur World Film Festival (KLWFF), which was successfully staged in February, would be made an annual affair, Finas Director-General Datuk Mohd Shariff Ahmad announced today.

"The government has decided to make the Kuala Lumpur World Film Festival an annual event and this is a very important decision to the local film-making community," he said at a dinner held to appreciate the tireless efforts put in by the staff of various agencies in making the KLWFF 2003 a huge success.

The KLWFF, jointly organised by Finas and the Information Ministry, was the brainchild of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The inaugural event, held from Feb 16 to 18, was attended by some 91 representatives from 48 countries while 39 film titles were entered in the KLWFF 2003.

"Since it would be made an annual event, we hope the local film-making community would be prepared for the next KLWFF with better quality films," Mohd Shariff said.

He also expressed his appreciation to all individuals who had contributed in making the KLWFF 2003 a huge success although preparation was done in a very short time.

"In spite of the shortcomings, we succeeded. It was held just before the Non-Aligned Movement summit... time was my enemy then but we were lucky to have such hardworking individuals," he said.

He said some individuals, who made the event a success, worked around the clock and the result was a good KLWFF.

"I received a lot of congratulatory messages from the foreign participants and this showed that our efforts did not go to waste," he added.

-- BERNAMA

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