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MIGHT-DIALOGUE

MIGHT: M'SIA-THAI TECH DIALOGUE WILL BOOST BILATERAL CO-OPERATION

KUALA LUMPUR, July 17 (Bernama) -- The Malaysia-Thailand Technology and Business Partnership Dialogue, to be held in Langkawi on July 27 and 28, will serve as a platform to promote techno-business co-operation between the private sectors of the two countries.

The areas to be promoted cover agro-biotechnology and agriculture, ICT, automotive and electrical and electronics, and eco-tourism and sustainable development, the Malaysian Industry-Government Group For High Technology (MiGHT) said in a statement today.

The dialogue, with the theme, "Harnessing Strategic Business and Technology Partnership for Economic Growth", aims to at promoting closer collaboration and technological development between Malaysia and Thailand, it said.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his Thai counterpart, Dr Thaksin Shinawatra, will both attend the dialogue and deliver keynote addresses at opening plenary session at the event that is expected to attract 300 key economic development officials and policy makers, captains of industry, academic experts and entrepreneurs for both countries.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad badawi will be deliver the dialogue summation and closing address, MiGHT said.

It said the Minister of International Trade and Industry Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz and Thailand's Minister of Science and Technology, Phinij Jarusombat, will be among the key speakers.

MiGHT's president/chief executive, Datuk Dr Ahmed Tasir Lope Pihie, said both Malaysia and Thailand recognised the tremendous potential and benefits that could be achieved from bilateral collaboration, technology partnership and networking.

He said dialogues such as this were imperative and served as an important tool for both countries to collectively explore new paradigms towards technology-driven competitiveness at the regional and international levels.

Malaysia is Thailand's fifth largest trading partner while Thailand ranks as Malaysia's seventh largest trading partner.

Malaysia bilateral trade with Thailand amounted to US\$7.13 billion in 2002.

Those interested to participate in the dialogue are invited to contact MiGHT at 03-8888 1888, or e-mail:corpcomm@might.org.my, and website: www.might.org.my.

-- BERNAMA

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