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OIC-IT

OIC SCIENCE AND IT CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS GLOBALISATION CHALLENGES

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 2 (Bernama) -- Some 200 policy makers and information technology experts from member nations of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) will attend the OIC Science and IT conference to identify policies and strategies to meet the challenges of globalisation in Islamic countries.

To be held from Oct 7, the four-day conference will focus on science and technology policies and priorities, capacity building, strategies and mechanism for industrial and economic development in Islamic countries

To date, 18 OIC countries including Bangladesh, Egypt, Jordan, Pakistan, Senegal, Turkey, Tunisia, Kuwait, Lebanon, Sierra Leone and Libya have confirmed their participants.

Conference organising committee chairman Datuk Dr Salleh Mohd Noor, emphasised that more initiatives were needed to address the challenges posed by the accelerating pace of technological advancement and globalisation.

"The theme of this year's conference is 'facing the challenges of globalisation.' We are living in a time of rapid changes against a backdrop of increased globalisation."

"Such challenges have the potential for both opportunities as well as risks. Success in meeting these challenges will depend largely on the ability of member countries to shape and steer the demands of the new environment," he said in a statement.

He said that achieving these goals would not be easy given the weaknesses in science and technology among member countries.

"However, given the commitment, conviction and a renewed spirit of collaboration, the Muslim world can reclaim its past glory by crafting its supremacy in science and technology," added Dr Salleh.

Some of the key speakers at this conference are Pakistan's Higher Education Chairman Prof Atta-Ur-Rahman and president of Saudi Arabia's King Abdul Aziz City for Science and Technology, Prof Saleh Al-Athel.

At the end of the conference, the resolutions drawn up will be presented to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and so will be the conclusions from the brainstorming session of OIC Foreign Ministers to be held on Oct 13-14.

This brainstorming will provide input for the preparation of the Putrajaya Declaration, which will be released at the end of the OIC summit.

For more stories on the OIC log on to [www.bernama.com /oic](http://www.bernama.com/oic) summit.

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