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A blueprint for growth

MALAYSIAN Industry Government Group for High Technology (MiGHT) was launched on Feb 22, 1993 by then Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad. It was registered as a company limited by guarantee on Oct 15, 1994 under the office of the Science Advisor, Prime Minister's Department. Some of its major initiatives are:

1. Blueprint for the Aerospace Industry

The blueprint recommends key initiatives that need to be undertaken for the transformation of Malaysia into a regional and international player in the next 15 years.

MiGHT has analysed the nation's competitiveness in aerospace, formulated and recommended an aerospace policy and strategy for the development of the industry in the country and looked at prospects of commercialisation and technical opportunities that will facilitate the growth of the industry.

The blueprint, produced in 1996, looked at optimising the use of limited resources in the preferred subsectors that have been identified: maintenance and overhaul, systems, space, aerotech parks, research and development, parts and components manufacturing and aircraft manufacturing.

2. Malaysian Pharmaceutical Industry Action Plan

The MiGHT Interest Group in Pharmaceuticals was launched in September 1996. The major role of this group was to help in the formulation of a national strategy for the pharmaceutical industry. The goal of this strategy was to strengthen and expand the scope of the local pharmaceutical industry, making Malaysia a competitive player in the global market.

The National Pharmaceuticals Blueprints high-lights the following: status of the local industry; analysis of the local industry vis-a-vis global and regional trends; strategic recommendations; and action plan.

3. Industrialised Building System

MiGHT has played a significant role in many areas, including the construction sector. Through the MiGHT Interest Group in Construction and Housing, MiGHT has set up a working group comprising players from the Government and private sectors to prepare a report entitled Proposed Measures for the Development of the Malaysian Construction Sector.

A major recommendation contained in the report was to identify and implement the Industrialised Building System (IBS), a systematic co-ordination and development of a common understanding among all parties to minimise conflicts arising from the building process.

The use of IBS will result in an increased production capacity, higher productivity achieved with low man-power requirement, shorter turnaround times, improved quality, relatively low building costs and improved competitiveness in the industry.

The report recommended the training of employees and also highlighted a range of policy options that need to be addressed to steer the construction sector toward resilience.

The IBS concept has been widely accepted in countries such as Singapore, Denmark and Norway with strong government intervention needed to implement it.

MiGHT, in its neutral capacity as part of the Prime Minister's office, identifies projects on a national scale across ministries that can be earmarked for the use of this new technology.

4. Malaysian Herbal Industry Outlook

The MiGHT Interest Group in Herbal products was set up in December 1998.

The group analysed the competitiveness of the nation's herbal industry,

formulated and recommended policies and strategies for the development of the herbal industry and looked at prospects for commercialising the products. The Malaysian Herbal Industry Outlook was produced in mid-2000. It addresses issues of policy and regulation, human resource development, technology and business opportunities.

Global trends and future directions of the industry, as well as strategies to promote the Malaysian herbal products to the international market are also contained in the blueprint.