

Malaysia To Join Global Cyber Security Alliance
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PUTRAJAYA -- The National Information Technology Council (NITC) will be joining the Global Cyber Security Alliance (GCSA) as a platform to share information on national cyber security with member countries.

Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, Dr Maximus Ongkili, said membership in the GCSA was open to all Organisation of the Islamic Cooperation countries, Asean Regional Forum members and developing countries.

"The proposal to join GCSA has been accepted in a meeting chaired by the Prime Minister, Najib Tun Razak.

"It will be further looked into by the E-Sovereignty Expert Group headed by Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin.

"We hope in three months that the concept will be finalised and will go to the Cabinet for final approval," he told reporters after attending an NITC meeting with 32 members of the council at the Prime Minister's Office here on Tuesday.

At that meeting, eight working papers were presented urging the further strengthening of the ICT sector to turn it into the main thrust of the nation's development.

Further, Ongkili said GSCA would become a network to overcome issues relating to cyber crime, computer attacks and security.

"GSCA membership countries could integrate professional and skilled work resources to carry out ICT training to combat cyber issues and protect the people and national security," he added.

Regarding another concern, he said Malaysia is establishing the Malaysia Industrial Research Consortium on ICT (MiRICT) to further strengthen the Ecosystems Research and Development Framework of National ICT and Innovation.

He said MiRICT, headed by Mimos, would assist in research and help local operators to improve commercially viable ICT products for world markets.

"This is a challenge to ensure Malaysia is an exporter of ICT skills and products," he said.

Apart from that, Ongkili noted that NITC has also agreed to provide its mandate to Critical National Information Infrastructure (CNII) to achieve the MS ISO/IEC 27001: 2007 certification on Information Security Management Systems at their respective organisations before February 2013.

Regarding the National Key Economic Area, he said the Ministry of Information Communication and Culture has identified 10 Entry Point Projects (EPP) in communication infrastructure, projected to contribute RM16.6 billion to the Gross Domestic Product and create 25,000 jobs by 2020.

(Bernama)