

KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
TARIKH: 12 SEPTEMBER 2017 (SELASA)

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Jadikan rakyat celik sains, teknologi



Madius Tangau

KUALA LUMPUR - Malaysia menggesa negara-negara Pertubuhan Kerjasama Islam (OIC) menjadikan rakyat mereka celik sains, teknologi dan inovasi (STI) supaya akhirnya dapat terlibat sebagai masyarakat saintifik.

Menteri Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi (MOSTI), Datuk Seri Madius Tangau berkata dalam usaha membina budaya saintifik yang sebenarnya di negara-negara Islam, kerajaan negara berkenaan perlu melakukan peralihan paradigma dan menyandang kewajipan lebih besar untuk membolehkan sistem eko dibina.

Ketika berucap pada Sidang Kemuncak OIC Pertama mengenai Sains dan Teknologi di Astana, Kazakhstan, beliau mengulangi hasrat Malaysia supaya pemahaman jelas diberikan mengenai keperluan untuk mengurangkan sepenuhnya jurang saintifik dan teknologi di antara umat Islam dan negara-negara maju

"Ini juga akan menyumbang kepada pelaksanaan awal Matlamat Pembangunan Lestari Pertubuhan Bangsa Bersatu (PBB) dan mempromosikan prinsip kerjasama dan perpaduan di kalangan semua negara anggota OIC," katanya dalam kenyataan di sini.

Pemimpin dari 15 negara anggota OIC serta 55 menteri sains dan teknologi menghadiri sidang kemuncak itu yang bertema "Sains, Teknologi, Inovasi and Pemodenan Dunia Islami".

Madius mewakili Malaysia pada Mesyuarat Menteri-menteri Sains dan Teknologi pada 9 September disusuli Sidang Kemuncak Pertama OIC mengenai Sains dan Teknologi dari 10 hingga 11 September.

Pada akhir sidang kemuncak itu, para anggota delegasi akan menerima pakai dua dokumen penting iaitu Pengisytiharan Astana dan Agenda Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi OIC pada 2026. Kedua-dua dokumen itu adalah komitmen OIC dalam menangani cabaran masa depan seperti kemiskinan, kesihatan, pemuliharaan alam sekitar, keselamatan makanan dan tenaga melalui Rancangan Sains dan Teknologi Sepuluh Tahun bagi Negara-negara Anggota OIC, yang juga selari dengan SDG.

Menurut kenyataan itu, Malaysia melihat pentingnya keutamaan yang ditetapkan dalam Agenda 2021 OIC STI dan akan menyokong semua 12 keutamaan yang digariskan dan menggesa negara-negara anggota OIC itu supaya mengambil bahagian atas nama perpaduan demi manfaat masyarakat.

Penyertaan delegasi Malaysia pada sidang kemuncak itu akan mengukuhkan kerjasama dalam kalangan negara anggota OIC dan memberi peluang kepada Malaysia untuk berkongsi pengalaman dalam sains, teknologi dan inovasi selain menunjukkan komitmen berterusan negara dalam kerangka kerjasama OIC.

Para delegasi itu turut menghadiri majlis penutup Astana Expo 2017 malam tadi yang dilihat sebagai kesinambungan penyertaan MOSTI pada ekspo berkenaan dari 25 hingga 26 Jun 2017.

Penyertaan Malaysia pada ekspo itu, yang diadakan dari 10 Jun hingga semalam di Astana, dianjurkan oleh Kementerian Tenaga, Teknologi Hijau dan Air Malaysia dan dilaksanakan oleh agensinya, Malaysian Green Technology Corporation dengan sokongan penaja Tenaga Nasional Bhd.

Ekspo tiga bulan itu mencatatkan pelaburan dan perdagangan berpotensi sebanyak RM6.8 bilion dalam tempoh dua minggu pertama selain pertukaran empat Memorandum Persefahaman (MoU) di antara syarikat-syarikat Malaysia dan asing. - Bernama



Jadikan Rakyat OIC Celik Sains, Teknologi Dan Inovasi - Madius

Tarikh kemaskini: 12/09/2017

KUALA LUMPUR, 12 Sept (Bernama) -- Malaysia menggesa negara-negara Pertubuhan Kerjasama Islam (OIC) menjadikan rakyat mereka celik sains, teknologi dan inovasi (STI) supaya akhirnya dapat terlibat sebagai masyarakat saintifik.

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-- BERNAMA



Science, technology and innovation literacy between OIC countries: Madius

Posted on 11 September 2017 - 09:48pm



Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation (Mosti) Datuk Seri Madius Tangau. — Bernama

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia has called upon the Organisation of the Islamic Cooperation (OIC) countries to move society from awareness to being literate in science, technology and innovation (STI) and ultimately to become a scientifically engaged society.

Addressing at the First OIC Summit on Science and Technology in Astana, Kazakhstan, the Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation (Mosti) Datuk Seri Madius Tangau said in building a true scientific culture in Muslim countries, it required a paradigm shift and greater obligations from governments for building an enabling eco-system.

During the inaugural summit attended by more than 15 OIC member country leaders and 55 ministers on science and technology related matters, Madius also reiterated Malaysia's position for a clear understanding of the necessity to completely reduce scientific and technological gaps between Muslim "ummah" and developed countries.

"These will also contribute to the earliest implementation of the United Nation (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and promote the principles of cooperation and solidarity among all OIC member states," the statement said today.

With the theme "Science, Technology, Innovation and Modernisation of the Islamic World", Madius represented Malaysia at the Science and Technology Ministerial Meeting on Sept 9 and followed by the First OIC Summit on Science and Technology on Sept 10 to 11.

At the end of the summit, delegations will adopt two important documents, which are the Astana Declaration and OIC Science, Technology and Innovations (STI) Agenda 2026.

The two documents are OIC's commitment towards addressing future challenges such as poverty, health, environmental conservation, food security and energy through Ten Year Science and Technology Plan of Action for the OIC Member States which is also in line with the SDG.

The statement said Malaysia sees the priorities set in the 2026 OIC STI Agenda is crucial and will support all the 12 priorities outlined and urged all OIC member countries to participate in the name of solidarity and unity for the betterment of society.

The statement also said the participation of Malaysian delegates in the summit will strengthen cooperation among OIC member countries and an opportunity for Malaysia to share experience in science, technology and innovation besides showing Malaysia's continued commitment in the OIC cooperation framework.

The delegations also attended the closing ceremony of the Astana Expo 2017 last night and seen as a continuation of the Mosti participation in the Astana Expo from June 25 to 26, 2017.

Malaysia's participation at Expo 2017 held from June 10 until yesterday, in Astana, Kazakhstan is organised by the Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water, Malaysia and implemented by its agency, Malaysian Green Technology Corporation with the support of the Title Sponsor, Tenaga Nasional Bhd.

The three-month expo recorded RM6.8 billion potential investment and trade over the first two weeks and also the exchange of four Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) between Malaysian and foreign based companies. — *Bernama*



Science, Technology And Innovation Literacy Between OIC Countries - Madius

Last update: 11/09/2017

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-- BERNAMA

Syarikat BioNexus perlu agresif

KUALA LUMPUR - Syarikat-syarikat berstatus BioNexus dijangka akan memainkan peranan yang lebih penting apabila aktiviti pengkomersialan mereka mula agresif.

Menteri Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi, Datuk Seri Madius Tangau berkata, pada masa ini, Malaysia mempunyai sejumlah 286 syarikat BioNexus dan negara perlu mengekalkan momentum dalam aktiviti-aktiviti pengkomersialan yang lebih rancak daripada mereka.

"Strategi ini akan memberi tumpuan dalam mengukuhkan perkongsian antara sektor awam dan swasta.

"Selain memberi khidmat nasihat termasuk sokongan perniagaan dalam pembiayaan, pengkomersialan, keusahawanan, kawal selia dan modal insan bagi pembangunan yang berterusan dalam perniagaan berasaskan bio," katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian menerusi teks ucapan yang dibacakan oleh Ketua Setiausaha Kementerian berkenaan, Datuk Seri Mohd. Azhar Yahaya, pada majlis pembukaan Pameran dan Persidangan BioMalaysia dan Bioekonomi Asia Pasifik 2017 (BioMalaysia 2017) di sini semalam.

Tangau berkata, Malaysia berada dalam kedudukan terbaik untuk menjadi cemerlang dalam sektor tersebut dengan memberi tumpuan kepada unsur-unsur teras seperti sektor yang mempunyai impak termasuk yang mampu memacu pembangunan



MOHD. AZHAR (tengah) bersama Pengerusi Bioeconomy Corporation, Tan Sri Dr. Zakri Abdul Hamid (empat dari kiri) bergambar pada majlis perasmian BioMalaysia 2017 di Pusat Konvensyen Kuala Lumpur semalam.

teknologi domestik bagi menjana peluang ekonomi dan mencipta spektrum yang lebih luas dalam industri baharu.

"Kami sedang memperluaskan sempadan transformasi bagi memastikan bahawa perubahan yang dibawa adalah benar-benar holistik dan merangkumi pembangunan ekonomi, tadbir urus termasuk sosial.

"Sejajar dengan aspirasi Transformasi Nasional 2050, pendekatan yang lebih agresif adalah perlu untuk merangsang dan mengekalkan pertumbuhan Malaysia dalam tempoh 30 tahun akan datang," katanya.

Ujar beliau, selaras dengan konsep berteraskan rakyat, Program Pembangunan Komuniti Bioekonomi (BCDP), direka bagi memanfaatkan kuasa ladang luar bandar dan petani dalam perkongsian dengan syarikat-syarikat BioNexus, bagi mewujudkan sektor berasaskan bio yang akan memberi manfaat kepada penduduk.

"Di samping mempertingkatkan peranan dan sumbangan para petani, BCDP juga akan melonjak status sosio-ekonomi masyarakat luar bandar dengan membuka saluran baharu dalam penjaan kekayaan," katanya. - Bernama

KERATAN AKHBAR
UTUSAN MALAYSIA (DALAM NEGERI) : MUKA SURAT 14
TARIKH: 12 SEPTEMBER 2017 (SELASA)

Bioekonomi 'alat perubahan' ekonomi negara

KUALA LUMPUR 11 Sept. - Sektor bioekonomi yang sudah bertapak sejak sekian lama di negara ini perlu diperkembangkan lagi peranannya kerana berpotensi besar menjadi 'game changer' atau alat perubahan kepada ekonomi negara.

Menteri Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi, Datuk Seri Wilfred Madius Tangau berkata, perkara itu mampu dilaksanakan dengan meneroka biodiversiti atau kepelbagaian yang terdapat di dalam bidang tersebut di negara ini bagi menjadikannya lebih kompetitif.

"Perubahan di dalam teknologi ketika ini banyak dipengaruhi oleh faktor bioekonomi. Jadi, kita perlu menerokainya kerana

bidang tersebut bukan sahaja mampu menyediakan lebih banyak peluang pekerjaan malah dapat mempertingkatkan tahap kesihatan masyarakat, keselamatan produk makanan dan suasana kehidupan.

"Malaysia berkebolehan dalam menerokai sektor bertarbelakangkan bio bagi menjadikannya lebih berimpak besar, memiliki pertumbuhan mapan dan berteknologi tinggi untuk bersaing ke peringkat lebih tinggi," katanya ketika berucap merasmikan Pameran BioMalaysia dan Asia Pacific Bioeconomy 2017 (BioMalaysia 2017), di sini hari ini.

Teks ucapan beliau dibacakan oleh Ketua Setiausaha Kemen-

terian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi, Datuk Seri Dr. Mohd. Azhar Yahaya.

Yang turut hadir Pengerusi Bioeconomy Corporation, Tan Sri Dr. Zakri Abdul Hamid dan Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif (CEO) Bioeconomy Corporation, Dr. Mohd. Shuhaizam Mohd. Zain.

Dalam majlis tersebut, turut diadakan tiga perjanjian memorandum persefahaman (MoU) di antara Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) dan Malaysian Vaccines & Pharmaceuticals Sdn. Bhd.; Algaetech International dan Watson Malaysia serta OUDHCOM LLC dan Rural Asset Group Of Companies.

Mengulas mengenai MoU itu, Wilfred Madius berkata, MoU tersebut adalah lambang kepa-

da kepimpinan Malaysia di dalam bidang sains, teknologi serta inovasi dan menjadi platform strategik syarikat dari Malaysia untuk membawa inovasi bio mereka merentasi dunia.

"Semasa di BioMalaysia, kami menjangka untuk melihat perdagangan lebih berpotensi dan kerjasama dalam pelbagai bidang bioekonomi yang memberi manfaat kepada masyarakat.

"Kehadiran Kementerian saya di BioMalaysia 2017 akan memberi tumpuan kepada memamerkan amalan baik dan inovasi Malaysia dalam teknologi berasaskan bio bagi menarik pelaburan daripada institusi atau syarikat di rantau Asia Pasifik," katanya.



Tiga MoU Bernilai RM93 Juta Dimeterai Pada BioMalaysia 2017

Tarikh kemaskini: 11/09/2017

KUALA LUMPUR, 11 Sept (Bernama) -- Sebanyak tiga memorandum persefahaman (MoU) bernilai lebih RM93 juta ditandatangani pada hari pertama Pameran dan Persidangan BioMalaysia dan Bioekonomi Asia Pasifik 2017 (BioMalaysia 2017) di sini hari ini.

Perjanjian itu berkaitan dengan vaksin, makanan tambahan dan produk berasaskan wangian kayu gaharu, menurut kenyataan bersama oleh **Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi (MOSTI)** serta **Malaysian Bioeconomy Development Corp Sdn Bhd (Bioeconomy Corp)** hari ini.

MoU itu bagi mengukuhkan lagi perdagangan dan kerjasama dalam bidang bioekonomi antara MOSTI dan Bioeconomy Corp, syarikat status BioNexus Malaysia, universiti, syarikat penjagaan kesihatan dan syarikat runcit, katanya.

Pihak yang terlibat dalam MoU itu adalah Rural Asset Group of Companies dan Oudhcom LLC (bagi produk kayu gaharu), Universiti Putra Malaysia dan Malaysian Vaccines-Pharmaceuticals Sdn Bhd (vaksin) dan Algaetech International dan Watson Malaysia (makanan tambahan).

Acara utama tahunan Malaysia yang berasaskan bio dan terbesar di rantau ini, BioMalaysia 2017, kembali bagi tahun ke-15 dan akan berlangsung dari 11-13 Sept, dengan edisi tahun ini bertemakan 'Bioekonomi -- Memacu Pertumbuhan dan Kemakmuran Negara'.

Acara itu, diterajui oleh MOSTI dan dianjurkan secara bersama oleh Bioeconomy Corp dan MyEvent International; dijangka menarik 10,000 pemimpin global dan serantau daripada sektor berasaskan bio, dan mengadakan sesi penerangan, pameran kerjaya, pameran, program perkongsian perniagaan, bengkel dan mesyuarat industri.

-- BERNAMA



Firma Berstatus BioNexus Bakal Main Peranan Penting

KUALA LUMPUR, 11 Sept (Bernama) -- Syarikat-syarikat berstatus BioNexus Malaysia dijangka akan memainkan peranan yang lebih penting apabila aktiviti pengkomersialan mereka mula agresif, kata **Menteri Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi Datuk Seri Madius Tangau**.

Malaysia mempunyai sejumlah 286 syarikat BioNexus dan negara perlu mengekalkan momentum dalam aktiviti-aktiviti pengkomersialan yang lebih rancak daripada mereka.

"Strategi ini akan memberi tumpuan dalam mengukuhkan perkongsian antara sektor awam dan swasta, serta memberi khidmat nasihat termasuk sokongan perniagaan dalam bidang-bidang pembiayaan, pengkomersialan, keusahawanan, kawal selia dan modal insan bagi pembangunan yang berterusan dalam perniagaan berasaskan bio," katanya pada majlis pembukaan Pameran dan Persidangan BioMalaysia dan Bioekonomi Asia Pasifik 2017 (BioMalaysia 2017).

Teks ucapan beliau dibacakan oleh Ketua Setiausaha Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi (MOSTI), Datuk Seri Mohd Azhar Yahaya, yang turut merasmikan acara itu.

Tangau berkata, Malaysia berada dalam kedudukan terbaik untuk menjadi cemerlang dalam sektor tersebut dengan memberi tumpuan kepada unsur-unsur teras seperti sektor yang mempunyai impak termasuk memiliki pertumbuhan dan berteknologi tinggi yang mampu memacu pembangunan teknologi domestik bagi menjana peluang ekonomi baharu dan mencipta spektrum yang lebih luas dalam industri baharu.

"Kami sedang memperluaskan sempadan transformasi bagi memastikan bahawa perubahan yang dibawa adalah benar-benar holistik serta inklusif dan merangkumi pembangunan ekonomi, tadbir urus termasuk sosial.

"Sejajar dengan aspirasi Transformasi Nasional 2050, pendekatan yang lebih agresif adalah perlu untuk merangsang dan mengekalkan pertumbuhan Malaysia dalam tempoh 30 tahun akan datang," katanya.

Selaras dengan konsep berteraskan rakyat, Program Pembangunan Komuniti Bioekonomi (BCDP), direka bagi memanfaatkan kuasa ladang luar bandar dan petani dalam perkongsian dengan syarikat-syarikat BioNexus, bagi mewujudkan sektor berasaskan bio yang akan memberi manfaat kepada penduduk.

"Di samping mempertingkatkan peranan dan sumbangan para petani, BCDP juga akan melonjak status sosio ekonomi masyarakat luar bandar dengan membuka saluran baharu dalam penjana kekayaan," katanya.

Status BioNexus memberikan insentif kewangan, termasuk pengecualian cukai daripada 100 peratus pendapatan berkanun bagi tempoh sepuluh tahun pertama, di mana, pendapatan berkanun layak menerima pengurangan bagi perbelanjaan untuk penyelidikan dan pembangunan.

BioMalaysia 2017 merupakan acara tahunan terbesar Malaysia di rantau ini, ia sudah memasuki tahun ke-15 dan akan berlangsung dari 11 hingga 13 Sept.

Acara tahun ini, bertemakan, 'Bioekonomi - Memacu Pertumbuhan dan Kemakmuran Negara', akan memberi tumpuan kepada usaha-usaha pembangunan bioekonomi.

Ia diterajui oleh MOSTI dan dianjurkan secara bersama dengan Malaysian Bioeconomy Development Corp Sdn Bhd (Bioeconomy Corp) MyEvent International, ia diramalkan menarik 10,000 peserta bioekonomi serantau dan antarabangsa serta menyediakan acara-acara seperti ceramah terbuka, pesta kerjaya, pameran, program rakan kongsi, bengkel dan mesyuarat industri.

Sementara itu, pada satu taklimat media, Pengerusi Bioeconomy Corp, Prof Tan Sri Zakri Abdul Hamid, berkata kesedaran terhadap produk-produk bioteknologi perlu ada sebelum permintaan wujud.

"Banyak negara telah mula memasuki arena ini bagi menjana sektor bioteknologi dan Malaysia mengambil peranan proaktif dalam tahun 2012 sebagai negara kedua di Asia yang mempunyai hala tuju bioekonomi yang khusus.

"Kesedaran mula bertambah melalui kesedaran global yang baharu kepada kemampuan dan dengan jangkaan bahawa sumber asli akan habis," katanya.

Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif Bioeconomy Corp, Dr Shuhaizam Zain, berkata syarikat BioNexus tempatan dijangka menyumbang sehingga 1.5 peratus daripada keluaran dalam negeri Kasar (KDNK) bernilai sekitar RM2.1 bilion menjelang tahun 2025, berbanding 0.97 peratus sekarang ini.

Katanya, daripada rangkaian semasa sebanyak 286 syarikat BioNexus, hanya 37 sahaja berjaya menembusi pasaran global khususnya Asia Tenggara, Asia Barat dan Eropah melalui produk terbiodegradasikan.

"Rangkaian syarikat BioNexus yang aktif dijangka akan bertambah menjelang 2025. Permintaan pasaran akan menyebabkan industri bioteknologi untuk bersaing antara satu sama lain dalam penyelidikan dan produk," katanya.

-- BERNAMA



Three MoUs Worth RM93 Million Inked At BioMalaysia 2017

Last update: 11/09/2017

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 11 (Bernama) -- A total of three memorandums of understanding (MoUs) worth over RM93 million were signed during the first day of the BioMalaysia and Asia-Pacific Bioeconomy 2017 (BioMalaysia 2017) Conference and Exhibition here today.

The agreements were related to vaccine, supplement, and agarwood and oud fragrance based products, said a joint statement by the **Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI)** and **Malaysian Bioeconomy Development Corp Sdn Bhd (Bioeconomy Corp)** today.

The MoUs further strengthened the trade and cooperation in the fields of bioeconomy between MOSTI and Bioeconomy Corp, Malaysian BioNexus-status companies, universities, healthcare companies and retail companies, they said.

The parties involved in the MoUs are Rural Asset Group of Companies and Oudhcom LLC (on agarwood and oud products), Universiti Putra Malaysia and Malaysian Vaccines-Pharmaceuticals Sdn Bhd (vaccine) and Algaetech International and Watson Malaysia (supplement).

Malaysia's premier and largest annual bio-based event in the region, BioMalaysia 2017, is back for the 15th year and will take place from Sept 11-13, with this year's edition themed 'Bioeconomy - Driving Growth and Prosperity of the Nation'.

The event, led by MOSTI and jointly organised by Bioeconomy Corp and MyEvent International, is set to attract 10,000 top regional and global leaders from the bio-based sector, and will include open-style talks, career fairs, exhibitions, business partnering programmes, workshops and industry meetings.



BioNexus-status Firms To Play More Prominent Role

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 11 (Bernama) -- The Malaysian BioNexus-status companies are expected to play a more prominent role as they undertake more aggressive commercialisation activities, said **Science, Technology and Innovation Minister, Datuk Seri Madius Tangau.**

He said Malaysia now has a network of 286 BioNexus companies and moving forward, the country needed to sustain the momentum for more aggressive commercialisation activities from them.

"The strategy will focus on strengthening partnerships between the public and private sectors, as well as to provide advisory and business support in the areas of funding, commercialisation, entrepreneurship, regulatory and human capital for the continual development of bio-based businesses," he said at the opening BioMalaysia and Asia-Pacific Bioeconomy 2017 (BioMalaysia 2017) Conference and Exhibition.

The text of his speech was read by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) Secretary-General, Datuk Seri Mohd Azhar Yahaya, who also launched the event here today.

Tangau said Malaysia was well-primed to excel in the bio-based sector by focusing on the core elements such as high-impact, high-growth and high-technology sectors that were capable of driving the development of home-grown technologies to generate new economic opportunities and create a broad spectrum of novel industry sectors in the country.

"We are pushing the boundaries of transformation to ensure that the changes brought upon are truly holistic and inclusive and encompassing economic, governance and social development."

"In line with the National Transformation 2050 aspiration, more aggressive approaches are needed to spur and sustain growth for Malaysia in the next 30 years," he said.

He said in line with the people-centric concept, the Bioeconomy Community Development Programme (BCDP), designed to harness the power of rural farms and farmers in partnership with BioNexus companies, was aimed at creating an inclusive bio-based sector that would benefit the general populace.

"In addition to enhancing the role and contribution of farmers, the BCDP correspondingly elevate the socio-economic status of rural communities by opening up new avenue for wealth generation," he said.

The BioNexus status confers financial incentives, including tax exemptions from 100 per cent of statutory income for the first ten years, from the first year that statutory income is derived to double deductions for expenditure incurred from research and development promotion.

Malaysia's premier and largest annual bio-based event in the region, BioMalaysia 2017, is back for the 15th year and will take place from Sept 11-13.

This year's event, themed. 'Bioeconomy -- Driving growth and prosperity of the nation', will focus on the bioeconomy development efforts that drive the growth and prosperity of the nation.

The event, led by MOSTI and jointly organised by Malaysian Bioeconomy Development Corp Sdn Bhd (Bioeconomy Corp) MyEvent International, is set to attract 10,000 top regional and global leaders from the bio-based sector and will include open-style talks, career fairs, exhibitions, business partnering programmes, workshops and industry meetings.

Meanwhile, at a media briefing on the sidelines of the event, Bioeconomy Corp Chairman, Prof Tan Sri Zakri Abdul Hamid, said awareness on biotechnology products has to come before the demand set in.

"Many countries are jumping on the bandwagon to rejuvenate the biotechnology sector and Malaysia took a proactive role in 2012 by being the second country in Asia to have a dedicated bioeconomy roadmap.

"The awareness rose through the new global consciousness to acknowledge sustainability and with the possibility that the natural resources may deplete," he said.

New Bioeconomy Corp Chief Executive Officer, Dr Shuhaizam Zain, said local BioNexus companies were expected to contribute up 1.5 per cent of Malaysia's gross domestic product (GDP) worth around RM2.1 billion by 2025, from presently 0.97 per cent GDP contribution.

He said out of a current network of a total of 286 BioNexus companies, only 37 had penetrated global market, especially with the biodegradable products, to South-East Asia, West Asia and Europe market.

"The network of active BioNexus companies are expected to double-up by 2025. The market demand will cause the biotechnology industry to compete with among each other to come out with the research and the products," he said.

-- BERNAMA

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