



PRESS RELEASE

PIKOM SIGNS MOU WITH FUSIONEX, MATTA AND CYBERSECURITY MALAYSIA TO BOOST GROWTH IN DIGITAL ECONOMY

- *PIKOM Adopts Bullish Outlook for the performance of the Digital Economy*

KUALA LUMPUR, NOVEMBER 23 2017: The National ICT Association of Malaysia (PIKOM) today initiated and signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with three key organizations to boost further adoption and growth in the digital economy for Malaysia.

The MoUs were signed during the ninth PIKOM Leadership Summit (PLS) held on 23rd November 2017 launched by Minister of Transport Yang Berhormat Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai.

PIKOM signed an MoU with Fusionex to equip ICT Professionals with the right skills and training in Big Data, in line with the Government's target of achieving 20,000 data professionals by 2020. To heighten awareness of the malice and threats of Cybersecurity attacks, PIKOM also signed an MoU with Cybersecurity Malaysia (CSM).

In preparation of the Visit Malaysia Year in 2020, PIKOM also signed an MoU with the Malaysian Association of Tour and Travel Agents (MATTA) to promote further adoption of the digital platform for the Travel industry.

"These initiatives will certainly help in expanding opportunities for the SMEs in their respective sectors and we need to keep up and embrace changes in the rapid convergence between the physical and digital world," said PIKOM Chairman Chin Chee Seong in his speech.

Chin said that Malaysia needs to keep up and embrace changes in the rapid world of information technology.

"Just a few years ago, we were at the same PLS summit, where the buzzwords were mobile, social media, cloud. Today, IoT, Industry 4.0, data economy and e-commerce are transforming industry into digital businesses," he added.

He also said that the theme for this year's summit is *Road to Success: Inspiring Tales From Business Leaders*, focuses on learning from your peers to achieve success and comprises keynotes and panel discussions from Captains of the ICT industry.

The Diamond Sponsor for this year's PLS is Fusionex while the strategic partner is MDEC. Other sponsors and partners are NTT Data, AMD, Lenovo, Akamai, Jabra and 11street.

A mock cheque presentation was also held at the Summit where PIKOM and Fusionex each donated RM20,000 to the Malaysian Red Crescent Society (MRCS) in aid of the victims of the recent devastating Penang floods.



PIKOM's annual edition of the ICT Strategic Review 2017/2018 made up of eleven chapters and one special edition on cybersecurity was also unveiled during the summit. In his presentation of the report, PIKOM Research Committee Chair Woon Tai Hai further alluded to the reality and the impact of the convergence of the physical and digital environments, resulting in disruptions in business models, consumer behaviours, devices, and seeing the replacements of traditional brick and mortar jobs in some instances.

With a bullish outlook Woon also indicated that PIKOM has forecasted a 5.3% GDP growth for 2017, a range of 4.8% to 5% in 2018 and 4.5% to 4.8% in 2019 in the report. The contribution of the ICT industry to GDP in 2016 was RM224 billion with a year-on-year growth rate of 18.2%; and PIKOM is hopeful that the 20% targeted for 2020 will be achieved in 2017.
