

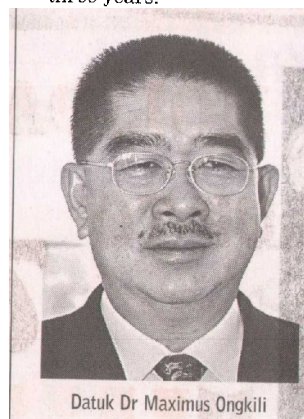
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# Govt will participate in Blue Brain project

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The government will participate in the International Blue Brain Consortium (IBBC) project, a global initiative to produce a model of the human brain by 2015, said Science, Technology and Innovations Minister Datuk Dr Maximus Ongkili.

He said the cabinet at its meeting yesterday approved a RM20.55 million grant for the purpose to be used over three years.



Datuk Dr Maximus Ongkili

"The project, which has now entered phase two, will be handled by the ministry's Brain Gain and Human Capital Development (HCD) programme," he said in a statement here.

The Blue Brain project was launched by the Ecole Polytechnique Federale De

Lausanne (EPFL) in Switzerland in July 2005 and is headed by Professor Henry Markram of the Brain Mind Institute, EPFL.

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Datuk Dr Maximus Ongkili, Science, Technology and Innovations Minister

Lausanne (EPFL) in Switzerland in July 2005 and is headed by Professor Henry Markram of the Brain Mind Institute, EPFL.

It is the first comprehensive project at the global level to reverse engineer a mammal's brain to better understand how it functions.

Under category Blue Brain, Affiliate of IBBC of the second phase, in which Malaysia will be participating, research is entirely independently directed and is not necessarily aligned to the project's roadmap.

Maximus added among the other organisations that will be involved in the project are the Malaysian Genome Institute (MGI), MIMOS Berhad, Multimedia University (MMU) and Multimedia Development Corporation (MDeC). — Bernama