

Malaysia Hosts Seventh Asia Open Source Software Symposium

MIMOS Continues Effort of Strengthening the Asian OSS Ecosystem to Maintain OSS Sustainability

Kuala Lumpur, 27 February 2006 – MIMOS aims to strengthen international collaboration in establishing an Asian Open Source Ecosystem, by organising the Seventh Asia Open Source Software (OSS) Symposium, an event to promote the advancement of the OSS.

The Asian Open Source Ecosystem promoted by the symposium would enable governments, communities and industries across Asia to continuously interact and collaborate in open source implementation.

The Symposium is a bi-annual event jointly organised by Centre of the International Cooperation for Computerisation (CICC), Japan and a local host country. This year, MIMOS has been selected as the local co-organiser, supported by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) and the Malaysian Administrative Modernisation and Management Planning Unit (MAMPU).

The symposium is expected to produce a resolution on OSS initiatives and projects known as “Kuala Lumpur Statement”.

“While OSS community in Malaysia is still young, we are one of the most dynamic community in Asia and MIMOS is happy to work with CICC towards the advancement of OSS in Asia,” said Puan Raja Noor Ainin R. Zainal, for President and Chief Executive Officer of MIMOS Berhad.

“We hope the symposium will generate more effective collaborations among member countries and encourage a dynamic exchange of knowledge, resources and technology. By providing a platform to generate effective knowledge sharing, we hope that member countries can learn and benefit from each other's expertise and experience,” she said.

Themed ‘Towards an Asian Open Source Ecosystem’, the three-day symposium running from 6-8 March 2006 at Nikko Hotel, Kuala Lumpur is expected to attract about 300 participants from 21 member countries namely Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, India, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Malaysia.

In conjunction to the symposium, a marathon-coding event, CodeFest, will be held from 4-5 March 2006 in MIMOS Berhad. The CodeFest will see software developers gather for 30 hours non-stop to improve an existing open source product. This is the event where open source practitioners across Asia meet up and collaborate on a single open source project.

For more information of the Seventh Asia OSS Symposium and to register online, log on to the website at <http://7aoss.asiaosc.org> or contact Cik Melissa Hassim at +(603) 8996 5000 (Ext. 6331), fax +(603) 8657 9477 or e-mail melissa.hassim@mimos.my. For CodeFest registration, contact Encik Syed Ahmad Shazali Syed Abdullah at +(603) 8996 5000 (Ext. 6348), fax +(603) 8657 9477 or e-mail syed@mimos.my.