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Kenyataan Media

Press Release

For Immediate Release

NATIONAL BROADBAND INITIATIVE: SKMM ALLOCATES ONE MILLION 1MALAYSIA NETBOOKS FOR DISTRIBUTION

Cyberjaya, 30 July 2010 – “SKMM through the Universal Service Provision (USP) programme has allocated one million 1Malaysia netbooks to be distributed amongst eligible recipients such as secondary and university students as well as other lower-income groups to ensure that they have the opportunity to access the Internet and also to increase broadband usage throughout the country. This will contribute to the nation’s broadband penetration rate as well as extend the benefits of broadband to students and the nation”, Tan Sri Khalid Ramli, Chairman of the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (SKMM) said at his office in Cyberjaya today.

Malaysia has set a target of 50 percent household broadband penetration by the end of 2010. As of 21 July 2010 we have achieved a broadband penetration rate of 38.4 percent.

The Honourable Prime Minister on 24 March 2010 had announced several incentives under the National Broadband Initiative (NBI). Among the main incentives is the provision of computers and Internet access for students and needy families throughout the country.

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The provision of netbook and access to Internet to the identified groups throughout the country is through the provision of one million 1Malaysia Netbooks packages. This is done in agreement with the service providers under the Universal Service Provision (USP) programme.

Distribution of the 1Malaysia Netbooks with ready broadband access to the identified target groups is divided into the following ratio:

- 1) 65% of the 1Malaysia Netbooks will be distributed among students from low-income families with priority given to secondary students of Government funded or assisted schools and university students who still do not possess broadband subscriptions.
- 2) 35% of the 1Malaysia Netbooks will be distributed amongst low-income groups living and also to targeted groups living in the underserved areas that have low broadband penetration rate but with ready communication infrastructure and services.

The identification of students from low-income families is made with the assistance of the relevant Ministries and Government agencies. A household income of RM3,000 and below is used as an indicator of potential recipients within the low-income groups.

With the assistance of the relevant parties, confirmation of eligibility for each shortlisted student recipient is on the basis of the family's financial standing and that lack or have no broadband subscriptions at

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home. Each household for both the target groups are limited to 1 unit of netbook per household only.

Distribution of the 1Malaysia Netbooks will be done on a phased basis throughout the country beginning in June and ending at the end of 2010 directly to the identified target group based on the criterias mentioned ealier. In addition, there are also other incentives under HSBB and NBI implementation by the relevant service providers.

[Ends]

Notes to Editor:

1 If your organization wishes to include a quote from Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (SKMM) in an article or news item, kindly attribute the quote to our organization (SKMM) rather than an officer of the organization, unless a designated spokesperson from SKMM is specified in the Press Release or reply to Press.

About the National Broadband Initiative (NBI)

Malaysia requires broadband as it will contribute significantly to the GDP: A 50 percent penetration of broadband households in 2010 potentially results in a 1 percent rise in GDP and the creation of 135,000 new jobs by the end of 2010.

High Speed Broadband (HSBB) will be implemented in specific areas to spur business and economic growth and Broadband to the General Population (BBGP) shall be deployed elsewhere.

The NBI segments the nation into three zones. Zone 1 comprises of high economic impact areas such as the Klang Valley and Iskandar Development Region in Johor. Zone 2 includes towns and suburban areas. Whilst Zone 3 primarily includes rural areas.

In Zone 1 Telekom Malaysia will offer high-speed broadband (HSBB) access of up to to 10 Mbps. Residents in the zone will also have access to competitive broadband solutions provided



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by other service providers. Four initial areas to be covered by HSBB TM service include Shah Alam, Subang Jaya, Taman Tun Dr Ismail, and Bangsar.

The NBI plan includes the involvement of service providers to offer broadband services in Zone Two. Broadband access in Zone 3 areas will be spearheaded by SKMM using Universal Service Provision (USP) funds. Broadband access in these areas shall also include Basic Telephony Access (via fixed and mobile networks), broadband connected Community Broadband Libraries (CBLs) and Community Broadband Centres (CBCs)

Cellular coverage areas will be expanded through the building of more communications towers financed by the USP fund. This will enable cellular operators to expand their coverage to 97 percent of the population by 2011.

The Prime Minister, YAB Datuk Seri Najib Razak launched the National Broadband Initiative and High Speed Broadband (HSBB) on March 24, 2010.

About Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (SKMM)

The primary role of SKMM is to implement and promote the Government's national policy objectives for the communications and multimedia sector. SKMM is also charged with overseeing the new regulatory framework for the converging industries of telecommunications, broadcasting and on-line activities, in accordance with the national policy objectives set out in the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998 (CMA), as well as postal services and digital certifications.

The CMA provides that SKMM undertakes a policy implementation role, while policy decision-making is vested with the Minister. The Minister may also give policy directions to the Commission.

For more information visit <http://www.skmm.gov.my>

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