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# Mukah to host World AIDS Day on Dec 1

**KUCHING:** The state-level 2012 World AIDS Day will be held in Mukah on Dec 1 with the theme 'Getting to Zero'.

A press statement forwarded by Information Department yesterday said this is in line with the slogan of this year's awareness campaign - 'Towards Zero AIDS related deaths'.

It said the main objective of the campaign is to raise awareness of members of the public on their role in fighting the disease from further spreading.

The statement also said the theme and slogan were to coincide with the theme 'Getting to zero: zero new HIV infections. Zero discrimination. Zero AIDS related deaths' set by World Health Organisation (WHO) for World AIDS Day between 2011 and 2015.

It said the theme and the

slogan reflected the effort of the government, through Ministry of Health (MOH), to provide better treatment, care and support to those affected by the disease.

In Malaysia, the first case was recorded in 1986 and until December last year, the country registered a total of 94,841 HIV cases, it said.

"For Sarawak, the first case was detected in 1989 and a total of 1,525 HIV cases were recorded until September 2012. Out of the figure, 937 were AIDS patients while 331 of patients died due to AIDS."

The statement added that out of the 169 HIV cases reported in Sarawak, 76 per cent or 128 of the patients were heterosexual, homosexual (14 per cent or 23 cases) and infected through drug injection (9 per cent or 14 cases).