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Malaysia to host world AIDS conference

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia has been selected as the first Asian host for the 7th International AIDS Society (IAS) Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention in July 2013.

Tourism Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ng Yen Yen said IAS 2013 would be the first large-scale event to be carried out under Malaysia's Economic Transformation Programme.

"We have secured the right to host this conference with the cooperation of the Malaysia Convention and Exhibition Bureau, Health Ministry, Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC), Malaysia Airports Holdings Bhd, Malaysia Airlines and Kuala Lumpur City Hall," she said in a press statement, here,

yesterday.

One of the objectives of the conference is to study the latest research in biomedical aspects of HIV/AIDS and explore effective ways to prevent and treat the epidemic.

Ng said about 6,000 participants from 125 countries were expected to gather at the KLCC for the four-day conference.

"An estimated 90% of them are foreigners and we expect about RM78 million boost to the economy," she said.

The IAS is the custodian of the International AIDS Conference and main organiser of the biennial International AIDS Society (IAS) Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention. - Bernama