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Bankers To Have More Dialogues With SMEs

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 2 (Bernama) -- The Association of Banks in Malaysia (ABM) plans to hold more dialogues next year with small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and other business organisations for a candid exchange of ideas and suggestions.

"The matters raised at the dialogues will provide useful insights to both SMEs and the financial services sector, particularly the commercial banks," said ABM executive director Chuah Mei Lin in a statement.

She said a forum named "Sesi Berinteraksi Bersama Organisasi Perniagaan" was held in Kuala Terengganu today involving representatives of the financial services industry, SMEs and other relevant business organisations including the Malay Chamber of Commerce Kuala Terengganu, Chinese Chambers of Commerce Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Malaysian Timber Council.

The forum was well received with attendance by approximately 100 participants.

The dialogue opened with presentations by Bank Negara, SME Corporation and Credit Guarantee Corporation Malaysia Bhd on micro-credit and a wider spectrum of financial options available for SMEs and other businesses.

The interactive session which followed presented an opportunity for the business community to share with the financial services sector its suggestions and comments for better collaboration going forward, Chuah said.

Similar sessions have been held since July 2009 in Penang and Batu Pahat.

-- BERNAMA

Bank Negara satisfied with banking sector

KUALA TERENGGANU: Bank Negara is satisfied that the banking sector continues to provide access to financing for businesses, small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and households despite the challenging economic environment.

The central bank's director of corporate communications, Abu Hassan Alshari Yahya, said that in the Jan-Oct period, the banking sector had continued to support household and business activities as reflected in the sustained growth of 7.5% in total loans and private debt securities by the banking sector.

He said financing channelled to the household sector for the same period remained strong and expanded at a rate of 9.7% to RM424bil.

"This has supported the domestic demand in the economy," he told a press conference after a dialogue between Bank Negara, the Association of Banks in Malaysia and SME Corp Malaysia and more than 50 participants from various business associations in Terengganu, Pahang and Kelantan. — Bernama

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BNM ambil pendekatan turun padang

KUALA TERENGGANU 2 Dis. – Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) bertanggungjawab menjadi pengantara Persatuan Bank-Bank Dalam Malaysia (ABM) dan SME Corporation Malaysia dalam mendekati diri dengan organisasi-organisasi perniagaan seluruh negara melalui pendekatan forum sesi interaksi yang diadakan setiap tahun.

Pengarah Bahagian Komunikasi Korporat BNM, Abu Hassan Alshari Yahaya berkata, pendekatan turun padang itu menjadi landasan baru pihak bank dalam memahami dan menangani isu serta masalah berbangkit di kalangan organisasi perniagaan.

Katanya, pendekatan itu membolehkan tumpuan diberikan kepada Perusahaan Kecil dan Sederhana (PKS) dan organisasi perniagaan berkaitan dalam usaha membantu mereka dalam kewangan.

“Sesi interaksi ini memberi peluang kepada komuniti perniagaan untuk berkongsi pendapat dan pandangan dan institusi kewangan bagi mempertingkatkan lagi kerjasama di antara organisasi perniagaan dan bank masa akan datang,” kata beliau.

Abu Hassan berkata demikian selepas menghadiri Sesi Berinteraksi Bersama Organisasi Perniagaan di Hotel Primula di sini hari ini. Turut hadir sama Pengarah Eksekutif ABM, Chuah Mei Lin.

Forum itu dihadiri kira-kira 100 peserta terdiri daripada wakil Dewan Perniagaan Cina dan India, pengusaha PKS dan wakil-wakil bank.

Kuala Terengganu dipilih menjadi lokasi pertama forum tersebut di Pantai Timur kerana kepelbagaian dan kerancakan ekonominya.

Forum itu bakal menjadi acara tahunan BNM dan ABM dalam memperkukuhkan hubungan di antara komuniti perniagaan dari kawasan luar bandar dengan institusi kewangan di negara.

Abu Hassan menambah, selain format sesi dialog, BNM turut menyediakan Laman Informasi dan Khidmat Nasihat (BNMLINK) untuk memudahkan pelanggannya berhubung.

“Jumlah pelanggan yang melayari laman itu untuk tujuan pelbagai meningkat sebanyak 60.5 peratus tahun ini berbanding tahun 2008 sebanyak 139,798 manakala tahun 2007 sebanyak 70,447,” jelasnya.