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M'sia to showcase green tech know-how at global expo

PETALING JAYA: Malaysia will drive the agenda of carbon reduction and climate change by utilising futuristic and green energy technology at an international specialised exhibition in Kazakhstan.

Energy, Green Technology and Water Minister Datuk Seri Dr Maximus Ongkili said by participating in the Astana EXPO 2017, Malaysia will be part of the international dialogue on the need to employ energy resources more efficiently in order to lessen environmental damage and address energy security.

"Malaysia is driving the agenda of carbon reduction and climate change with futuristic and green energy technologies as the core drivers, including solar and biomass technologies, energy efficiency practices, electric mobility, low carbon cities, green buildings, smart grids as well as ICT technologies," he said in a statement yesterday.

The country's top-50 green energy and technology players will be selected to showcase Malaysia's innovations and best practices at the exhibition, which is overseen and regulated by the International Exhibitions Bureau.

Themed "Future Energy", the exhibition will be hosted by the Kazakhstan Government at its capital city Astana from June 10 till Sept 10 next year.

To date, the event has exceeded its target of 100 participating countries, and hopes to receive five million visitors throughout the three months.

Apart from the participation of key Government agencies and Government-linked companies, Ongkili said the ministry would select local exhibitors for the Malaysia Pavilion, based on their strength in the fields of renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy conservation.

The Malaysian Green Technology Corp is the implementing agency for the Malaysia Pavilion, which will span 727 square metres within the 25-ha futuristic expo site located near the Astana city centre.

Ongkili noted that the event would also

provide a platform for Malaysia and Kazakhstan to further enhance bilateral relations, especially in trade, which stood at about US\$100mil in 2015.

He said Kazakhstan, which is among the world's largest oil and gas producers, aimed to achieve 50% of its energy needs from renewable sources by the year 2050.

"So, there are several potential areas where Malaysia can offer its expertise, including for trade and smart partnerships," he said.

Ongkili added that the expo provided good prospects for Malaysian players, including small and medium enterprises, to discover new export markets for their products, particularly in Central Asia.

Those interested to participate in Astana EXPO 2017 as exhibitors or visitors can do so at the Energy, Green Technology and Water Ministry's booth at the KL Convention Centre during the four-day International Green Tech & Eco Products Exhibition and Conference Malaysia 2016 which begins on Oct 5.