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Ministry of Science,  
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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Cyber Volunteers Unite to Help Bridge Digital Divide at the 1<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Cyber Volunteers Development Course** *Programme sets stage for the formation of ASEAN Youth Peace Corps*

**KUALA LUMPUR, 15 December** – ASEAN's efforts to advance future youth engagement and ICT-driven community development in line with an increasingly borderless and technologically empowered world received a tremendous boost with the launch of the inaugural ASEAN Cyber Volunteers Development Course.

Co-organised between the Committee for ASEAN Youth Cooperation (CAYC) and CyberSecurity Malaysia with the patronage of the Ministry of Science, Technology & Innovation (MOSTI) and the cooperation of the Ministry of Youth & Sports, the five-day programme brought together more than a hundred ICT-skilled youth volunteers from the ASEAN nations as well as Japan, Korea, and China to exchange ideas on the expertise, knowledge and resources needed to bridge the digital divide among the underprivileged throughout the region.

The cyber volunteers development course, which ran from 28 November to 2 December 2009, was driven by a set of interrelated objectives: to address the rising threat posed by cyber attacks against the social and economic spheres of countries the world over; to promote ICT as a vital component of national development strategies; to aid the ASEAN community in becoming equal participants in the global information-knowledge society; and to enhance youth development perspectives in ASEAN. In keeping with this, the course comprised discussions and presentations which sought to highlight the methodologies and strategies required by participants to effectively engage in ICT outreach programmes throughout the region.

Speaking at a special dinner reception on 1 December 2009 to mark the conclusion of the cyber volunteers development course, Tuan Haji Fadillah Bin Yusof, Deputy Minister of MOSTI said: "International cooperation is the key for any country seeking to secure its national ICT networks, which not only form the backbone of a nation's economy but are also vital to its citizens, businesses and government. Likewise, the threat of cyber attacks can only be mitigated, if not entirely eradicated, through the systematic sharing of expertise, knowledge and resources. The teamwork



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and dedication shown by Malaysia and her ASEAN counterparts in ensuring the success of this programme, is a shining example of just how much can be achieved through strong mutual international collaboration.”

He added that resolutions arising from the cyber volunteers development course would go a long way in setting the stage for the formation of the ASEAN Youth Peace Corps, a project to be spearheaded by CAYC which aims to create a pool of ICT skilled volunteers while promoting ASEAN awareness among youth.

The cyber volunteers development course was part of CyberSecurity Malaysia’s many initiatives to commemorate the World Computer Security Day (WCSD), an annual event observed worldwide initiated in 1988 by the non-profit Association for Computer Security Day to help raise awareness of computer related security issues. With the theme “**Computer Security is Everyone’s Responsibility**”, WCSD 2009 marked the first time WCSD was observed in a big way in Malaysia, with several events organized by CyberSecurity Malaysia throughout November and December to communicate how individual users are responsible in protecting information assets and resources, and to inculcate the practice of safe computing.

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## About CyberSecurity Malaysia

CyberSecurity Malaysia is the national cyber security specialist centre under the purview of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI), Malaysia. The services include:

- Digital Forensics / CyberCSI™
- Malaysia’s Computer Emergency Response Team (MyCERT) / Cyber999™
- Security Management and Best Practices
- Security Assurance
- Malaysia Common Criteria Certification Body (MyCB)
- Cyber Security Training and Professional Certification
- Outreach, Awareness, and Social Responsibility Programmes
- Cyber Security Policy and Legal Research

For more information about CyberSecurity Malaysia, please visit website at [www.cybersecurity.my](http://www.cybersecurity.my). To report cyber incidents such as harassment, fraud or intrusion to our Cyber999™ service, you may email to [cyber999@cybersecurity.my](mailto:cyber999@cybersecurity.my)

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