PERSATUAN INDUSTRI KOMPUTER DAN MULTIMEDIA MALAYSIA
ASSOCIATION OF THE COMPUTER AND MULTIMEDIA INDUSTRY OF
MALAYSIA
www.pikom.org.my

PRESS RELEASE

PIKOM APPOINTED SECRETARIAT OF APIA
Petaling Jaya, 16 October 2003

PIKOM, Association of the Computer and Multimedia Industry of Malaysia has been appointed as the Secretariat of the Asia & Pacific Internet Association (APIA). According to PIKOM Chairman Xavier Tan, the decision was made after joint discussions between the APIA Board and the Asia Pacific Regional Internet Conference on Operational Technologies (APRICOT) Advisory Committee. PIKOM is to provide secretarial services to APIA for a year beginning 1 September 2003 until 31 August 2004.

A Memorandum of Agreement signed between PIKOM and APIA stated the APIA Secretariat would provide an executive function, operating under guidelines of the APIA Board of Directors, and to act as a single point of contact for all APIA and APRICOT business.

Dr. Abhisak Chulya, Chairman of the APIA Board informed that PIKOM has been chosen as APIA secretariat because PIKOM being one of organisers of a more successful APRICOT in 2001 topped with its full staff association and also strategic location in Asia with common time zones would be able to help APIA implement its strategy and objectives.

"PIKOM's appointment as APIA's Secretariat is timely because Kuala Lumpur would be hosting APRICOT in 2004. We hope this appointment would achieve our Mission for 2003-2004 that is to ensure the future and stability of APRICOT, which is the main activity of APIA and to build human resource infrastructure for the Internet and to foster the efficient, stable and sustainable development of the Internet through education and training the Internet operators in the Asia Pacific region," Dr Abhisak informed.

"One of PIKOM's missions is to help build the skill sets of our engineers and with us being the secretariat would put us in the centre of all activities leading to this mission. APIA is also a vital organisation within Asia Pacific as the networking opportunities provided by them to PIKOM is of great value in terms of staying abreast of the technology, policies and current issues like security, IPV6, or spam faced by the Asia Pacific Internet industry," Tan commented.

APIA's objectives include:
· To develop industry procedures, mechanisms, policies, standards, and guidelines for effective and efficient operation of Internet-related services.
· To facilitate and negotiate industry-wide agreements on common business issues of Internet-related services.
· To develop and promote policies and positions in the best interest of the Members

and represent these interests in relevant bodies.
· To provide and promote educational opportunities that will enhance and empower technical and policy understanding of the Internet.
· To build, maintain, and publish relevant industry data for Members.

More About APIA
Asia & Pacific Internet Association (APIA), established in 1997, is a non-profit trade association to promote the business interests of the Internet-related service industry in the Asia Pacific region.

APIA's main objective is to network with other Asia Pacific Internet communities and to provide a platform or a forum to discuss issues and policies pertaining to their environment and to spread their expertise to other economies. With that, APIA has through the years organised the Asia Pacific Regional Internet Conference on Operational Technologies (APRICOT) successfully through the Asia Pacific regions.

About PIKOM
PIKOM, the Association of Computer and Multimedia Industry of Malaysia is the association representing the ICT industry in Malaysia. PIKOM's 409 member companies provide a whole spectrum of ICT products and services, which commands about 80 per cent of the total ICT trade in Malaysia.
Press contact: Loh Chyi Jen, Tel: 03 7955 2922, or E-mail: jen@pikom.org.my.