

Guidelines on integrity

Documents show Govt serious about good governance

THE STAR 9/5/07 M154

PUTRAJAYA: The Government's seriousness in tackling issues involving integrity and good governance was reflected in two documents launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi yesterday.

The first document was entitled "National Integrity System - A Guiding Framework," which was co-published by the Malaysian Institute of Integrity (MII) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The other was "Corporate Social Responsibility: Our First Outlook," also published by MII.

The former includes topics such as "The Role Of The Public Service," "Roles of the Executive," "Watchdog Enforcement Agencies," "Mass Media," "Civil Society," "Handling Competition Policy," "Restoring Trust in the Public Service," "Monitoring Public Officials," "Affording Protection to Whistleblowers" and "Promoting Transparent Public Procurement."

The latter provides companies with a single reference point when it comes to the issue of corporate social responsibility where the Government has emphasised on the need to establish a caring, economically just and equitable Malaysian society, infused with strong moral and ethical values.

During the launching ceremony Abdullah said, "We must prove that we have integrity. We must walk the talk, our action reflects what we preach or what we have



Ministerial pow-wow: Abdullah, flanked by Samy Vellu (on his right) and Dr Fong chairing a special Cabinet committee meeting yesterday.

been advocating.

"Integrity is a national agenda. I want all, the Federal and state governments alike, to fully understand and make use of the guidelines, so there will be some form of uniformity in our actions and conduct."

Abdullah said the Government had reasons to draft such guidelines

and once all parties abide by it, both the Government and the private sector "could move together to achieve greater integrity."

Earlier, Abdullah chaired the Cabinet Committee on Government Management Integrity, which was also attended by Works Minister Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu, Education Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin

Tun Hussein, Human Resources Minister Datuk Seri Dr Fong Chan Onn, Home Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Radzi Sheikh Ahmad and Higher Education Minister Datuk Mustapa Mohamed.

The committee discussed how to improve the level of integrity, particularly in regards to discipline, corruption and management.