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KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia will become the second nation in Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) to host the biennial International Statistical Institute World Statistics Congress 2019 (ISI WSC 2019), which will be held from Aug 18-23, 2019.

The 62nd edition of the congress will be organised by the Department of Statistics, Malaysia (DOSM), Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) and Malaysia Institute of Statistics.

DOSM Chief Statistician, Datuk Dr Abdul Rahman Hasan, said the hosting of the congress represented a golden opportunity for Malaysia to foster wide-ranging efforts in term of smart partnership for the advancement of regional and global statistical community.

“ISI WSC 2019 will be a significant avenue to strengthen global statistical network within countries and across region. “It will bring together members of the statistical community to share and disseminate the best practices and research in the field of statistics,” he said at the signing ceremony for the organisation of the congress between the Malaysian government and ISI here today.

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Abdul Rahman signed on behalf of the government and ISI was represented by its President Pedro Luis do Nascimento Silva.

BNM Governor, Datuk Muhammad Ibrahim, ISM President, Prof Dr Kamarulzaman Ibrahim and ISI President-elect, Prof Helen MacGillivray, witnessed the signing ceremony.

Abdul Rahman said the congress would provide an ample opportunity for participants, especially young statisticians to undertake research and submit high quality papers.

“Accordingly, hosting the ISI WSC 2019 will contribute towards enhancing the research and analytical capability within the national statistical community.

“This is one of the key aspects to improve the human capital capacity building,” he said. He said the congress was expected to draw 3,000 statistical science experts from 130 countries.

The Philippines was the first nation in ASEAN to host the ISI WSC in 1979.

The 61st edition of the congress would be held in Morocco next year. -- Bernama