



MINISTRY OF NATIONAL UNITY

PRESS RELEASE

"DIGITAL RECORDS AND LEGAL ADMISSIBILITY: STRENGTHENING UNITY THROUGH TRANSPARENT AND SECURE DOCUMENTATION"

PUTRAJAYA, MALAYSIA – 10 July 2024: The National Archives of Malaysia (ANM), an agency under the Ministry of National Unity, organised an **international seminar on "Digital Records and Legal Admissibility."** The event, inaugurated today by YB Datuk Aaron Ago Dagang, Minister of National Unity, will take place from 9 – 11 July 2024 at the Everly Hotel, Putrajaya, Malaysia.

This seminar coincides with the International Council on Archives' (ICA) 6th International Archives Week (IAW) celebration for 2024, themed **#CyberArchives**. The theme aims to foster a global dialogue among professionals in archival and records management, focusing on the impact of technological advancements on archives and records.

The seminar aims to bring together local and international participants to discuss various aspects of digital records and their legal admissibility. **Key topics include sharing experiences on this pressing issue, examining the security of digital records, digital preservation strategies, authenticity and integrity, legal frameworks governing admissibility in court proceedings, and the impact of emerging technologies.**

The Ministry of National Unity recognizes the critical role of digital records in promoting national unity through transparent and secure documentation. ANM has taken a proactive stance in navigating complexities of digital records management and supporting government's digital transformation. **ANM through a visionary partnership with National Digital Department developed the Digital Document Management System (DDMS 2.0).** Moreover, DDMS 2.0 helps improve communication by allowing any digital record to be instantly directed within the organisation together with meeting minutes and directives to the respective recipient.

"This cutting-edge system sets a new benchmark for consistency, reliability, and transparency in government records management. **Currently used by 370 government agencies, with plans to expand to 500 agencies by 2025, DDMS 2.0 hosts 12.3 million records, serving nearly 60,000 active users** (civil servants). By establishing such a robust framework, DDMS 2.0 offers a model for other sectors, reinforcing transparency as the bedrock of trust," said YB Datuk Aaron.

"The Ministry believes this seminar will pave the way for robust digital record-keeping practices and legal standards, contributing to a more unified and informed society," said YB Datuk Aaron. The interplay between digital records and legal admissibility is essential for fostering trust, accountability, integrity, and effective governance.

Among the distinguished attendees are YBhg. Datuk Azman bin Mohd Yusof, Secretary General of the Ministry of National Unity; YBhg. Dato' Jaafar Sidek bin Hj. Abdul Rahman, Director General of NAM; and YBrs. Dr. Fazidah binti Abu Bakar, Director General of the National Digital Department (JDN).

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