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KUALA LUMPUR: MBSB Group is accelerating the growth of the Malaysia's small and medium enterprise (SME) sector by creating one of the country's largest direct engagement platforms between vendors and government-linked companies.

The 'MBSB Group Anchor Companies Open Day & Vendor Business Matching Sessions' was officiated by Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Abdul Aziz.

Held at the Sime Darby Convention Centre here on Tuesday, the event brought together more than 400 SMEs and vendors with 20 major anchor companies, marking a significant step in strengthening Malaysia's supply chain ecosystem.

This initiative reflects MBSB's commitment to building stronger linkages between local businesses and leading corporations such as Malaysia Airlines, Perodua, Proton, PLUS Malaysia, Tenaga Nasional Berhad, Sime Darby Property, UEM Group subsidiaries, Duopharma Biotech, and UMW Corporation.

The platform enabled SMEs to showcase their capabilities, pitch products and services, and be considered as potential vendors.

By fostering direct conversations, participating SMEs gained real opportunities to be integrated into the supply chains of Malaysia's largest corporations, creating pathways for long-term growth.

MBSM chairman Datuk Wan Kamaruzaman Wan Ahmad highlighted the event's role in elevating SME capacity and capabilities to the next level.

"Anchors bring standards, predictability, and volume. Vendors bring speed, technical expertise, ingenuity, and talent," he said.

"When those strengths work in rhythm, value is created and more importantly, retained here in Malaysia. That's how we build supply-chain resilience, and compound national capability."

A key highlight of the event was the launch of MIDF's Global Market Access Accelerator (Glomax).

With RM100 million in financing allocated, Glomax is designed to prepare and propel at least 50 SMEs and mid-tier companies into international markets.

Unlike traditional trade promotion initiatives, Glomax focuses on financing readiness, ensuring that when Malaysian businesses expand abroad, they do so in a structured, well-capitalised, and sustainable manner.

Participants will also benefit from advisory support and collaborations with ecosystem enablers, including Matrade, SME Corporation Malaysia, Malaysian Technology Development Corporation, Malaysia Design Development Centre, and international market linkers.

Beyond vendor matching and financing access, SMEs also took part in forums, pocket talks, and exhibitions covering vendor qualification, financing assistance, ESG adoption, and success stories.

These sessions provided not only technical insights but also actionable knowledge for SMEs to strengthen competitiveness immediately.

By leveraging fully Syariah-compliant banking services through MBSB Bank and MIDF, the group positions itself as a leading financial institution championing vendor-anchor collaboration.

This unique positioning ensures SMEs gain not only access to strategic partnerships but also tailored financial solutions to drive sustainable growth in both domestic and international markets.

Tengku Zafrul (second right) speaks to the press. From left are MIDF chief executive officer Azizi Mustafa, Wan Kamaruzaman, and MBSB Group chief financial officer Shahnaz Jammal.