

Headline **'BioNexus firms can capitalise on woes'**
 Date **18. Dec 2008** Language **ENGLISH**
 Media Title **New Straits Times** Page No **37**
 Section **Business Times** Article Size **88** cm2
 Circulation **158042** Frequency **Daily**
 Readership **512000** Color **Full Color**
 AdValue **1256.04**



'BioNexus firms can capitalise on woes'

MALAYSIAN BioNexus companies, mostly start-ups, are in a good position to capitalise on the current global economic crisis to expand overseas as well as undertake mergers and acquisitions.

For example, these companies can help raise funds for biotech companies abroad that are facing severe credit crunch, Malaysian Bi-

otechnology Corp Sdn Bhd (BiotechCorp) chief executive officer Datuk Iskandar Mizal Mahmood said.

He said biotech firms in the US and Europe that find it difficult to raise funds could become potential partners for Malaysian companies.

"These companies abroad are looking for people to collaborate, people who can come in with some sort of funding support," he told reporters on the sidelines of the signing of a BioNexus Partner Pro-

gramme (BNP) agreement between BiotechCorp and seven local universities and one research institution in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

BiotechCorp's BNP partners are the International Islamic University Malaysia, Universiti Teknologi Mara, Universiti Malaya, Universiti Malaysia Terengganu, Universiti Putra Malaysia, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, and Forest Research Institute Malaysia.