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Malaysia celebrates World Bamboo Day for the first time this year

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia will celebrate World Bamboo Day for the first time this year, said Malaysian Timber Industry Board director general Dr Jalaluddin Harun.

The six-day WBD 2012 celebrations, from yesterday until this Sunday, was be launched by Plantation Industries and Commodities Deputy Minister Datuk Hamzah Zainudin at a shopping complex near here

yesterday.

It features forum with topics such as bamboo as a sustainable construction material and an exhibition on bamboo products, he told Bernama.

A design competition for bamboo products would also be held for students and professionals.

Jalaluddin said WBD 2012 was jointly organised by MTIB, Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM), Universiti Putra

Malaysia (UPM) and non-governmental organisation Global Innovation Entrepreneurship Foundation (GIEF).

A memorandum of understanding would be signed by MITB, FRIM, UPM and GIEF to promote the development of the country's bamboo industry.

World Bamboo Day was announced at the World Bamboo Congress in Thailand in 2009. — Bernama