M A R A I N S T I T U T E O F T E C H N O L O G Y S H A H A L A M

AN EXPLORATORY STUDY ON

KUALA LUMPUR COMMODITY EXCHANGE

AND ITS MECHANISM

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A feasibility study to introduce futures trading market in Kuala Lumpur has been conducted by the Government since 1970s. At that time, the prices of commodities for example Crude Palm Oil (CPO) and cocoa were determined by outside buyers or consumers in London and Rotterdam futures market.

Interested parties started to raise questions. Why not us, as the producers of the said commodities set the prices? Why must outside people determine the prices of our commodities, the product of our country? These questions formed an idea that is to make Kuala Lumpur as an establish centre for commodities trading.

With that in mind, Kuala Lumpur Commodity Exchange was incorporated on 23 October 1980. This incorporation was commented in an article Fulfilling Need For Futures Market published by News Straits Time dated 5 August 1988.

"In line with recent trends within and outside Malaysia, to foster the growth of mercantilist activities and the creation of a new international economic order, the Malaysian government took various steps to develop a "multi-commodity" market in Kuala Lumpur. The result was the opening of Kuala Lumpur Commodity Exchange (KLCE) on October 23, 1980 as one of the first of its kind to be physically located in a Third World country. Another of the main arguments put forward for the operation of a commodity market in Kuala Lumpur was that it served the need of commodity