Govt mulls integrated enforcement action

MALACCA: The government is studying the possibility of drawing up a standard integrated action plan for enforcement agencies involved in protecting national interests, including reducing leakages of national revenue collection from cross-border crime.

Deputy Finance Minister Datuk Othman Aziz said the plan would coordinate and promote closer cooperation among enforcement agencies, including the Customs Department, police, Immigration Department and the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency.

He said it would reduce overlaps in enforcement activities.

"We can no longer work individually or within one agency to protect the country as each department or agency has its own strength. A combination of enforcement departments will ensure efforts to protect the nation's interests are more sustainable.

"But, there are areas that need to be studied, especially from the legal aspect as the regulations of each department are different," he said after opening the Enforcement Agency Collaboration Seminar here vesterday.

Present was Customs director-general Datuk Seri Khazali Ahmad.

Othman said one of the aspects was data coordination.

"Coordinating enforcement data is

aimed at curbing smuggling of goods and humans."

He said the cooperation would

boost the morale of enforcement personnel via the National Blue Ocean Strategy (NBOS).

In this regard, he said, the seminar themed "Driving Civil Service Success through Excellent Leadership, Modernisation Organisation and Cooperation among Agency Imple-

menters" was an important platform to identify the areas and opportunities to transform cooperation under NBOS. Bernama N\$7

We can no longer work individually or within one agency to protect the country as each department or agency has its own strength.

Datuk Othman Aziz deputy finance minister