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Prime Minister **Datuk Seri Najib Razak** witnessing the exchange of documents between PNB president and group chief executive officer (CEO) **Datuk Abdul Rahman Ahmad** (left) and Yayasan Peneraju Pendidikan Bumiputera CEO **Raja Azura Raja Mahayuddin** in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. With them are (from left, back row) Deputy Prime Minister **Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi**, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department **Datuk Abdul Rahman Dahlan** and PNB chairman **Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar**. Bernama pic

PNB inks pact to produce more Bumi professional accountants

KUALA LUMPUR Permodalan Nasional Bhd (PNB) signed a collaboration agreement with Yayasan Peneraju Pendidikan Bumiputera, UiTM's Intec Education College and Ernst & Young Malaysia to produce more Bumiputera professional accountants in the country.

The exchange of documents yesterday, witnessed by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak, marks the start of PNB's programmes for the development of Bumiputera professional accountants under the PNB Chartered Accountant (PCA) initiative.

In a statement issued after the event, the Bumiputera Agenda Steering Unit (Teraju) said the collaboration is in line with the national agenda of increasing the number of Bumiputera professional

accountants.

"PCA will focus on the sponsorship of SPM candidates for diploma and degree qualifications in accounting and professional accounting.

"Initially, the PCA will offer professional qualification programmes from the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which will be developed in the future to cover other professional accounting qualifications," it said.

Also present at the event, which was organised by Teraju, were the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Abdul Rahman Dahlan, Teraju chief executive officer Datuk Husni Salleh and PNB chairman Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar.

Najib also witnessed a merger and acquisition document exchange be-

tween Censof Holdings Bhd, a company under Teraju's Program Skim Jejak Jaya Bumiputera, and Singapore-based Asian Business Software Solutions Pte Ltd (ABSS).

Censof completed the 51 per cent stake acquisition in ABSS on December 3 last year for S\$10 million (RM28.06 million).

ABSS' principal activity is the sale of computerised accounting systems and provision of support services.

ABSS CEO Paul Conway said following the acquisition, the company has been busy with new product launches, expanding its teams and penetrating new markets.

"Besides Malaysia and Singapore, ABSS has now expanded its presence in the Philippines, Hong Kong and Myanmar," said Conway. **Bernama**