**MoE organise briefing on PISA Field Trial**

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THE Ministry of Education (MoE) will be carrying out the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) Field Trial through its MoE PISA Task Force (MPTF) from April to May 2017.

Yesterday saw a briefing on the PISA Field Trial held at the Lecture Theatre of Raja Isteri Girls High School (STPRI) with school leaders and school coordinators from government secondary schools and colleges under Clusters 1-6.

The briefing was conducted with the aim of providing school leaders and school coordinators with understanding regarding the implementation of Computer-Based Assessment (CBA) for the PISA Field Trial at schools.

A total of 28 secondary schools and colleges under the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Religious Affairs, private schools and international schools will be participating in the PISA Field Trial.

The PISA is a worldwide study by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) which aims to evaluate education systems worldwide by testing the skills and knowledge of 15-year-old students.

Dr Habibah binti Sion, Acting Director of Planning, Development and Research in her capacity as the PISA National Project Manager delivered welcoming remarks at yesterday’s briefing, in which she said, “The aim of today’s briefing is to share and prepare schools for implementation of PISA Field Trial. This will be administered from April 3 to May 16.”

“The implementation of PISA Field Trial is a standard procedure that is required by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development to all participating countries. This is conducted prior to the main study.”

She explained that the PISA Field Trial is designed to obtain information on survey operations, the quality of the instruments, the overall performance of the computer delivery platform, and the psychometric characteristics of the items and scales.

Collectively, the results of the Field Trial are used to modify or refine any operational or platform issues in order to increase the overall quality and efficiency of the data collection process for the PISA 2018 Main Study, she added.

The briefing itself was delivered by members of the MPTF, and introduced the PISA as “an international study by the OECD”, which is “administered to 15-year-olds in educational programmes”.

It was explained that the programme “aims to help improvement in policy and benchmarking”. PISA 2012 saw 66 countries and economies participate, while PISA 2015 saw the participation of 75. PISA 2018 will see more than 80 countries and economies participate, it was shared yesterday.

This briefing will also be held for schools under the Ministry of Religious Affairs, private schools and international schools on Wednesday, February 1 at the Kampong Katok Arabic Secondary School.