

MEDIA RELEASE



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BIMB INVESTMENT LAUNCHES THE WORLD'S FIRST ESG SUKUK FUND

BIMB INVESTMENT IS THE FIRST IN THE WORLD TO INTRODUCE SUKUK UNIT TRUST FUND THAT INTEGRATES SHARIAH AND ESG PRINCIPLES

KUALA LUMPUR, Wednesday, 2018 – BIMB Investment Management Berhad (“BIMB Investment”) today launched the **BIMB ESG Sukuk Fund** (“the Fund”). This is the world’s first ESG Sukuk fund and the first Shariah Sukuk Fund in Malaysia approved under the Sustainable Responsible Investing (SRI) guidelines introduced in December 2017.

BIMB ESG Sukuk Fund is the first fund of its kind in the world which integrates the principles of ESG criteria into the investment portfolio strategy to determine company performance to select best performing companies in both financial and non-financial performance with respect to Sukuk return and credit risk profile.

The Fund combines both Shariah principles and Environmental, Social and Governance (“ESG”) principles in its domestic and foreign sukuk issuance selection criteria. The Fund applies Arabesque S-Ray™ in its ESG screening which systematically combines over 200 ESG metrics with news and data signals from over 50,000 sources across 15 languages. The Sukuk issuances are assessed on their performance on the normative principles of the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) (i.e. human rights, labour rights, environment, anti-corruption). In addition to their credit risk profile and financial performance, Sukuk issuers are also analysed on their Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) performance. The ESG analysis provides insights and understanding of a company’s management quality and its positioning for long-term financial success.

The Fund was officially launched by YBhg Datuk Zainal Izlan Zainal Abidin, Securities Commission Malaysia’s Deputy Chief Executive, alongside YBhg Tan Sri Ambrin Buang, Chairman of BIMB Holdings Berhad, Encik Nik Mohd Hasyudeen Yusoff, Chairman of BIMB Investment, Bank Islam Acting CEO Encik Mohd Muazzam Mohamed, BIMB Investment Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Encik Najmuddin Mohd Lutfi and Gabriel Karageorgiou, Partner of Arabesque Asset Management, UK.

Encik Nik Mohd Hasyudeen Yusoff, Chairman of BIMB Investment said, “Sustainable and socially responsible investing remains a huge area of opportunity to be tapped on. The industries and investors share their biggest questions in terms of returns of investments. However thousands of empirical studies and meta studies conducted in recent years show

positive and sustainable impact on companies' long-term financial success, hence positive returns to investors in the long run".

BIMB Investment CEO, Encik Najmuddin Mohd Lutfi said, "The Fund offers corporate and retail investors a potential stable annual income stream and an opportunity for capital appreciation over the medium to long term by investing in local and global sukuk. This fund provides easy access to high investment grade sukuk through several currencies options such as US Dollars and Singapore Dollars. The Sukuk issuance is assessed on their performance on the normative principles of the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC). In addition to their credit risk profile and financial performance, Sukuk issuers are also analysed on their Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) performance. The ESG analysis provides insights and understanding of a company's management quality and its positioning for long-term financial success."

BIMB ESG Sukuk Fund is offered for subscription in the Malaysian Ringgit, US Dollars and Singapore Dollars at 0.25 cents per unit for 21 calendar days during the initial offer period from 1 August until 21 August 2018.

BIMB Investment was recently named Malaysia's Best Islamic Asset and Fund Manager 2018, conferred by Alpha Southeast Asia, a regional institutional investment publication.

For more information, please contact 1-800-88-1196 or visit www.bimbinvestment.com.my

About BIMB Investment Management Berhad.

BIMB Investment Management Berhad ("BIMB Investment") is a leading Shariah-ESG investment management company, providing comprehensive Shariah-ESG investment solutions across multiple asset classes to both individual and corporate investors in Malaysia and the region. A wholly-owned subsidiary of Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad, BIMB Investment is a licensed Islamic fund management company headquartered in Kuala Lumpur with more than 24 years of experience in the fund management industry. It was incorporated on 14 September 1993 and commenced operations on 20 June 1994. BIMB Investment is committed to deliver sustainable and consistent investment performance to investors.

BIMB Investment was named Best Islamic Asset and Fund Manager in Malaysia for two consecutive years (2017-2018) by Alpha Southeast Asia, a regional investment and finance publication.

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