



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **ASNB DECLARES HIGHER INCOME DISTRIBUTION FOR AMANAH SAHAM BUMIPUTERA (ASB) *SPECIAL BONUS TO MARK PNB'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY***

- Permodalan Nasional Berhad's (PNB) wholly owned subsidiary, Amanah Saham Nasional Berhad (ASNB) declares an income distribution of 7.00 sen a unit, a bonus of 0.25 sen a unit and Special PNB 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Bonus of 1.00 sen a unit for balances up to 10,000 units for its flagship fund, Amanah Saham Bumiputera (ASB) for the financial year ending 31 December 2017.
- The total distribution of RM10.7 billion would benefit 9.1 million unit holders who own more than 145.6 billion units in ASB. The majority of unit holders, numbering some 7.5 million with balances up to 10,000 units will get an effective return of 8.25 sen.
- For its first variable-price fund, Amanah Saham Nasional (ASN), ASNB has declared an income distribution of 3.65 sen a unit, which translates to a dividend yield of 5.0% and contributing to year-to-date Total Return of 15% as at 21 December 2017. The total income distribution of RM69.4 million will benefit 1.2 million unit holders with 1.9 billion units in the fund. As at 30 November 2017, ASN recorded a net income of RM72.65 million. The stronger performance is in line with PNB's strategy of refocusing its Variable Funds towards delivering Total Return to unit holders.
- Meanwhile, PNB's total Assets Under Management (AUM) grew to RM276.5 billion by November 2017, representing an increase of 4.6% year-on-year while the proforma Net Income of PNB and its unit trust funds strongly grew by 7.1% to RM15.4 billion, in line with the improved performance of the local bourse and the general economy.

Permodalan Nasional Berhad's (PNB) wholly owned subsidiary, Amanah Saham Nasional Berhad (ASNB) today announced higher returns for its flagship fund, Amanah Saham Bumiputera (ASB) as well as its first variable-price fund, Amanah Saham Nasional (ASN), on the back of continued strong financial performance for 2017 and the successful progress of all PNB's transformation initiatives targeted during the year under its STRIVE-15 strategic plan.

## **ASNB UNIT TRUST FUND INCOME DISTRIBUTION**

### **Amanah Saham Bumiputera (ASB)**

At a media briefing today, PNB announced a total income distribution of 8.25 sen a unit for ASNB's flagship fund ASB for the financial year ending 31 December 2017. This comprises a dividend of 7.00 sen a unit, a bonus of 0.25 sen a unit and a Special Bonus of 1.00 sen a unit for balances of up to 10,000 units in conjunction with PNB's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in March 2018.

PNB Group Chairman, Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar said, "It has been an impactful year for us at PNB and I am happy that we are able to announce a higher income distribution for ASB unit holders today including a special bonus to mark our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The total distribution of RM10.7 billion would benefit 9.1 million unit holders who own more than 145.6 billion units in ASB. The majority of unit holders, numbering some 7.5 million with balances up to 10,000 units will get an effective return of 8.25 sen, 0.8 million unit holders who own between 10,001 and 40,000 units will receive at least 7.50 sen whilst the remaining 0.7 million unit holders will receive at least 7.26 sen."

This income distribution represents a premium of 4.85 percentage points over ASB's benchmark, which is the average 3-month KLIBOR of 3.40% as ASB recorded a net income of RM8.91 billion as at 30 November 2017. This is on the back of Malaysia's strong economic growth which is on track for a full year Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth of 5.8% and the successful implementation of PNB's STRIVE-15 strategic plan to date.

Further, the computation of the dividend and bonus will now be based on the average minimum monthly balance of the 12 months in the fund's financial year. Previously, the computation was based on the average minimum monthly balance for the last 10 years. Meanwhile, the computation of the Special Anniversary Bonus distribution is also subject to the average minimum monthly balance in 2017, only for the first 10,000 units for each account.

The units re-invested from the dividend and bonus will be credited into unit holders' accounts on 1 January 2018, whereas the Special Anniversary Bonus will be credited on 1 March 2018. The dividend is paid out of ASB's net income whilst the bonus and Special Anniversary Bonus are paid out of PNB's proprietary funds at its discretion.

### **Amanah Saham Nasional (ASN)**

PNB also announced an income distribution of 3.65 sen a unit for its first variable-price fund ASN for the financial year ending 31 December 2017, which translates to ASN recording a dividend yield of 5.0% contributing to year-to-date Total Return of 15.0% as at 21 December 2017. This stronger performance is in line with its focus to give balanced returns through investments in equities and fixed income. It is also in line with PNB's strategy of focusing its Variable Funds towards delivering Total Return to unit holders.

As at 30 November 2017, ASN recorded a net income of RM72.65 million. The total income distribution of RM69.4 million will benefit 1.2 million unit holders with 1.9 billion units in the fund.

Meanwhile, the computation of the income distribution for ASN is based on the units held as at 31 December 2017. The income distribution will be re-invested into additional units and automatically credited into the unit holders' accounts on 2 January 2018, based on the Net Asset Value per unit as at 31 December 2017.

**All transactions for ASB and ASN at all ASNB branches and agents have been temporarily suspended from 20 December 2017 until 1 January 2018** to facilitate the computation of income distribution. Unit holders will be able to check and update their accounts through ASNB's new portal [myasnb.com.my](http://myasnb.com.my) or at any ASNB branches or agents nationwide when transactions resume on 2 January 2018.

The income distribution statement, together with the fund's annual report will be sent to unit holders within two months after the income distribution of the fund.

### **PNB PERFORMANCE IN 2017**

For PNB, 2017 has been an eventful year during which the Company succeeded in making a number of significant achievements. Most importantly, PNB has improved its financial performance by increasing its Net Income and also successfully implemented the transformation plan of its Strategic Companies.

The Company's Net income grew by 7.1% to RM15.4 billion while the total Assets Under Management (AUM) as at November 2017 grew by 4.6% year-on-year to RM276.5 billion compared to RM264.3 billion recorded in November 2016. Unit trust funds (UTFs) constitute RM232.6 billion of this amount, while the remaining RM43.9 billion is PNB's own proprietary funds.

The successful transformation of PNB's Strategic Companies during the year has contributed to the RM27.1 billion increase in total market capitalisation to date of the Strategic Companies, which translates to 18.1% weighted average total shareholders' returns.

Another key achievement of PNB in 2017 is the issuance of the "Harus" fatwa, or "permissible" status for all ASB investments, from two remaining states namely Selangor and Pulau Pinang. With this latest development, PNB has now received the "Harus" fatwa by all States. Additionally, in line with PNB's move towards a fully digital customer experience, PNB has successfully implemented its IT system migration for ASNB to enhance service delivery to all unit holders.

Together with the Government, PNB has also announced the RM200 special incentive for all Malaysian babies born between 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2022 under the Amanah Dana Anak Malaysia 2050 (ADAM50) programme. This is very much in line with PNB's goal to encourage the savings habit among Malaysians from at an early age and is expected to benefit approximately 2.8 million babies throughout the five years.

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**About PNB**

Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB) is Malaysia's largest fund management company which also owns unit trust management company Amanah Saham Nasional Berhad (ASNB). PNB has grown from strength to strength, with its assets under management (AUM) now reaching RM276.5 billion, from around RM3.5 billion in 1981. With the STRIVE-15 Strategic Plan 2017-2022 under the new leadership, PNB is charting its way forward to sustain its performance for the next five years and beyond, and ultimately attain its vision of being a **Distinctive World Class Investment House**. For more information please, visit [www.pnb.com.my](http://www.pnb.com.my).

**About ASNB**

Amanah Saham Nasional Berhad (ASNB), is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB). ASNB was established on 22 May 1979, to manage the Funds launched by PNB. ASNB now has a total of 12 Funds, including 6 fixed price funds namely Amanah Saham Bumiputera (ASB), Amanah Saham Wawasan 2020 (ASW 2020), Amanah Saham Malaysia (ASM), Amanah Saham Didik (ASD), Amanah Saham 1Malaysia (AS 1Malaysia), and Amanah Saham Bumiputera 2 (ASB 2) and 6 variable price funds which are Amanah Saham Nasional (ASN), Amanah Saham Nasional 2 (ASN 2), Amanah Saham Nasional 3 Imbang (ASN 3) and Amanah Saham Gemilang (ASG), an umbrella fund comprising ASG-Pendidikan, ASG-Kesihatan and ASG-Persaraan. ASNB has 30 branches nationwide and over 2,000 agents. For more information, please visit [www.asnb.com.my](http://www.asnb.com.my).

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