



PRESS RELEASE

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**PNB MAINTAINS FOCUS IN DELIVERING
SUSTAINABLE RETURNS**

- Despite the challenging market environment, PNB's consolidated coterminous proforma Net Income was only marginally lower by 1.4% to RM5.3 billion for the year to date as at 31 May 2019.
- Notwithstanding this, PNB recorded an increase of 7.0% year-on-year in total Assets Under Management (AUM), breaching the RM300 billion mark for the first time, to RM301.4 billion. The number of account holders also grew by 5.2% to reach 14.1 million accounts, reflecting the continued trust of the Malaysian public in PNB.
- PNB also declared income distribution for Amanah Saham Bumiputera 3-Didik (ASB 3 Didik) and ASN Equity 2 of 5.25 sen per unit and 2.80 sen per unit respectively. The total income distribution payout for these funds amounts to RM367 million, bringing total overall distribution to RM189.3 billion for all 14 funds since PNB's inception.
- PNB's Mid-Term Review of its Strategic Plan, focusing on three key areas, Strategic Asset Allocation and Optimal Liquidity Management, Enterprise Risk Management and Organisational Transformation is progressing well and aimed at delivering sustainable returns to all unit holders.

Kuala Lumpur, 24 June 2019: Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB) today announced that its Assets Under Management (AUM) has breached the RM300 billion mark for the first time to reach RM301.4 billion at its performance briefing for the first half of 2019. PNB also announced the income distribution for unit trust funds managed by its wholly owned unit trust fund management company, Amanah Saham Nasional Berhad (ASNB), namely Amanah Saham Bumiputera 3-Didik (ASB 3 Didik) and ASN Equity 2.

YEAR-TO-DATE PERFORMANCE IN 2019

For the year to date as at 31 May 2019, PNB's consolidated coterminous proforma Net Income was marginally lower by 1.4% to RM5.3 billion, reflecting the challenging market environment where the FBM KLCI declined by 2.4% during the same period. Notwithstanding this, PNB recorded an increase of 7.0% year-on-year in total Assets Under Management (AUM), breaching the RM300 billion mark for the first time, to RM301.4 billion. The number of account

holders also grew by 5.2% to reach 14.1 million accounts, reflecting the continued trust of the Malaysian public in PNB.

PNB Group Chairman, Tan Sri Dr. Zeti Aziz said, “The first half of 2019 has continued to be a highly challenging environment for all investment institutions given the global and domestic developments. Despite this, we are pleased to be able to sustain returns and growth in our Assets Under Management.”

INCOME DISTRIBUTION OF ASNB UNIT TRUST FUNDS

At the media briefing today, PNB also announced the income distribution for Amanah Saham Bumiputera 3-Didik (ASB 3 Didik) formerly known as Amanah Saham Didik, the fourth fixed-price unit trust fund launched by PNB, as well as ASN Equity 2, formerly known as Amanah Saham Nasional 2, the second variable-price unit trust fund launched by PNB.

The income distribution for ASB 3 Didik unit holders is 5.25 sen per unit, comprising income distribution of 4.85 sen per unit and bonus of 0.40 sen per unit. Meanwhile, ASN Equity 2 unit holders will receive 2.80 sen per unit, translating into an estimated distribution yield of 5.0% based on the Net Asset Value of the fund as at 21 June 2019.

ASB 3 Didik will be paying out a total of RM323 million in income distribution to 292,400 unit holders who currently hold 6.19 billion units. Launched in 2001 and renamed last year to ASB 3 Didik, the fixed price fund offers an investment opportunity with reasonable long-term growth and return. The fund recorded a net realised income of RM221 million from dividend and capital gains.

The computation of the income distribution for ASB 3 Didik is based on the average minimum balance held throughout the financial year of the fund. The distribution declared by ASB 3 Didik will be re-invested as additional units into the accounts of unit holders and will be automatically credited into unit holders' accounts on 1 July 2019.

For ASNB Equity 2, the total income distribution payout will amount to RM43 million which will benefit 32,400 unit holders. As at 31 May 2019, ASN Equity 2 recorded a net realised income of RM43 million. Launched in 1999, ASN Equity 2 provides a reasonable dividend yield and capital appreciation at acceptable risk levels through investments in a diversified portfolio of mainly Malaysian equity securities.

There will be a temporary suspension of transactions for ASB 3 Didik and ASN Equity 2 at all branches from 27 June 2019 to facilitate the computation of income distribution for the financial year ending 30 June 2019. Transactions will resume on 1 July 2019. Unit holders are also advised to update their contact details and e-mail address through ASNB agents or ASNB branches in order to perform online transactions.

In line with enhancing unit holders' experience and expanding ASNB's digital offerings, PNB has recently launched the myASNB app. A new automated recurring investment feature, similar to the function of a standing instruction for bank accounts, was also introduced in the myASNB portal called "Auto Labur", which enables unit holders to invest regularly based on their set amount. With the myASNB app and portal, PNB's more than 14 million unit holders can access and perform transactions while on the go and on their smart devices.

GOING FORWARD

PNB's Mid-Term Review of its Strategic Plan is progressing well on the three key areas that have been identified to further enhance the Plan, namely Strategic Asset Allocation and Optimal Liquidity Management, Enterprise Risk Management and Organisational Transformation. The execution of this review is crucial to PNB's plan to continue delivering sustainable returns over the medium and longer term.

As part of PNB's focus for 2019, the Company's diversification strategy will be accelerated across asset classes in order to optimise returns and minimise risk exposure. As a result of this initiative, PNB's portfolio allocation into fixed income securities and global assets have risen to 7.4% and 4.9% respectively at the end of May 2019, from 5.8% and 2.4% in 2017.

PNB is also developing a comprehensive outsourcing framework which will complement its internal capabilities in the investments in new asset classes and markets. This will allow PNB to explore new investment strategies and find alternative investment instruments. PNB's existing Enterprise Risk Management Framework will also continue to evolve to manage the emerging risks amidst the changing landscape.

Additionally, PNB's Organisational Transformation Efforts are integral to building long-term institutional resilience. The key driving factor for this is to becoming a strategically-focused, knowledge-based and performance-based organisation.

"Although the prevailing market environment has been reflected in the income distribution levels, PNB continues to navigate the short-term volatility with unwavering focus on the

medium and longer term fundamentals. Amidst uncertain times, PNB will continue to invest consistently and not allow short term volatility to obscure the potential returns over the longer term. We greatly value the trust and confidence that our unit holders have placed in us and we will continue to work and act in their best interest,” Tan Sri Dr. Zeti Aziz concluded.

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About Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB)

Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB) is one of the largest fund management companies in Malaysia with assets under management (AUM) exceeding RM300 billion. PNB's portfolio covers strategic investments in Malaysia's leading corporates, global equities, private investments and real estate. For more information, please visit www.pnb.com.my.

Amanah Saham Nasional Berhad (ASNB)

Amanah Saham Nasional Berhad (ASNB) is the unit trust company of PNB with 32 branch offices and more than 2,600 agents' branches nationwide. ASNB currently manages 14 unit trust funds with a total of 248.5 billion units in circulation (UIC) and 14.1 million accounts. For more information, please visit www.asnb.com.my.

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