PNB

PRESS RELEASE

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PNB Strengthens Value-Based and Shariah-Compliant Investments with the Launch of MSRI and Zakat Khultah

BANGI, 20 July 2026: Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB) today launched the Maqasid Al-Shariah Screening Model for Responsible Investment (MSRI), an investment screening approach that integrates the Maqasid al-Shariah framework with Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) principles.

The launch ceremony was officiated by the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Religious Affairs), YB Senator Dr. Zulkifli Hasan. Also in attendance were YM Raja Tan Sri Dato' Seri Arshad Raja Tun Uda, Chairman of PNB Group, Dato' Rizal Rickman Ramli, President & Group Chief Executive of PNB, Dato' Dr. Sirajuddin Suhaimee, Director-General of JAKIM, and Fadzihan Abbas Mohamed Ramlee, Chief Executive Officer of Amanah Saham Nasional Berhad (ASNB).

The MSRI screening model is used as part of the investment analysis and decision-making process for PNB's domestic investment portfolio. It aims to broaden the scope of Shariah screening beyond financial assessments and business activities alone.

The model evaluates investments based on the five dimensions of Maqasid al-Shariah introduced by Imam al-Ghazali, while comprehensively integrating ESG considerations into investment analysis. It also incorporates controversy and bonus scores to assess current issues that reflect both the negative impacts and positive initiatives undertaken by companies.

YM Raja Tan Sri Dato' Seri Arshad Raja Tun Uda said, "Today's launch is the result of close collaboration between PNB and the Department of Islamic Development Malaysia (JAKIM)."

"This strategic partnership is clear evidence that national investment institutions and religious institutions can work hand in hand to develop an economic ecosystem that is not only financially sustainable, but also firmly grounded in values and ethics," he said in his welcoming remarks at the *Wacana Literasi Kewangan Islam Berteraskan Maqasid Al-Syariah* in conjunction with the launch of MSRI and Zakat Khultah held in Bangi today.

At the same event, ASNB launched the Khultah (collective) method of Zakat al-Mustaghallat payment, a facility for Muslim investors in ASNB's fixed-price unit trust funds to fulfil their annual zakat obligations more conveniently.

Dr. Zulkifli said that the facility enables ASNB investors to perform their zakat obligations in a simpler and more systematic manner.

"Muslim investors who invest in ASNB unit trust funds are encouraged to fully utilise this Khultah (collective) method of Zakat al-Mustaghallat payment to fulfil their annual zakat obligations."

"I support the implementation of zakat through the Khultah approach because, from the investor's perspective, its benefits are highly practical and aligned with Shariah principles. Muslim ASNB investors continue to enjoy competitive net returns while ensuring that their zakat obligations are managed systematically and efficiently, without compromising their long-term investment objectives," he added.

The Zakat Khultah method was introduced by ASNB on 25 May 2026 for all fixed-price funds, which have been restructured into Class A and Class B units. Existing unitholders are automatically placed in Class A, while Class B is designated for Muslim unitholders who choose to have their zakat managed by ASNB through the Khultah (collective) mechanism.

Under Class B, zakat is calculated at 2.57% of dividends received before distribution to unitholders, ensuring that the dividends received are net of zakat and Shariah-purified. This zakat method applies the al-Mustaghallat methodology, which was approved by the National Council for Islamic Religious Affairs Malaysia (MKI) in September 2025.

As of 16 July 2026, a total of 131,121 accounts by Muslim investors in ASNB unit trust funds had opted into Class B.

The launching ceremony also featured a forum titled "Managing Wealth with Purpose", with panelists comprising Fadzihan Abbas, Dato' Syeikh Zakaria Bin Othman, Chief Executive Officer of the Kedah State Zakat Board (LZNK), and Ustaz Zul Ramli M. Razali, Independent Speaker and Preacher.

In line with the concept of "balancing deen and dunya", ASNB has also introduced a suite of investment-related services known as Islamic Wealth Solutions. Through this offering, investors no longer need to make separate decisions regarding investments, protection, zakat, hibah, and waqf.

Instead, these elements are integrated into a single, structured financial journey guided by Shariah principles.

This suite of solutions is designed to fulfil the true objectives of wealth management, recognising that wealth is not solely about how much is accumulated, but also about how effectively it is utilised for the benefit of oneself, one's family, society, and religion.

For more information, please visit www.asnb.com.my/zakat.

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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 RM360 billion. PNB's portfolio covers strategic investments in Malaysia's leading corporates, global equities, private investments and real estate. For over four decades, we remain focused in contributing to the wealth of Bumiputeras and all Malaysians and are dedicated to fulfilling our purpose to uplift the financial lives of Malaysians across generations. We are committed to sustainability, responsible practices, and the creation of an inclusive future that benefits both our stakeholders and the communities we serve. For more information, please visit www.pnb.com.my.

Amanah Saham Nasional Berhad (ASNB)
Amanah Saham Nasional Berhad (ASNB) is the wholly owned unit trust management company of PNB with 32 branch offices and more than 2,400 agents nationwide namely Affin Bank, Ambank, Bank Islam, Bank Muamalat, Bank Simpanan Nasional, CIMB Bank, Hong Leong Bank, Maybank, RHB Bank and Pos Malaysia. ASNB currently manages 18 unit trust funds with units in circulation (UIC) of more than 300 billion units over 17 million accounts. For more information, please visit www.asnb.com.my or contact ASNB Customer Service Centre at 03-7730 8899.

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