



PRESS RELEASE

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**PNB Reinforces Commitment to Creating a Sustainable Future
by Driving Progress in Innovation**

Kuala Lumpur, 1 August 2023 – In line with the Government’s aspirations and initiatives to elevate the nation’s competitiveness and advancing the complexities of our nation’s economic activities, PNB Research Institute Sdn. Berhad (PNBRI), the wholly owned research arm of Permodalan Nasional Bhd (PNB) recently organised the first instalment of PNB Knowledge Forum I 2023 (PKF) with the theme “Harnessing Innovation and Technology for Sustainable Business”. The forum is aimed at providing valuable insights into innovative solutions, disruptive technologies and the commitment of featured PNB companies to continuous product and process improvement.

PNB Group Chairman YM Raja Tan Sri Dato’ Seri Arshad Raja Tun Uda, who officiated the forum, said, “The world in this digital age is changing at an unprecedented rate. It has and will continue to create amazing opportunities while concurrently generating new risks to incumbent market leaders of the respective economic sectors. PNB recently published its inaugural Integrated Annual Report 2022 which represents its anticipation for growth and progressive approach to exploring new possibilities and capitalising on innovative opportunities. PNB is deeply committed to creating sustainable and inclusive future that benefits its stakeholders and the communities it serves.”

PKF featured four PNB investee companies, Sime Darby Plantation Berhad, Sime Darby Berhad, Malayan Banking Bhd (Maybank) and Perusahaan Otomobil Kedua Sdn. Berhad (PERODUA) who are market leaders and have successfully applied innovative approaches and disruptive technologies into their respective sectors. Sime Darby Plantation’s presentation, themed “Plantations Reimagined”, featured innovations that contributes to its sustainable market leadership and organisational excellence in the plantation sector value chain. Sime Darby shared its “Electrification” journey, documenting their journey in responding to the opportunities presence from the emerging adoption of Electric Vehicles, by leveraging

on its core capabilities, establishing new partnerships and expanding its businesses along the value chain.

Meanwhile Maybank, true to its “Humanising Financial Services” ethos, showcased their continuous innovation of financial solutions that are simple, intuitive, and centred around the human experience. PERODUA shared their “Moving Malaysia” journey featuring the robotics features and technological innovations in the automotive production and end-to-end manufacturing solutions, as well as development of local capabilities.

Raja Tan Sri Dato’ Seri Arshad added, “The innovative strategies and approaches in the soon to be released New Industrial Masterplan 2030 will chart Malaysia’s industrial development and growth trajectories until 2030. Innovation will continue to be a critical factor to drive and increase competitiveness of our country. It is my fervent hope that this engagement will help nurture a community of practice for innovation and continuous improvement at PNB Group, investee companies and Corporate Malaysia.”

PKF was attended by over 500 participants, comprising senior policy makers, key leadership, and senior management of Government-linked Investment Companies (GLICs), Government-linked Companies (GLCs) and public listed companies. Also present were economists, fund managers, along with institutional investors and regulatory authorities.

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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.

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