



Permodalan Nasional Berhad

(38218-X)

**For Immediate Release
24 March 2015**

**ASNB ANNOUNCED INCOME DISTRIBUTION
FOR ASM AND THREE ASG FUNDS**

KUALA LUMPUR -- Amanah Saham Nasional Berhad (ASNB), a wholly owned subsidiary of Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB) today announced the income distribution for Amanah Saham Malaysia (ASM) and the three funds under Amanah Saham Gemilang (ASG), ASG-Pendidikan, ASG-Persaraan and ASG-Kesihatan for the financial year ended 31 March 2015.

ASM unit holders will receive an income distribution of 6.60 sen per unit, while unit holders of ASG-Pendidikan, ASG Kesihatan and ASG Persaraan will receive an income distribution of 7.10 sen per unit, 7.20 sen per unit and 7.05 sen per unit respectively.

The income distribution was announced in spite of the stock market crash, affected by the sharp decline of oil prices and the depreciation of Ringgit against the US Dollar. It is predicted that the stock market will continue to be affected by the global environment in the short and medium term, due to the unequal growth of the global economy and interest rate differentials between the major and emerging economies, which will substantially affect the flow of international investment funds.

PNB Chairman Tun Ahmad Sarji Abdul Hamid said that the performance of ASM and all three ASG funds remained reasonably good and competitive, in accordance with the current economic and investment climate.

"From the period of 1 April 2014 until 20 March 2015, the FTSE Bursa Malaysia KLCI (FBM KLCI) had decreased by 2.46% from 1,849.21 points to 1,803.65 points."

"This is mainly due to the uncertainties in the economic environment, caused by the fall of crude oil prices and the depreciation of the Malaysian Ringgit against the US dollar, as well as the lingering debt crisis in the Europe," he added.

The income distribution for ASM will involve a total payout of RM1.01 billion, an increase of 6.8% compared to RM945.24 paid last year, which will benefit 537,975 unit holders who currently hold 15.29 billion units.

Until 22 March 2015, ASM had recorded a gross income of RM1.24 billion. Profit from the sale of shares contributed RM599.5 million or 48.5% towards the gross income.

Dividend income from investment in companies contributed RM459.9 million or 37.2%, while the remaining income of RM177.6 million or 14.3% was derived from investments in short term instruments.

The calculation of the income distribution is based on the average minimum balance held throughout the financial year of ASM.

Meanwhile for ASG-Pendidikan income distribution, ASNB had allotted a total of RM29.86 million which will benefit a total of 52,250 unit holders who had subscribed to 420.5 million units of the fund.

Up until 22 March 2015, ASG-Pendidikan had registered a gross income of RM21.5 million. From this amount, RM10.3 million or 48% was profit from the sale of shares, while RM7.4 million or 34.4% was the dividend income from investment in companies. The remaining RM3.8 million or 17.6% was derived from investments in short term instruments.

For ASG-Kesihatan, ASNB had allocated RM39.52 million for its income distribution which will benefit some 34,677 unit holders who had subscribed to 548.9 million units of the fund.

Up until 22 March 2015, ASG-Kesihatan had registered a gross income of RM22.01 million. From this amount, dividend income from investment in companies contributed RM11.06 million or 50.2%, while profit from the sale of shares contributed RM7.48 million, representing 34% from the gross income. The remaining RM3.47 million or 15.8% was income derived from short term investment instruments.

Meanwhile for ASG-Persaraan income distribution, ASNB had allocated RM12.53 million which will benefit some 10,555 unit holders who had subscribed to 177.7 million units of the fund.

Up until 22 March 2015, ASG-Persaraan had registered a gross income of RM8.66 million, of which dividend income from investment in companies contributed RM3.40 million or 39.3%, while income from short term investment instruments contributed RM2.20 million or 25.4%, and the remaining RM3.06 million or 35.3% was profit from the sale of shares.

The calculation of income distribution for all three funds under ASG is based on the balance of units as at 31 March 2015, which is the last day of the financial year for each fund.

As to enable the unit holders to benefit from the return and unit growth of the ASM and all three funds under ASG, the income distribution will be automatically reinvested in the form of additional units which will be credited into their investment accounts on 1 April 2015. For the three funds under ASG, units credited are based on the Net Asset Value (NAV) per unit of each fund on 31 March 2015.

For ASG unit holders who subscribed through the EPF Members' Investment Scheme, the income distribution will be credited directly into their respective EPF investment accounts.

Transactions at the ASNB Head Office, its branches and agents nationwide for ASM and all three funds under ASG had been suspended from 22 March to 31 March 2015 for income calculation purposes.

Unit holders can update their ASM and ASG investment account book at ASNB offices and agents nationwide beginning 1 April 2015.

ASM is an 'Equity Income Fund' aimed at providing unit holders a long term investment opportunity that generates regular and competitive returns through a diversified portfolio of investments.

Meanwhile, the three funds under ASG are 'Growth and Income Fund' with different objectives and asset allocation for respective funds. ASG is a variable priced fund where investors are allowed to buy unlimited number of units in all the three funds, and it is listed in the EPF Members' Investment scheme.

For further information, please contact:

**Ms. Aminah Haji Mahadi
Senior Manager
Corporate Communications Department
Tel : 03-2050 5445
Fax : 03-2050 5268
E-mail: aminah_hm@pnb.com.my**