



Permodalan Nasional Berhad

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ASNB ANNOUNCES INCOME DISTRIBUTION FOR ASD AND ASN 2

KUALA LUMPUR -- Amanah Saham Nasional Berhad (ASNB), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB) has announced the income distribution for Amanah Saham Didik (ASD) as well as Amanah Saham Nasional 2 (ASN 2) for the financial year ended 30 June 2016.

ASD unit holders will receive an income distribution of 6.30 sen per unit, whereas ASN 2 unit holders will receive an income distribution of 3.45 sen per unit. ASD is a fixed price fund with par value of RM1.00 while ASN 2 is a variable price fund with par value of RM0.50.

Chairman of PNB, Tun Ahmad Sarji Abdul Hamid said, the income distribution for both funds were announced during challenging times for both domestic stock market and the global economy, affected by negative sentiments and precaution from investors who were driven by a number of external factors.

“Among the external factors are the economic slowdown in China as the world's second largest economy, the decline in commodity prices and depreciation of Ringgit, US presidential election and the divergence in the global monetary policy with the rise of interest rates in the US as opposed to negative interest rates in some parts of Europe and Japan”

“These external factors have affected domestic corporate earnings, which then have translated into in lower share prices and dividend payout from listed companies.”

“Investors’ concerns about the Brexit referendum on 23 June 2016 as to whether Britain will leave the European Union (EU) has also impacted the local and global market share. Thus, stock markets around the world fell sharply when the result was known on 24 June 2016. It also resulted in the fall of the FBM KLCI by 5.93 points while the Ringgit depreciated by 1.8% to a record of RM4.0900/Dollar,” he further commented.

From 1 July 2015 until 24 June 2016, the FTSE Bursa Malaysia KLCI (FBM KLCI) index recorded a decrease of 4.3% from 1,706.64 points recorded in 30 June 2015, to 1,634.05 points on 24 June 2016. FBM KLCI has been dwindling for 2 years in a row, after recording a return of -9.4 % for the financial year 2015.

For ASD income distribution, ASNB has allocated RM329.12 million which will benefit 307,784 unit holders who subscribed to 5.23 billion units.

Up until 24 June 2016, ASD has recorded a gross income of RM428.42 million. Profit from the sale of shares contributed RM240.58 million or 56.2%, while dividend income from investee companies contributed RM115.39 million or 26.9% to the total gross income. The remaining income of RM72.46 million or 16.9% were derived from investments in short term instruments and other income.

Meanwhile for ASN 2 income distribution, ASNB has allocated RM50.09 million which will benefit 22,570 unit holders who subscribed to 1.45 billion units.

During the financial year 2016, ASN 2 has been successful in achieving net sales despite the negative performance of the stock market indicating that investors has taken the opportunity to lower their investment cost through dollar cost averaging. Until 24 June 2016, ASN 2 has recorded a gross income of RM48.75 million.

From the amount, dividend income from investment in companies contributed RM23.49 million or 48.2% to the total gross income, while income from the sale of shares contributed RM19.31 million or 39.6% of the gross income. The remaining RM5.95 million or 12.2% were derived from other income.

The calculation of the income distribution for ASD is based on the average monthly minimum balance held throughout its financial year, whilst for ASN 2, the income distribution is calculated based on the units held on the last day of its financial year ended 30 June 2016.

The income distribution payment will be re-invested into additional units and will be automatically credited into the unit holders' accounts on 1 July 2016. For ASN 2, units will be credited based on the net asset value (NAV) as at 30 June 2016.

Meanwhile, unit holders who subscribed ASD and ASN 2 through the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) Members' Investment Scheme will have the income distribution credited directly into their respective EPF accounts.

All transactions for ASD and ASN 2 at the ASNB headquarters, ASNB offices and agents have been suspended from 24 June 2016 until 30 June 2016 to facilitate the calculation of income distribution. Unit holders may update their account book when transactions resume beginning 1 July 2016 at any ASNB offices or agents nationwide.

ASD is a fixed price equity growth fund aimed at providing investment opportunity which can generate long term growth and competitive returns to unit holders. ASD is suitable for investors who are planning for future financial needs for education expenses for themselves or those of their families.

ASN 2 is a variable priced Equity Growth Fund that provides the opportunity for unit holders to generate reasonable dividend yield as well as capital appreciation at an acceptable level of risk through a diversified portfolio of investments.

ASN 2 performance in terms of its total returns and yield can be compared to other instruments with similar features and risk levels.

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