



PRESS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release
21 December 2018**

ASNB DECLARES INCOME DISTRIBUTION FOR AMANAH SAHAM BUMIPUTERA

- Permodalan Nasional Berhad's (PNB) wholly owned unit trust management company, Amanah Saham Nasional Berhad (ASNB) declared an income distribution of 6.50 sen per unit and a bonus of 0.50 sen per unit for its flagship fund, Amanah Saham Bumiputera (ASB) for the financial year ending 31 December 2018. This represents a total distribution payout of 7.00 sen per unit with the total estimated payout being RM10.7 billion that will benefit 9.6 million unit holders who own 155 billion units in ASB.
- For its first variable-price fund, Amanah Saham Nasional (ASN), ASNB declared an income distribution of 3.25 sen per unit for the financial year ending 31 December 2018, representing a dividend yield of 5.1% based on the Net Asset Value of the fund as at 20 December 2018. The total estimated payout of RM59.7 million will benefit more than 1.2 million unit holders with more than 1.8 billion units in the fund.
- Meanwhile, despite the challenging market environment, for the period up to 30 November 2018, PNB's total Assets Under Management (AUM) increased by 6.8% to RM295.2 billion, whilst the proforma Net Income of PNB and its unit trust funds was sustained at RM15.3 billion.

Kuala Lumpur, 21 December 2018: Permodalan Nasional Berhad's (PNB) wholly-owned unit trust management company, Amanah Saham Nasional Berhad (ASNB), today announced continued competitive returns for its flagship fund, Amanah Saham Bumiputera (ASB). This was achieved reflecting PNB's resilient financial performance for 2018, amidst a volatile and challenging global and domestic market environment.

ASNB UNIT TRUST FUND INCOME DISTRIBUTION

Amanah Saham Bumiputera (ASB)

At a media briefing today, PNB announced a total distribution payout of 7.00 sen per unit for ASNB's flagship fund Amanah Saham Bumiputera (ASB) for the financial year ending 31 December 2018. This comprises an income distribution or dividend of 6.50 sen per unit and a bonus of 0.50 sen per unit.

This year's ASB income distribution and bonus involves an estimated total payout of RM10.7 billion for more than 9.6 million unit holders, which brings the fund's total cumulative income distribution and bonus to RM143.1 billion to date since its launch in 1990. As at 30 November 2018, ASB recorded a net income of RM8.99 billion for the first 11 months of the financial year, primarily derived via dividends and capital gains from its investments.

PNB Group Chairman, Tan Sri Dr. Zeti Aziz said, "2018 has undoubtedly been a challenging year for both the global and domestic financial markets, weighed down by the further normalisation of the US monetary policy and the consequent fund outflows from emerging markets as well as the growing concern arising from the international trade tensions. Amidst these challenges, ASB's income distribution has remained competitive, outperforming its respective benchmarks, whilst moderated compared to the previous year."

As at 20 December 2018, the FBM KLCI has declined 8.1% year-to-date, making it four out of five years that the index has recorded a negative price return, in an environment in which all global equity markets have similarly declined. For the financial year 2017, ASB recorded a distribution payout of 7.25 sen per unit which includes a dividend of 7.00 sen per unit and a bonus of 0.25 sen per unit. In addition, a special bonus of 1.00 sen per unit was paid out for balances up to 10,000 units.

The computation of the income distribution and bonus is based on the average minimum monthly balance of the 12 months in the fund's financial year. The units re-invested from the income distribution and bonus will be credited into unit holders' accounts on 1 January 2019.

Amanah Saham Nasional (ASN)

PNB also declared an income distribution of 3.25 sen per unit for its first variable price fund, Amanah Saham Nasional (ASN), for the financial year ending 31 December 2018, representing a dividend yield of 5.1% based on the Net Asset Value of the fund as at 20 December 2018. The estimated total payout of RM59.7 million will benefit more than 1.2 million unit holders with more than 1.8 billion units in the fund. As at 30 November 2018, ASN recorded a net income of RM64 million for the first 11 months of its financial year.

The computation of the income distribution for ASN is based on units held as at 31 December 2018. The income distribution will be re-invested into additional units and automatically credited into the unit holders' accounts on 1 January 2019, based on the Net Asset Value per unit as at 31 December 2018.

All transactions for ASB and ASN at all ASNB branches and agents have been temporarily suspended from 21 December 2018 until 1 January 2019 to facilitate the computation of income distribution. Unit holders will be able to check and update their accounts through ASNB's online portal myasnb.com.my or at any ASNB branches or agents nationwide when transactions resume on 2 January 2019.

PNB PERFORMANCE IN 2018

Building on its strong foundation, PNB remained resilient amidst the challenging economic environment in 2018, recording five key achievements.

PNB sustained its financial performance in 2018, with Assets Under Management increasing by 6.8% to RM295.2 billion, whilst the proforma net income of PNB and its unit trust funds was RM15.3 billion for the first 11 months of the financial year.

PNB continued to uphold investor confidence by delivering competitive returns for its unit holders, with a total payout of RM15.1 billion across all funds in 2018.

During the year, PNB remained focused on diversifying its portfolio of assets, re-allocating more cash into fixed income and global assets.

On the public equity front, PNB continued to execute operational value creation plans with its strategic companies and further engaged its core companies to boost performance, supporting the recapitalisation exercise of MNRB Holdings Berhad and Sapura Energy Berhad.

ASNB also successfully executed new initiatives to enhance customer experience, including the streamlining and widening of product offerings. This included the expansion of unit holder reach through an enhanced myASNB portal, which now already has nearly 1 million registered users, as well as the rebranding and repositioning of existing funds. The corporation also launched two new variable price funds in September 2018, namely ASN Equity 5 and ASN Sara 2, which have seen encouraging support from investors with a combined gross sales of 692 million units to date.

OUTLOOK

In the year ahead, PNB plans to undertake a Mid-Term Review of its Strategic Plan concentrating on the areas of Strategic Asset Allocation, Enterprise Risk Management and Organisational Transformation, as well as to accelerate the diversification of its investment portfolio into higher-yielding assets. PNB will also continue with Value Creation Plans for strategic companies and further engage with the core companies to improve their performance. In addition, it will continue enriching unit holders' experience with new digital offerings, as well as promote financial literacy and the education of its unit holders to ensure better understanding of investment risks and returns.

“PNB has remained resolute and resilient in navigating the challenging macro environment and pursuing its transformation efforts, so as to continue delivering sustainable returns to our unit holders. We greatly value the trust and confidence that our unit holders have placed in us in this recent four decades and we will continue to uphold this trust as we continue to deliver our mandate,” concluded Tan Sri Dr. Zeti.

– End –

About Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB)

Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB) is one of the largest fund management companies in Malaysia with assets under management (AUM) currently exceeding RM295 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 a wholly-owned unit trust management company of PNB, and with the launch of two new variable price funds in September 2018, currently manages 14 unit trust funds. As at November 2018, ASNB's total Units in Circulation amount to 236.0 billion units from 13.7 million accounts. For more information, please visit www.asnb.com.my.

Issued by Permodalan Nasional Berhad

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO UNIT HOLDERS

- Effective 31 March 2018, income distribution statements, annual reports and interim reports of variable price funds are disseminated via electronic means.
- Income distribution statements are sent to unit holders' registered email address, while reports are accessible at the ASNB website: www.asnb.com.my.
- Unit holders and registered guardians are encouraged to update their details at all ASNB Branches or Agents nationwide. Those who still prefer to receive a physical copy may write to ASNB by filling in the relevant form downloadable at the ASNB website.
- For further information, unit holders may refer to www.asnb.com.my or call the ASNB Hotline at 03-2057 3000.