

**Press
Release**

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AmInvestment Bank Group launches new niche fund in Emerging Markets Bond
AmInvestment Bank Group's Funds Management Division today launched AmEmerging Markets Bond, which offers access to investments in emerging markets and in particular, the public sector, sovereign and corporate bond issued in their local currencies.

AmEmerging Markets Bond is a global fixed income fund. The fund invests a minimum of 95% of its Net Asset Value (NAV) into Investec Global Strategic Fund Limited (IGSF) Emerging Markets Debt Fund while maintaining up to a maximum of 5% in liquid assets. It aims to achieve long-term total returns by investing in the target fund which invests primarily in public sector, sovereign and corporate bonds using an active strategy of picking the best countries and shorting the worst.

"A country's economy strengthens when it has a well developed local bond market. A local bond market can only operate well if the country has a well-established financial market. Recent years have seen local bond trading levels overtaking the United States dollar bond and we expect this trend to continue as the local markets continue to grow. With the launch of AmEmerging Markets Bond, investors will have access to investing in bonds denominated in local currencies," said Mr T C Kok, Managing Director, AmInvestment Bank Berhad.

"Local bond markets appear to offer attractive yields and great potential additional returns. These can be achieved through further yield compression and also through currency appreciation. As emerging markets travel the path from emergence to development, their currencies are likely to strengthen. Its unique selling points include alternative access to a portfolio of emerging market bonds and opportunity in currency appreciation," he added.

The target fund is managed by Investec Asset Management. Investec has long history in local emerging markets with more than 10 years experience of investing in global emerging market debts and currencies. With five emerging markets debt specialists supported by 32 highly motivated global bond and currency team members, Investec has more than USD66 billion of assets under their management.

The Fund is suitable for investors seeking capital appreciation on their investments and who wants to participate in emerging markets bond instruments. It is also for investors who seek long-term investment horizon.

AmEmerging Markets Bond has an authorised fund size of 300 million units. The Fund is offered to the public at the price of RM1.00 per unit, during the initial offer period of 21 days, from 7 July to 27 July 2008. The minimum investment amount is RM1,000 while the minimum additional investment is RM500.

This Fund is sold across different distribution channels. They are AmBank Branches, AmBank Financial Services, AmPrivate Banking and our authorised Institutional Unit Trust Advisers (IUTAs) which include CIMB Private Banking, United Overseas Bank, Standard Chartered Bank, HSBC Bank Malaysia Berhad and EON Bank.

About AmMutual

To date, there are 37 unit trust funds marketed under the brand name of AmMutual, and two exchange-traded funds under AmInvestment Bank Group. These funds include Malaysia's series of firsts in the unit trust industry, such as the first cash management trust, the first bond and equity exchange-traded fund, the first global Islamic equity fund, the first agribusiness fund as well as the first precious metals fund.

The total assets under the management of AmMutual funds, together with two exchange-traded funds and discretionary mandates, were RM18.8 billion as at 30 June 2008.

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