

PressRelease

11 November 2009

AmInvestment Bank Group launches Malaysia's first open-ended BRIC fund, AmBRIC Equity
AmInvestment Bank Group's Funds Management Division today successfully launched AmMutual's latest fund, AmBRIC Equity, Malaysia's first open-ended BRIC fund¹.

AmBRIC Equity is specifically created to tap the attractive long-term growth potential in the equity markets of four fast-growing emerging economies, Brazil, Russia, India and China (BRIC).

AmBRIC Equity, which feeds into the Target Fund, Allianz RCM BRIC Equity, invests in global emerging equity markets, focusing on BRIC. The Target Fund has a flexible investment approach as it can also invest in companies that derive a significant part of their growth in non-BRIC countries that benefit from BRIC's growth.

"At Funds Management Division, AmInvestment Bank Group, we continuously strive to provide innovative investment solutions by selecting best-of-breed funds to meet your investment needs. Our partner, Allianz Global Investors has won accolades such as Best Emerging Markets Group award², and also for its investment process from Standard & Poor's³. In addition, the award-winning asset manager is the world's largest active asset manager in terms of asset under management⁴," said Datin Maznah Mahbob, Chief Executive Officer, Funds Management Division, AmInvestment Bank Group.

"From January 2002 to 30 October 2009 BRIC has greatly outperformed world and emerging markets at 143%, while the world market's growth was -21%⁵. While the valuations in these markets are no longer cheap, earnings growth will continue to grow mainly driven by their demography, capital investment potential and vast natural resources. BRIC economies are considered the world's new growth engine since they have the highest economic growth rates compared to other advanced economies⁶. In addition, rising wealth perpetuated by population growth is creating new domestic demand to drive these economic growths", said Andrew Wong, Chief Investment Officer, Equities of Funds Management Division, AmInvestment Bank Group.

"BRIC is also projected to have larger infrastructure spending to develop the economy compared to other emerging markets⁷. As these economies develop, massive sums are being invested to improve infrastructure such as power, telecommunications and transport systems, especially in India and China, providing further opportunities for domestic companies," added.

"China, which is leading BRIC's growth, is expected to grow 8.5% in 2010 compared to the advanced economies' growth of just 0.6%⁸. There is increasing synergy among BRIC countries with China and India acting as growth engines that drive demand for commodities and energy supplied by Brazil and Russia⁹," said.

The minimum investment amount of AmBRIC Equity is RM1,000 with an approved fund size of 300 million units. The Fund is offered to the public at the price of RM1.00 per unit, during the offer period of 21 days, from 9 to 29 November 2009.

AmBRIC Equity is suitable for investors seeking capital growth on their investments

with a long-term investment horizon. It is also for those seeking participation in the upside potential of Brazil, Russia, India and China.

This Fund is available across different distribution channels. Besides AmBank branches and AmBank Wealth Advisory, our authorised Institutional Unit Trust Advisers (IUTAs) comprises CIMB Bank, Hong Leong Bank, RBS, Standard Chartered Bank and United Overseas Bank.

About AmMutual

To date, there are 47 unit trust funds marketed under the brand name of AmMutual (for conventional fund) and AmIslamic Funds Management (for shariah-compliant fund). These funds include Malaysia's series of firsts¹⁰ 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 and AmIslamic Funds Management funds, together with two exchange-traded funds and discretionary mandates, were RM18.1 billion as at 31 October 2009.

1. Source: Lipper Hindsight 5, 29 October 2009
2. Source: Professional Adviser Awards 2008
3. Source: Standard & Poor's as at July 2009
4. Source: Allianz Global Investors and company reports, as at end-2008
5. Source: Bloomberg, performance for MSCI BRIC and MSCI World as at 30 October 2009 in EUR
6. Source: International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook Update, July 2009
7. Source: Morgan Stanley Research, April 2008
8. Source: International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook Update, July 2009
9. Source: Allianz Global Investors, data extracted 1 September 2009
10. Source: Lipper Hindsight 5, 30 September 2009

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