

## PressRelease

8 April 2011

AmIslamic Funds Management wins Best Asia-Pacific Equity Fund Award

Am-Namaa' Asia-Pacific Equity Growth (Am-Namaa') has been awarded as the top Asia-Pacific Equity Fund (1 year) at the Sixth Annual Fialaka Islamic Fund Awards. This global Islamic fund awards event recognises the best performing funds and fund managers worldwide. Am-Namaa' is managed by the award-winning AmIslamic Funds Management (AIFM).

The Fund's objective is to grow the value of investments in the long term by investing in Shariah-compliant equities across the Asia-Pacific region (ex-Japan). This Fund was launched in partnership with the largest Islamic bank in the world by market capitalisation, Al Rajhi Bank, to work on an Asia-Pacific (ex-Japan) equity investment mandate whereby the Fund is customised and tailored to the bank's Shariah-compliant framework. Am-Namaa', a USD denominated master fund has a feeder fund, Namaa' Asia-Pacific Equity Growth, which is denominated in Ringgit Malaysia for Malaysian investors. This master feeder-fund structure is the country's first of its kind.

Datin Maznah Mahbob, Director of AIFM said, "It is a huge honour for Am-Namaa' to be distinguished as the best Islamic Asia-Pacific equity fund in the world. This is indeed a testament of AIFM's ability to compete against other Islamic fund managers across the world. In spite of the volatility in the market, which coincided with the Fund's launch in August 2008, our fund manager has managed to deliver outstanding returns of 62% since inception<sup>1</sup>. The Fund's returns have more than doubled the benchmark at 30% and more than tripled its peers in the world (average 20%) since inception<sup>1</sup>. Its one-year performance until 31 December 2010 was 21%<sup>1</sup>".

This fund recognition comes after AIFM (the fund house) was named Asia Pacific's Islamic Asset Management House of the Year by The Asset and Islamic Fund House of the Year by Asia Asset Management<sup>2</sup>. Factors contributing to receiving these awards include innovation through pioneering Islamic investment solutions with numerous "first" of its kind funds in the marketplace, across a broad menu of asset classes.

"These prestigious accolades have elevated AIFM's global presence in line with our aim to be the preferred investment solutions providers to institutional and retail clients as well as fund distribution platforms from all corners of the world. Being home-grown in Malaysia, our objectives are aligned with MIFC's vision, which is to promote Malaysia as an international Islamic financial hub. Our Shariah investment solutions have facilitated mobilisation of funds from Europe, Middle East and South East Asia", said Datin Maznah Mahbob.

AIFM is part of the Funds Management Division (FMD) of AmInvestment Bank Group and is one of the largest fund houses in Malaysia with three decades of track record. FMD is acknowledged and recognised by the market for its capabilities and was named Asset Management Company of the Year by The Asset<sup>3</sup> (covering both Islamic and conventional investments). It recognises the best asset management company in Malaysia that has built a comprehensive platform for investing in different asset classes and servicing the investing needs of institutional, corporate and retail clients. It has consistently achieved above-benchmark performance and sets the tone for innovation and industry practice.

<sup>1</sup>Source: Lipper Investment Management from 31 December 2010, since 1 year and since inception 11 August 2008, in local currency.

<sup>2</sup>Source: The Asset Triple A Asian Awards for 2010, 6 July 2010 and Asia Asset Management Best of the Best Awards for 2010, 20 January 2011

<sup>3</sup>Source: The Asset Triple A Asian Awards for 2010, 13 October 2010

### **About Funds Management Division, AmInvestment Bank Group**

Funds Management Division (FMD) of AmInvestment Bank Group is one of the leading fund management houses in terms of assets under management. As at 31 March 2011, FMD manages assets totalling RM24.4 billion, a record for FMD with three decades of proven track

record.

To date, we have 61 unit trust funds marketed under the brand name of AmMutual (for conventional funds) and AmIslamic (for Shariah-compliant funds), and two exchange-traded funds under AmInvestment Bank Group. We are also the proud innovator of Malaysia's series of firsts in the unit trust industry, such as the first cash management trust, the first bond and equity exchange-traded funds, the first global Islamic equity fund, the first agribusiness fund as well as the first precious metals fund.

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