



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**9 September 2014**

## **MALAYSIA COMMITTED TO DEVELOPING PRIVATE EQUITY AS A CATALYST FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH**

**KUALA LUMPUR, 9 September 2014:** The inaugural Malaysian Private Equity Forum 2014, hosted by the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) and Ekuiti Nasional Berhad (Ekuinas), opens today with the reaffirmation of the Malaysian Government's support in positioning Malaysia as a premier destination for private equity (PE) investments and developing the sector to catalyse economic growth.

In his address when officiating the opening of the Forum's, Senator Dato' Sri Abdul Wahid Omar, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department said that the Forum was timely and aligned with the country's direction of growing and developing the PE industry.

He said, "The Malaysian government has always been a strong supporter of the development of private equity industry given their benefits of encouraging private investments growth as well as promoting transformative value creation and productivity improvements in companies. The Malaysian PE sector is entering an exciting phase and at the cusp of an inflection growth point, and the Malaysian government is committed to continue developing this fast growing industry."

With the theme 'Private Equity as a Growth Catalyst in Malaysia', the Forum gathers industry players and professionals to exchange insights on the benefits and opportunities that private equity creates and to showcase it as an attractive asset investment class for Malaysian investors.



It also aims to raise awareness among the local investment community on the potential transformational value of private equity investment in their portfolio companies that can help generate superior returns in the hopes of further developing the private equity ecosystem in Malaysia.

Chairman of Ekuinas, Raja Tan Sri Dato' Seri Arshad Raja Tun Uda in his Welcome Address said, "There has been an increasing awareness and interest amongst investment decision makers and regulatory authorities in this part of the world on the growing importance of PE as an asset class. Malaysia has also slowly gained traction as being one of the premier destinations for private equity investments. Given this context, it is an opportune time to organise this Malaysia-focused Forum towards shaping and elevating the Malaysian PE sector."

The two-day Forum includes panel sessions involving key industry professionals including Howard Marks, the Chairman of Oaktree Capital Management, a leading global alternative investment management firm formed with USD91.1 billion in assets under management as of June 30, 2014; and D. Brooks Zug, Founder and Senior Managing Director of HarbourVest, a leading global private equity specialist in fund of funds, secondary investing, and direct co-investments with funds under management of more than USD35 billion.

Other notable names speaking at the Forum include Nicholas Bloy, Co-Founder and Managing Partner, Navis Capital Partners; Sigit Prasetya, Managing Partner, CVC Capital Partners; Brahmil Vasudevan, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Creador; Eugene Lai, Managing Director and Co-Managing Partner, Southern Capital Group; and Sanjay Gujral, Regional Managing Director, L Capital Asia (LVMH).

The Malaysian Private Equity Forum 2014 is supported by leading companies such as BNP Paribas and Maybank Investment Bank as Event Partners, as well as The Boston Consulting



Group (BCG), KPMG, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) and Wong & Partners as Knowledge Sponsors.

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#### **About Employees Provident Fund (EPF)**

The Employees Provident Fund (EPF) is Malaysia's premier retirement savings fund, providing basic financial security for retirement. The Fund is committed to preserving and growing the savings of its members in accordance with best practices in investment and corporate governance. It will always be guided by prudence in its investment decisions.

As a customer-focused organisation, the EPF delivers efficient and reliable services for the convenience of its members and registered employers.

The EPF continues to play a catalytic role in the nation's economic growth, consistent with its position as a leading savings institution in Malaysia.

#### **About Ekuinas**

Ekuinas (Ekuiti Nasional Berhad) is a government-linked private equity fund management company established on 1 September 2009. With the government endowment of RM5 billion under the 9th Malaysia Plan and 10th Malaysia Plan, Ekuinas aims to create Malaysia's next generation of leading companies whilst promoting equitable, effective and sustainable Bumiputera economic participation. To date, Ekuinas has undertaken investments in high potential Malaysian companies involved in the business of fast moving consumer goods, oil and gas, logistics, education and retail.

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