

MEDIA RELEASE

BURSA MALAYSIA AND CGS-CIMB'S 2ND SHARIAH INVESTING VIRTUAL CONFERENCE SOLIDIFIES COMMITMENT TO ENHANCE SUSTAINABILITY PRACTICES INTO ISLAMIC FINANCE

Kuala Lumpur, 29 July 2021 - Bursa Malaysia Berhad ("Bursa Malaysia") and CGS-CIMB Securities Sdn Bhd ("CGS-CIMB") today successfully organised the Shariah Investing Virtual Conference 2021 ("SIVC 2021"). The event marks the second instalment of Bursa Malaysia and CGS-CIMB's co-organised virtual conference since it was first introduced in June last year.

The CPE accredited conference attracted over 2,500 participants of various groups comprising local and foreign retail and institutional investors, as well as financial industry partners.

Themed "Sustainability: Creating New Opportunities in Islamic Finance", the SIVC 2021 aimed to provide a platform for industry leaders and subject matter experts to share their thoughts, ideas and views relating to sustainability and Islamic finance. Through a series of panel sessions and fireside conversations, participants were able to gain greater appreciation and deeper understanding on the integration of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG), and Shariah investing, which can result to business stability and resilience, and growth of the overall Islamic finance industry.

Commented Datuk Muhamad Umar Swift, Chief Executive Officer of Bursa Malaysia, "The growth in value-based investing presents a unique opportunity for Islamic finance due to the many shared underlying principles by both ESG and Shariah investing. The convergence of these two approaches has the potential to boost the expansion of sustainable and ESG investments across multiple Islamic finance asset classes, as well as the financial industry at large."

Ruzi Rani Ajith, Chief Executive Officer of CGS-CIMB said, "Islamic finance is a unique form of investment whose principles align well with the values of socially responsible investing. Much like ESG investing, Shariah investing has a genuine socio-economic component that makes it appealing to investors of all faiths. Given the similarities, it is imperative that we

explore their linkages and the opportunities they can bring to the industry in the post-pandemic times.”

Among the industry experts that spoke at SIVC 2021 included:

- i. **Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar** (Chairman, Bursa Malaysia) and **Mohamed Rafe Mohamed Haneef** (Chief Executive Officer, Group Transaction Banking/ Group Chief Sustainability Officer, CIMB Bank Berhad) provided insights on the current COVID-19 pandemic and climate change, and its effects towards the financial industry. They also discussed how the situation had accelerated the call-to-action for sustainability by businesses to ensure resilience, and growth of the Islamic finance industry.
- ii. **Bertram Lai** (Group Head, Research & Group Head, Environmental, Social and Governance, CGS-CIMB Securities); **Taufiq Iskandar** (Chief Investment Officer, Penjana Kapital Sdn Bhd); and **Datin Azleen Osman Rani** (Director, Institute for Capital Market Research Malaysia) shared industry’s commitment in addressing Social and Environmental Issues and discussed how sustainability in the Islamic finance context could be factored into decision-making process to assess its success in terms of social, environmental, and economic implications during times of crisis.
- iii. **Durraini Baharuddin** (Managing Director, Value Partners Asset Management Malaysia); **Ifran Tarmizi** (Chief Executive Officer, GlobalSadaqah); and **Indrawathi Selvarajah** (Co-Founder of PayHalal and Executive Director/ General Counsel of Souqa Fintech Sdn Bhd) explored the potential of product and service innovation, as well as digitalisation and fintech, as the Islamic finance industry’s saviour.
- iv. **Ivy Ng** (Head of Malaysia Research, CGS-CIMB Securities) presented the Shariah Research Report 2H2021. The report is part of the Shariah Research Report Scheme, which is a collaborative effort between Bursa Malaysia and CGS-CIMB Securities.

CGS-CIMB also launched their much-anticipated Shariah-compliant products, namely the iCash Trading Account (iCash) and the Islamic Share Margin Financing facility (SMF-i).

These two new products will support trade growth on the end-to-end Shariah-compliant securities trading platform, Bursa Malaysia-i.

More info on these products is available at <https://www.cgs-cimb.com.my/>.

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About Bursa Malaysia

Bursa Malaysia is an exchange holding company incorporated in 1976 and listed in 2005 and has grown to be one of the largest bourses in ASEAN today. Bursa Malaysia operates and regulates a fully-integrated exchange offering a comprehensive range of exchange-related facilities, and is committed to *Creating Opportunities, Growing Value*. Learn more at www.bursamalaysia.com.

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