

**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

KENANGA INVESTORS BERHAD TO ACQUIRE LIBRA INVEST

Boosts product line-up, Diversifies Asset Base, Enhances Investment Capabilities and Augments Scale

Kuala Lumpur, 28 March 2019: Kenanga Investment Bank Berhad (“Kenanga Investment Bank”) today announced that its asset management subsidiary, Kenanga Investors Berhad (“KIB”) has entered into a conditional Share Purchase Agreement with ECM Libra Financial Group Berhad to acquire the entire issued share capital, comprising 6,500,000 ordinary shares, of its fund management arm, Libra Invest Berhad (“Libra Invest”).

Under terms of the purchase agreement, KIB will acquire Libra Invest for a provisional purchase consideration of RM50.1 million. The final purchase consideration will be based on the net asset value of Libra Invest on the last day of the month preceding completion date and a premium of RM35.0 million.

“We are excited about the prospects of this transaction which affirms our ambition and commitment for growth, and intention to broaden our footprint in the area of asset and wealth management,” says Datuk Chay Wai Leong, Group Managing Director of Kenanga Investment Bank Berhad.

“This highly complementary strategic acquisition is expected to propel KIB’s Asset under Management (“AUM”) over the RM10.0 billion mark, enhancing its position as one of Malaysia’s leading unit trust and asset management companies. We are looking forward to a seamless merger process, and subject to regulatory approvals, we aim to conclude this exercise by the third quarter of 2019,” he added.

Established in 1995, Libra Invest is an award-winning Asset Management Company with a stronghold in the fixed income space. Its experience in this area will complement KIB’s successful and well-recognised equity product line up, representing a substantial expansion of its investment offerings and expertise.

“Libra Invest is renowned for its exceptional fixed income track record. Both our organisations share the same commitment towards investment excellence and client service, which will serve as a strong foundation for a smooth integration. With the combined high performing investment

Kenanga Investors

teams and leading edge products, clients and our business partners will have access to a broader selection of solutions, while enjoying enhanced overall customer experience,” said Mr Ismitz Matthew De Alwis, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, Kenanga Investors Berhad.

Both KIB and Libra Invest are regular and repeat recipients of distinguished industry accolades, such as the Lipper, Fundsupermart and Morningstar awards, which recognise the outstanding achievements of their equity and fixed income funds respectively. “The synergies from the combined entity will be a driving force to accelerate growth and strengthen our business over the long term,” he added.

The asset management subsidiary of the Kenanga Group, KIB provides investment solutions ranging from collective investment schemes, portfolio management services, ETFs, financial planning and alternative investments for retail, high net worth clients, corporate and institutional clients.

For more information on Kenanga Group, please visit www.kenanga.com.my.

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About Kenanga Investment Bank Berhad (15678-H)

Established for more than 40 years, Kenanga Investment Bank Berhad (the Group) is a financial group in Malaysia with extensive experience in equity broking, investment banking, treasury, Islamic banking, listed derivatives, investment management, wealth management, structured lending and trade financing. Today, it is an award-winning leading independent investment bank in the country with a continuous commitment towards driving collaboration, innovation and digitalisation in the marketplace.

Kenanga Investment Bank Berhad is the largest independent investment bank* in Malaysia by equity trading volume and value, as well as, one of the top brokerage houses with the largest network of remisiers. Its fast growing client base enjoys convenience through more than 30 locations throughout Malaysia.

The Group has garnered a host of awards and accolades reflecting its strong market position. It was awarded Most Innovative Participating Organisation and Best Retail Equities Participating Organisation (1st Runner Up) by Bursa Malaysia. Rakuten Trade Sdn Bhd, the Group’s joint venture with Japan’s Rakuten Securities, Inc. was named FinTech Company of the Year.

The Group received Best Dividend Yield at Focus Malaysia’s Best Under Billion Awards 2018, and it clinched ‘Deal of the Year 2018’ from Islamic Finance News for its innovative Sukuk programme. The Group’s asset management subsidiary, Kenanga Investors Group is a regular and repeat recipient of distinguished industry accolades, such as the Lipper, Fundsupermart and Morningstar awards.

The Group’s listed derivatives subsidiary, Kenanga Futures Sdn Bhd (KF) was awarded Best Trading Participant for Equity and Financial Derivatives by Bursa Malaysia, maintaining its market leadership for the 15th consecutive year. KF was also accorded the titles 1st Runner-Up for Best Overall Derivatives Trading Participant and 2nd Runner-Up for Best Institutional Derivatives Trading Participant.

Kenanga Investors

For its continued efforts towards community outreach and employee volunteerism, the Group was awarded the coveted CSR Award (Investment Bank) at the CSR Malaysia Awards 2018, an award endorsed by the Ministry of Women Affairs and Family Planning.

About Kenanga Investors Berhad (353563-P)

Kenanga Investors Berhad ("KIB") is a wholly owned subsidiary of Kenanga Investment Bank Berhad, the largest independent investment bank by equity trading value and volume. KIB is licensed to perform regulated activities of fund management dealing in securities (restricted to unit trust), investment advice, financial planning, and dealing in Private Retirement Scheme ("PRS") under the Capital Markets and Services Act ("CMSA") 2007.

KIB provides investment solutions ranging from collective investment schemes, portfolio management services as well as segregated private mandates and alternative investments for retail, corporate and institutional clients. KIB prides itself on its reputation for its consistently top performing funds.

The Hong Kong-based Asia Asset Management's 2018 Best of the Best Awards awarded KIB under the Malaysia Best Pension Fund Manager. Meanwhile, its Chief Investment Officer Lee Sook Yee was named the 2018 Malaysia CIO of the Year (third consecutive year) and its Chief Executive Officer. Ismitz Matthew De Alwis was named the 2018 Malaysia CEO of the Year for the 2nd year running. At the KWAP External Fund Manager Awards, KIB was awarded the Best Domestic Conventional Equity 2017 in its capacity as fund manager.

FundsUPERMART.com Recommended Unit Trusts Awards 2018/2019 recognised Kenanga Growth Fund under the Core Equity – Malaysia category for the 9th consecutive year while Kenanga Balanced Fund had its inaugural win under the Balanced – Malaysia category.

For the second consecutive year, KIB was affirmed an investment manager rating of IMR-2 by Malaysian Rating Corporation Berhad. The IMR rating on KIB reflects the fund management company's well-established investment processes, sound risk management practices and strong operating track record. KIB was awarded the Transparency Award 2017 at MARC's 2017 Lead Managers League Table Awards, a first for the fund management industry.

year to date based on Bursa Malaysia's Participating Organisations (POs) Trading Summary.

This Press Release was issued by Kenanga Group's Marketing & Communications department. For more information, please contact:

Chuah Sze Ping
DID: +603 – 2172 2918
Email: szepingchuah@kenanga.com.my

Muhammad Khumeini bin Hairudin
DID: +603 – 2172 2917
Email: khumeini@kenanga.com.my