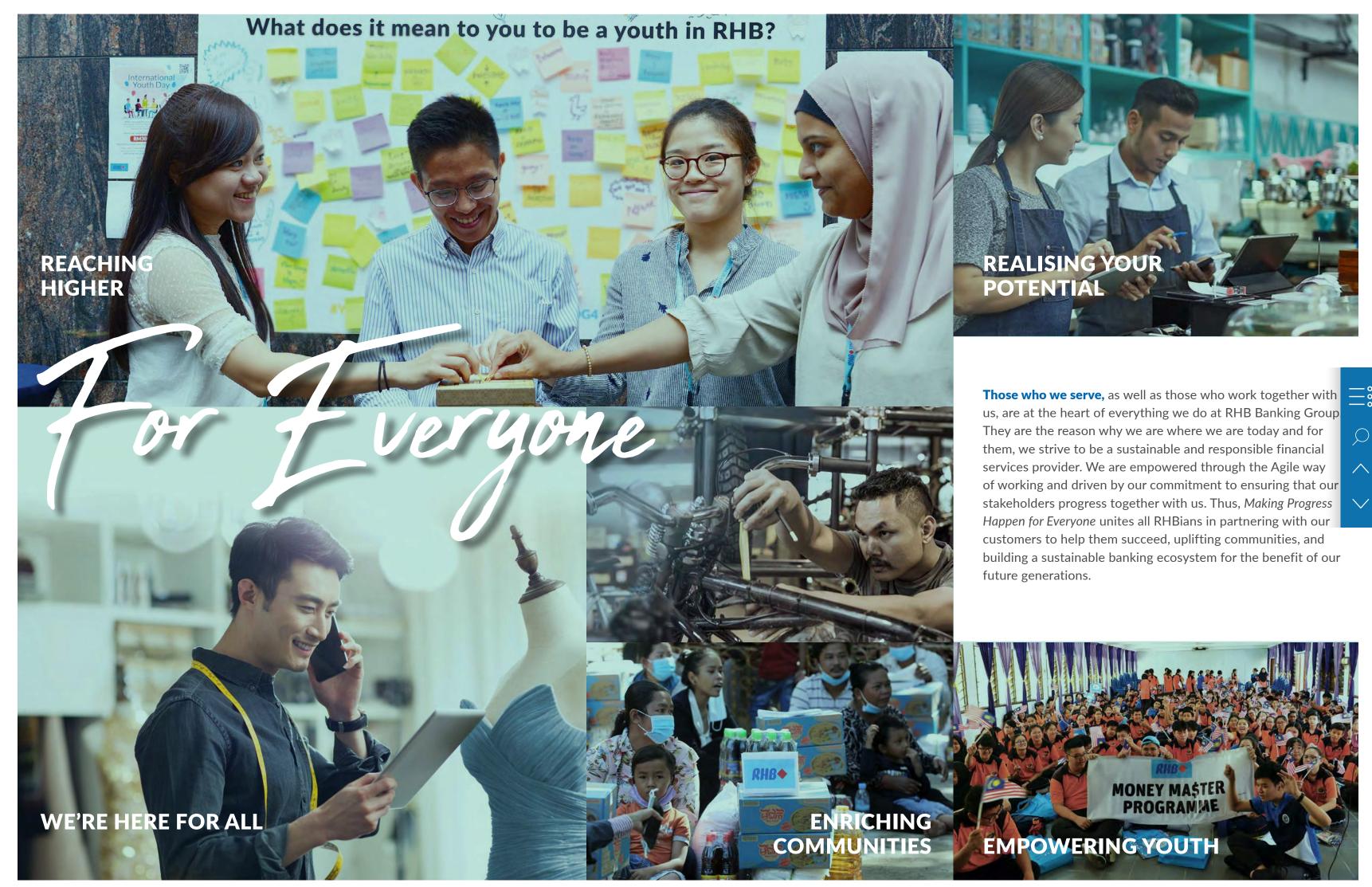


RHB BANK BERHAD

WWW.RHBGROUP.COM





# WHAT'S INSIDE THIS REPORT

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	i tetu a soa		UITE OF REPORTS						
		Our pi our va	rated Report rimary Report used to co lue creation strategies, p utlook to our stakeholde	performance	<b>Financial Report</b> Details the Group's fin and analysis of the fina supported by an indep		Sustainability Repor Communicates the Gr efforts in creating sus	oup's approach to su	ıstainability and
NAVIGATION ICONS Links to our strategy pillars as	Our Capitals: Financial Capital	Intellectual Capital	Social and Relationship Capital	Human Capital	Manufactured Capital	Natural Capital	Our Strategy:	Invest To Win	Transform to Organisation

ntegy pillars as well as our capitals RHB Bank Berhad

#### Natural Capital (M) Canita





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ANNUAL 56 **GENERAL MEETING** 



Wednesday, 27 April 2022

(1)

10.00 a.m.

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CG Report

Disclosures of RHB Bank Berhad's Corporate Governance standards, practices and activities undertaken during the financial year, in line with the MCCG.

**Our Reports** Integrated Financia Report

SR Sustaina Report

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www.rhbgroup.com

## **ABOUT THIS REPORT**

## **REPORTING FRAMEWORK**

This is RHB Banking Group's third annual Integrated Report ("IR"), covering the period between 1 January 2021 and 31 December 2021 ("FY2021"). Guided by both local and international frameworks, guidelines and best practices, this IR strives to present balanced and comprehensive information about our financial performance and the progress of our strategic initiatives. We also describe our non-financial performance in the context of Environmental, Social and Governance ("ESG"), which is embedded throughout the Report. Our detailed ESG performance is elaborated within our stand-alone Sustainability Report. The IR also provides an outlook and discussions about our future orientation over the short, medium and long term to enable our stakeholders to make better informed investment decisions.

#### **SCOPE AND BOUNDARIES**

RHB Bank Berhad is a public company listed on the Main Market of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad. This Report covers RHB Bank Berhad and its subsidiary companies across the Association of Southeast Asian Nations ("ASEAN"). References to 'RHB Banking Group', 'the Organisation', 'the Group', 'RHB' and 'we' refer to RHB Bank Berhad and/or its subsidiaries.

The scope of this Report covers our strategies, business activities and performance, as well as initiatives that impact our employees and the communities where we are present. We are constantly striving to improve our data collection to ensure better coverage and disclosures in the future and thus location-specific data is stated where applicable, while some information may only be limited to geographical sectors.

#### **FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This Report contains certain forwardlooking statements with respect to the business, operational, financial and non-financial performance of the Group based on the beliefs of the Group as well as assumptions made by Management and information available at that point in time. These statements can also be used to describe the Group's future objectives, strategies, plans and initiatives in the context of our business and sustainability efforts.

Forward-looking statements are typically identified by words or phrases such as 'expects', 'targets', 'intends', 'anticipates', 'believes', 'estimates', 'may', 'plans', 'projects', 'should', 'would' and 'will'. Such statements should not be construed as a guarantee of future operating or financial results, considering the potential risks and uncertainties that can arise from unforeseen events beyond the Group's control. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements.

Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forwardlooking statements include global, national and regional economic conditions; interest rates; exchange rates; and credit or matters that have not been reviewed or reported on by the Group's auditors. Future results may also differ from what has been planned due to changes in direction by the Management or the Board of Directors.

#### **GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS**

Throughout the preparation of this Report, we have been guided by best practices as prescribed by international integrated reporting frameworks. Locally, we have adhered to:

- Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance ("MCCG")
- Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad's ("Bursa Malaysia") Main Market Listing Requirements ("MMLR")
- Bursa Malaysia's Sustainability Reporting Guide (4<sup>th</sup> edition)
- Bursa Malaysia's Corporate Governance Guide (4<sup>th</sup> edition)
- Companies Act 2016
- Bank Negara Malaysia's ("BNM") Policy Documents and Guidelines
- Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards
- International Financial Reporting Standards and other regulatory requirements as applicable

#### In the area of sustainability, we have developed our Sustainability Report in line with key sustainability guidelines and standards such as:

- Global Reporting Initiative ("GRI") Standards: Core Option
- Bursa Malaysia's Sustainability Reporting Guide (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)
- United Nations Sustainable
   Development Goals
- Recommendations by the Task
   Force on Climate-related Financial
   Disclosures ("TCFD")
- Greenhouse Gas ("GHG") Protocol: Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard

All information presented is as at 31 December 2021, unless otherwise stated.



RHB Bank Berhad

## WHO WE ARE

RHB



TOTAL ASSETS

RHB BANKING GROUP, a multinational regional financial services provider, strives to provide complete financial solutions to its customers. With a comprehensive range of services to suit its customers' evolving requirements, RHB offers a fast and seamless customer experience, supported by its dedicated team of employees.

As a leading bank in Malaysia, RHB has firmly established its presence and brand through its wide range of products and unique value propositions. With the support of over 14,000 employees Group-wide, RHB's reach also extends to eight other countries in the ASEAN region.

#### **CORPORATE INFORMATION**

COMPANY SECRETARIES Azman Shah Md Yaman (LS 0006901)

Hasnita Sulaiman (MAICSA No. 7060582

#### **REGISTERED OFFICE**

Level 10, Tower One RHB Centre, Jalan Tun Razak 50400 Kuala Lumpur Tel : +603 9287 8888 Fax : +603 9281 9314 Corporate Website : www.rhbgroup.com

#### COMPANY REGISTRATION NO.

.96501000373 (6171-M)

#### SHARE REGISTRAR

Boardroom Share Registrars Sdn Bhd 11th Floor, Menara Symphony No. 5, Jalan Professor Khoo Kay Kim Seksyen 13, 46200 Petaling Jaya, Selangor

For shareholders' enquiries Helpdesk No. : +603 7890 4700 Fax : +603 7890 4670 Email : BSR.Helpdesk@boardroomlimited.com

#### AUDITORS

PricewaterhouseCoopers PLT Chartered Accountants Level 10, 1 Sentral Jalan Rakyat, Kuala Lumpur Sentral P.O.Box 10192 50706 Kuala Lumpur Tel : +603 2173 1188 Fax : +603 2173 1288

#### WE ARE RHB BANK

LEADERSHIP STATEMENTS

OUR GOVERNANCE

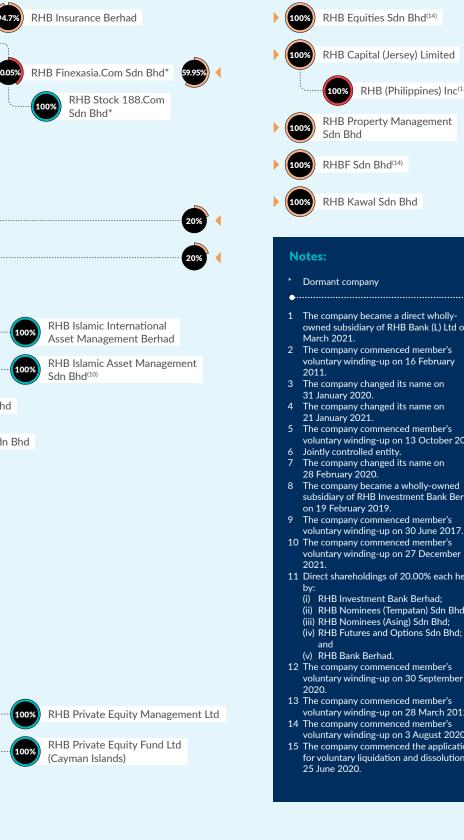
## **GROUP CORPORATE STRUCTURE**

as at 15 February 2022

RHB

## **RHB Bank Berhad**





GROUP CORPORATE STRUCTURE as at 15 February 2022

WE ARE RHB BANK	LEADERSHIP OUR STRATE STATEMENTS REVIEW	GIC OUR PERFORMANCE REVIEW	OUR GOVERNANCE	STAKEHOLDERS' INFORMATION	
OUR VALUE	CREATION IN PR	ACTICE			
	Total income	Net profit	Cost-to-income ratio	Dividend payout	Dividend pay
	RM7,789	RM2,618	45.2%	RM1.6	62.9%
FINANCIAL PERFORMAN	(2020: RM7,186 million)	(2020: 2,033 million)	(2020: 47.1%)	(2020: RM0.7 billion)	(2020: 34.8%)
	Repayment Assistance	7 100		Investment in digital Allocated	Disability Related Se
	<b>312,992</b> retail customers in 2021	<b>7,133</b> SME custom in 2021	ers	RM200	283 frontliners from 189 completed the Disabi
FOR OUR CUSTOMERS	RM34.5	approximate RM12.		<b>million</b> to implement and enhance digital capabilities to better serve customers	("DRST") to deliver ex of differently abled cu
FOR OUR SOCIETIES	academic excellence prog	s, community enrichment and emp grammes, and humanitarian aid wh aritable organisations mainly in Ma ei	nich benefited more than	Benefited more than <b>4,000</b> underprivileged students from the B40 segment and 40 schools sinc the launch of <b>RHB X-Cel Academ</b> <b>Excellence</b> in 2018 under our edu initiative	se secondary stu since the laun
FOR OUR EMPLOYEES	Actively engaged with employe <b>90%</b> in <b>Employee Engagement</b> line with the Group's targe 2021	Survey, in et score for in upskillir	.6 ag and capacity building house/virtual classrooms and	Recorded <b>606,623</b> <b>total training hours</b> with an average of 48 <b>training hours</b> per employee per year	Upskilled over <b>6000</b> employees in Digital, IT and Anal proficiency in high-de future-looking skills
	Green financing provided year-	-to-date		Promoted sustainable financing throug	h



RM4.32

billion as part of RHB's RM5 billion commitment to Green Financing by 2025 RM1 billion

**RHB Sustainability Financing Programme** for Green Energy, Green Buildings, Green Process and Green Products

RHB Bank Berhad

08

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RHB

INTEGRATED REPORT 2021

## OUR VALUE CREATION IN PRACTICE

dend payout ratio

**Dividend yield** 



(2020: 3.2%)

Related Service Training ("DRST")

from 189 branches in Malaysia the Disability Related Service Tr deliver excellence and meet the needs y abled customers

**Net Promoter Score (NPS)** 





in 2021 (+22 vs 2020)

eased financial literacy for e than

**5,000** ondary students e the launch of Money ter Programme in 8



worth of laptops and 111 units of SIM cards for more than **3,600 students from 33 schools** nationwide under the CERDIK initiative

and Analytics to build in high-demand and ing skills

Contributed almost



through the RHB Humanitarian Fund and **RHB Natural Disaster Fund** to assist RHBians who were impacted by the pandemic and natural disasters such as floods

Improved reduction in Greenhouse Gas ("GHG") emission intensity per

employee by

in 2021 against baseline year 2016

LEADERSHIP STATEMENTS OUR STRATEGIC

present in.

REVIEW

OUR GOVERNANCE

**STAKEHOLDERS** INFORMATION

## WHAT WE DO

GROUP **COMMUNITY** BANKING

Group Community Banking ("GCB") comprises the Retail Banking and SME Banking segments and was established as a result of the restructuring of the Group's Strategic Business Groups in 2021. We serve over 3.9 million individual customers and more than 200,000 businesses, providing both conventional and Shariah-compliant products and services to consumers and SMEs. Retail Banking provides consumer banking solutions ranging from Wealth Management, Bancassurance, Mortgages, Auto Financing and ASB Financing to Personal Financing, Credit Cards, Payments and Deposits, while SME Banking provides financing solutions to SMEs and family-owned enterprises. We are committed to serving our customers with excellence and to make banking more convenient and seamless by leveraging digitalisation to deliver innovative, market-relevant products.

Group Wholesale Banking ("GWB") comprises the key business segments of Group

Investment Banking, Group Corporate Banking, Commercial Banking, Group Treasury

and Global Markets, Asset Management, Transaction Banking and Economics. GWB

was established following a restructuring of the Group's Strategic Business Groups in 2021. GWB provides comprehensive and coordinated services across a wide spectrum

of products and solutions to cater to the needs and requirements of our customers here

and in the region. We are able to help our customers progress as we tap the collective

expertise and potential for synergies across our business segments, which is also crucial

to opening up new opportunities and strengthening our business in the markets we are

# GROUP **WHOLESALE** BANKING

## GROUP **INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS**

Group International Business ("GIB") comprises our overseas commercial banking and investment banking portfolios. We have a strong presence through an established network of offices and branches across Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Brunei, Laos, and Cambodia. We offer a wide variety of products and services to customers of all segments, ranging from loans, deposits, wealth management solutions and trade financing to stock-broking, derivatives and capital market related services such as initial public offerings, raising of debt capital and mergers & acquisition.

# **GROUP SHARIAH BUSINESS**

RHB Islamic Bank is the Group's Islamic Banking arm, providing Shariah-compliant banking and financial services through Group Community Banking and Group Wholesale Banking pillars. RHB Islamic also provides Shariah advisory for the Investment Banking Group on investment banking and asset management activities. As at December 2021, we are the third-largest Islamic bank in Malaysia by financing assets.

# GROUP **INSURANCE**

RHB Insurance provides general insurance for our retail and corporate customers. We offer a comprehensive range of general insurance and other products for better protection and peace of mind. Customers have easy and convenient access to service and support through our network of 15 nationwide branches, over 700 Pos Malaysia branches and more than 2,230 authorised agent offices.

#### **OUR BUSINESS**

**RHB Banking Group is one of the** largest fully integrated financial services groups in Malaysia. The Group's core businesses are structured into five business pillars, namely Group Community **Banking, Group Wholesale Banking, Group Shariah Business, Group Insurance and Group International Business.** 

Our strong heritage is the foundation of our commitment to continue serving the community. For more than 100 years, we have been helping people and businesses grow and succeed, and will continue to do so with pride. We have established a strong footprint throughout Malaysia, with a presence in eight other countries across the ASEAN region.

Our ambitions and aspirations are aligned with Making Progress Happen for Everyone. Whether you are our customer, business partner or a member of the communities where we operate, you can be assured that the Group's calling is to facilitate the support that you need to progress and to succeed. Our experience gives us an in-depth understanding of your needs, inspiring us to constantly innovate and improve to serve you better.

As we continue to pursue excellence, we welcome everyone to join us on our exciting journey of progress as we move forward in unison to realise our greater potential together. Our brand promise of *Together We Progress* honours our past, celebrates the present and welcomes a more sustainable future.



RHB

# **RHB** WE MAKE PROGRESS HAPPEN FOR **EVERYONE**

## WHERE WE OPERATE

LEADERSHIP STATEMENTS

# We are more than 14,000 strong with 362 branches and offices in the region

In addition to our strong presence in Malaysia, RHB has a regional footprint that extends across eight other countries in ASEAN.

In 2021, we restructured a part of our business to group our business units under two broad but focused segments of Community banking and Wholesale banking to unlock greater synergies. Above all, we are committed to supporting the progress of our customers and stakeholders through innovative, seamless and sustainable banking solutions.



Scan the QR code for the details of our **BRANCH NETWORK** 

or log on to https://www.rhbgroup.com

5	MALAYSIA SERVICES OFFERED	SINGAPORE	INDONESIA	THAILAND		BRUNEI	LAO PDR	CAMBODIA	
 e .t	<ul> <li>Group Community Banking, consisting of Retail Banking and SME</li> <li>Group Wholesale Banking</li> <li>Group Shariah Business</li> <li>Group International Business</li> <li>Insurance Business</li> <li>Capital Markets</li> </ul>	• Retail Banking, Capital Markets and Securities Services	• Capital Markets and Securities Services	• Retail Banking, Capital Markets and Securities Services	<ul> <li>Securities Services</li> <li>Representative Office</li> </ul>	• Retail Banking Services	Retail Banking Services	• Retail Banking, Capital Markets and Securities Services	Representative Office
is	EMPLOYEES 2021								
d	12,555	651	204	195	26	28	69	308	
	2020: 12,530	2020: 660	2020: 333	0000.001					
		2020.000	2020. 333	2020: 201	2020: 24	2020: 29	2020: 69	2020: 275	
	BRANCHES/OFFICES 202		2020. 333	2020: 201	2020: 24	2020: 29	2020: 69	2020: 275	
	BRANCHES/OFFICES 202		15	10	2020: 24	2020: 29 <b>1</b>	2020: 69 <b>3</b>	2020: 275	
		1							
5	309	1 9	15	10	1	1	3	14	
5	<b>309</b> 2020: 311	1 9	15	10	1	1	3	14	

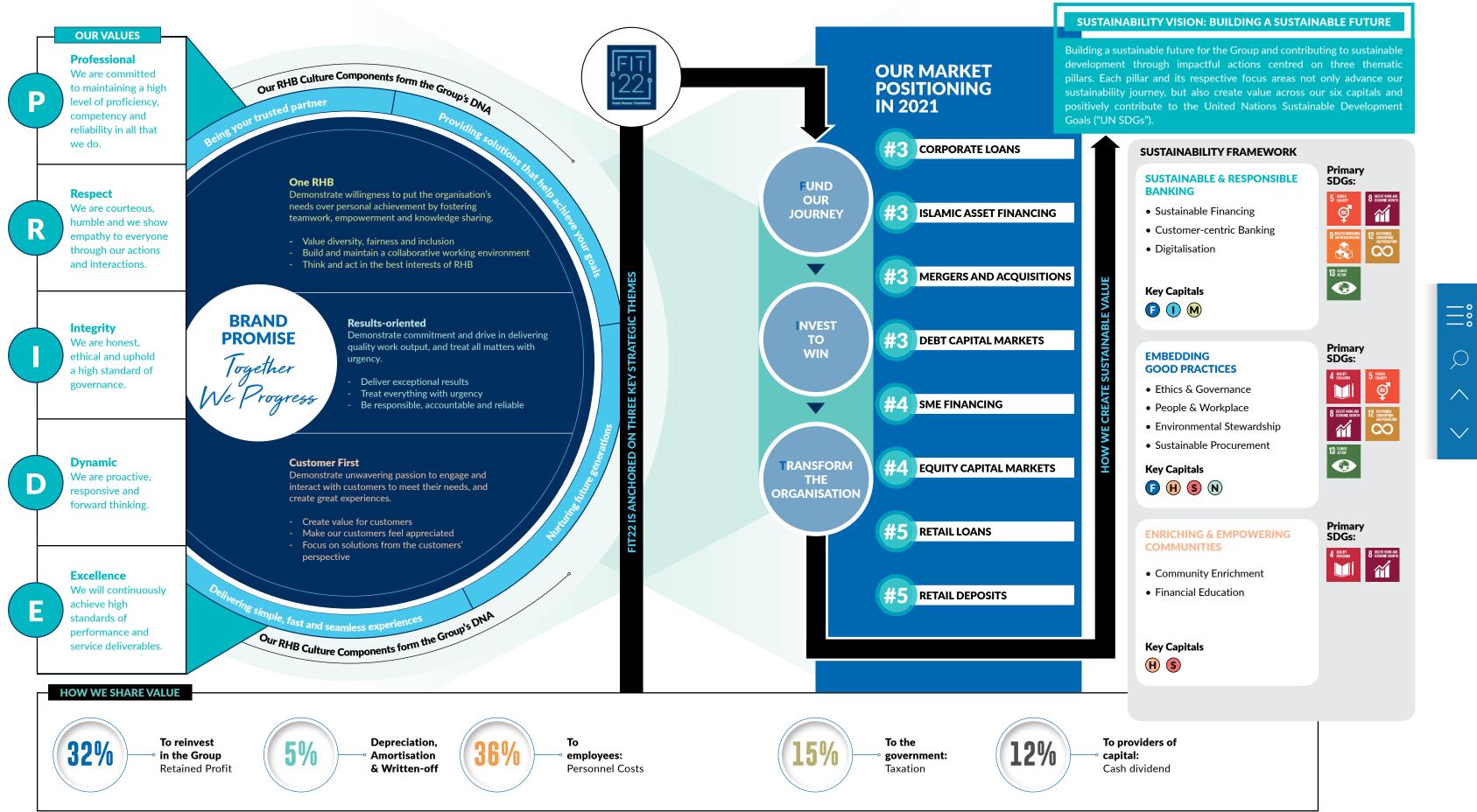
#### WHERE WE OPERATE

RHB

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# **OUR INVESTMENT CASE**



OUR INVESTMENT CASE

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN



**OVERVIEW OF 2021 THE GROUP CONTINUED TO ACHIEVE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN 2021, AS OUR PEOPLE DEMONSTRATED INCREDIBLE RESILIENCE AGAINST THE BACKDROP OF YET ANOTHER CHALLENGING PERIOD AMIDST THE PROLONGED COVID-19 PANDEMIC.** 

Cognisant of our role as a responsible financial institution, we remained steadfast in assisting our customers and the affected communities through these difficult times. Utilising what we had learnt since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are now better prepared and able to better understand the needs of our affected customers. This had enabled us to put in place a more holistic assistance programme that caters to their differing needs.

The Group successfully weathered the challenges of the pandemic to deliver a commendable financial performance for FY2021, recording Net Profit of RM2.62 billion, 28.8% higher than the preceding year. The Group's FIT22 strategy, prioritising customer-centricity, productivity and innovation, has gone a long way towards ensuring our resilience and continues to pave the way towards achieving sustainable progress.

#### **AN UNEVEN RECOVERY YEAR**

The COVID-19 pandemic continued to evolve into an even more prolonged health crisis with the spread of new variants. Despite the global vaccination efforts that were rolled out in earnest, the spread of new variants continued to overwhelm health systems, thereby forcing many parts of the world to reintroduce lockdown measures in an attempt to break the chain of infection.

In Malaysia, the Full Movement Control Order ("FMCO") implemented between June and August 2021 affected GDP growth. While the growth of 3.1% in 2021 was a positive turn from the 5.6% contraction in 2020, it essentially meant that the country's economic output had yet to recover to prepandemic levels.

By the fourth quarter of 2021, however, Malaysia achieved a key milestone in its National COVID-19 Immunisation

Programme ("PICK") with 90% of its adult Repayment Assistance programmes that population being fully vaccinated. This provided opt-in moratoriums on loan/ allowed for some momentum to return to financing facilities, while targeted payment the economy, alongside improved business assistance programmes also continued and consumer sentiment as more sectors throughout the year. In November, the were reopened.

This positive development bodes well for a collaboration with the Credit Counselling stronger recovery in 2022, with Malaysia's and Debt Management Agency ("AKPK"), economic growth forecasted to reach 5.5%. was launched, specifically targeting the B50 However, there remains a small downside segment. risk whereby the discovery of new and unpredictable strains of the COVID-19 virus Additionally, through RHB Insurance, we may again disrupt the pace of economic supported affected customers through the recovery.

continuing to face cash flow difficulties Cov-Aid Premium Relief Scheme provided due to the prolonged pandemic, the premium payment relief of up to 50% for banking industry responded by providing both new and existing SME policyholders. additional assistance to ease the plight of the affected customers. This included

FOR SOR

#### A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

# **DEAR VALUED SHAREHOLDERS,**

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, I AM PLEASED TO PRESENT THE GROUP'S INTEGRATED REPORT 2021, WHICH DETAILS OUR VALUE CREATION JOURNEY OVER THE PAST YEAR.

**Dividend Yield** 7.4% (2020: 3.2%)

**Basic Earnings** per Share 64.7 sen (2020: 50.7 sen)

Financial Management and Resilience Programme ("URUS") programme, via a

Cov-Aid Premium Instalment Scheme, which allowed individuals and SME customers STEPPING UP WHEN IT MATTERED MOST whose income or business was affected by COVID-19 to pay their premiums via With businesses and individuals instalment schemes. Alongside this, the \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

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OUR GOVERNANCE

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN



#### PROGRESSING THE SUSTAINABILITY AGENDA FURTHER

Over the past few years, the Group has worked conscientiously to integrate Environmental, Social and Governance ("ESG") considerations into our business strategies and decision-making process, anchored on our three thematic pillars of Responsible and Sustainable Banking, Embedding Good **Practices and Enriching and Empowering Communities.** 

Our commitment to green financing saw the Group mobilising RM4.32 billion as at December 2021 across all business activities. Realised gains in this area have been reflected in our improved ESG Ratings over the years, and we are consistently discovering ways to improve and further embed ESG considerations in our wider businesses and operations.

#### Awards/Milestones

#### Winner

for 'Highest Returns to Shareholders Over Three Years' under the Financial Services Sector category at the prestigious The Edge Billion Ringgit Club & Corporate Awards 2021

#### Gold Winner

for The Best Governed and Transparent Company Award from The Pinnacle Group International's Global Good Governance Awards

#### Highly Commended Recognition

at the Sustainable Business Awards Malaysia 2020/2021

#### **ESG RATINGS**

- Remained a constituent of the FTSE4Good Bursa Malaysia Index as at June 2021
- Top 25% by ESG Ratings among public listed companies in FTSE Bursa Malaysia EMAS Index as at June 2021
- RHB Bank Berhad scored 47/100 in the 2021 S&P Global **Corporate Sustainability** Assessment, reflecting an improvement of 4 points over the past one year
- Maintained an AA rating (Leader) in MSCI ESG Ratings since September 2019

#### DIVIDEND

In appreciation of the continued trust and support of our shareholders, I am pleased to share that the Board has proposed a final dividend of 25 sen per share, consisting of a cash payout of 15 sen per share and an electable portion under the Dividend Reinvestment Plan of 10 sen per share. Together with our interim dividend of 15 sen, the total dividend for FY2021 amounts to 40 sen per share or a 62.9% payout ratio and dividend vield of 7.4%, being the highest-ever for the Group.

#### **STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE PRACTICES**

The Group continued to create awareness among our employees on the pitfalls of bad business conduct and weak internal controls through various training programmes. We also embarked on the development of our very own Organisational Anti-Corruption Plan ("OACP") to align anti-bribery and anti-corruption efforts with the National Anti-Corruption Plan 2019-2023 ("NACP"). We view the act of corruption as a corrosive habit that undermines an organisation's credibility and its ethical values, and as such, this document will be a statement of intent from our Group to commit to deterring and abhorring the act of corruption in our way of doing business.

As a custodian of public funds, we are committed to strengthening our governance framework, embedding compliance culture in our everyday work processes and ensuring the adoption of industry best practices. In this context, we acknowledge the recent update of the Malavsian Code on Corporate Governance in April 2021, which builds on the 2017 iteration and is aimed at improving governance practices and the capital market landscape. The Group has also decided to accelerate our existing efforts in fighting Financial Crime through a strategic programme called RHB AML Capabilities Enhancement Programme, also known as the RACE Programme, that will strengthen our Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Financing of Terrorism ("AML/CFT") efforts and capabilities. In line with RHB's AML/CFT vision, we are committed to safeguard our customers and communities against financial crime and compliance risks.

#### **FIT22 CONTINUES TO TRACK STRONGLY**

In the year under review, the Group continued to ensure the successful execution of our FIT22 strategy, which is now in its final phase of implementation. The FIT22 strategy has transformed the Group into a customer-centric banking group which delivers service excellence to our customers by adopting a digital-first strategy through our digital ecosystems. In many areas, the results achieved through the implementation of the FIT22 strategy have exceeded our expectations, which continues to solidify our foundations and resilience in gearing up for future growth.

0.9%

2017: 8.7%)

#### **FIT22 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

Since the launch of FIT22						
PBT increased by						
37.9%						
(2021: RM3,529 million;						
2017: RM2,558 million)						

#### At present

- Over 13,000 SME eSolutions customers (41.3% increase from December 2020)
- Over 1 million customers onboarded our new RHB Mobile Banking App
- Digital transactions increased to 93% (86% in December 2020)
- Over 80% of employees working the Agile way
- Over 190 Minimum Viable Products launched in 2021 under the Agile way of working

To further strengthen our FIT22 aspirations and to ensure that we are able to respond quickly to the rapid change in customer needs, the Group will further accelerate our digital transformation programme, simplify our delivery channel and continue to expand our product suites. These efforts will be reflected in the Group's next five-year strategy, which will also include a new five-year sustainability strategy to drive sustainability efforts within the Group.

Underpinning this new phase of our growth is our new Purpose Statement, *Making Progress* Happen for Everyone, which will serve as a guiding light for all RHBians towards achieving the Group's collective aspirations.

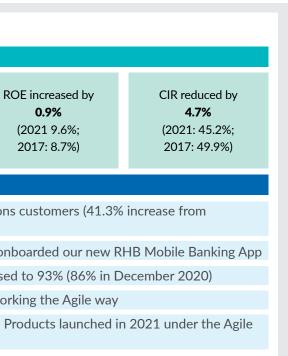
#### **HELPING OUR COMMUNITIES**

In what has been a challenging year for all our stakeholders and the community as a whole, due to the effects of the pandemic, we continued to lend our support to those affected by COVID-19 and the prolonged MCOs. In FY2021, we contributed almost RM9.1 million to provide aid to frontliners. B40 students and the segments of society most affected by the pandemic. We also continued to nurture future generations by investing in their education.

#### **RHB'S HEARTBEAT**

All that we have accomplished thus far would not have been possible without the commitment, determination and resilience of our employees. They have gone the extra mile in many instances to ensure we were able to deliver on all our obligations to our stakeholders. The health and safety of our employees will remain our top priority, and this is important to the continued success of the Group.

#### A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN



#### **A PERSONAL THANK YOU**

I would like to take this opportunity to extend our sincere thanks to the outgoing Group Managing Director, Dato' Khairussaleh Ramli. We would like to acknowledge his contributions in leading the Group to where it is today during his eight years at the helm, and wish him all the best in his future endeavours.

To ensure continuity in the interim, the Group has appointed Mohd Rashid Mohamad, who is also the Managing Director of Group Wholesale Banking. as the Officer-in-Charge/Principal Officer. effective 24 January 2022. Under his leadership and with the support of the Group Management Committee, the Group will continue its course towards achieving its goals and business growth during this period.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to record my deepest appreciation to our shareholders for their continued support and trust in the Group. To our customers and business partners, thank you for your continued loyalty as we look forward to our journey in creating sustainable value for all our stakeholders.

The Board would also like to acknowledge the efforts and contributions of the Group's Senior Management team in successfully navigating a challenging operating environment and delivering commendable results for FY2021. To all RHBians, please accept my gratitude for your dedication, commitment and hard work in striving towards the Group's goals and aspirations.

We would also like to express our appreciation to the Ministry of Finance, Bank Negara Malaysia, Securities Commission Malaysia, Bursa Malaysia and all other relevant regulatory bodies in the countries that we operate in for their continuous support and guidance.

In closing, I would like to thank my fellow Directors and the Board of Directors of the other entities within the Group for your guidance and insights in helping the Group achieve its ambitions. I look forward to working with the Board of Directors and the Senior Management team in the coming year to achieve all that we have set out to do.

TAN SRI AHMAD BADRI MOHD ZAHIR Chairman

## **PRINCIPAL OFFICER'S MESSAGE**



MOHD RASHID MOHAMAD Officer-in-Charge/Principal Officer

## **DEAR VALUED SHAREHOLDERS.** 2021 WAS YET ANOTHER TUMULTUOUS YEAR AS THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC CONTINUED TO IMPACT LIVES GLOBALLY.

Closer to home, Malaysians persevered by showing incredible strength, unity and resilience in the face of unprecedented challenges, including the devastating impact of severe floods in many parts of the country late in the year. Through these times, RHB Banking Group ("RHB" or the "Group") stood by our customers, the communities and all our other stakeholders in ensuring continued recovery, and moved closer towards our aspirations of achieving sustainable progress together. In turn, we are humbled and thankful for the continued trust that has been placed in us over the years.

# **WE MAKE PROGRESS HAPPEN FOR EVERYONE**

I am honoured to be given this opportunity to address you, our valued shareholders, as Officer-in-Charge/ Principal Officer of RHB Banking Group, a position to which I was appointed on 24 January 2022 following the departure of the Group Managing Director, Dato' Khairussaleh Ramli. I have accepted this position and its responsibilities with the deepest gratitude and am fully aware of the significance of this undertaking, and shall continue to serve in this capacity pending the appointment of the new Group Managing Director. With full support from the Board of Directors and my colleagues in the Group Management Committee, I look forward to continuing to contribute to the Group's success story.

With this, I am pleased to present to you the RHB Integrated Report for the year 2021, which describes how the Group has continued to progress in its strategies towards creating sustainable value for you, our shareholders.

#### **OVERVIEW**

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound impact on lives and livelihoods globally. However, it is not all despair and despondence. The prolonged pandemic has, in its own way, forced us as individuals as well as organisations to re-examine ourselves, revisit our priorities and re-evaluate what matters most in our lives and to our stakeholders. Resilience and the ability to adapt to change as we grappled with the fluid and unprecedented environment became the order of the day. For RHB, the pandemic has taught us valuable lessons and, most importantly, we have used these lessons to adapt to the circumstances - strengthening our foundation, enhancing our capabilities and accelerating efforts in areas that matter most to our customers.

The well-being of our customers, employees and the communities in general remained our top priorities throughout 2021 and this will continue to be at the top of our agenda as we move forward. With agility and the willingness to realign and reprioritise our strategies, we have indeed emerged

fundamentally stronger to take advantage of the rapid changes in customer demand and behaviour, as well as the expected economic recovery in the year ahead.

If there is one word that could summarise all we have accomplished in 2021 despite the challenges we faced, it would be this -Progress. We have lived our brand promise of Together We Progress and the main driving force behind our achievements today are all the RHBians across the Group.

Throughout the Group, whether it was at the strategic, corporate, business or functional level, we have pushed ourselves even harder to achieve the significant progress that we see today. In fact, our achievements have exceeded our goals in many areas and this will continue to propel us forward, positioning us strongly to capture future opportunities and to achieve our aspirations of *Making Progress* Happen for Everyone.

We are currently in the final year of our FIT22 strategy, and it is encouraging to see the progress we have made since its inception in 2017. I am pleased to share that the Group has made significant headway in all key focus areas of our FIT22 strategy, having gained significant market share across most of our product and business segments. We have also accrued strong digital and productivity improvements, enabled by the Agile way of working, and have made substantial inroads into the Affluent and Wealth, SMEs and Large-Cap and Mid-Cap spaces. Our achievements during the year under review are discussed in more detail throughout this Report. In terms of key financial targets, we have

#### **FIT22 CONTINUES TO TRANSFORM RHB**

improved our Cost-to-Income Ratio from 49.9% in 2017 to 45.2% in 2021, closer to our 2022 target of 45.0%. However, largely due to the pandemic, we attained a Return on Equity

## FY2021 PERFORMANCE

Total income 🔿 RM7.789

Financial

Up 8.4% (2020: RM7,186 million)

#### Profit before taxation 🔿 RM3.529 million

up 33.4% (2020: 2,644 million)

Market capitalisation  $\bigcirc$ RM22.247

Up 1.8% (2020: RM21,855 million)

of 9.6% against our 2022 target of 11.5%. Nevertheless, we are confident that this metric will improve over time, in line with the more sustained economic recovery that is expected to take place in 2022.

Our Digital Transformation Programme is one of the core components of our FIT22 strategy. Much of the Group's outstanding progress overall has also been a result of the initiatives under our Digital Transformation Journey. We remain committed to deliver more innovative products and services, greater operational efficiencies and improved customer experience.

for more information, please refer to IT22 Our Strategy Roadmap

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MAKING HOLISTIC PROGRESS								
First-in-market online solutions:	Transactions being conducted through digital channels	SME (small ticket) loans and financing originated digitally						
RHB MYHOME, SME FINANCING AND SME E-SOLUTIONS	2021: 93% 2017: 64%	2021: 25% 2017: < 1%						
Group Net Promoter Score	Cost-to-income ratio	Investment amount allocated for digitalisation initiatives until 2022						
2021: +15 2017: -9	2021: 45.2% 2017: 49.9%	<b>RM200 MILLION</b> with 65% of the investment utilised						

Agile way of working

# MORE THAN 80% OF RHB'S 14,000 EMPLOYEES ARE NOW WORKING THE AGILE WAY, WITH THE TARGET OF ALL EMPLOYEES TO FLIP TO AGILE BY THE END OF 2023

Our SME customers can now complete their online financing applications remotely with our SME Smart Interview feature, launched in the second quarter of 2021. Against the backdrop of that our Relationship Managers need to conduct as part of the financing approval process.

#### DIGITAL **INNOVATIONS ROLLED OUT** IN 2021

For Retail Customers, the Group introduced the e-Signature facility for Wealth customers We also revamped our Internet Banking platform, empowering our customers through facilitating digital transactions such as term deposit placement, and multi-currency accounts. This platform will continue to be improved as we aim to provide a unified and convenient experience for our customers.

To further embed the innovation culture, we introduced an internal incubation programme inspired by the "Dragon's Den" television series to encourage and challenge our employees to accelerate innovation, to develop groundbreaking next-generation ideas. Employee squads pitch their ideas to obtain 'funding' for their projects, and are rewarded with bonuses should their innovations produce tangible outcomes such as revenue uplift, cost reduction or greater the Group collaborated with Amazon Web Services and Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation ("MDEC") to host a hackathon focusing on driving customer-centric solutions by leveraging

The innovations that we introduced have enabled our customers to conduct more of their banking activities remotely and made banking experiences more seamless. We have also started planting the seeds of an innovative ecosystem which will mature into a crucial building block that will be key in our pursuit of becoming a Digital Banking Leader in the region. Our digital efforts are driven through four areas of focus - digital customer journeys, customer engagement and acquisition, digital payments and expanding digital into overseas markets where we operate.

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We have gathered strong momentum within the digital space and are set to continue building upon our culture of innovation, leveraging digitalisation wherever possible to create even better and more frictionless customer journeys across all our products and ecosystems. Our commitment to delivering results in this area has led us to becoming the first bank in Malaysia to include innovation Key Performance Indicators ("KPIs") as part of the Management Committee's Balanced Scorecard, which provides us with benchmarks and measurements to drive even greater achievements.

#### **ASSISTING OUR CUSTOMERS**

Malaysia has made encouraging progress in the implementation of the National COVID-19 Immunisation Programme ("PICK"). However, the impact of the pandemic has continued to cast a long shadow, disrupting the businesses and livelihoods of our customers. With the lockdowns being imposed once again in mid-2021, it was incumbent upon us as a financial services group to respond quickly to address the needs of our affected stakeholders.

The experiences of 2020 granted us better insights on the most affected groups within the economic value chain, thus enabling us to

#### **BEING THERE WHEN IT MATTERS MOST**

#### Since March 2020, the Group has provided holistic assistance to its customers, including:

- RM107.1 billion or 66% of total domestic borrowings, for more than 753,000 customers
- Total approved cases for URUS: RM216.2 million for 811 customers

#### For local communities, the Group mobilised RM9.1 million in 2021 across a range of programmes, including:

- among school children
- pandemic and floods
- B40 students and improving financial literacy among youths

#### Supporting SME customers

- of SJPP financing to Malavsian SMEs
- CGC: RM1.09 billion, benefiting more than 2,800 SMEs in 2020/2021

The COVID-19 assistance that we provided extended beyond financial SAFEGUARDING AND SUPPORTING OUR PEOPLE relief. Our #JomSapot campaign, for example, which was introduced in 2020, continues to be a platform that assists our SME customers The welfare as well as the health and safety of our employees continued in promoting their products and services to our extensive customer to remain a top priority for the Group against the backdrop of a base at no extra cost. As at end-December 2021, we have more resurgent pandemic. In support of the PICK Programme, we launched than 200 merchants operating almost 6,000 outlets nationwide who the RHB Vaccination Programme during the year to accelerate the rate have benefited from this initiative. As an extension of our #JomSapot at which our employees were vaccinated. As at end-December 2021, initiative, in February 2022, we partnered with The Star Media Group, 98.5% of our Malaysian workforce has been fully vaccinated. through its BeliLokal initiative, to widen our support for local businesses. This collaboration between #JomSapot and the BeliLokal initiative Working From Home ("WFH") continued to be adopted across the Group provides an even greater strategic avenue for local businesses to gain with up to 80% of our workforce working from home during the height increased visibility and awareness, where we are able to significantly of the pandemic between May and September 2021. In recognition increase their reach and impact. of how the pandemic has completely changed assumptions about the

#### PRINCIPAL OFFICER'S MESSAGE

respond more holistically and with greater accuracy than before. For example, the Retail and SME segments have long been among the most impacted sectors as the lockdowns reduced the ability of retailers to generate sales, even as they continued to pay salaries and rent. As such, in August 2021, we stepped up to provide financing facilities of up to RM200 million to meet the working capital needs of retailers across malls in Malaysia. This initiative - the Retailer SME Relief Financing Programme - leveraged the funds available under Bank Negara Malaysia's Targeted Relief and Recovery Facility ("TRRF"), which is a facility specifically aimed at supporting the recovery of Malaysia's SMEs. In 2021, the Group facilitated the financing of RM1.15 billion to SMEs through the TRRF programme.

• Repayment Assistance ("RA") was at its peak in September 2020, with the initial moratorium outstanding balances amounting to

Cov-Aid Premium Relief Scheme: RM1.57 million; Cov-Aid Premium Instalment Scheme: RM8.8 million in premiums converted to instalments

• Donations of digital devices to schools, which was facilitated through the CERDIK programme that aims to narrow the digital divide

• Providing critical ICU ventilators needed by hospitals, as well as cash and in-kind support for families and homes affected by the

• Continuing to prioritise the nurturing of future generations by investing in education to provide pathways to academic excellence for

 In 2021, the Group facilitated a total disbursement of RM2.38 billion, representing the highest percentage of SJPP financing in that year. RHB has also continuously been recognised as the top performer since 2018, with the highest market share in terms of disbursement

feasibility of working remotely, the Group intends to implement WFH Arrangement as a permanent feature of the Group's employee benefits going forward. We are targeting at least 20% of our employees to enjoy this benefit as the nation moves into the anticipated endemic phase of the National Recovery Plan.

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Through the RHB Humanitarian Fund, we also supported employees and their families who were stricken by COVID-19. As of 31 December 2021, our Pandemic Financial Relief Fund has pooled together RM379,921 from RHBians, with a total of more than RM213,000 disbursed to 178 affected staff and their family members. This initiative is a testament to our One RHB culture that is deeply engrained within each RHBian, who have come together to provide assistance to their fellow colleagues in their time of need.

The Group also has a Natural Disaster Fund to assist all RHBians, including overseas staff, who were impacted by the pandemic and natural disasters such as floods. In 2021, RHB allocated RM800,000 for the fund. As at 31 December 2021, a total of RM 774,058 was utilised, of which RM604,000 was provided for COVID-19 assistance and RM170.058 for flood assistance.

#### SUSTAINABLE & RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL SERVICES

It has been an especially productive year in the context of our efforts to integrate ESG considerations deeper into our business and operations.

## **HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2021 ADVANCING OUR ESG JOURNEY**

Effective 2022 onwards, we will no longer pursue opportunities or provide finance for any new thermal coal mine projects and coal-fired power plant projects. In addition, we adopted a new stance on No Deforestation, No Peat and No Exploitation ("NDPE") whereby moving forward, RHB will only support responsible companies in the relevant sectors (i.e. Palm Oil, Forestry and Agriculture) that demonstrate alignment with NDPE

Kickstarted the Group Climate Action Programme, towards managing the risk of climate change in the Group's business and operations

Expansion of the Group's ESG Risk Assessment tool comprising eight **ESG**-sensitive sectors

Accelerated the offering of **Sustainable Financial Services** products and solutions

Commitment to green financing now totalling RM4.32 billion, of which 20.7% is for renewable energy projects, as of end-December 2021

#### Launched the RHB Sustainability Finance Programme, which

provides various green financing solutions to retail and SME customers, with the target of granting RM1 billion in new financing by 2025. As of end-December 2021, a total of RM44.36 million has been extended

Successfully structured and executed Malavsia's first Green **Cross Currency Interest Rate Swap** transaction set against ESG-linked KPIs to hedge a USD100 million 2-year Sustainable Loan

Launched **4 SRI-qualified** ESG funds with total AUM of RM836 million as of end-December 2021

In the investments space, we are supporting the ESG agenda further by integrating ESG scores into our stock valuation assessments

RHB was also the **sole principal** adviser, sole lead arranger, joint lead manager, facility agent, shariah adviser and commodity trading participant for SME Bank's RM3 billion Sukuk Wakalah Programmes and its inaugural issuance of the country's first Sustainability Sukuk by a **Development** Financial Institution ("DFI") valued at RM500 million

Through Value-based Intermediation ("VBI"), our Islamic arm has collaborated with the **Malaysian Green Technology and Climate Change Corporation on** their Rumah Ibadat Hijau initiative and has initiated discussions with several established local universities for potential collaborations

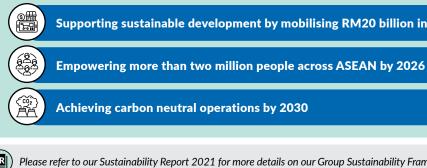
#### **FIT22 - A STRATEGY FOR THE FUTURE**

It has indeed been an incredible year for the Group as we delivered on our targets and generated strong momentum for the path ahead. The business landscape, domestically and regionally, has shifted greatly in many areas, particularly in the areas of technology and digitalisation as well as the greater focus being placed on integrating ESG or sustainability holistically into the way we conduct our business and operations moving forward.

In light of the profound changes expected to take place post-pandemic, the Group has taken proactive steps to reassess our strategies and identify the areas that need to be further reinforced and enhanced in order to meet changing consumer preferences and business needs. The Group has put in place robust strategies to capitalise on the multitude of opportunities present in these spaces towards long-term value creation. These will be announced to our stakeholders in due course.

As part of reshaping our forward-looking orientation, we have created a new Purpose Statement to capture our long-term ambitions and to provide our stakeholders with a quick point of reference to our very reason for existing. Thus, following extensive preparations,

Within our refined overall strategy now exists a prominent and specific focus on sustainability in the form of our new five-year Sustainability Strategy. Taking effect within the first quarter of 2022, the Sustainability Strategy emphasises our focus and commitment to being a sustainably responsible financial services provider and encapsulates the following key aspirations:



#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

On behalf of the Senior Management and all RHBians, I would like to take this opportunity to extend our sincere appreciation to our shareholders, customers and business partners for your trust, support and loyalty over the years. Although it has been challenging, we are more committed than ever to progress with you as we work together to realise our respective aspirations.

I would like to extend our deepest appreciation to the outgoing Group Finally, a special thank you goes to the Ministry of Finance, Bank Managing Director, Dato' Khairussaleh Ramli, for his leadership and vision in guiding RHB and the Senior Management to the position Negara Malaysia, Securities Commission Malaysia, Bursa Malaysia and we are in today. We wish Dato' Khairussaleh all the best in his future all relevant regulatory authorities in the countries we operate in for the invaluable guidance, assistance and counsel over the years. endeavours.

My deepest appreciation to my colleagues in the Group Management Committee for their unrelenting support and their drive as well as commitment in the execution of the Group's strategy and towards ensuring that the Group remains ahead of its competitors across key

#### PRINCIPAL OFFICER'S MESSAGE

including focus group sessions with employees and our customers, we decided to adopt the Purpose Statement of Making Progress Happen for Everyone, which closely aligns with our brand promise, Together We Progress.

This is a refinement of our approach towards value creation, underpinned by quality and sustainable growth. It also demonstrates our commitment to supporting our customers through thick and thin, as we weather the ongoing challenges of the pandemic.

To better position ourselves for the next stage of growth, we created two new Strategic Business Groups, namely Group Community Banking ("GCB") and Group Wholesale Banking ("GWB"). The creation of GCB, housing Retail Banking and SME Banking, aims to achieve greater synergies between the overlapping segments of small business owners and the wealth and affluent space. Meanwhile, GWB brings together Investment Banking, Corporate Banking, Group Treasury and Global Markets, Group Asset Management, Commercial Banking, Transaction Banking, and the Economics team with the goal of deepening long-term relationships with existing and new clients and offering holistic solutions across all products, tailored to the needs of our diverse client base.

#### Supporting sustainable development by mobilising RM20 billion in sustainable financial services by 2026

Please refer to our Sustainability Report 2021 for more details on our Group Sustainability Framework, and sustainability governance and initiatives.

financial indicators. And to my fellow RHBians across Malaysia and the ASEAN region, thank you for your dedication and resilience during these trying times. We will not be where we are today without your hard work, sacrifices and dedication.

To the Chairman and Board of Directors, our deepest gratitude for your collective vision, guidance and wisdom in setting the Group's strategic direction and in upholding good governance that bodes well for the Group's value creation journey.

MOHD RASHID MOHAMAD Officer-in-Charge / Principal Officer

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# **GROUP CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REVIEW**



## THE GROUP EXHIBITED **RESILIENCE AS IT NAVIGATED** THROUGH CHALLENGES AMID CONTINUED UNCERTAINTY IN THE OPFRATING ENVIRONMENT.

For FY2021, the Group delivered strong performance and demonstrated its ability to sustain growth while maintaining robust capital and liquidity positions.

# **OPTIMISING OUR FINANCIAL POSITION**

#### Group Community **Banking**

- Group Community Banking posted a pre-tax profit of RM1,630.4 million, mainly due to higher net fund based and nonfund based income and lower allowances for credit losses.
- Gross loans and financing rose 6.1% year-on-year to RM124.2 billion, primarily driven by growth in mortgages (8.1%), auto finance (4.3%) and SME (11.2%).
- Deposits increased by 9.9% year-on-year to RM100.9 billion, mainly contributed by growth in CASA and fixed deposits.

#### Group **Wholesale** Banking

- Group Wholesale Banking posted a pre-tax profit of RM1,999.2 million from higher net fund based income and fee income growth from capital market and asset management.
- Gross loans and financing grew ٠ marginally by 1.6% year-on-year to RM50.3 billion, driven by growth in Commercial Banking.
- Deposits increased 3.4% year-onyear to RM93.0 billion, primarily from higher MMTD.

Shariah **Business** 

Group

- RHB Islamic Bank recorded a pretax profit of RM1,030.5 million, due to higher net fund based and non-fund based income and lower modification loss and allowances for credit losses during the year.
- Gross financing recorded doubledigit growth of 11.4% year-onyear to RM74.9 billion.
- Islamic business contributed 43.0% of the Group's total domestic gross loans and financing, an improvement from 40.5% in December 2020.

# Financial

#### DELIVERING **ON OUR STRATEGIES**

**RHB** achieved net profit of RM2,618.4 million for the financial year ended 31 December 2021. up by 28.8% from last year.

> Group International **Business**

- Group International Business posted a pre-tax profit of RM109.3 million.
  - **RHB Bank Singapore** reported a pre-tax profit of SGD14.9 million, attributed to higher net fund based and non-fund based income and lower allowances for credit losses. Gross loans and advances grew by 23.0% year-on-year to SGD6.3 billion, while deposits increased by 15.0% to SGD6.7 billion.
  - **RHB Bank Cambodia** reported a pre-tax profit of USD19.1 million, primarily due to higher net fund based income and writeback of allowances for credit losses during the year. Gross loans and advances grew by 16.1% year-on-year to USD679.2 million, while deposits contracted by 3.9% to USD571.3 million.
- Excluding IB overseas operations which is reported under Group Wholesale Banking

**KEY BUSINESS UNITS** 

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This was supported by higher net fund based income and lower net modification loss and allowances for expected credit losses reported during the year. On that note, profits for most business segments improved in the financial year under review.

The Group continued to focus on disciplined cost management by keeping a tight rein on its spending. Given the current operating environment, the Group remained prudent and continued to monitor asset quality closely, while still maintaining strong capital and liquidity positions. Loan loss coverage, excluding regulatory reserves, remained well above 100% as at end-December 2021. These strong fundamentals, together with resilience exhibited by our financial performance, put us in a sound position for sustainable growth in the long term.

#### Group Insurance

- RHB Insurance registered a pre-tax profit of RM121.0 million, attributed to a decline in net investment income.

#### **MOVING FORWARD**

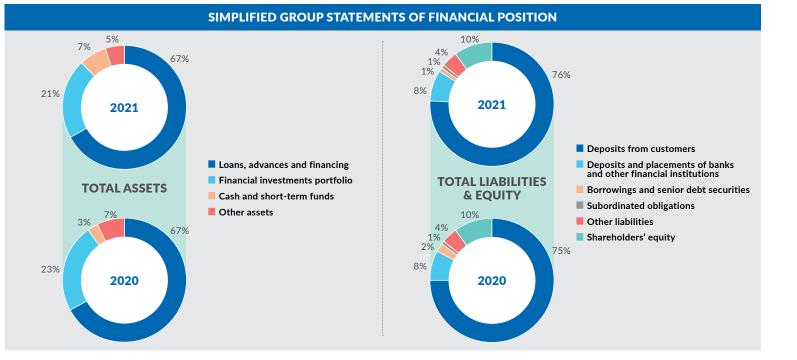
Moving into 2022, the Group will remain prudent and continue to monitor market developments closely. For the banking sector, the demand for credit is projected to improve in tandem with economic growth prospects and similarly, interest rates are expected to normalise gradually this year. The industry is anticipated to remain resilient, supported by strong capital and liquidity levels and adequate impairment provisions made over the last two years.

GROUP CHIFF FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REVIEW

#### **GROUP FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

	2020	2021
PROFITABILITY (RM'million)		
Total income	7,186	7,789
Operating profit before allowances	3,799	4,266
Profit before taxation	2,644	3,529
Net profit attributable to equity holders of the Bank	2,033	2,618
FINANCIAL POSITION (RM'million)		
Total assets	271,150	289,541
Financial investments portfolio	63,371	61,881
Gross loans, advances and financing	186,114	198,512
Total liabilities	244,093	261,511
Deposits from customers	203,471	218,733
Shareholders' equity	27,024	27,998
FINANCIAL RATIOS (%)		
Net return on average equity	7.7%	9.6%
Net return on average assets	0.77%	0.93%
Gross impaired loans ratio	1.71%	1.49%
Gross loans to deposits ratio	91.5%	90.8%
CAPITAL ADEQUACY RATIOS (%) N1		
Common equity Tier 1 capital ratio	16.2%	17.2%
Tier 1 capital ratio	16.2%	17.2%
Total capital ratio	18.4%	19.8%

<sup>N1</sup> Ratios are after proposed final dividend.



#### PROFITABILITY

#### **Analysis of the Financial Statements**

- The Group recorded a net profit of RM2,618.4 million compared with RM2,032.5 million recorded last year.
- Total income grew 8.4%, mainly attributed to higher net fund based income and partially offset by lower non-fund based income.
- Lower net modification loss and prudent funding cost management provided further support to operating profit before allowances, which improved by 12.3% to RM4,266.3 million.

#### Net Interest/Fund Based Income

• Gross fund based income decreased by 5.6% while funding and interest expense dropped by 24.1% year-on-year, supported by a higher deposit base. As a result, net fund based income grew by 11.5% to RM5,874.7 million from a year ago, whereas NIM stood at 2.14% compared with 2.06% recorded last year.

#### **FINANCIAL POSITION**

#### **Total Assets**

- Total assets for the Group increased by 6.8% from December 2020 to RM289.5 billion as at 31 December 2021, primarily due to an increase in loans, advances and financing and cash and short-term funds.
- Loans, advances and financing remained the largest component of the total assets at 67.3% (2020: 67.3%).
- The Group continued its focus on growing responsibly, strengthening risk management and managing our funding and liquidity position.

#### Cash & Short-Term Funds and Deposits & Placements With Banks and Other Financial Institutions

• The Group's total cash & short-term funds and deposits & placements with banks and other financial institutions grew by 55.7% to RM23.3 billion as at 31 December 2021.

#### **Financial Investment Portfolio**

- The Group's financial investment portfolio comprises financial assets at fair value through profit or loss ("FVTPL"), financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income ("FVOCI") and financial investments at amortised cost.
- The Group's financial investment portfolio decreased by 2.4% to RM61.9 billion.

#### Loans, Advances and Financing

- The Group's gross loans and financing grew by 6.7% year-on-year to RM198.5 billion, mainly supported by growth in mortgage, auto finance, SME, Commercial and Singapore. Domestic loans and financing grew 4.8% year-on-year. The Group's domestic loan market share stood at 9.1% as at end-December 2021.
- Overseas gross loans increased by 22.1%, mainly attributed to growth in Singapore and Cambodia.

#### **ASSET QUALITY**

- respectively, as of December 2020.

#### **CAPITAL ADEQUACY**

As at 31 December 2021, the common equity Tier 1 ("CET 1") ratio and total capital ratio of the Group remained strong at 17.2% and 19.8%, respectively, among the highest in the industry.

RHB Bank Berhad

## GROUP CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REVIEW

#### Other Operating/Non-Fund Based Income

• Non-fund based income declined 7.6% to RM2,158.8 million, primarily from lower brokerage income and net trading and investment income, and offset by higher insurance underwriting surplus and fee income growth from capital market, asset management and commercial banking.

#### **Operating Expenses**

• Operating expenses increased by 4.0% year-on-year to RM3,522.4 million. With positive JAWS, cost-to-income ratio improved to 45.2% compared with 47.1% last year.

#### Allowances for Credit Losses

- Allowances for credit losses reduced to RM737.2 million, arising from lower impairment on loans and higher bad debts recovered during the
- Full-year credit charge ratio was at 0.29% compared with 0.58% last year.

#### **Total Liabilities and Equity**

- Total liabilities increased by 7.1% to RM261.5 billion as at 31 December 2021, mainly due to higher deposits from customers.
- Shareholders' equity rose by 3.6% to RM28.0 billion, primarily from higher retained earnings. Net assets per share grew from RM6.74 to RM6.76.

#### Deposits From Customers

- Customer deposits increased by 7.5% year-on-year to RM218.7 billion, predominantly attributed to fixed and money market time deposits growth of 9.0% and CASA of 4.5%. CASA composition stood at 30.0% as at 31 December 2021.
- Liquidity coverage ratio ("LCR") remained healthy at 155.7%.
- Deposits for domestic operations increased by 6.7%, while overseas operations registered an increase of 14.1% with Singapore growing at 16.7%.

#### Deposits and Placements of Banks and Other Financial Institutions

• Deposits and placements of banks and other financial institutions increased by 11.3% to RM23.4 billion, mainly due to higher deposits and placements by BNM/other central banks.

#### **Senior Debt Securities**

• Senior debt securities increased by 2.9% to RM3.6 billion.

#### **Subordinated Obligations**

• Subordinated obligations increased by 18.5% from RM 2.7 billion to RM3.2 billion.

• Gross impaired loans was RM3.0 billion as at 31 December 2021 with gross impaired loans ratio of 1.49%, compared with RM3.2 billion and 1.71%,

• Loan loss coverage ratio for the Group, excluding regulatory reserves, remained well above 100% at 122.4% as at end-December 2021.

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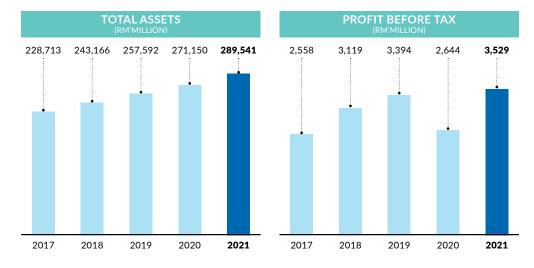
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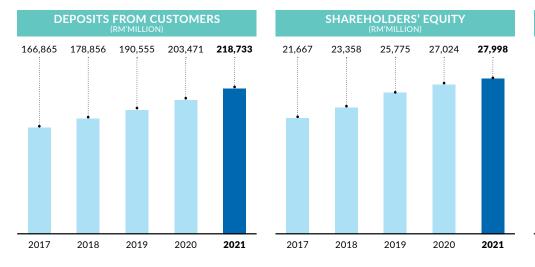
#### FIVE-YEAR GROUP FINANCIAL SUMMARY

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	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
OPERATING RESULTS (RM'Million)					
Operating profit before allowances	3,200	3,448	3,670	3,799	4,266
Profit before taxation	2,558	3,119	3,394	2,644	3,529
Net profit attributable to equity holders of the Bank	1,950	2,305	2,482	2,033	2,618
KEY BALANCE SHEET DATA (RM'Million)					
Total assets	228,713	243,166	257,592	271,150	289,541
Gross loans, advances and financing	160,026	168,879	176,175	186,114	198,512
Total liabilities	207,012	219,770	231,782	244,093	261,511
Deposits from customers	166,865	178,856	190,555	203,471	218,733
Shareholders' equity	21,667	23,358	25,775	27,024	27,998
Commitments and contingencies	172,226	172,941	150,428	157,480	157,777
SHARE INFORMATION					
Gross dividend per share (sen)	15.00	20.50	31.00	17.65	40.00
Net assets per share (RM)	5.4	5.8	6.4	6.7	6.8
Net tangible assets per share (RM)	4.6	5.0	5.6	5.9	5.9
Basic earnings per share (sen)	48.6	57.5	61.9	50.7	64.7
Share price (RM)	5.00	5.29	5.78	5.45	5.37
Market capitalisation (RM'million)	20,050	21,213	23,178	21,855	22,247
FINANCIAL RATIOS (%)					
Profitability Ratios					
Net return on average equity	9.1	10.3	10.3	7.7	9.6
Net return on average assets	0.8	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.9
Cost-to-income ratio	49.9	49.3	48.0	47.1	45.2
Asset Quality					
Gross loans to deposits ratio	96.0	94.4	92.5	91.5	90.8
Gross impaired loans ratio	2.23	2.06	1.97	1.71	1.49
Ordinary Shares					
Dividend yield	3.0	3.9	5.4	3.2	7.4
Dividend payout ratio	30.8	35.7	50.1	34.8	62.9

#### FIVE-YEAR GROUP FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

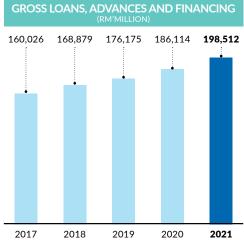


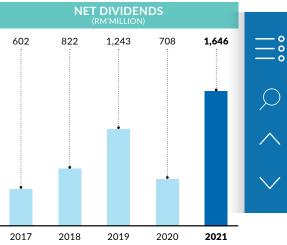


#### **GROUP QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE**

			2020					2021		
	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Total	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Total
Financial Performance (RM'Milli	on)									
Net fund based income	1,259	1,238	1,240	1,532	5,267	1,417	1,432	1,492	1,534	5,875
Non-fund based income	471	713	591	562	2,336	544	574	621	421	2,159
Total income	1,729	1,558	1,830	2,068	7,186	1,923	2,006	1,941	1,919	7,789
Operating profit before allowances	912	732	976	1,179	3,799	1,038	1,141	1,079	1,009	4,266
Profit before tax	761	519	790	574	2,644	864	913	829	923	3,529
Net profit attributable to equity holders of the Bank	571	401	622	439	2,033	650	701	636	631	2,618
Earnings per share (sen)	14.2	10.0	15.5	10.9	50.7	16.2	17.5	15.6	15.3	64.7
Dividend per share (sen)	-	-	10.00	7.65	17.65	-	15.00	-	25.00	40.00

## GROUP CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REVIEW





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GROUP CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REVIEW

#### **KEY INTEREST BEARING ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

	Amount (RM'million)	Effective interest rate (%)	Interest income/ expense (RM'million)
2021			
Interest Earning Assets			
Cash and short-term funds & deposits and placements with banks and other financial institutions	23,318	1.10	204
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	2,778	3.03	52
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	41,141	3.26	1,391
Financial investments at amortised cost	17,962	3.61	624
Gross loans, advances and financing	198,512	3.88	7,427
Interest Bearing Liabilities			
Deposits from customers & deposits and placements of banks and other financial institutions	242,140	1.39	3,299
Borrowings/Subordinated obligations/Senior debt securities	6,996	3.28	247
2020			
Interest Earning Assets			
Cash and short-term funds & deposits and placements with banks and other financial institutions	14,974	1.47	143
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	4,462	3.50	71
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	42,903	3.63	1,463
Financial investments at amortised cost	16,005	3.92	593
Gross loans, advances and financing	186,114	4.41	7,945
Interest Bearing Liabilities			
Deposits from customers & deposits and placements of banks and other financial institutions	224,506	2.07	4,497
Borrowings/Subordinated obligations/Senior debt securities	6,899	3.42	236

#### **STATEMENT OF VALUE ADDED**

## Value added (RM'Million)

Net interest income Income from Islamic Banking business Non-interest income

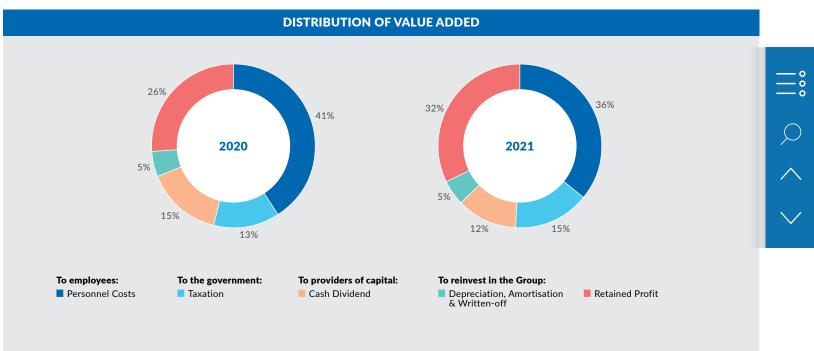
Net modification loss

Less: Overheads excluding personnel costs, depre

Less: Allowance for credit losses & impairment

Profit from discontinued operation

Value added available for distribution



## GROUP CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REVIEW

	2020	2021
	3,761	4,062
	1,666	2,095
	2,177	1,876
	(418)	(245)
reciation, amortisation & write off	(1,048)	(1,059)
	(1,155)	(738)
	35	-
	5,018	5,991

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#### **GROUP CAPITAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK**



#### **CAPITAL MANAGEMENT**

#### Overview

The Group's capital management approach is focused on maintaining a healthy capital position to support its business growth while optimising returns to our shareholders at the same time. The capital structure and framework are designed to meet not only the regulatory requirements, but also to satisfy the expectations of the various stakeholders, including shareholders, investors and rating agencies.

To this end, the Group Capital Management Framework ("CMF") has been established to provide integrated oversight of our capital management activities. This oversight cuts across the risk, finance and treasury functions, bringing greater value to the business.

#### **CAPITAL MONITORING AND PLANNING**

Effective capital management is crucial to maintaining business sustainability. The Group manages its capital position proactively to meet regulatory requirements and the expectations of its various stakeholders, as well as to support its strategic business objectives.

The Group achieves these objectives via the annual Internal Capital Adequacy Assessment Process ("ICAAP"), through which we actively monitor and manage the capital position over a three-year horizon, involving the following critical activities:

- (i) Setting capital targets under both normal and stressed market conditions for all banking subsidiaries, both at Group and entity levels, taking into account anticipated future regulatory changes and stakeholder expectations;
- (ii) Forecasting capital demand for material risks based on the Group's risk appetite; and
- (iii) Determining the requirements for capital issuance and the maturity profiles of capital securities.

The Board Risk Committee ("BRC") and Group Capital and Risk Committee ("GCRC") are responsible for overseeing the capital planning and assessment process within the Group and for ensuring that the Group and its subsidiaries maintain an appropriate level and quality of capital consistent with the Group's overall risk profile and business strategy.

#### **CAPITAL INITIATIVES DURING THE YEAR**

The key capital initiatives undertaken in 2021 were as follows:

- (i) Basel III-compliant Tier 2 Subordinated Obligations amounting to RM500 million were issued by RHB Bank in April 2021; and
- (ii) On 25 May 2021, the establishment of a dividend reinvestment plan ("DRP") for RHB Bank was approved by the shareholders during the Annual General Meeting ("AGM"). The DRP provides the shareholders of RHB Bank with an opportunity to reinvest their dividends in RHB Bank's shares, in lieu of receiving cash. The shareholders also granted the authority to the Directors to allot and issue such number of DRP shares from time to time as may be required in respect of the dividend that may be declared and to be subject to the DRP as may be decided by the Board. The Board's authority to allot and issue DRP shares shall continue to be in force until the conclusion of the next AGM. Details of RHB Bank's shares issued under the DRP are disclosed in Note 34 of the Financial Statements.

#### **CAPITAL ADEQUACY RATIOS**

#### Minimum capital requirements

Under BNM's Capital Adequacy Framework (Capital Components) and Capital Adequacy Framework for Islamic Banks (Capital Components), all financial institutions are required to maintain a regulatory minimum Common Equity Tier 1 Capital ("CET 1"), Tier 1 Capital ("Tier 1") and Total Capital Ratio of 4.5%, 6.0% and 8.0%, respectively.

#### **Capital buffer requirements**

Financial institutions are required to maintain additional capital buffers, i.e. the Capital Conservation Buffer ("CCB") and the Countercyclical Capital Buffer ("CCyB"), over and above the regulatory minimum capital

As At 31 December 2021	RHB Banking Group	RHB Bank	RHB Islamic Bank	RHB Investment Bank Group	RHB Investment Bank	Minimum Regulatory Ratio™
Before dividends:						
CET 1 Ratio	17.831%	16.094%	17.635%	35.348%	29.319%	7.000%
Tier 1 Ratio	17.831%	16.094%	17.635%	35.376%	29.319%	8.500%
Total Capital Ratio	20.455%	19.083%	20.780%	40.666%	40.027%	10.500%
After dividends:						
CET 1 Ratio	17.200%	15.220%	16.849%	33.044%	24.231%	7.000%
Tier 1 Ratio	17.201%	15.220%	16.849%	33.071%	24.231%	8.500%
Total Capital Ratio	19.825%	18.210%	19.994%	38.361%	34.938%	10.500%

<sup>N1</sup> Including Capital Conservation Buffer of 2.50%

ratios. The CCB is intended to enable the banking system to withstand future periods of stress and has been phased in since 2016 to reach a total of 2.5% in 2019.

The CCyB is the weighted average of the prevailing CCyB rates applied in the jurisdictions in which a financial institution has credit exposure. This buffer is intended to protect the banking sector as a whole from the build-up of systemic risk during an economic upswing when aggregate credit growth tends to be excessive. Application of the CCyB above the minimum capital ratios is in the range of 0% to 2.5%. The CCyB has not yet been announced, and BNM will communicate any decision on the CCyB rate up to 12 months before the date from which the rate applies.

On 5 February 2020, BNM issued a policy document on the Domestic Systemically Important Banks ("D-SIBs") Framework that sets out the assessment methodology to identify D-SIBs in Malaysia and the relevant reporting requirements. Financial institutions designated as D-SIBs are required to maintain higher capital buffers to meet regulatory capital requirements that include a Higher Loss Absorbency ("HLA") requirement.

Pursuant to the D-SIBs Framework, the applicable HLA requirement ranges from 0.5% to 1.0% of risk-weighted assets, at the consolidated level. The HLA requirement for designated D-SIBs came into effect on 31 January 2021. RHB Bank is not identified as a D-SIB pursuant to the latest D-SIB listing published in BNM's Financial Stability Review for First Half 2021.

The table below provides the relevant capital ratios of the key regulated banking entities of the Group, all of which are well above the minimum regulatory requirements.

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#### **BALANCE SHEET MANAGEMENT**

The table below shows the asset funding structure as at 31 December 2021.

#### Overview

Balance sheet management aims to optimise returns and minimise costs through effective asset and liability management. It entails regular review, monitoring and indepth analysis of balance sheet positions to achieve the desired business growth and maximise shareholders' returns, against the backdrop of the changing regulatory environment and competitive economic and business landscape.

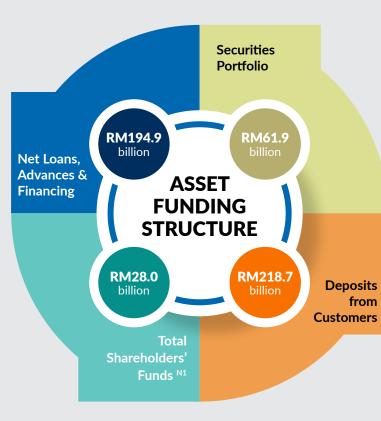
The synergy among all business and functional units across the Group is essential in driving and shaping the optimal balance sheet position of the Group through agreed strategies. The overarching strategies are reviewed and deliberated by the Group Asset and Liability Committee ("GALCO"), where conscious considerations are made with respect to the risk appetite of the Group. Therefore, it is vital to have a cohesive strategy driven by the business and functional units to achieve effective balance sheet management.

#### **BALANCE SHEET STRUCTURE**

The foundation of RHB's balance sheet is built on shareholders' equity, long-term debt and core customer deposits. The strategies on funding, acquisition and product mix are reviewed regularly to ensure sustainability as well as cost-efficiency. The continuous efforts of and collaborations between various businesses have resulted in Group Customer Deposit growth of +7.5% year-on-year (December 2020: 6.8%), while cost of deposit reduced 15bps.

Diversification of deposit and funding sources has been our ongoing long-term strategy. Deposit acquisition from retail and wholesale businesses is managed through our strong relationships with customers and our increasing focus on digital channels.

Our stable deposit base and long-term debt are the primary sources of funds to support asset growth. Through strategic balance sheet management, the Group's total net loans, advances and financing increased by RM12.5 billion to RM194.9 billion as at end-2021. The loan growth was achieved and managed with careful consideration as the Group placed greater emphasis on credit quality given the benign economy in 2021.



<sup>N1</sup> Total Shareholders' Funds includes non-controlling interest.

Despite the new challenges in 2021, the Group maintained its resilience through the Agile way. Our solid foundation, insightful analysis and vigilant monitoring of balance sheet management, together with our agility to embrace changes, enabled us to achieve the goals determined in the FIT22 strategic plan.

Aside from building on the successes achieved through FIT22, focus areas have been identified to further improve our strengths and market standing. These include, among others, increasing the composition of retail deposits, deepening the market share of Mid-cap and Small-cap businesses, emphasising costefficiency and closing the risk and compliance gap.

NIK RIZAL KAMIL Group Chief Financial Officer



#### 띂 MALAYSIA

#### ECONOMIC REVIEW

Malaysia's Gross Domestic Product ("GDP") registered a 3.1% yearon-year growth in 2021 from a contraction of 5.6% in 2020. While there was positive economic growth, part of the improvement was the result of the low base effect, which contributed to record growth numbers, especially in the second quarter of 2021. Throughout the year, the economy experienced a series of contractions and expansions as the government tightened and eased movement restrictions as it sought to safeguard lives and livelihoods on the back of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Private consumption took the largest hit as a result of the public investment was affected as the rollout of public projects was multiple lockdowns. In January, amid rising cases, the government somewhat dampened by builders having to observe COVID-19 SOPs imposed the second Movement Control Order ("MCO 2.0"). The where limits on the number of workers disrupted productivity. measures restricted movement and businesses operations, which led to reduced consumer spending and a rise in unemployment. While the domestic economy suffered, exports performed well Consumer spending did rebound in the subsequent months as throughout the year, supported by a combination of high global restrictions were progressively relaxed in tandem with a series of demand as well as rising commodity prices. The benefits were mostly economic stimulus packages. However, the government imposed accrued to sectors such as electrical & electronics, chemicals and a tighter lockdown, the Full Movement Control Order ("FMCO"), pharmaceuticals, as well as palm oil and oil & gas-related industries. in late May as the country faced another wave of infections due Meanwhile, dampened consumer demand weakened imports, to the highly transmissible Delta variant. It was only towards the causing the country to record a huge trade surplus. As a result, the later part of the third quarter of 2021 when stronger consumption external-oriented sectors provided a cushion to the economy even recovery took place as the country achieved high vaccination rates, as the country grappled with challenges on the domestic side.

#### **ECONOMIC OUTLOOK**

For 2022, we expect the economy to register GDP growth of 5.5% On monetary policy, we expect Bank Negara Malaysia to keep year-on-year. Private consumption is projected to be the main driver interest rates accommodative throughout most of the year. Rate due to several factors. First, the pent-up demand following the easing normalisation is likely to happen only when consumption stabilises of restrictions in the latter part of 2021 is likely to continue into and economic growth is more entrenched and broad-based. In our the early part of 2022. This will be further supported by the excess view, this will happen in the second half of 2022. savings that were accumulated throughout the lockdown periods. On the fiscal side, measures including cash handouts, tax breaks to Downside risks for the economic outlook going forward include the the auto sector and various forms of support given to vulnerable prolonged supply constraints that limit production growth; Chinagroups should be positive for consumption. Lastly, the drop in the related issues, including pandemic-induced factory shutdowns and weakening demand; higher inflation caused by higher-thanunemployment rate in the second half of 2021, which will continue into 2022, will also add to a sustained consumption recovery path. expected increases in commodity prices; and a premature pullback of monetary and fiscal support.

On the external side, elevated commodity prices will continue to benefit the economy through positive terms of trade. In addition, a recovery in global growth powered by the US and major emerging economies is expected in early 2022. Overall, robust global demand is expected to continue to propel export growth. INTEGRATED REPORT 2021

# **REGIONAL MARKET LANDSCAPE**



ALEXANDER CHIA Head, Regional Equity Research, RHB Research



therefore enabling the government to adopt a more consistent and predictable easing of restrictions.

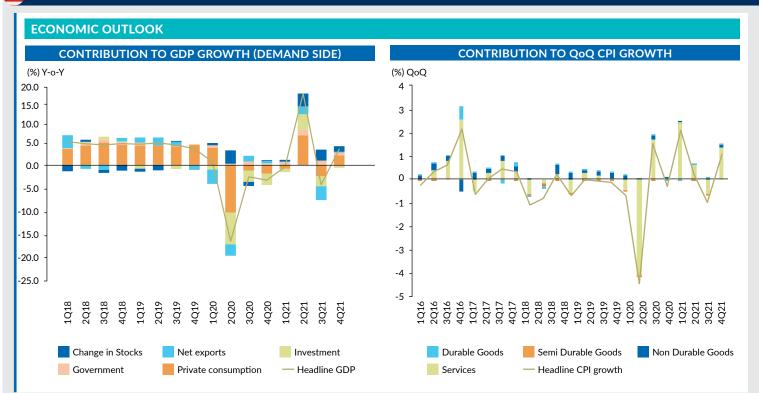
On the investment front, performance was mixed as movement restrictions generally slowed the execution of projects or business expansion. While capacity utilisation was high in the beginning, which prompted businesses to invest in capacity expansion, progress was slow due to the multiple lockdowns, although we did note improvements in this area towards the latter part of the year. Similarly, despite the high development expenditure allocation, public investment was affected as the rollout of public projects was somewhat dampened by builders having to observe COVID-19 SOPs where limits on the number of workers disrupted productivity.

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	WE ARE RHB BANK	LEADERSHIP STATEMENTS	OUR STRATEGIC REVIEW	OUR PERFORMANCE REVIEW	OUR GOVERNANCE	STAKEHOLDERS' INFORMATION
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**REGIONAL MARKET LANDSCAPE** 

#### 🕮 MALAYSIA



#### **BANKING SECTOR REVIEW & OUTLOOK**

The banking sector continued to play an important role in facilitating financial support to individuals and businesses in the wake of the FMCO that was imposed by the government on 1 June 2021. The government announced a range of financial assistance including an opt-in sixmonth moratorium, and later in the year, the Financial Management & Banking system asset guality remained resilient in 2021, helped by Resilience Programme ("URUS") to help B50 borrowers.

Banking system loan growth decelerated rapidly between June and August 2021, impacted by the nationwide lockdown. The moderation in loan growth to 2.49% year-on-year in August 2021 was mainly due to very weak demand from businesses. However, the gradual relaxation of mobility restrictions in September saw a healthy rebound in system loans growth to 4.50% year-on-year in December 2021. Residential mortgages remained the key growth driver for the household segment, rising 6.76% year-on-year in December 2021, while auto loans increased by a modest 1.16% year-on-year as sales were impacted by lockdown measures and parts shortages. Within the business segment, working capital loans were up 7.13% year-on-year, outpacing growth in year-on-year in 2021 (2020: 6.52%).

Banking system average lending rate ("ALR"), which declined on the back of the 125bps reduction in Overnight Policy Rate ("OPR") in 2020, was relatively stable between April and December 2021 with the policy rate unchanged at 1.75% since July 2020. Along with the relatively

stable ALR, banking system deposit rates had also been stable over the same period. That said, the strong 10.9% year-on-year growth in CASA deposits helped to lower banks' funding costs.

various support measures. The banking system Gross Impaired Loan ratio eased to 1.44% in December 2021 (2020: 1.56%) from a year high of 1.67% in July and August, as state borders reopened in October and economic activities regained momentum. Still, banks continued to set aside additional provisions against potential credit losses. Provisions rose to a multi-year high of 1.86% of total loans in December 2021 compared with 1.69% a year ago. Overall, banks remained well capitalised with banking system CET 1 ratio at 15.2% in December 2021 (2020: 14.8%).

The COVID-19 pandemic will remain a near term uncertainty for the Malaysian economy but should be more manageable given the high vaccination rates, with approximately 78% of the entire population system loans. Growth in corporate bond issuances moderated to 5.49% fully vaccinated as at end-2021. We believe stronger GDP growth in 2022 will spur broad-based demand for loans, resulting in moderately stronger loan growth. We expect Net Interest Margins ("NIM") to be stable to slightly lower for the most part of 2022 before policy rate hikes help lift NIM prospects from late-2022. The improving economic outlook should also have a positive impact on asset quality, leading to further decline in gross non-performing loan ratio.

#### SINGAPORE

#### ECONOMIC REVIEW

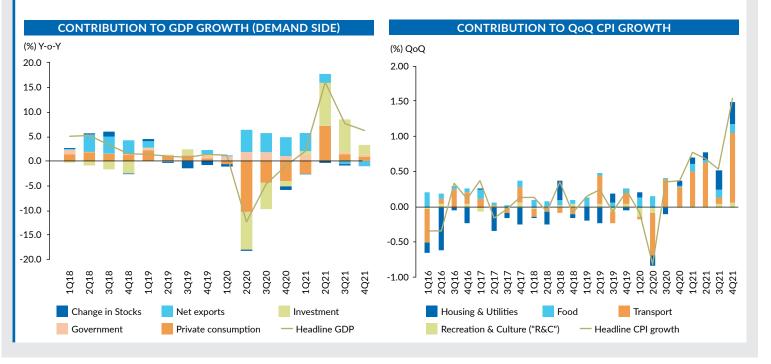
The Singapore economy rebounded by 7.2% year-on-year in 2021 from given that industries were still on the mend. On trade, recovering the pandemic-induced contraction of 5.4% in 2020. By reaching the global demand contributed to export numbers, with 19.1% year-onyear growth for 2021. Resilient performance by semiconductor-related fully vaccinated threshold of 80% for its population by August 2021, the city-state was the fastest among its regional peers to gradually exports as well as oil-related exports, amid high oil prices, boosted loosen restrictions and spur economic activities. Coupled with overall exports performance for the year. recovering global demand, the manufacturing sector benefited from the early resumption in economic activities, with particularly strong The Monetary Authority of Singapore ("MAS") tightened its monetary performance in the production of semiconductor-related components. policy in October 2021 by raising the slope of the Singapore Dollar Nominal Effective Exchange Rate ("S\$NEER") policy band slightly Recovery in the services sector was mixed as the external and modern industries outperformed performance from the domestic-oriented while keeping the width and level at which the policy band is centred sectors. Excluding the low base effect, the construction sector was unchanged. In a surprise inter-meeting policy move on 25 January the slowest to recover as activities were weighed down by labour and 2022, the MAS raised the rate of appreciation path of the S\$NEER supply constraints. policy band slightly. These pre-emptive moves were to address rising inflation concerns. Annual Consumer Price Index ("CPI") inflation for Meanwhile, mobility for retail and recreational activities steadily 2021 increased by 2.3% year-on-year on average, while within the increased throughout the year, which inadvertently led to modest same period, core inflation increased 0.9% year-on-year. This was up improvements in retail sales performance for the year. In terms of from annual CPI inflation and core inflation prints of -0.2% year-onthe labour market, the unemployment rate remained above the prevear in 2020

pandemic average of around 2%, registering at 2.4% at end-2021,

#### ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

exports is likely to persist through the first half of 2022 as commodity For 2022, we expect GDP to register at 4% year-on-year. Pent-up prices are anticipated to remain elevated demand should contribute to a pick-up in consumption and investment as the economy continues with recovery after a slight break in the Inflation is expected to see a broad-based pick-up amid rising import fourth quarter of 2021. Higher level of growth is also anticipated to be and labour costs. Lingering supply constraints amid recovering demand driven by strengthening employment as the slack in the labour market will push up cost-push pressures in the next few quarters. Moreover, is absorbed, thus supporting domestic spending. Moreover, as the citya rise in wage growth as the labour market recovers may give rise to state eases border restrictions for more countries, visitor arrivals should business costs, which may lead to higher consumer prices. steadily pick up, leading to a much-needed boost in the tourism and hospitality-related industries.

Strengthening external demand is anticipated to support sustained export growth for the year. Exports are expected to remain strong in the electronics sector given the resilient global electronics cycle and continuous demand from the 5G market. Momentum for oil-related



#### **REGIONAL MARKET LANDSCAPE**

We expect the MAS to maintain the current appreciation path in the April 2022 monetary policy meeting. However, this is given that core inflation remains within the current target, which is between 1% and 2% in 2022. Adjustments may be made in tandem with recovery performance to tighten the policy rate further in the second half of 2022.

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#### REGIONAL MARKET LANDSCAPE

#### SINGAPORE

#### **BANKING SECTOR REVIEW & OUTLOOK**

The Singapore banking sector continued to support and facilitate the government's various relief schemes to businesses and individuals impacted by the pandemic. Relief measures had been provided since April 2020, and extended until the end of September 2021. There have since been indications that both households and businesses are recovering as applications and take-up rates for relief schemes declined towards the later part of 2021. This suggests that most borrowers who applied for the initial relief are now able to The Omicron variant that emerged in late-2021 is likely to resume loan repayments.

Overall credit growth declined over the first quarter of 2021 before recovering to reach an estimated 9% year-on-year in December 2021. The pick-up was largely driven by non-bank lending as economic prospects improved on the moderation in new COVID-19 infections in Singapore and regional countries. The Singapore banking sector also continued to maintain strong capital and liquidity buffers throughout the pandemic.

Banking system overall Non-Performing Loan ("NPL") ratio remained low at 2.2% in 3O21 although NPL ratio for the transport & storage sector stayed elevated, mainly due to NPLs from oil and gas firms that had built up following the collapse in oil prices in 2020. Total provisioning coverage and specific provisioning coverage for the banking system stood at 99.7% in the third guarter of 2021.

temporarily dampen specific sectors but is not expected to derail the ongoing economic recovery in Singapore and globally. We believe Singapore system loan growth will continue to increase at a healthy pace, although moderating from the high single-digit increase in 2021 as the low base effect wears off. NIM prospects are improving as persistent inflation pressures point to an imminent interest rate upcycle by major central banks. Asset quality, which was resilient in 2021, will remain solid in 2022 notwithstanding the uneven economic recovery.

#### THAILAND

#### **ECONOMIC REVIEW**

Thailand registered economic growth of 1% year-on-year for 2021, up from -6.2% year-on-year in 2020. The emergence of the third wave of infections in April 2021 was particularly devastating to the much-anticipated recovery for the year given the imposition of strict, nationwide restrictions. Mobility decreased substantially, which resulted in the decline in consumption and business activities for much of the second and third guarters of 2021. Moreover, the delay in the procurement of vaccines for the national vaccination programme caused a setback in economic recovery, particularly in the domestic-oriented and tourism sectors. Improvements in containing the spread of the virus and the gradual easing of restrictions, as well as the reopening of borders in the fourth quarter of 2021, have somewhat brightened the year's overall bleak performance for domestic demand and the tourism industry.

Nonetheless, resilient exports performance has provided significant support to the economy, on the back of recovering global demand and the depressed Thai Baht. Manufacturing exports such as automotive parts, electronics and machinery have remained robust throughout the year while elevated commodity prices have benefited exports of oil-related and agricultural products.

CPI inflation printed 1.2% year-on-year in 2021 versus -0.8% yearon-year in 2020, given the slack in the economy and provision of relief measures to reduce the cost of living throughout most of the year. The government has earmarked around THB1.5 trillion in borrowings to finance fiscal assistance. Moreover, the debt limit has been temporarily increased from 60% to 70% to give the country extra fiscal headroom. As such, the Bank of Thailand ("BoT") has kept its policy rate unchanged at a record low of 0.5% for 2021 to support ongoing government fiscal measures.

#### **ECONOMIC OUTLOOK**

In 2022, we expect GDP growth of 4.1% year-on-year on the back of pent-up demand and a revival in the tourism sector. Domestic demand is expected to improve as the vaccination rate increases and restrictions loosen further, leading to a rise in mobility in economic and business activities. Pent-up demand should also spur consumption activities while fiscal support from the government is expected to continue, especially for affected sectors. The tourism industry is also anticipated to see an increase in the number of foreign visitors as the country reopens its borders. Nonetheless, recovery in visitor arrivals for the year is still anticipated to be subdued relative to the pre-pandemic average.

On trade, we anticipate exports momentum to remain resilient amid the recovery in global demand, particularly in the semiconductor industry. Moreover, exports of services should register a pick-up in growth given the gradual revival of the tourism sector.

Inflation is expected to grow at 1.5% year-on-year with risks leaning on the upside. Demand-pull pressures from the increase in wage cost may arise amid improvements in the labour market. As for cost-push pressures, the impact from the global supply chain disruption is anticipated to be prolonged well into 2022, pushing up the import costs for producers, which may seep through consumer prices in 2022.

We expect the BoT to maintain its 0.5% policy rate in 2022 as economic recovery remains susceptible to external and domestic risk of a resurgence of the pandemic. However, the higher vaccination rate should mitigate a repeat of last year's severe resurgence in infections. Fiscal measures from the government are seen to be the main tool to bolster economic growth for the year.

#### 🔄 CAMBODIA

#### **ECONOMIC REVIEW**

The COVID-19 pandemic continued to disrupt the Cambodian economy in 2021 as outbreaks resulted in the country being put under movement restrictions for most of the second and third quarters of 2021, subduing the potential economic recovery.

The Cambodian government responded quickly to the health crisis with measures to contain the spread of the virus and support livelihoods and affected businesses. The government rapidly redirected resources to healthcare and curbed spending on other budgetary items. It followed this up with loans and guarantees to affected small businesses that included tax breaks, wage subsidies and support for retraining workers, and implemented a system of cash transfers to vulnerable households.

The country's vaccination programme also progressed well, with Cambodia having one of the highest vaccination rates in the

#### ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

widely expected to boost foreign investments and exports to China. Cambodia's vaccination success set the stage for the authorities Tourism is assumed to take more time to recover to pre-crisis levels to gradually loosen domestic COVID-19 restrictions and to allow and therefore near-term growth is dependent on manufacturing and most economic sectors to reopen by the third quarter of 2021. By other services. Growth in construction and real estate is expected November 2021, Cambodia had reopened its international borders to vaccinated visitors, making it one of only two countries in ASEAN to remain subdued due to the apparent short-term oversupply in commercial and residential properties. - the other being Thailand - to have done so. Despite the emergence of the new COVID-19 Omicron variant, Cambodia has remained open ever since without a notable increase in domestic cases. Future economic growth depends heavily on how the pandemic

situation evolves. Faster containment of the virus in Cambodia and other countries will facilitate the resumption of tourism while Economic growth is forecast at 5.1% in 2022 and is likely to slower progress will damage growth prospects. Inflation is expected gradually improve to pre-crisis levels of around 7% in the medium to remain well contained. With growth below potential, overall term. Growth will be driven by external demand, fuelled by buoyant inflation is projected to continue at around 3% throughout the recoveries in the US, China and Europe. The Cambodia-China Free medium term. Trade Agreement, which came into effect on 1 January 2022, is

#### **BANKING SECTOR REVIEW & OUTLOOK**

Early in the COVID-19 crisis, the National Bank of Cambodia introduced measures to improve liquidity and to facilitate loan restructuring. Several measures were directed to increasing liquidity in the banking sector, such as the lowering of required reserves ratios and interest rate cuts on Liquidity Providing Collateralised Operations ("LCPO") and on Negotiable Certificates of Deposit, which is the collateral for LPCOs.

The policy on loan restructuring that was introduced in May 2020 above the regulatory threshold at 23.4% and 21.3%, respectively. has been extended twice in 2020 and 2021 and is set to end in June 2022. The latest extension granted in December 2021 also prescribed criteria for the classification of loans that had been Banking sector growth continued to be resilient amid the pandemic. In 2021, assets grew by 16% whereas loans and deposits grew by restructured. As at 31 December 2021, loans restructured under 21.5% and 15.4%, respectively. Non-performing loans were at 2.4% the National Bank of Cambodia's relief programme amounted to for both banks and MFIs.

region. As at 31 December 2021, 13.66 million or 81.7% of its total population have been fully vaccinated.

GDP growth was estimated to recover from the 3.1% contraction in 2020 to positive growth of 2.2% in 2021 on the back of improved external demand, particularly for garments and footwear. Exports of agriculture products and other non-garment products, such as bicycle and electronic components, also experienced strong growth in 2021.

Although public finances came under pressure as a result of the hefty spending on social support and economic stimulus, Cambodia's public debt risks remained low. Inflation was well contained at below 3% and the exchange rate was relatively stable with the Khmer Riel depreciating within the 2% band against the USD throughout the pandemic, owing to the central bank's intervention measures.

USD5.5 billion (KHR22.4 trillion), representing close to 12% of the total loans in the banking industry.

In 2021, the National Bank of Cambodia ("NBC") requested banks to run stress tests on the restructured portfolio to assess the extent of the provisioning shortfall with respect to the pre-COVID-19 regulatory environment and assess existing capital buffers. Systemwide financial indicators notionally remained robust as the solvency ratio for bank and micro-finance institutions ("MFIs") remained well

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REVIEW

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## **ENGAGING WITH STAKEHOLDERS**

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## RHB defines stakeholders\* as groups who affect and/or could be affected by the Group's activities, products or services and associated performance.

The Group takes an inclusive and systematic approach to engaging with our various stakeholders to better understand and respond to their needs and concerns. Engaging with stakeholders also influences our materiality matters as well as decision-making processes which in turn, will enable us to address gaps and manage stakeholders' expectations better.

<b>ENGAGEMENT FREQ</b>	UENCY
F1 Annually	B Monthly
E2 Quarterly	F4 Weekly

key stakeholders.

## **SHAREHOLDERS** AND INVESTORS

We provide our shareholders and investors with relevant information in order to make informed investment decisions on RHB as well as share with them our financial performance and the Group's strategic direction.

#### **Material Matters:**

Sustainable Financing, Good Business Governance, Dynamic **Regulatory Landscape** 

## **Engagement Platform**

- (E) (E) Annual and Extraordinary General Meetings
  - Meetings and briefings with analysts and fund managers
  - (1) Annual Reports/Integrated Reports (1) • Sustainability Reports
  - (FG) Bursa Malaysia announcements

  - (P) Quarterly and annual financial results announcements
  - (F) Online communications (email, corporate website, social media)
- (6) Periodic meetings/discussions
- (F6) Roadshows, conferences and round table discussions

• Resilient revenue growth and cost management

Stakeholder Concerns/Expectations

- Asset quality and management of credit risk
- Approach to and progress in sustainability or ESG, which include integration of climate-related risks into risk management processes
- Ethical and responsible business conduct and practices
- Corporate governance
- Dividend policy and payout
- Measures to mitigate effects of the pandemic
- Financial assistance available to customers, exposure to vulnerable segment and impact on the Group's profitability
- Progress on FIT22 strategy and the Group's digital transformation journey
- Community development

#### Senior Independent Non-Executive Director to RHB Board

RHB's Response To Concerns/Expectations

#### Sustainable Business Growth Amid Challenges From th

- Ensuring the Group's readiness in responding to the in economic slowdown due to the pandemic, through dis customer journeys, transforming credit risk managem the workforce for the future.
- · Remaining prudent and continuing to set aside pre-er to cater for potential adverse impacts on asset quality
- Providing continuous updates on the Group's exposur segments for both retail and non-retail segments.
- Ensuring business continuity, the health and safety of and continuous support to our customers during the

## **CUSTOMFRS**

A key winning formula that differentiates us from our competitors is our capability in building trust, delivering convenience and creating value for our customers. We interact with customers to better understand their requirements so that we can propose the right financial solutions for them.

#### **Material Matters:**

Financial Inclusion and Education, Customer Relationship Management, Fair Treatment of Financial Consumers, Data Protection and Cybersecurity, Digitalisation and Investment in Technology

- (F6) Online and digital communications (email, corporate website, social media)
- (F6) Customer networking events (F) • Surveys (post-service, post-transactions, post-complaint resolution, overall
- customer experience surveys, touchpoint surveys, product surveys, etc.)
- (F5) Focus groups and service design engagement
- Seminars and forums
- (F7) Interaction programmes
- (i) Complaint resolution discussions and Customer Advocacy
- (7) Relationship Manager engagements
- (F) Physical communication (letters, notices, etc.)
- (F7) Feedback channels (efeedback\*\*, customer.service@rhbgroup.com, customer.advocacy@rhbgroup.com)
- (F6) Service Clinics
- Branches, Sales & Service Centres, Call Centres
- (7) Sales and Service Visits

- Fair treatment and fair conduct of business dealings
- Personalised financial advice and solutions with quick and convenient banking options
- Cybersecurity and having a safe environment in which to conduct banking activities
- Accessibility to banking services during the pandemic
- Availability of payment assistance programme to assist customers
- affected by COVID-19 • Safety at branches and sales centres

 Strengthening digital propositions to deliver enhanced experiences and financial accessibility. Driving service excellence through the RHB Way Serv

- Simplifying customer communication materials and communication simple language and minimising legal and technical jar
- Making it easier for customers to contact RHB by impr accessibility to existing channels and developing more options to access RHB for assistance and support.

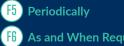
#### **Safeguarding Customer Privacy and Data Protection**

- Subscribing to Third Party IT Security Risk Rating Serv enhancing third party due diligence process. • Organising mandatory IT security awareness training
- and expanding the training programme to include Boa third parties to ensure all employees understand their customer information and dealings.
- Achieving ISO/IEC 27001 Information Security Management recertification of our core e-Banking and transaction
- Implementing End Point Detection and Response ("EI detect and stop malicious activities on desktops and la
  - Providing continuous updates of Indicator of Compror

\*\* an online survey for customers to rate the service of a branch.

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### **ENGAGING WITH STAKEHOLDERS**



(F7) Ongoing

F6 As and When Required

\* The Group refers to Bursa Malaysia's Sustainability Reporting Guide (2<sup>nd</sup> edition) and AA1000 Stakeholder Engagement Standard 2015 to identify

<ul> <li>Ensuring Strong Corporate Governance</li> <li>Putting in place robust governance policies, ensures adequate management and Board oversight.</li> <li>Committed to transparent and accurate disclosure and reporting.</li> <li>Appointment of five Independent Non-Executive Directors and one Senior Independent Non-Executive Director to RHB Bank Berhad's Board.</li> <li>Sustainable Business Growth Amid Challenges From the Pandemic</li> <li>Ensuring the Group's readiness in responding to the impact of the economic slowdown due to the pandemic, through digitalisation of customer journeys, transforming credit risk management and readying the workforce for the future.</li> <li>Remaining prudent and continuing to set aside pre-emptive provisions to cater for potential adverse impacts on asset quality.</li> <li>Providing continuous updates on the Group's exposure to vulnerable segments for both retail and non-retail segments.</li> <li>Ensuring business continuity, the health and safety of our employees and continuous support to our customers during the pandemic.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Providing support to customers through moratorium and payment assistance programmes.</li> <li>Enhancing Sustainability Approach <ul> <li>Reviewing and refreshing the Group's existing Sustainability Framework to ensure continued relevance, and establishing a new 5-year (2022-2026) Sustainability Strategy and Roadmap.</li> <li>Kickstarting the Group's Climate Action Programme towards enhancing the Group's Climate risk management practices and identifying commercial opportunities.</li> <li>Promoting financial inclusion and access through various products and services.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Keeping Stakeholders Informed <ul> <li>Quarterly engagement with Analysts on the Group's financial performance, progress of FIT22 strategies, key sustainability achievements and financial assistance to customers during the pandemic.</li> <li>Sharing the progress of the Group's Digital Transformation journey through RHB's Digital Day.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Delivering Sustainable Customer Solutions Through Fair Treatment and Service Excellence</li> <li>Ensuring products and services are delivered in line with BNM's Fair Treatment of Financial Consumers ("FTFC") Policy.</li> <li>Strengthening digital propositions to deliver enhanced customer experiences and financial accessibility.</li> <li>Driving service excellence through the RHB Way Service Culture, an initiative that focuses on improving overall customer experience through its people, process, technology and products, as seen in higher RHB MY Group Net Promoter Score (achievement of +15 in 2021, +2 points higher than in 2020).</li> <li>Simplifying customer communication materials and content by using simple language and minimising legal and technical jargon.</li> <li>Making it easier for customers to contact RHB by improving accessibility to existing channels and developing more platforms as options to access RHB for assistance and support.</li> <li>Safeguarding Customer Privacy and Data Protection</li> <li>Subscribing to Third Party IT Security Risk Rating Services as part of enhancing third party due diligence process.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>security solutions (e.g. Intrusion Prevention System, Secure Email Gateway) to detect and block abnormal activities.</li> <li>Enhancing frameworks and policies relating to technology and cyber risk management as well as continuous strengthening of IT security controls, taking into consideration the new norm and the constantly evolving technology landscape.</li> <li><b>Providing Financing Assistance During the Height of the Pandemic</b> <ul> <li>Repayment Assistance was at its peak in September 2020, with the initial moratorium outstanding balances amounting to RM107.1 billion or 66% of total domestic borrowings, for more than 753,000 customers.</li> <li>Providing over RM20.3 billion in financial assistance to SMEs through loans and financing facilities in Repayment Assistance, including delivering the government's Special Relief Facility ("SRF") and Targeted Relief and Recovery Facility, as well as RHB's BizPower Relief Financing ("BRF") programme and Retailer SME Relief Financing programme.</li> <li>Providing URUS, a development support programme.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul> <li>enhancing third party due diligence process.</li> <li>Organising mandatory IT security awareness training for employees and expanding the training programme to include Board members and third parties to ensure all employees understand their role in protecting customer information and dealings.</li> <li>Achieving ISO/IEC 27001 Information Security Management Systems recertification of our core e-Banking and transaction systems.</li> <li>Implementing End Point Detection and Response ("EDR") tool to detect and stop malicious activities on desktops and laptops.</li> <li>Providing continuous updates of Indicator of Compromise ("IoC") on</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Keeping Our Customers Safe</li> <li>Implementing strict SOPs to ensure safety of customers at branches, including limiting number of customers allowed into the premises at any one time throughout the pandemic situation.</li> <li>Providing real-time digital queue system for branches via mobile app for customers to book their appointments ahead of time.</li> <li>Encouraging online banking transactions via RHB Now and RHB Mobile App.</li> </ul>

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#### **ENGAGING WITH STAKEHOLDERS**

## **BUSINESS** PARTNERS

In driving business performance and delivering superior products and services to our customers, we engage with our business partners in strategic alliances to capitalise on mutually beneficial business opportunities in the market.

#### Material Matters:

Sustainable Procurement. Good Business Governance. Data **Protection and Cybersecurity** 

## **FMPLOYFFS**

We are committed to being a preferred employer with a highly productive, agile and engaged workforce that delivers exceptional service to customers while ensuring our employees' health, safety and well-being. Employee engagement is a critical driver of business success in today's competitive marketplace.

#### **Material Matters:**

Talent Management, Employee Training and Education, Employee Health, Safety and Wellness, **Diversity and Equal Opportunity** 

- **Engagement Platform** (F6) • Company visits
- (F7) Formal & informal engagements () • Online communications (email,
- corporate website and social media) (7) • Tender process and supplier
- feedback mechanism
- (F6) Solution Co-Design Workshops (F6) • Certification and immersion
- programme with industry leaders and experts

(f) • Intranet (My1Portal and MyLink2HR)

(f) • RHB's internal social media channel.

(F) • Engagement sessions during festive

(F) • Social, sports and recreational

(1) • Annual Employee Engagement

(F) • Formal meetings - GMD Chat

across the region

Effectiveness Survey ("ICES")

(F) • Formal and confidential grievance

(12)(FB) • Senior Leadership Forum, GMD Live

Workplace by Meta, and recognition

Survey ("EES") and Internal Customer

Sessions and town halls conducted

and email

activities

seasons

channel

Session

via ThanksBot

- **Stakeholder Concerns/Expectations** • User-friendliness of e-Procurement System
  - Fair evaluation of vendor proposals
  - New policies and guidelines that may affect vendors' performance
  - Privacy and confidentiality
  - Promptness of payment

#### **RHB's Response To Concerns/Expectations**

#### Providing Guidance and Support for Vendors and Suppliers

- Conducting engagement sessions covering topics on guidelines and procedures, sales and service tax, supplier performance, payment-related matters and contract renewal. These engagement sessions reiterate our commitment towards sourcing transparently and maintaining fair practices.
- Conducting training for vendors and suppliers on an annual basis, as part of the support infrastructure provided for RHB's network of suppliers.
- Establishing Sustainable Procurement policies supported by a robust procurement process to promote responsible and sustainable procurement practices.

- Employees' goals and objectives
- Rewards and recognition
- Sustainable engagement
- Work organisation
- Career development
- Learning and development
- Employees' safety and health
- Tools for employees to work remotely

#### Supporting the Professional Growth of Our People

- Establishing robust Employee Value Proposition programme to attract and retain talents.
- Reskilling/upskilling employees through various development interventions such as RHB Managers Programme and Future Skills Programme, with an investment amount of RM24.6 million.
- Established the Workforce of the Future ("WOTF") Programme to upskill and reskill employees towards more digital and customer-centric roles by enforcing manpower planning guidelines and establishing a specialised recruitment squad to increase talent in the Digital, IT and Analytics areas.

#### **Ensuring Sustainable Engagement**

- Conducting Employee Engagement Survey ("EES") on an annual basis to gauge employees' level of satisfaction and obtain feedback on areas for improvement. In 2021, the EES score was 90, on par with the industry norm.
- Conducting roadshows to share our strategic direction with our employees, locally and regionally, and via live updates on Workplace@Facebook by Meta for continuous engagement with employees.
- Conducting salary benchmarking exercise for comparison against the market and retention programmes.
- Conducting quarterly Senior Leadership Forums and Groupwide town halls to share with senior leaders the Group's financial performance and achievements and to provide status updates on key strategic initiatives via live updates.
- Continuous engagement with employees on their career progression through the quarterly one-on-one discussions on performance and annual discussions on career growth and development.

### **ENGAGING WITH STAKEHOLDERS**

#### **Ensuring a Fair Procurement System**

- Conducting visits to the office premises or sites of our Business Partners to gain a good understanding of our Business Partners' working environment and work culture, business continuity management and system infrastructure.
- Proposals from vendors are submitted digitally to ensure confidentiality and transparency, without the involvement of project owners.
- Proposals are evaluated fairly based on merit and against a set of clearly identified criteria.

#### **Respecting Good Business Practices**

• Payments will be made according to the Terms of Agreement, on or before due dates via digital transfer.

#### Upholding Health, Safety and Wellness During COVID-19

- Rolling out the improved and refined Employee Wellness Programme.
- Call-tree notifications on safety measures and precautions to adhere to.
- Regularly communicating updates on COVID-19 pandemicrelated matters to keep employees abreast of latest developments in ensuring safety and health, via bimonthly GMD Live Sessions and Workplace@Facebook by Meta.
- Ensuring strict adherence to Standard Operating Procedures ("SOPs") within office and branch premises; allowing Work-From-Home ("WFH") arrangement; implementing split operations for key functions; allowing staff rotation at branches together with shorter operation hours; and driving COVID-19 vaccination rate to ≈99% in Malaysia Operations by end-2021 by connecting with PPVs and also via paid vaccinations.

#### **Reaching Out to Employees in Need**

- Activating the RHB Humanitarian Fund to provide assistance to employees affected by COVID-19 and the floods.
- Providing various forms of assistance to employees impacted by the floods in December 2021, including providing temporary accommodation in RHB Bangi Hostel and financial relief, as well as organising volunteer programmes for employees to help their colleagues such as by distributing essential items and cleaning their houses.
- Allocating a total of RM100,000 to pay insurance claims on exgratia basis to employees whose vehicles and house contents were not insured against flood.

OUR	STR	ATEG	C
F	REVI	EW	

#### **ENGAGING WITH STAKEHOLDERS**

## REGULATORY **AUTHORITIES &** POLICYMAKERS

We regularly engage with regulatory authorities on matters that impact our business and operations.

#### **Material Matters:**

Dynamic Regulatory Landscape, Risk Management, Climate Change, Good **Business Governance, Fair Treatment** of Financial Consumers, Sustainable Financing

E	ngagement Platform	
<b>(F7)</b> •	Regular updates and reporting to regulatory authorities	

(F6) • Actively participating in and contributing to industry and regulatory working groups, briefings, forums,

conferences and consultation papers (F7) • Engaging with regulatory authorities to consult, update, share and seek directives on implementation of new products and services or initiatives, policies, decisions or regulatory frameworks

- Stakeholder Concerns/Expectations • Effective internal control measures
- Robust risk management practices
- Effective management of the Group's compliance with rules and regulations
- Balancing between preserving the stability of the banking system, the concerns of depositors and sustaining economic activity
- Efficient AML practices • Integration of ESG matters, particularly
- climate change, into the Group's core business and operations
- Progress against Value-based Intermediation ("VBI")
- Good corporate governance
- Ethical and responsible business practices in line with FTFC policy
- Asset quality and management of credit risk
- Policies and procedures • Clear, relevant and timely communication to customers

## COMMUNITIES

We actively engage with communities, including children and youth from the underprivileged and underserved segments.

Note: This stakeholder group includes NGOs and the media.

#### **Material Matters:**

Financial Inclusion and Education, **Community Enrichment** 

With our financial industry peers, we

pursue industry-wide improvements

**Risk Management, Good Business** 

Dynamic Regulatory Landscape,

Governance, Sustainable Financing,

Climate Change, Customer Relationship

financial industry matters.

**Material Matters:** 

Management

RHB Bank Berhad

through discussions and consensus on

#### (F) • Collaboration and partnerships with non-profit organisations, associations or government organisations through RHB's community engagement initiatives

- (F) Interaction and discussion with related government bodies and Non-Governmental Organisations ("NGOs")
- (F7) Online communications (email, corporate website and social media)
- (F) On-ground community engagement activities
- (1) Innovative digital platforms and mobile banking services to promote financial accessibility
  - Virtual media sessions and press releases

- Promotion of financial literacy despite restrictions on movement • Opportunities for equal access to
- education, especially for the B40 communities
- Access to financing and access to basic banking services during the pandemic
- Empowerment of the underserved and underprivileged
- Integration of ESG matters into the Group's core business and operations
- Contributions to mitigate impact of COVID-19 and alleviate challenges post-natural disasters

- FINANCIAL INDUSTRY PEERS
  - and Money Markets
  - Conduct

  - ("ESG") Committee Association of Islamic Banks in Malavsia
  - MyZakat Working Group - Value-Based Intermediation
  - Association of Islamic Banking and
  - Malaysian Investment Banking
  - Persatuan Insurans Am Malaysia
  - Bank Negara Malaysia
  - Joint Committee on Climate Change

- Impact of regulatory changes and climate
- change reporting initiatives by BNM Integration of ESG matters into the
- Group's core business and operations
- Customer experience
- Fraud risk
- Compliance matters
- Financial impact of the pandemic
- Financial impact of interest rate cuts

#### **RHB's Response To Concerns/Expectations**

#### **Ensuring Strong Fundamentals**

- Strengthening Board and Management oversight.
- Ensuring strong liquidity and capital levels to with shocks to the banking system, protect depositors a sustained economic activity.

#### ESG at the Fore

- Continuing to integrate ESG, including climate cha considerations, into the Group's core business and
- Continuing to drive commitment to green financing • Involvement in regulator-industry-led committees
- Joint Committee on Climate Change ("JC3"). • Establishing a 5-year (2022-2026) Sustainability St Roadmap that underlines the Group's focus and con the ESG agenda.

#### Upholding Robust Compliance Practices

 Strengthening compliance capabilities amid the cor challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### **Putting Education First**

- Continuous implementation of the Money Ma\$ter Provide the structured financial literacy programme that educate and tertiary students on managing their finances.
- Conducting online tuition classes and educational ses targeted B40 students to ensure they were not left be the lockdown periods.
- Providing more than 3,600 laptops and 111 SIM card B40 students from 33 schools nationwide under the programme.
- Nurturing and empowering children and youth from segments through our RHB X-Cel Academic Excellen X-Cel Star Scholarship programmes.

#### Supporting Our Customers and Promoting Inclusivity

Providing the Targeted Payment Assistance Program

#### Industry Participation

- Involvement in regulator-industry-led committees Committee on Climate Change ("JC3") and workin such as Value-Based Intermediation Financing and Impact Assessment Framework ("VBIAF") Sectoral Working Group.
- Participate in round table discussions/forums on and practices.
- Continuous discussions with our peers on the imp new policies and guidelines, as well as how to combat risks associated with fraud and money-laundering.

- (7) Industry committees: Association of Banks in Malaysia
- Committee on Development of Capital
- Committee on Consumer and Market
- Fraud Risk Committee
- Environmental, Social, and Governance
- **Community Practitioners**
- Financial Institutions of Malaysia
- Association

INTEGRATED REPORT 2021
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#### **ENGAGING WITH STAKEHOLDERS**

stand potential and enable	<ul> <li>Continuously improving and strengthening compliance functions, including implementing new measures and putting in place new systems and controls to enhance the Group's overall compliance risk governance.</li> <li>Ensuring continued compliance awareness among employees through designated training programmes.</li> </ul>	
nge operations. g. such as the crategy and ommitment to ntinued	<ul> <li>Respecting Our Customers</li> <li>Embedding Fair Treatment of Financial Consumers principles and RHB Way's Tone of Voice into customer communications.</li> <li>Ensuring simplified language in contracts and banking documents.</li> <li>Continuous training for frontliners on customer service.</li> <li>Conducting customer service surveys to better understand customer expectations and areas for improvement. This is reflected in improved Net Promoter Score ("NPS"), which showed strong performance against industry.</li> </ul>	
		-
rogramme, a s secondary ssions for behind during ds to CERDIK	<ul> <li>and Financial Management &amp; Resilience Programme ("URUS"), for individuals impacted by the pandemic.</li> <li>Facilitating the disbursement of relief funds for SMEs such as the Special Relief Facility announced by Bank Negara Malaysia ("BNM").</li> <li>Promoting access to financing through digitalisation.</li> </ul> ESG at the Fore <ul> <li>Reaffirming our approach to sustainability and integration of ESG considerations into our decision-making process and risk</li> </ul>	
underprivileged ce and RHB	<ul> <li>management practices.</li> <li>Identifying opportunities that will contribute to sustainable development and the transition to a low-carbon economy.</li> </ul>	
me 2021	<ul> <li>Engaging with the Media</li> <li>Organising virtual media sessions and sending emails to members of the media to allow information to be disseminated effectively.</li> </ul>	
such as loint	Assisting Customers	
s such as Joint ng groups d Investment I Guide ESG matters pacts of mbat risks	<ul> <li>Continuing to support individuals and customers impacted by the pandemic through Targeted Payment Assistance, which ended in June 2021, and URUS programme.</li> <li>Facilitating various forms of Repayment/Payment Assistance for retail and SME customers, including government-guaranteed schemes such as Business Recapitalisation Facility ("BRF"), Disaster Relief Facility ("DRF") 2022, High Tech Facility - National Investment Aspirations ("HTF-NIA"), and Targeted Relief and Recovery Facility ("TRRF"), as well as RHB</li> </ul>	

BizPower/-i Relief Financing facility.

RHR

## **OUR MATERIAL MATTERS**

LEADERSHIP

STATEMENTS

Material matters are issues that are most important to our business and stakeholders. They represent our ESG impacts and allow us to strengthen our sustainability agenda going forward. Assessing our material matters is integral to our journey of value creation as it enables us to identify opportunities and mitigate risks, besides meeting stakeholders' needs.

We conducted an in-depth materiality assessment, which was led by an independent consultant, to identify and understand the issues that matter most to RHB Banking Group and its stakeholders. The assessment involved a three-step process of Identification, Prioritisation and Validation & Approval, resulting in the final 17 material matters. Although initially assessed in 2018, these material matters are still relevant to us and our stakeholders<sup>1</sup>, and support our new purpose statement of *Making Progress Happen For Everyone*.

Sustainability Management thereafter conducted internal annual reviews of our material matters by taking into account internal and external factors. These included issues and concerns raised through stakeholder platforms, the changing global and local landscape, emerging regulatory developments, peer assessments, ESG ratings and guidelines, as well as RHB's strategic, business and sustainability activities.

This ongoing process allows us to reassess our material matters, as shown in the infographic. In 2021, we conducted an internal review and aligned the material matters with our peers. As a result, we decided to remove Financial Performance as a separate item as this was embedded across all material matters.

We address and manage our material matters by leveraging our robust Sustainability Framework. The following table outlines what these matters mean to us at RHB and where they are mainly addressed under our Framework's Focus Areas.



Material Matters and How We Define Them	Sustainability Focus Area
Data Protection and Cybersecurity	
Putting in place a robust digital infrastructure, stringent controls and governance measures to protect customers' data privacy while continuously enhancing our cybersecurity capabilities to ensure a safe and secure environment.	Ethics & Governance
Good Business Governance	
Upholding good business conduct that encompasses ethical business practices, regulatory compliance and active management of anti-bribery and corruption, fraud risk and anti-competition through strengthened policies and governance that will gain the trust of shareholders and stakeholders, leading to long-term value creation and sustainable business growth.	Ethics & Governance
Risk Management	
Having effective risk management is fundamental in driving sustainable growth and key to the proactive risk management of our operating environment, including business continuity management. The Group Risk Management Framework sets out the strategic direction for the management of risks within the Group.	<ul><li>Sustainable Financing</li><li>Ethics &amp; Governance</li></ul>
Climate Change	
The Group acknowledges the position and role it plays in supporting the transition to a low-carbon economy in line with national and global commitments. We approach this through managing our own operational footprint, supporting and nurturing customers and clients in the transition to a low-carbon economy and seizing opportunities for climate adaptation and mitigation.	<ul> <li>Sustainable Financing</li> <li>Environmental Stewardship</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> For more information on our 2018 materiality assessment, material matters and matrix, please refer to RHB Sustainability Report 2018.

#### Material Matters and How We Define Them

#### Sustainable Financing

Integrating ESG considerations into the Group's core identifying related risks and opportunities that will co low-carbon economy.

#### Digitalisation and Investment in Technology

Delivering and creating value for our customers. W technology and channel improvements and delivering adoption among customers.

#### Dynamic Regulatory Landscape

Responding swiftly and effectively to new developm As a financial services provider, we consistently look competition and to better combat new threats.

#### **Customer Relationship Management**

Delivering service excellence to our customers in line w and confidence of our customers, enabling them to ach

#### **Financial Inclusion and Education**

Providing financial access and inclusion through va literacy to customers and the community, particularly

#### Fair Treatment of Financial Consumers

Treating our customers fairly in the conduct of our bu easily understood information on products and servic

#### Talent Management

Continuing to foster talent development while emb human capital. To ensure long-term growth for our bus management and employee engagement.

#### **Environmental Stewardship**

Advocating the responsible use of natural resources su produced through sustainable practices. This include operations to minimise our own environmental impact

#### **Employee Health, Safety and Wellness**

Ensuring the health and well-being of our employees promote agility.

#### **Community Enrichment**

Enriching and empowering local communities in which is driven by our community engagement initiatives an

#### Diversity and Equal Opportunity

Building a diverse and inclusive workplace and culture ethnicity, disability and nationality.

#### **Employee Training and Education**

Building a workforce that is future-proof, in order to priorities. We do so by equipping our employees with professional growth and maximise their potential.

#### Sustainable Procurement

Ensuring that our procurement practices are respo commitment to promoting sustainable practices across

#### OUR MATERIAL MATTERS

	Sustainability Focus Area	
e business activities and decision-making processes, including contribute to sustainable development and the transition to a	Sustainable Financing	
We identify opportunities and mitigate risks by investing in ng innovative products and services, while encouraging digital	Digitalisation	
ments in the market and the changing regulatory landscape. < at ways to strengthen our resilience in the face of increasing	<ul> <li>Sustainable Financing</li> <li>Customer-centric Banking</li> <li>Ethics &amp; Governance</li> </ul>	
with our Customer Service Charter and striving to gain the trust chieve their goals.	Customer-centric Banking	
avious products and complete including promoting financial	e Sustainable Financina	
arious products and services, including promoting financial y to the youth and the underserved.	<ul><li>Sustainable Financing</li><li>Digitalisation</li><li>Financial Education</li></ul>	Ξ
usiness, as well as providing them with accurate, adequate and ices.	Customer-centric Banking	X
		/
nbedding sustainability practices in the management of our usiness, we manage our diverse workforce by optimising talent	People & Workplace	
such as energy, water and paper and the minimisation of waste les encouraging eco-efficiency practices in our business and ct.	Environmental Stewardship	
es is important to increase productivity and efficiency and to	People & Workplace	
a service and the service of the ser	Community Englishment	
ch we operate, particularly the underprivileged and youth. This nd through the RHB Foundation.	Community Enrichment	
ure with equal opportunity and inclusivity across gender, age,	People & Workplace	
o stay relevant and agile while delivering the Group's strategic	People & Workplace	
h the right set of development skills and tools to expand their		
onsible, ethical, fair and transparent, reflecting the Group's ss its supply chain.	Sustainable Procurement	

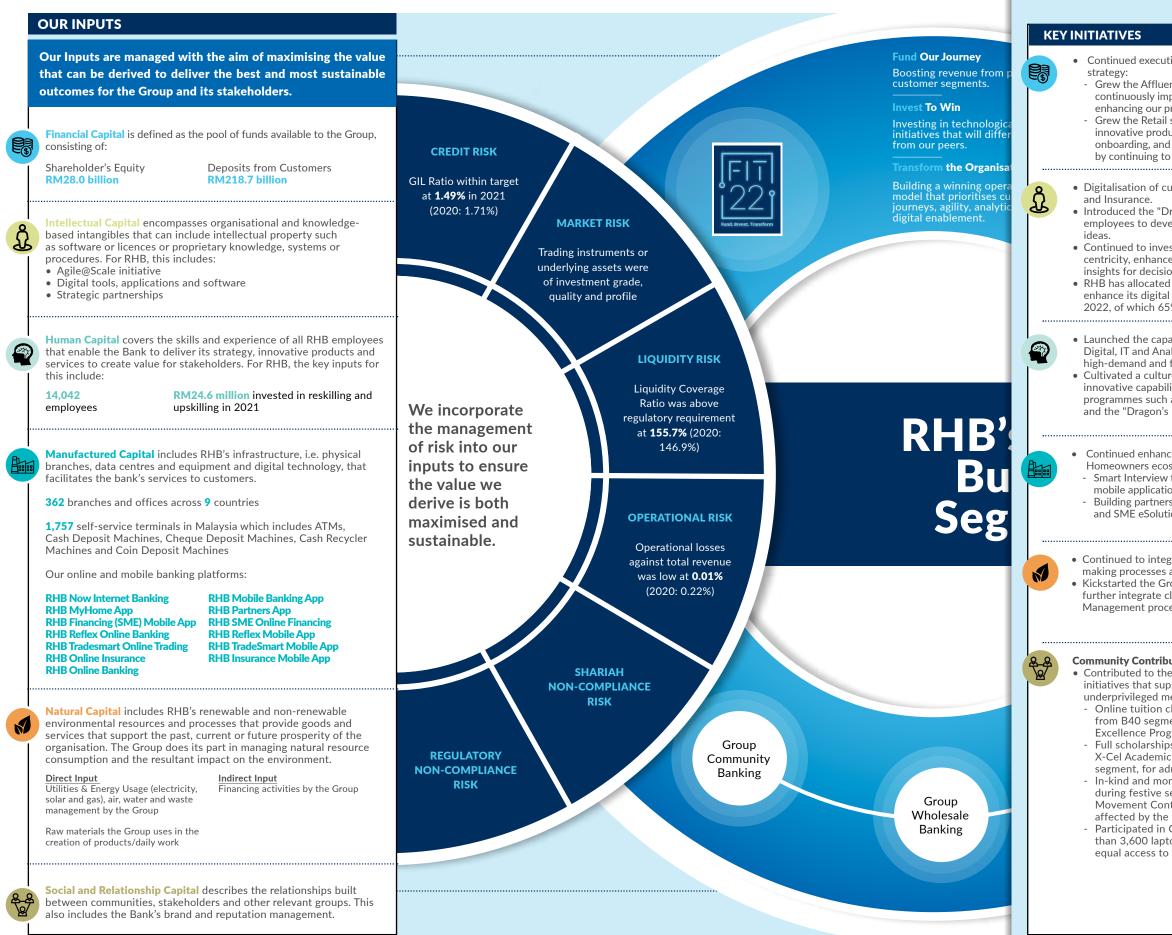
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RHR

## OUR VALUE CREATING BUSINESS MODEL

LEADERSHIP

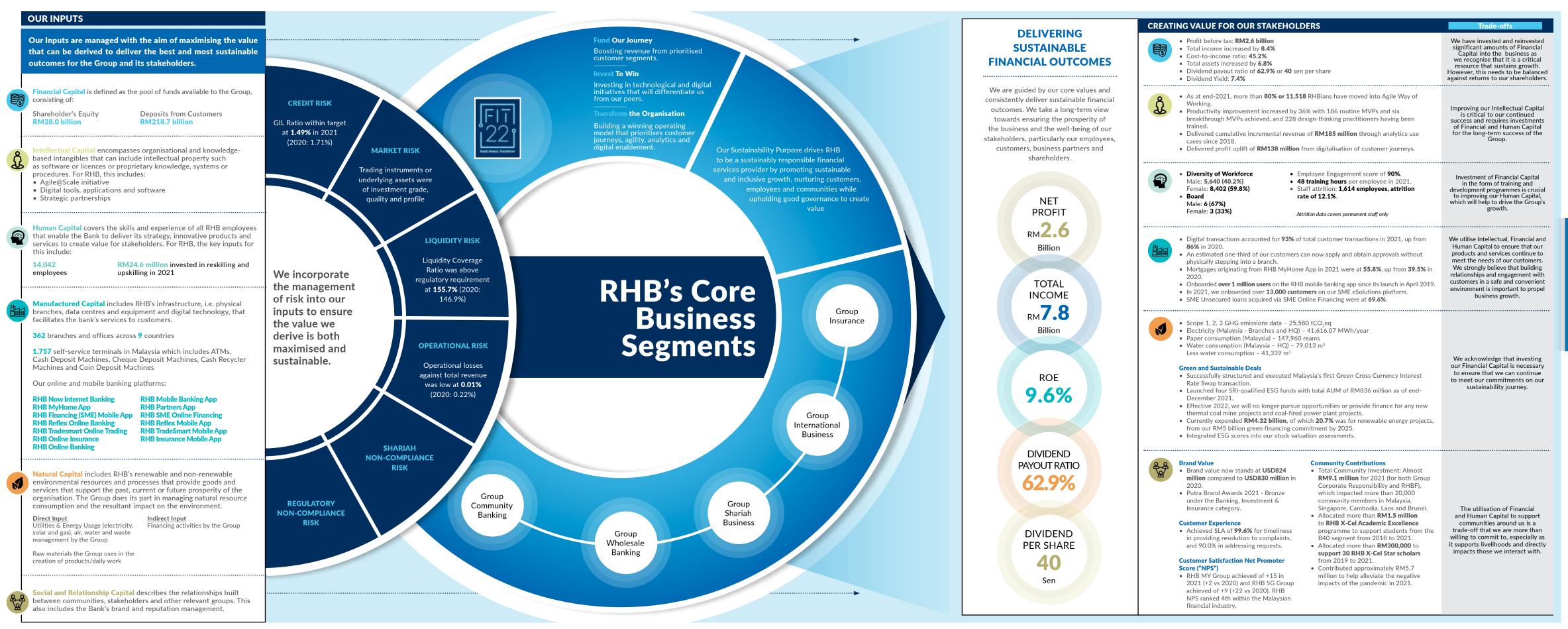
STATEMENTS



## OUR VALUE CREATING BUSINESS MODEL

ution of the Group's five-year FIT22 eent and Wealth customer base by mproving our value proposition and product suite. il segment through deposits, and ducts and services by improving digital id accelerating growth in mortgage loans to build on the homeowner's ecosystem.	<ul> <li>Increased SME loan growth by driving end-to-end banking solutions through online and digital channels to improve our customer value proposition.</li> <li>Improved our penetration into other segments such as Large-Cap, Mid-Cap and commercial.</li> <li>Improved our overseas presence through differentiated propositions for target segments in each country.</li> <li>Improved operational efficiency and cost management.</li> <li>Supported sustainable development.</li> </ul>
customer journeys across Retail, SME Dragon's Den" initiative to encourage our velop groundbreaking next-generation rest in analytics to improve customer- ce cost-efficiency and provide better sion-making. ed RM200 million to implement and al capabilities over five years from 2017- 55% has been utilised as of end-2021.	<ul> <li>Formalised a partnership with Axiata to expand and deepen collaboration between the two parties, including the formation of a consortium to apply for a digital bank licence.</li> <li>Execution of the Group's Agile@Scale initiative, which is a way of working with Design Thinking to prioritise customer journeys, promote agility, drive the use of analytics and accelerate digital enablement.</li> </ul>
pability upskilling journey for over 600 halytics employees to build proficiency in d future-looking skills. ure of innovation and embedded bilities within our employees through h as Future Skills, Solutions Design Lab 's Den" competition.	<ul> <li>Conducted Sustainable Finance Series training for over 900 employees to increase their awareness about vario sustainable finance topics.</li> <li>Launched the Women in Leadership League ("WILL") together with social enterprise LeadWomen and the Melbourne Business School programme to empower and inspire women to become agents of change and embrace leadership.</li> </ul>
ncements to the SME Ecosystem and osystem: w feature in the RHB Financing (SME) tion. erships through the MyHome Partner app itions.	<ul> <li>Enhancing customer experience through the use of AF creating seamless end-to-end journeys.</li> <li>Creating easy access to products and services through our trusted partners.</li> <li>Launched new RHB Online Banking platform.</li> <li>Piloted eSignature functionality for our Wealth customer</li> <li>Enhanced customer experience for mobile banking platform.</li> </ul>
egrate ESG considerations into decision- s and risk management practices. Group's Climate Action Programme to climate risk considerations into our Risk ocesses.	<ul> <li>Launched the Sustainability Financing Programme comprising Green Energy, Green Building, Green Processes, and Green Products for SME and retail customers as part of the Group's RM5 billion Green Commitment by 2025.</li> <li>Expanded the coverage of GHG emissions reporting to cover all our operations in Malaysia.</li> </ul>
<b>butions</b> he Community through a host of upported the underserved and members of the community: classes for Form 4 & 5 students ment under the RHB X-Cel Academic ogramme. ips for selected top performers of RHB ic Excellence Programme from B40 admission into local public universities. onetary contributions to B40 families seasons and at the height of the ontrol Order, as well as to families badly e floods. n CERDIK Programme by donating more otops to students to help B40 youth gain o online education.	<ul> <li>Helping Our Customers</li> <li>We stepped up to provide various forms of assistance via: <ul> <li>Opt-in moratorium of up to six months to individuals and SME customers under PEMULIH.</li> <li>Targeted Repayment Assistance.</li> <li>Targeted loan moratoriums under PEMERKASA.</li> <li>URUS programme that offers financial assistance specifically to the B50 segment.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Continued to enable more SMEs to promote their products on Facebook and a purpose-built microsite for free via our #JomSapot platform.</li> <li>Facilitated financing to SME customers through various programmes, including SJPP Government Guarantee Scheme, Credit Guarantee Corporation and our own BizPower Relief programme.</li> <li>RHB Way 2.0 - to intensify service culture and elevate customer experience to deliver our brand promise of Together We Progress and improve our Net Promoter Score.</li> <li>24-hour Customer Contact Centre with digital capabilities and data analytics to serve more than 300,000 customers every month across Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei.</li> </ul>

## **OUR VALUE CREATING BUSINESS MODEL**



#### OUR VALUE CREATING BUSINESS MODEL



**OUR STRATEGIC ROADMAP** 

#### **CATALYSING GROWTH THROUGH FIT22**

The FIT22 strategy has enabled the Group to generate sustained growth and deliver value to our stakeholders, exceeding many of our expectations as we harnessed the opportunities from the business segments we focused on. Our Digital Transformation Journey and adoption of the Agile way of working has also further unleashed the potential of our FIT22 strategy by fundamentally transforming the way we do business, enabling us to deliver innovative products and services, as well as faster speed to market.

REVIEW

#### **Overview of Accomplishments (2017-2021)**

We launched the FIT22 strategy in 2017, which details our long-term goals to be achieved through three overarching thrusts and their supporting initiatives. The 22 initiatives, organised under the Fund Our Journey, Invest to Win and Transform the Organisation strategic thrusts, have brought us a long way, with double-digit growth achieved against many of our targets and exceeding what we had first envisioned.

#### Affluent & Wealth

• The Affluent customer base increased by 3.4% year-on-year. Assets Under Management ("AUM") for the Affluent customer base rose by 9.0% year-on-year.

#### Retail

- Retail deposits continued to outpace the industry, growing by 8.1% year-on-year compared with the industry's 4.9%.
- On the Retail front, we grew the number of mortgages originating from the RHB MyHome App to 55.8% from 39.5% in 2020, with the contribution of leads from the RHB Partners App standing at 83.3% compared with 68.8% in the previous year.

#### SME

- SME loans increased 11.2% year-on-year and deposits increased by 14.6% in 2021.
- In the SME segment, we continued to expand our value-added services to our customers by building our SME ecosystems. In 2021, we onboarded over 13,000 customers on our SME eSolutions platform (9,768 in 2020).

#### SME

Introduced the Smart Interview feature in the RHB Financing (SME) mobile application, which allows our SME customers interviews and site inspections.

#### **Online Banking**

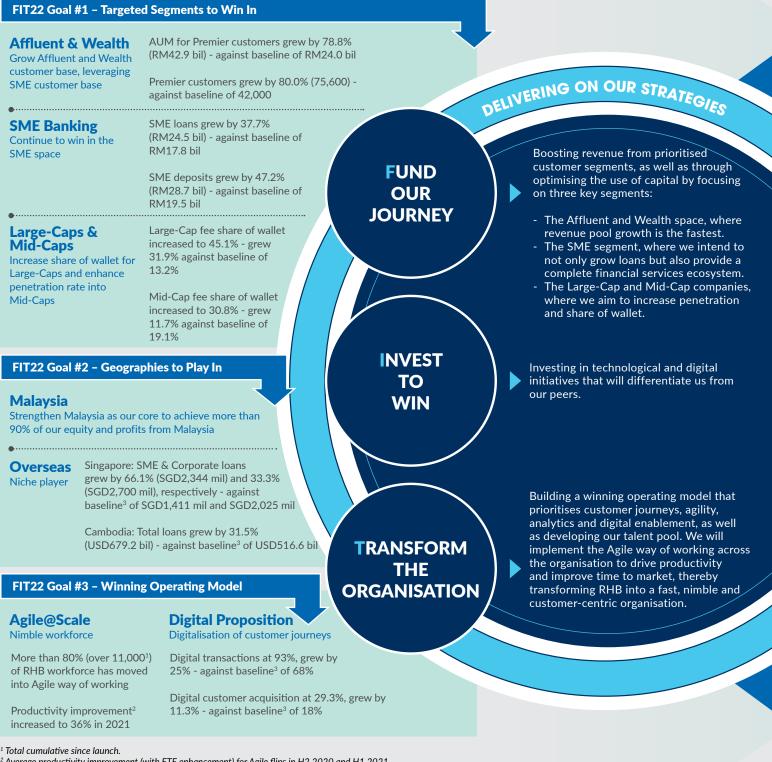
Continued to invest in analytics and target Group-wide adoption to enable multiple parts of the business to enhance customer-Launched our new RHB Online Banking platform, which features a simplified and more intuitive interface while centricity and cost-efficiency. We saw incremental benefits worth allowing instant access to cash financing.

#### Investments

Formalised a partnership with Axiata to drive innovation and Piloted an eSignature functionality for our Wealth customers to enable sales and business continuity to take place explore collaboration opportunities, through which we also jointly seamlessly without the need for physical interactions, which applied for a digital bank licence. is a first in Malaysia and Southeast Asia.

Our Agile journey began in 2017 with the aim of creating a winning operating model by achieving faster speed to market, increasing productivity, driving a high-performance culture and delivering superior customer journeys. We have since scaled up its implementation and continued to reap the benefits in 2021, during which we continued to create value for our customers and employees, as follows:

- More than doubled the number of employees under the Agile way Started the capability upskilling journey for over 600 Digital, IT of working to over 11,000, which constituted more than 80% of and Analytics employees to build proficiency in high-demand RHB employees (4,377 in 2020). skills of the future. • Cultivated a culture of innovation and instilled innovative • Improved our overall ranking to No. 2 from No. 10 among Malaysia's 100 Leading Graduate Employers 2021 and retained capabilities in our employees through programmes such as Future Skills and Solutions Design Lab. our second-placed employer ranking in the Banking and Financial • Introduced avenues for employees to demonstrate their innovative Services category. talents and be incentivised through participation in RHB's • Maintained a strong Employee Engagement Survey ("EES") score
- "Dragon's Den" competition. of 90%
- Obtained a better understanding of the mix of roles required in the future and commenced efforts to reshape our workforce as part of the Workforce of the Future.



<sup>2</sup> Average productivity improvement (with FTE enhancement) for Agile flips in H2 2020 and H1 2021. <sup>3</sup> Numbers are against 2019 baseline

Overall, we continued to make progress, showing growth in key segments despite the challenging environment created by the ongoing pandemic. In 2021, we saw positive results in the following areas:

- Large-Caps & Mid-Caps
- Market share of fee income among Large-Cap clients improved to 45.1%, while our market share of fee income among Mid-Cap clients also increased to 30.8%.
- Client penetration rates for Large-Cap and Mid-Cap clients increased to 85.7% and 72.3%, respectively.

#### International

• Singapore and Cambodia continued to lead the growth of our overseas businesses with gross loans growing by 23.0% and 16.1%, respectively.

#### Digital

- Our digital offerings continued to gain traction among our customers - a clear sign that our ecosystems are maturing in the market.
- Digital transactions accounted for 93% of total customer transactions in 2021, up from 86% in 2020. We will continue to improve our digital channel platforms to meet the changing preferences of our customers.

We continued to benefit from our ongoing investments in digitalisation, automation and process optimisation, which helped us cater to changing customer preferences. In 2021, we were able to achieve several key milestones that will continue to drive growth:

#### Mobile App

Onboarded over 330,000 customers in 2021 on our RHB Mobile Banking app, which takes the total onboarded customers to over to complete online financing applications, including virtual one million since the new mobile app was launched in 2019.

#### Analytics

#### RM185 million from our analytics efforts. Partnerships and Digital Banking

• Improved our Internal Customer Effectiveness Survey ("ICES") score to 83% (77% in 2020).

RHR

OUR GOVERNANCE

# **RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES**

## Effective risk management is fundamental in driving sustainable growth and enhancing shareholder value while maintaining the Group's competitive advantage. Proactive risk management is thus a central part of the Group's operating environment.

REVIEW

Despite a challenging macroeconomic environment, especially due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Group was able to maintain strong performance and sound risk fundamentals. The risk to impacted segments may have increased but necessary steps were taken to maintain stable operations. The Group continuously supported impacted retail and non-retail clients via various financial relief measures, including offering payment assistance and loan restructuring. Additionally, the Group continued to assess these situations on an ongoing basis through portfolio reviews and stress-testing exercises in order to analyse potential impacts and identify appropriate risk management actions. Furthermore, the Group placed additional focus on staff welfare in view of the ongoing pandemic.

#### THE GROUP RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK GOVERNS THE MANAGEMENT OF RISKS WITHIN THE GROUP:

- G It provides a holistic overview of the risk and control environment of the Group, aimed at loss minimisation and protection against losses that may occur through, principally, the failure of effective checks and controls in the organisation.
- It sets out the strategic progression of risk management towards becoming a value creation enterprise. This is realised by building up capabilities and infrastructure through risk management sophistication and enhanced risk quantification to optimise risk-adjusted returns.

#### **SIGNIFICANT RISKS**

The Group's risk management activities for each of the significant risk areas are reinforced by a framework and supplemented by policies and guidelines. The significant risks and how the Group mitigated them are discussed below.

#### **CREDIT RISK**

Material Matters: Risk Management, Sustainable Financing

#### **RISK DEFINITION**

- The risk of loss arising from customers' or counterparties' failure to fulfil their financial and contractual obligations in accordance with the agreed terms. It stems primarily from the Group's lending/financing, trade finance, placement, underwriting, investment, hedging and trading activities from both on- and off-balance sheet transactions.
- Credit risk does not happen in isolation as certain risk events (e.g. fluctuations in interest rates and foreign exchange) may give rise to both market and credit risks.
- Credit risk can also be negatively affected by a lack of Environmental, Social and Governance ("ESG") considerations. Companies that place a higher emphasis on ESG issues will have less regulatory risk; for instance, a lower probability of being fined for ESG-related misconduct. Therefore, they will be better prepared to adopt any regulatory changes regarding ESG issues.

#### 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- By the fourth guarter of 2021, restrictions on interstate and international travel were lifted for the fully vaccinated. Movement activity (based on the Google mobility index) showed improvement, with the mobility index rising to the pre-COVID level of 91.2% as at 28 February 2022. The mobility index covers retail and recreation, supermarket and pharmacy, parks, public transport and workplace movements.
- The economy is expected to recover, premised on the reopening of more than 90% of the economic sectors and the resumption of most social activities.
- Malaysia's GDP in 2021 was at 3.1% and is forecast to grow between 5.5% and 6.5% in 2022. Growth will be primarily supported by the expansionary Budget 2022, the normalisation in economic and social activities, premised on high vaccination rates, the resumption of projects with high multiplier effects and strong external demand (Source: Ministry of Finance, Malaysia's Full Year Economic Growth Expected to Remain Positive, published on 12 November 2021; The Star/Bank Negara Malaysia ("BNM"), On recovery path, published on 12 February 2022).

on 7 February 2022).

#### **Credit Risk 2021 Quantitative Highlights:**

Gross Loans, Advances and Financing (RM'millio	n
2021	1
2020	1
Gross Impaired Loans/Financing Ratio (%)	
2021	
2020	1
Average Credit Risk Weight (%)	
2021	3
2020	3

#### Managing the impact of COVID-19

- The Credit War Room continued to steer, coordinate and ensure the effective implementation of the Group's payment assistance strategy in relation to borrowers/customers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, in a consistent and structured response across RHB Banking Group.
- In addition to the extension of payment assistance mentioned • ESG considerations were integrated into lending, advisory and investment decision-making to manage and minimise negative above, the Bank conducted ad hoc stress tests and continuously monitored the performance and emerging risks of the portfolios impacts and promote sustainable development to create positive in order to actively assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic impacts through identified opportunities. • The Bank continuously embraced sustainability risk considerations on the portfolios.
- Advanced analytics and machine learning were also adopted to enhance credit risk measurement and expected credit loss.

- Based on the BNM Financial Stability Review report dated 29 September 2021, the share of 'firms-at-risk' declined to 28.4% for the first guarter of 2021 (second guarter 2020: 32.7%). Nevertheless, it remained higher than the average pre-pandemic level of 21.4% (five-year average, 2015 to 2019) due to continued challenges faced by firms in sectors hard hit by movement restrictions.
- As part of our industry review, the Group will continue to monitor the near- and long-term effects on various industries from the impact of the 'new normal', including the increasing trend of working from home. The surge in remote working increased digitalisation, and 5G technology adaptation will have an impact on some industries, as demand for electrical and electronic products increases.
- Notwithstanding the lifting of restrictions, potential risk factors remain, including the resurgence of COVID-19/mutated variants of COVID-19, which could impact domestic as well as regional and global market recovery.
- The Group will continue to adopt a cautious approach in light of the above. Credit underwriting standards will continue to be enhanced to address the evolving pandemic situation, ensuring that the Group's credit risk policies remain effective and comprehensive to identify, measure, monitor and control all risks.

#### **RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES**

### **CREDIT RISK (CONT'D)**

#### 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

• Pandemic concerns remain, arising from the increasing number of cases caused by the highly transmissible latest variant. Nevertheless, to date, the increase in new cases has not strained the national health system as the latest variant is observed to yield much milder symptoms as compared to the previous variant, with lower hospitalisation and fatality rates (Ministry of Health announcement, published

) 198,512 186,114 1.49	<ul> <li>The Group's gross loans, advances and financing grew by 6.7% year-on-year to RM198.5 billion, mainly contributed by the growth in mortgages, auto finance, SME, commercial and Singapore. Domestic loans, advances and financing grew 4.8% year-on-year</li> <li>Gross impaired loans ratio as at 31 December 2021 improved to 1.49% (RM3.0 billion) compared to 1.71% (RM3.2 billion) as at 31 December</li> </ul>
1.71 35.7 39.3	<ul> <li>2020.</li> <li>The average credit risk weight improved to 35.7% as at 31 December 2021 with total credit risk weighted assets of RM115.1 billion, compared to 39.3% with total credit risk weighted assets of RM117.4 billion as at 31 December 2020.</li> </ul>

#### **MANAGEMENT RESPONSE**

#### Other actions

- The Group continued with its credit transformation journey through the identified initiatives, which were aligned with the FIT22 strategic road map, to enable the Bank to support business growth responsibly and protect asset quality during challenging times.
- in credit decision-making with the general and industry-specific ESG risk assessment tools for the ESG-Sensitive Sectors.
- Transformation initiatives will continue into 2022 by enhancing existing capabilities and building new ones benchmarked to industry best practices.

#### FORWARD-LOOKING VIEW

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	WE ARE RHB BANK	LEADERSHIP	OUR STRATEGIC	OUR PERFORMANCE	OUR	STAREHOLDERS
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**MARKET RISK** 

Material Matters: Risk Management, Dynamic Regulatory Landscape

#### **RISK DEFINITION**

- The risk of losses arising from adverse movements in market indicators, such as interest/profit rates, credit spreads, equity prices, currency rates and commodity prices. Under this definition, market risk constitutes:
- The interest/profit rates and equity risks pertaining to financial instruments in the trading book.
- Foreign exchange risk and commodities risk in the trading and banking books.

#### 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

• Global economies gradually reopened in 2021 as the COVID-19 vaccine was administered to the public. However, given that the mutated variants of COVID-19 were proving to be more contagious, the wave of infections across the world recurred. As such, financial markets exhibited significant volatility, resulting in mark-to-market movements with projections of rising inflation and multiple interest rate hikes in the US to combat heightened inflation.

#### Market Risk 2021 Quantitative Highlights:

Market Risk-Weighted Assets ("RWA") (RM'million)				
2021				
2020	4,314			

• The decrease in exposures was contributed by a decrease in trading bond positions held by the Group.

#### MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

#### Managing the impact of COVID-19 and potential multiple interest Other actions

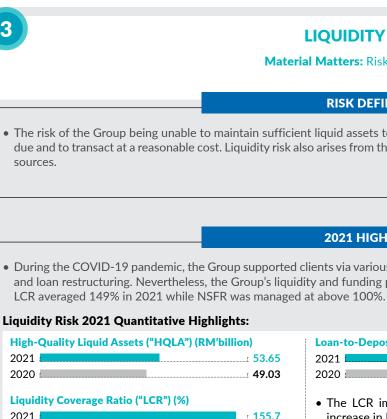
- rate hikes globally
- The established market risk management functions that assume responsibility for the measurement, analysis and reporting of market risk are independent of the Group's trading operations.
- There was continuous proactive risk management whereby the business units worked together with Risk Management to review, within a short span of time due to adverse market outlooks and conditions. This was also to ensure that the direction of risk mitigation corresponded with new business strategies. These changes were necessary vis-à-vis the new normal presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- There was periodic engagement with and updating of the risk management committees at the Management and Board levels to highlight the changing risk compositions, affected by market projections, revised objectives and strategies and adjusted risk appetites, combined with stress scenario analysis.

#### • The market risk governance structure and processes were sound and remained effective.

- The established framework, encompassing risk policies and measurement methodologies and limits, successfully controlled the Group's financial market activities and identified potential risks due to market volatility.
- assess, adjust and seek approval on selective risk appetites Trading exposures were monitored daily to ensure that risks were within the internal thresholds set and that any extreme events taking place would be triggered through this mechanism.

#### **FORWARD-LOOKING VIEW**

• In view of financial markets continuing to be influenced by the uncertain global market outlook, the efficacy of the COVID-19 vaccine against the mutating COVID-19 virus and the discussions on the Federal Reserve Board tapering quantitative easing in the US amid the rising interest rate outlook, structural limits and internal controls will continue to be reviewed or restructured proactively to ensure risks arising from market volatility are mitigated.



#### Managing the impact of COVID-19

2020

- 100% by 30 September 2021.
- of above 100%.
- end average was 149%.

### **RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **LIQUIDITY RISK**

#### Material Matters: Risk Management

#### **RISK DEFINITION**

• The risk of the Group being unable to maintain sufficient liquid assets to meet its financial commitments and obligations when they fall due and to transact at a reasonable cost. Liquidity risk also arises from the inability to manage upplanned decreases or changes in funding

#### 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

• During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Group supported clients via various financial relief measures, including offering payment assistance and loan restructuring. Nevertheless, the Group's liquidity and funding positions remained strong. The Group's All-Currency month-end

	Loan-to-Deposit Ratio ("LDR") (%)	
65	2021	
03	2020	

- The LCR improved mainly due to the increase in HQLA, driven by an increase in BNM placements.
- The LDR improved as the total customer deposit growth of 7.5% was higher than the gross loan growth of 6.7%.

#### MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

... 146.9

• Active management of the LCR and NSFR ensured liquidity and funding positions were managed at sufficiently robust levels. • Material risk assessments were conducted to ensure that emerging risks were highlighted for Management's discussion. The risk appetite was reviewed semi-annually to ensure that changes in the business environment and regulatory landscape were considered. • On 24 March 2020, BNM issued a letter on Additional Measures to Assist Borrowers/Customers Affected by the COVID-19 Outbreak, which included a relaxation on LCR and NSFR compliance. Banking institutions were allowed to operate below the minimum LCR of 100%.

The NSFR minimum requirement was lowered to 80%. Banking institutions were required to comply with the minimum requirement of

#### **FORWARD-LOOKING VIEW**

• Notwithstanding the concessions granted by BNM because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Group sustained liquidity compliance ratios

• The Group remains committed to ensuring liquidity and funding positions are robust at all times. The Group's All-currency LCR month-

• The Group will continue to endeavour to grow its retail and SME deposits to diversify its deposit base.

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LEADERSHIP

STATEMENTS

## **RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES**



#### **OPERATIONAL RISK**

Material Matters: Risk Management, Good Business Governance

#### **RISK DEFINITION**

• The risk of loss resulting from inadequate or failed internal processes, people, systems and/or external events. It also includes IT, legal and Shariah non-compliance risks but excludes strategic and reputational risks.

#### 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- The discovery of new variants of the COVID-19 virus and multiple waves of infection outbreaks, with higher daily infection and fatality rates, led to a prolonged COVID-19 pandemic. The prolonged pandemic situation and the corresponding public health measures, e.g. various Movement Control Orders ("MCOs") and the National Recovery Plan ("NRP") implemented by the authorities to manage the pandemic, caused disruptions to the business and operations of the Group. Nonetheless, the Group, as an essential services provider, continued to be of service to the community.
- In managing the prolonged COVID-19 pandemic, the Group continued to maintain and enhance its Business Continuity Plan ("BCP") Pandemic Strategy towards transitioning to a new normal for all business and functional units. This included enhancing remote working as a viable alternate working arrangement, establishing new permanent split operations sites, enhanced monitoring of key third-party service providers and process improvements. This led to heightened operational risks, especially people risk, change management risk and increasing cybersecurity concerns.
- In relation to the BCP, the prolonged COVID-19 pandemic and continued implementation of the corresponding public health measures gave rise to Pandemic Fatigue, a condition that led to the deterioration of compliance levels, as well as other psychological concerns. The Group took cognisance of these risks and enhanced the enforcement measures relating to the various safety protocols, as well as initiating activities such as mental health awareness programmes and encouraging virtual employee engagement to help employees to cope and adjust to the changing environment.

#### **Operational Risk 2021 Quantitative Highlights:**

#### **Operational RWA (RM'million)**

2021	
2020	 

• The Group adopted the basic indicator approach in computing Operational RWA. The increase in Operational RWA of 4.2% in 2021 was due to the increase in gross income.

#### Managing the impact of COVID-19

- To ensure operational resilience and continued provision of essential services, the Group enhanced its BCP Pandemic Strategy to transition to a new operating environment, whereby:
- Eligible staff were equipped with the necessary resources and infrastructure to improve the Work-from-Home ("WFH") arrangement:
- The Guidelines for WFH were revisited and governance was enhanced towards facilitating remote working as an accepted working arrangement;
- A new alternate site was identified and constructed to facilitate permanent split operations for some critical functions:
- All third-party service providers and enablers of essential functions were identified and monitored to ensure continued provision of services; and
- Processes and controls were reviewed and enhanced to accommodate the changing business and operating environment, with an increased focus on digital and virtual engagement.
- To mitigate the people risk arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, new normal practices were adopted to minimise the risk of infection among staff and customers, which included:
- Temperature screening, physical distancing and compulsory wearing of masks at all RHB premises.
- Reminders on good hygiene practices, frequent sanitisation and assessments on ventilation.
- Establishing protocols on contact tracing and quarantine requirements.
- Coordinated efforts and tracking in relation to staff vaccination status.
- To ensure a 'business as usual' practice and to manage the risks arising from Pandemic Fatigue due to the prolonged COVID-19 pandemic and the MCOs, the following initiatives were implemented:
- pandemic
- ready and agile to respond to the change management risk to remain relevant and resilient.
- and business in the changing business and operating environment.
- our talent management and retention programme.

## **OPERATIONAL RISK (CONT'D)**

#### MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

- Collaboration with professionals to provide counselling to staff and to raise mental health awareness.
- Frequent staff advisories and communications, as well as employee engagement and wellness activities conducted virtually
- Enforcement measures, including disciplinary action, for breaches of the authorities' and Group's standard operating procedures ("SOPs").
- To manage the change management risk as the Group adopted new digital and technology-assisted processes within the changing business and operating environment, the following steps were taken:
- Awareness briefing and advisory on the risks arising from the adoption of the new normal and operational resilience assessment.
- Assessment and revision of the operational processes and controls to ensure they corresponded with the changing work environment.
- Robust governance and an independent review and challenge process to consider risks and controls of proposed changes prior to adoption.
- To mitigate cybersecurity concerns, the following measures were implemented:
- Facilitating remote working within a secure environment through secure remote access connectivity via Virtual Private Network ("VPN") and Virtual Desktop Infrastructure ("VDI").
- Enhanced cyber threat monitoring.
- Continuous assessment of third parties' cybersecurity postures and subscription to threat intelligence services.
- Strengthening Data Loss Prevention controls by imposing stricter information classification.

#### FORWARD-LOOKING VIEW

• The improved vaccination rate has led to the reopening of many more economic and social sectors and the lifting of restrictions on cross-border travel, as the world transitions to a post-COVID environment through the adoption of good practices learned during the

• Better acceptance of online transactions and virtual engagement has propelled the automation and digitalisation agenda to meet customer and business demands. This changing environment challenges the current norm and work culture, and the Group must be

• The Group will embrace the new norms and constantly review work processes and control mechanisms to effectively support operations

• The pandemic and digital transformation have also challenged the traditional workforce model and talent retention programme, and coupled with the competition from new digital banks and fintech companies, have resulted in elevated human capital risk. The Group recognises the challenges arising from talent shortages, as well as the risks in managing dispersed workforces, including remote employees; thus, we have put in place strategies for employee reskilling to prepare for the Workforce of the Future, and we are reviewing

• The focus on operational resilience has also highlighted the importance of third-party management and supply chain risks within the Group's operations and processes. The Group will need to enhance its Third-Party Risk Management Framework to ensure effective oversight and control of its third parties in the changing landscape and to meet increasing regulatory expectations.



#### **TECHNOLOGY & CYBER RISK**

Material Matters: Risk Management, Good Business Governance, Data Protection & Cybersecurity, Digitalisation & Investment in Technology

#### **RISK DEFINITION**

- Technology risk is the risk associated with the use, ownership, operation, involvement, influence and adoption of information technology ("IT") within an enterprise.
- Cyber risk refers to threats or vulnerabilities emanating from the connectivity of internal infrastructure to external networks such as the internet.

#### 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- Increased digitalisation leads to higher susceptibility to cyber risk. Digitalisation introduces user mobility with an emphasis on ease of access – anytime, anywhere and anyhow. This involves the use of cloud computing, cloud services, the sharing of an Application Programming Interface that allows an application to talk to another application and the opening up of backend systems to be accessed remotely. Recognising that such access is easily available from most financial institutions, hackers and cybercriminals have started to target financial institutions to exploit the new digital business model.
- The MCOs implemented by the government due to the COVID-19 pandemic led to employees working from home or in split operations. Virtual meetings using videoconferencing tools were introduced to avoid face-to-face meetings.
- The new norm introduced new inherent risks within the WFH and split operations arrangements. As such, additional measures were implemented to enhance security controls, which included

securing remote access connectivity via VPN and Two-Factor Authentication, enforcing strict policies for virtual meetings and protecting the devices used by staff with advanced security tools.

- A rise in phishing emails was detected and controls were promptly implemented to address the threats, with no losses reported.
- There was an increased focus on digital transformation initiatives and dedicated management committees to facilitate increased speed-to-market and responsiveness to customer feedback/ demands.
- We increased our utilisation of cloud technology with the deployment of new tools and collaborated with partners who were also leveraging this technology.
- In 2021, we conducted Red Team and Compromise Assessment exercises in line with the requirements of BNM's Risk Management in Technology policy to assess the effectiveness and completeness of RHB Banking Group's cybersecurity controls and thus, identify areas for improvement.

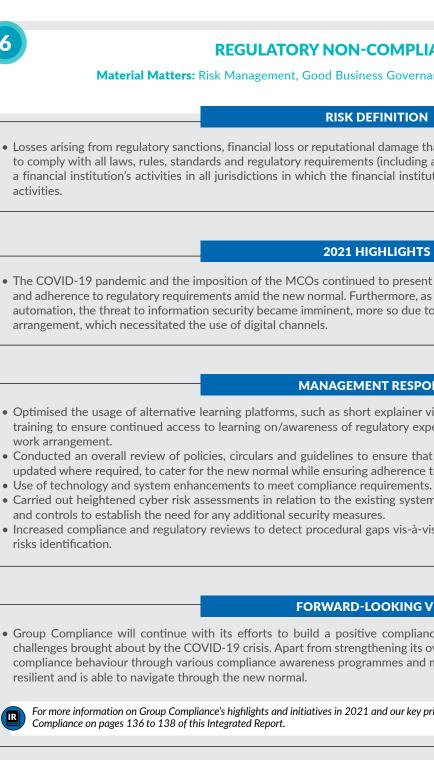
#### MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

- The rapid adoption of digitalisation led to new inherent risks that were never in existence in a traditional on-premises computing system. To address these emerging risks, there was a need to revamp the current security infrastructure - from perimeterbased security to cloud computing and data-centric security.
- RHB adopted a multi-pronged approach:
- The gradual deployment of digital-friendly cloud-based security infrastructure and the hiring of support personnel with skill sets covering cloud security.
- Establishing proper governance in the management of cloud/digital deployment and the introduction of policies to strengthen the security controls covering the overall digitalisation initiative.
- Continuous assessment of third parties' cybersecurity postures and subscription to threat intelligence services for better visibility of the current cyber landscape.
- Systems were established to monitor network activities for anomalies and security breaches and increased attention was given to infrastructure readiness, compatibility, capacity, security and resiliency to support digitalisation projects.

- Internet-facing application systems were subjected to regular vulnerability assessments/penetration testing and weaknesses detected were duly resolved with attestation from external consultants
- Centralised monitoring of system health status and capacity utilisation was conducted to facilitate early detection and faster response to potential IT issues.
- Apart from the BCP, the Group's response was to instil continuous awareness via emails and training among staff on the Do's & Don'ts while working from home. Staff working from home were issued with laptops and VPN facilities to ensure a secure working environment. Virtual meetings were conducted using secure channels such as MS Teams and Zoom. We believe that everyone has a role to play in ensuring the integrity of our systems. Thus, we will continue with the mandatory IT Security Awareness e-learning module, which has been completed by our employees in Malaysia and regional offices. In addition, the Group's Board of Directors has completed a specially curated e-learning module on IT Security Awareness. To further augment the knowledge attained, we have been sending out regular reminders and notifications about different aspects of cybersecurity to all employees.

#### FORWARD-LOOKING VIEW

• The threat of cyber risk incidents remains ever-present, more so during this time of increased reliance on IT solutions for videoconferencing and the WFH arrangement, which expose the Group to additional cyber risk vulnerabilities. As such, we have subscribed to threat intelligence resources to stay updated on cyber risk attacks faced by the industry and any new emerging risks.



#### **REGULATORY NON-COMPLIANCE RISK**

Material Matters: Risk Management, Good Business Governance, Dynamic Regulatory Landscape

#### **RISK DEFINITION**

• Losses arising from regulatory sanctions, financial loss or reputational damage that a financial institution may suffer as a result of failure to comply with all laws, rules, standards and regulatory requirements (including any rulings of the Shariah Advisory Council) relevant to a financial institution's activities in all jurisdictions in which the financial institution or any of its branches or subsidiaries conducts its

#### 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

• The COVID-19 pandemic and the imposition of the MCOs continued to present challenges in terms of ensuring compliance awareness and adherence to regulatory requirements amid the new normal. Furthermore, as the Group moved towards embracing digitalisation and automation, the threat to information security became imminent, more so due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the consequential WFH

#### MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

• Optimised the usage of alternative learning platforms, such as short explainer videos, webinars and MS Teams, to conduct compliance training to ensure continued access to learning on/awareness of regulatory expectations, particularly for employees under the remote

• Conducted an overall review of policies, circulars and guidelines to ensure that the Group's operational and business processes were updated where required, to cater for the new normal while ensuring adherence to regulatory requirements.

• Carried out heightened cyber risk assessments in relation to the existing systems of the Group, including regular reviews of processes

• Increased compliance and regulatory reviews to detect procedural gaps vis-à-vis regulatory requirements to ensure timely compliance

#### FORWARD-LOOKING VIEW

• Group Compliance will continue with its efforts to build a positive compliance culture across the Group amid the unprecedented challenges brought about by the COVID-19 crisis. Apart from strengthening its oversight responsibilities, the focus will be on promoting compliance behaviour through various compliance awareness programmes and monitoring initiatives to ensure that the Group remains

For more information on Group Compliance's highlights and initiatives in 2021 and our key priorities moving forward, please refer to the section on Group



#### SHARIAH NON-COMPLIANCE ("SNC") RISK

Material Matters: Risk Management, Good Business Governance, Dynamic Regulatory Landscape

#### **RISK DEFINITION**

• The risk of legal or regulatory sanctions, financial loss or non-financial implications, including reputational damage, which RHB may suffer arising from the failure to comply with the rulings of the Shariah Advisory Councils ("SACs") of local regulatory bodies (such as the SAC of BNM for Malaysia operations), standards on Shariah matters issued by the local regulator or decisions or advice of the Shariah committee/advisor appointed by the respective RHB entities.

#### 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2021, there were 10 potential Shariah non-compliance events detected through stringent Shariah review and audit processes, of which only one event was resolved as an actual Shariah non-compliance event by the Shariah Committee.
- Robust efforts in terms of Shariah governance were undertaken to ensure all findings raised were adequately addressed to mitigate the likelihood of recurrence or repeated potential Shariah non-compliance findings.

#### MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

- Operationalisation of the Shariah requirements for shared services and shared operations platforms and recent changes in the policy and regulatory requirements by BNM continued to be the focus areas under the Shariah risk management processes. In addition, it was acknowledged that staff training and awareness were key in managing Shariah risk among the business and functional units.
- Furthermore, regular independent assessment activities through Shariah review and audit functions provided assurance of the quality level and effectiveness of RHB's internal control and risk management systems and governance processes.
- The Shariah Operational Risk Management ("Shariah ORM") process was streamlined, based on the Group's existing operational risk management tools and methodologies, to specifically manage Shariah risk in line with RHB Group's policies and guidelines.
- Shariah Risk Awareness training and a walk-through session on the enhanced Shariah risk management processes were conducted during FY2021 to instil awareness of Shariah risk and guide the business and functional units in identifying Shariah risk and its control measures, as well as managing the risk within their daily operations.

#### **FORWARD-LOOKING VIEW**

- Working closely with the relevant stakeholders and strengthening efforts to ensure comprehensive and effective integration of SNC risk considerations within the existing infrastructure and platforms.
- The Shariah Risk Awareness training programme will continue in 2022 with an enhancement to be made to incorporate a skill enrichment module with regards to the Shariah ORM process.

- business and operations.
- economy.
- Forced labour came under the spotlight in Malaysia in the second half of the year.
- Extreme weather events that struck various countries.
- local standards or principles.
- Among the initiatives and controls put in place were:

- and Brunei.
- The Group's coal stance was introduced in the third guarter of 2021.
- The Group's No Deforestation, No New Peat and No Exploitation ("NDPE") stance was introduced in the fourth quarter of 2021.
- Continuous capability building programmes held for the Group's Senior Leaders and mid-level management.
- The Group's 5-year (2022-2026) Sustainability Strategy and Roadmap was approved by the Board of Directors in October 2021.
- Kickstarted the Group's Climate Action Programme in January 2022.

- climate change.
- guidelines or controls to manage different issues identified under sustainability risk.
- changes proactively towards building climate resilience.
- forward.

(SR) Sustainability Report 2021.

## **SUSTAINABILITY RISK**

Material Matters: Sustainable Financing, Financial Inclusion & Education, Good Business Governance, Risk Management, Dynamic Regulatory Landscape, Environmental Stewardship, Climate Change

#### **RISK DEFINITION**

• Sustainability Risk comprises Environmental, Social and Governance ("ESG") risks, including climate-related risks, arising from the Group's own operations as well as from customers', clients' or investees' operations. If left unmanaged, these risks can lead to a loss of revenue, a decline in the financial institution's reputation and costly litigation, as well as loss of investors' and customers' confidence.

#### 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

• Increasing awareness amongst members of the public, customers and investors on the importance of integrating ESG considerations in

• The launch of Bank Negara Malaysia's Climate Change and Principle-based Taxonomy which requires Financial Institutions to assess and categorise economic activities according to the extent of which activities meet climate objectives and promote transition to a low carbon

#### MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

• To this end, the Group adopted a precautionary approach and strived for continuous improvements. Enhancements to existing sustainability or ESG-related frameworks and policies continued to take place, taking into account publicly endorsed international or

- The RHB Group Credit Policy and local country credit policies were enhanced to include ESG risk-related policies and guidelines. - The List of Prohibited Credits was introduced and implemented in Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos and Brunei. - The ESG Risk Assessment ("ERA") tool for ESG-Sensitive Sectors was implemented in Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos

#### FORWARD-LOOKING VIEW

• The Group will continue to increase awareness on sustainability and the impact of climate change across the Group's business operations and portfolios. This will also take into account the changing regulatory landscape that is emerging with regard to sustainability and

• A deeper understanding of the risks related to sustainability issues, particularly climate risk and impacts, will improve the Group's contribution to sustainable development by minimising the financing of activities that generate negative impacts and identifying financing opportunities that create positive impacts. This will also enable the Group to develop and enhance existing relevant frameworks, policies,

• Moving forward into 2022, the Group has established a Group Climate Action Programme, which will help to further our sustainability agenda and accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy. A key component of this programme will be the ability to assess our customer portfolio in line with requirements under BNM's Climate Change and Principle-based Taxonomy, which calls on us to implement

• The accelerated offering of sustainable financial products and services arising from the increasing demand from customers will increase the need for the Group to continue integrating sustainability considerations into its business and operations.

• The Group's 5-year (2022-2026) Sustainability Strategy and Roadmap will guide us in meeting our Sustainability aspirations, moving

For more information on the policies, guidelines and controls, please refer to the Credit Risk portion in this section and the Sustainable Financing section of our

#### **OTHER RISKS**

#### Interest Rate Risk in the Banking Book/Rate of Return Risk in the **Banking Book**

Interest rate risk/rate of return risk in the banking book refers to the risk to the Group's earnings and economic value of equity due to adverse movements in the interest rate/benchmark rate. The risk may arise from the mismatches in the timing of repricing of assets and liabilities from both on- and off-balance sheet positions in the banking book, changes in the slope and shape of the yield curve, basis risk and optionality risk.

Earnings-at-Risk ("EaR") and Economic Value of Equity ("EVE") are used to assess interest rate risk/rate of return risk in the banking book. They are computed based on the repricing gap profile of the banking book using BNM's standard template. Assets and liabilities are bucketed based on their remaining tenure to maturity or next reprice dates. The measurement of EaR and EVE is conducted on a monthly basis. The Group Asset and Liability Committee ("ALCO") supports the Board Committees in establishing policies, strategies and limits for the management of balance sheet risk exposure. The Group Asset and Liability Management ("ALM") unit within Group Risk Management supports the Group ALCO in the monthly monitoring and reporting of the interest rate risk/rate of return risk profile of the banking book.

The primary objective in managing balance sheet risk is to manage the net interest/profit income and economic value of equity, as well as to ensure that interest rate risk/rate of return risk exposures are maintained within defined risk tolerances. In order to achieve a balance between profitability from banking activities and minimising risk to earnings and capital from changes in the interest rate/benchmark rate, the risk appetite, Management Action Triggers and escalation procedures are established. Stress testing is also performed regularly to determine the adequacy of capital in meeting the impact of extreme interest rate/benchmark rate movements on the balance sheet. Such tests are also performed to provide early warnings of potential extreme losses, facilitating proactive management of interest rate risk/rate of return risk in the banking book in an environment of rapid financial market changes.

#### **Reputational Risk**

Reputational risk is often seen as a significant threat to business as damage to reputation is often irreparable. It is defined as the risk of negative publicity regarding the conduct of the Group or of any of the entities within the Group or its business practices or associations. whether true or not, which will adversely affect its revenues, operations or customer base, or require costly litigation or other defensive measures. It also undermines public confidence in the Group, affecting the share price.

Reputational risk in the Group is managed and controlled through codes of conduct, governance practices and risk management practices, policies, procedures and training. The Group has developed and implemented a Reputational Risk Management Policy. The key elements in the management of reputational risk include:

- Practising good corporate governance and fostering a culture of integrity to promote the execution and achievement of corporate strategies and business objectives.
- Managing reputational risk within a very low risk appetite with zero tolerance for incidences that affect the Group's reputation.

- Adopting sound risk management practices that include the practice of building 'reputation capital' and earning the goodwill of kev stakeholders.
- Maintaining proper mechanisms to monitor and escalate material lapses/breaches of internal and regulatory policies/guidelines that may place the Group's reputation at risk.
- Maintaining proper channels of communication in dealing with internal and external stakeholders.

#### **Corruption Risk**

Corruption risk is the risk faced by the Group in the event RHB's Directors, officers, employees, agents or other business partners are implicated in an act of bribery or corruption, whether directly or indirectly or with or without their knowledge and consent/permission, to secure, retain or influence an improper business decision or advantage. These abhorrent acts are prohibited by the Group, as they are violations of the law and the code of ethics.

RHB's corruption risk is mitigated via the Group's existing policies and procedures, primarily the Group Code of Ethics & Conduct, Group Anti-Bribery & Corruption Policy, Group Whistleblowing Policy and Group Gifts and Hospitality Guideline. In supplementing the Group's efforts to ensure good business conduct by its Directors, employees, vendors and other business partners, the Group has put in place several control mechanisms, including but not limited to the following:

- Core Shared Values ("P.R.I.D.E.").
- Corporate Integrity Statement.
- Code of Ethics and Business Conduct. •
- Corruption Risk Assessment.
- Group Fit & Proper Policy.
- Group Corporate Sponsorship & Donation Policy.
- Group Related Party Transactions Policy.
- Group Fraud Risk Management Policy. .
- Whistleblowing or 'Speak Up' channels and avenues.
- Ethics & Integrity Resource Portal.
- Awareness & Knowledge-sharing Sessions.

The Group has also established whistleblowing channels to ensure employees are accorded the opportunity to report any issues relating to employee wrongdoing through an appropriate channel without the threat of repercussions. The Group's primary whistleblowing avenues for both internal and external parties are through the Senior Independent Non-Executive Director ("SINED") of RHB Bank Berhad and the designated email address, namely speakup@rhbgroup.com. For other whistleblowing channels and avenues, please refer to the Group's corporate website at www.rhbgroup.com.

The controls that are in place ensure adequate risk mitigation, which allows the Group to create value for its stakeholders by:

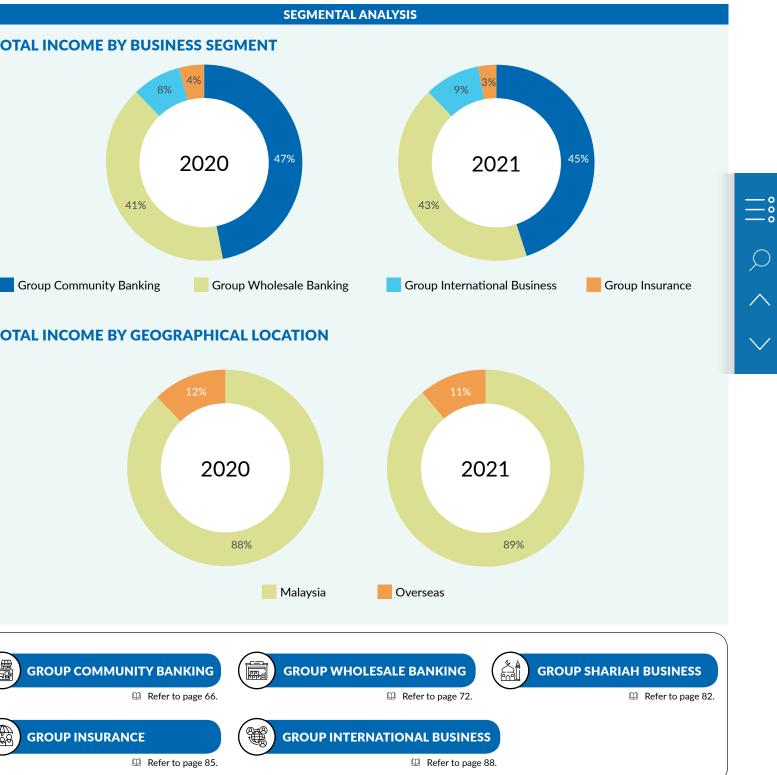
- Securing RHB Banking Group's reputation as a corruption-free organisation with strong fundamentals and ethical business practices.
- Strengthening RHB Banking Group's brand promise of Together We Progress.
- Safeguarding RHB Banking Group's assets from mismanagement.
- Improving operational cost efficiency with minimal wastage for the Group.
- Protecting the Group from legal and regulatory penalties such as those imposed by the Corporate Liability Provision introduced via Section 17A of the MACC Act 2009.

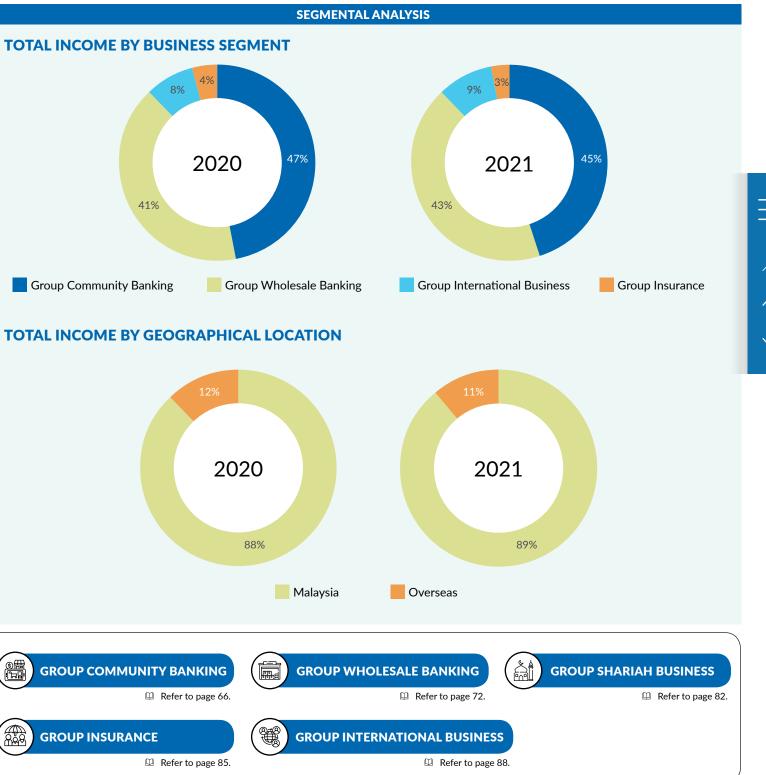
## **OPERATIONAL REVIEW**

## In FY2021, the proportions of revenue contributed by the Group's business segments were largely unchanged when compared to FY2020.

Group Community Banking was the top contributor, earning 45% of the Group's total income. This was followed by Group Wholesale Banking with 43%. Group International Business and Group Insurance contributed 9% and 3%, respectively.

In terms of geographical location, income from our Malaysia operations continued to be the main contributor to income. In FY2021, 89% of the Group's total income was derived from our Malaysia operations.





WE ARE RHB BANK	LEADERSHIP	OUR STRATEGIC	OUR PERFORMANCE	OUR	STAKEHOLDERS'
	STATEMENTS	REVIEW	REVIEW	GOVERNANCE	INFORMATION

#### OPERATIONAL REVIEW

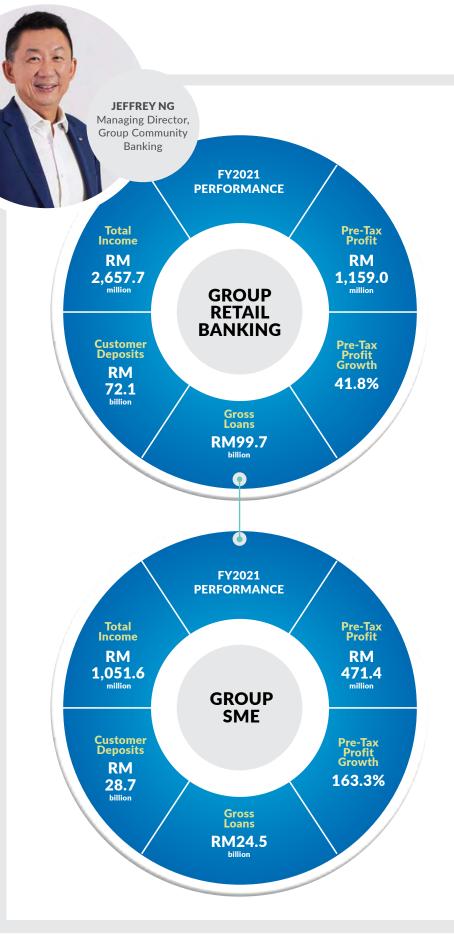
## GROUP COMMUNITY BANKING

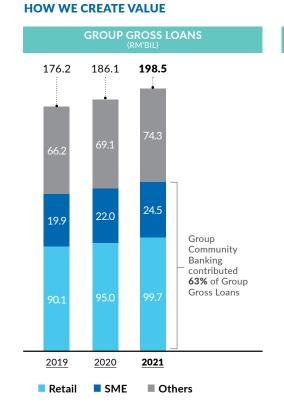
**Group Community Banking** comprises the Group Retail **Banking and Group SME Banking segments of RHB. We** serve over 3.9 million individual customers and more than 200,000 businesses by providing both conventional and Shariahcompliant consumer and SME **Banking Solutions. The Retail Banking and SME Banking** businesses were integrated into Group Community Banking in 2021 as part of the Group's restructuring of its Strategic **Business Groups.** 

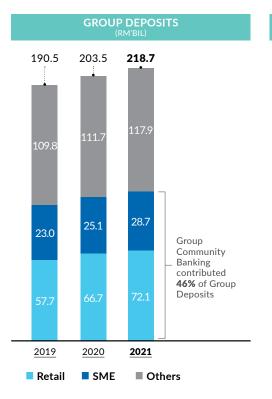
Our aspiration is to be the trusted partner of choice for all consumer and SME banking solutions across lending, spending, savings, investing and protection for anyone who has made Malaysia their home. Retail Banking provides consumer banking solutions ranging from Wealth Management, Bancassurance, Mortgages, Auto Financing and ASB Financing to Personal Financing, Credit Cards, Payments and Deposits, while SME Banking provides financing solutions to SMEs and family-owned enterprises.

Leveraging the Agile way of working, Group Community Banking continues to enhance digitalised customer journeys and propositions on digital platforms and through various solutions to cater to rapidly changing customer preferences.

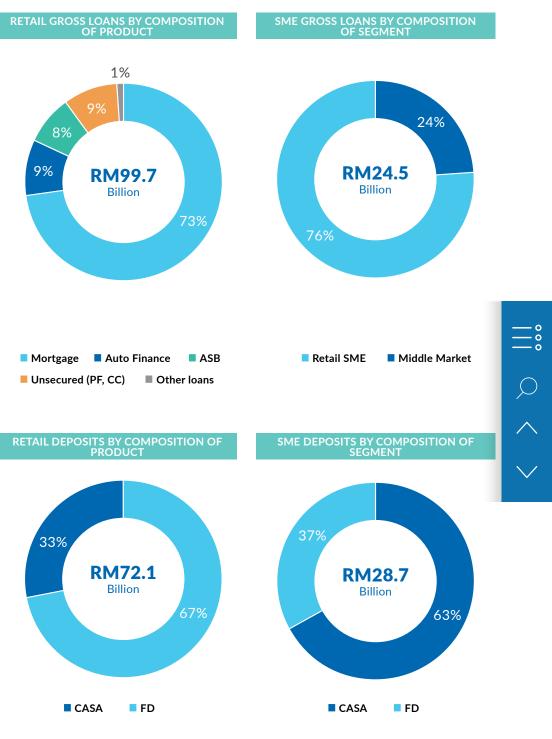
We aspire to be one of the best community banks in Malaysia by meeting the communities' personal and business needs through simplified, digitalised and customised solutions.







### OPERATIONAL REVIEW



OUR PERFORMANCE REVIEW

OUR GOVERNANCE

## OPERATIONAL REVIEW

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GROUP RETAIL - KEY	BUSINESS INITIATIVES					
SEGMENT	<b>KEY BUSINESS INITIATIVES</b>		SEGMENT	<b>KEY BUSINESS IN</b>		
Lifestyle Consumer	<b>Cards</b> Launched the new co-branded RHB Shell Visa Credit Card/-i that offers customers cashbacks on fuel and everyday essentials, meeting emerging market needs. We also remained a firm advocate of environmental conservation by continuing to promote our eco-friendly RHB WWF Debit Card-i. Partnerships with leading online marketplaces such as Shopee, Lazada and Taobao to drive online sales in	<b>Cards</b> More than 28,000 Shell Visa Credit Card/-i cards were issued in 2021. More than 46,000 units of WWF Debit Card-i were issued during the year, bringing the total number of Cards-in-Force to 64,371. The WWF Debit Card-i is the first card made of recycled plastic and supports underwater life via cashless donations.	Auto Financi	customers under Vo Promoted Green Fin hybrid, plug-in hybr goal to transform in economy.	rship with Volvo to provide RHB loans to blvo Car Financing. nancing by offering preferential rates for id and EV vehicles in line with the nation's to a low-carbon and climate-resilient on the growing used car segment through	The automotive financing portfolio grew 4.1%, outpacing industry growth by 3.0% in 2021, while market share grew to 5.4%.
	<ul> <li>tandem with our growing presence in digital payments.</li> <li><b>Personal Finance</b> <ul> <li>In response to shifts in consumer behaviour, which were accelerated during the pandemic, we improved the customer onboarding process through non-face-to-face applications via email.</li> <li>Launched the Debt Consolidation Programme in February 2021 to assist customers to consolidate their financial commitments from other banks into a single Personal Financing account with RHB.</li> <li>Enhanced our competitiveness through risk-based</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Achieved an impressive 90% year-on-year spending growth in 2021 for e-wallet top-ups, together with 64% year-on-year spending growth for the three online marketplaces, Shopee, Lazada and Taobao. <b>Personal Finance</b> 85% of the applications we received were via email submissions, which helped to improve turnaround time. The Debt Consolidation Programme recorded a total of RM320 million, which was 13% of our	Bancassuran	the market: • Takaful MyGrowt market. • RHB Treasure 100 preservation for f	products targeting different segments of h to target the growing Islamic advisory O to target consumers interested in wealth uture generations. y-as-you-Drive are motor insurance arget the Premier and Mass/Mass Affluent tively.	Grew Bancassurance fee income by 31.0% through our targeted approach and rollout of innovative products for the Islamic advisory market.
Mortgage	Pricing that targeted the right customer segment with business-driven risk control.         RHB Superdeals Loyalty Programme         Launched on 15 November 2021, customers are able to accumulate loyalty points when they save, spend or invest with RHB and redeem points for lifestyle products and services.         Expanded our geographical reach, especially outside of traditional market centres, with branches now able to accommodate mortgage applications, which has also improved turnaround time.         Greater emphasis on enhancing penetration rate for end financing of projects that are bridged financed by	Overall sales contribution from branches grew from RM37 million in 2020 to RM937 million in 2021. The Mortgage portfolio expanded by 7.2% despite the pandemic with new acquisitions mainly obtained through the MyHome app.	Deposits	for salaried custome Joy@Work proposit platforms. Strengthened the sa introduction of the focus on Joy@Work Introduced seven ne Account ("MCA") Do	ew currencies to the Multi-Currency ebit Card, bringing the total to 16 is new product packages for newly	Retail Deposits recorded growth of 8.1%, outpacing industry's 4.9% and improved our market share to 8.6% compared to 8.4% in 2020. Improvement in customer response to engagement activities and advertisements has helped CASA to grow 13.5% year-on-year. CASA ratio grew from 31.1% to 32.6% in 2021.
	our SME, Commercial and Corporate businesses. Executed differentiated initiatives to drive the acquisition of completed properties within the secondary market sector.	The MYHome app contributed 56% of new mortgages valued at RM5.8 billion compared to 40% in 2020. Overall acquisition of completed properties grew from 30% in 2020 to 34% in 2021.	FIT22 INIT	AINST FIT22 STRATEGIC INIT ATIVES nt, Wealth and nce business, leveraging SME	OUTCOMES  • Wealth and bancassurance fee ind	come grew by 33.4% to RM214.2 million
Wealth & Affluent	Widened product spread for investors through new and innovative offerings such as enabling their participation in Perpetual Sukuk/Bonds primary issuances. Enhanced digital onboarding journey by rolling out our eSignature initiative for straight-through processing.	Wealth fee income grew by 35.6% year-on- year in 2021. Overall Wealth AUM grew 18.8% from RM3.5 billion to RM4.1 billion.	customer b Boost retail with retail a	deposits to narrow the gap	RM568,000. • Loan-to-Deposit ratio improved fr • Payroll transaction amount grew 3 Joy@Work salary crediting accourt	31% with the unique proposition for
RHB Premier Banking	Continued to grow Premier Banking customers by leveraging existing RHB Bank SME directors and High Net Worth Individuals through enhanced propositions. Launched preferential sales charge for first-time Unit Trust investors to drive investors' penetration.	As at December 2021: 36% of our Premier base are SME Owners (grew by 2% year-on- year). Overall Investment AUM for Premier customers grew by 21%.		/		

## OPERATIONAL REVIEW

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#### **OPFRATIONAL REVIEW**

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FIT22 INITIATIVES	OUTCOMES
Improve services and sales via 'Community Banking' and 'Branch of the Future' strategies for greater efficiencies, reach and performance	<ul> <li>Continued to enhance and strengthen Branch Managers' competencies during the pandemic with structured learning modules to be best-in-class community bankers.</li> <li>Enhanced our Branch and sales service.</li> <li>For New-to-Bank Premier customers, increased efficiencies across all sales networks, including digital initiatives, to increase penetration by optimising leads management and streamlining all leads campaigns to targeted segments.</li> </ul>
Build ecosystems through enhanced customer-centricity to create differentiation	<ul> <li>Our Homeowners ecosystem continued to gain traction with a growth of 9.5% vs industry growth at 6.8% in 2021.</li> <li>56% of loan acceptances were via RHB MyHome Acceptance vs 40% in 2020.</li> <li>85% of leads referred digitally through RHB Partners vs 65% in 2020.</li> </ul>

#### **GROUP SME - KEY BUSINESS INITIATIVES**

In the year under review, SME Banking helped our customers strengthen their resilience within an especially challenging economic environment, undertaking a holistic approach to cater to the wide range of SME financial and operational needs.

The Group provided more than RM1.8 billion in financial assistance in 2021 to SME customers. We played an active role in facilitating the smooth delivery of government-initiated relief financing facilities such as the Special Relief Facility ("SRF") and Targeted Relief and Recovery Facility ("TRRF"). In addition to providing the TRRF facility to our existing bank customers, we collaborated with several commercial shopping malls to provide financing to tenants to help them withstand the challenges arising from the multiple lockdowns that took place in 2021 through the Retailer SME Relief Financing programme. RHB was also recognised as the top financial institution with the highest market share in terms of approvals and disbursements for the Syarikat Jaminan Pembiayaan Perniagaan ("SJPP") Government Guarantee scheme in 2021.

At the broader level, we provided SMEs access to working capital at affordable rates through the RHB BizPower Relief Financing programme, while our SME digital ecosystem supported the improvement of operational efficiencies among our SME customers. We also enabled our SME customers to access e-commerce platforms such as Beep.it, Food Market Hub and Lapasar at more competitive rates. Meanwhile, our RHB #JomSapot programme, established during the height of the pandemic in 2020, continued to assist SMEs to promote their products and services to our extensive customer base at no additional cost.

KEY BUSINESS INITIATIVES	OUTCOMES
<b>Digital empowerment for salesforce and customers</b> - Continued to drive Ringgit Malaysia's productivity through continuous enhancement of our iSMART digital tool that enhances sales leads management while improving the customer experience.	• Overall sales productivity increased 20%, which led to a sales uplift of RM1.6 billion.
<b>Accelerated value creation from analytics</b> through enhanced usage of data analytics to improve customer engagement and deepening our share of wallet.	• Secured more than RM700 million new loan acceptances in 2021.
SME ecosystem and deposits - Continued to build on SME ecosystem as a key differentiator by offering SMEs a suite of cloud-based business solutions aimed at empowering SMEs with versatile solutions. Throughout the challenging year with multiple Movement Control Orders, we continued to reach out to SMEs across the country through virtual events together with our business solution partners to help SMEs digitalise their business.	<ul> <li>RHB eSolutions onboarded 5,456 customers in 2021, leading to current account growth of RM606 million.</li> <li>Deposits grew 14.6% (from RM25.1 billion to RM28.7 billion) mainly from CASA.</li> </ul>



#### **EMBRACING DIGITALISATION**

Both Retail and SME Banking were focused on progressing the Bank's relationship managers by 20%, in addition to reducing turnaround digitalisation agenda in 2021 with the ultimate aim of providing time for our customers by 20%, which contributed to RM7.9 billion in customers with a simple, fast and convenient banking experience. loan acceptance. For SME Banking, we continued enhancing the capabilities of our SME Online Financing and eSolutions platforms. For example, the For Retail Banking, we actively engaged with our customers and staff to encourage their migration to digital-only banking via the RHB SME financing mobile app can now execute MyKad verification and facilitate virtual interviews to fulfil Electronic Know-Your-Customer Internet and Mobile banking platforms. The growth was encouraging ("e-KYC") procedures, which provided added convenience for our with a 56% year-on-year increase in signups for the mobile banking customers, especially during the pandemic. The results were significant platform, reflecting the adoption of our digital platform by more than as our SME Online Financing portfolio more than doubled to RM840 half of our retail customers. As a result, we saw a notable increase in million in 2021 compared to RM339 million in 2020. Concurrently, the origination of consumer loans applications and disbursements via we gained more than 5,456 new eSolutions customers, which digital channels.

The banking sector in general will remain challenging given the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19, and will also be largely dependent on how the impact of new strains of the virus are managed. This evolving situation will once again see a balancing act between protecting lives and livelihoods and the need to maintain the normalcy achieved thus far. Alongside the rebound in growth with the expected economic recovery in 2022, Group Community Banking remains committed to finding innovative ways to better serve existing customers through a comprehensive digital ecosystem while attracting new customers.

Much of what we will do going forward involves leveraging technology and digitisation, either to improve our own internal processes or to find more effective ways to serve our customers. For example, BNM's call to introduce e-KYC will ultimately lead to the full digitalisation of customer onboarding, which we have already implemented in some of our products, and will help attract a younger cohort of customers who are more accustomed to online experiences.

As such, we are gearing ourselves to continue meeting the challenges of a competitive industry in order to grow our market share by enhancing our product propositions and improving productivity and service availability.

#### **OPERATIONAL REVIEW**

RHB

#### OUTCOMES

- Year-on-year SME loans grew by 11.2%.
- SME market share based on business segmentation grew from 7.6% in December 2020 to 8.1% in December 2021.

increased CASA under management by RM606 million. By leveraging digital solutions, we were also able to improve the productivity of our

#### **OUTLOOK & PROSPECTS**

VE ARE RHB BANK	LEADERSHIP	OUR STRATEGIC	OUR PERFORMANCE	OUR	STAKEHOLDERS'	
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## GROUP WHOLESALE BANKING

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Group Wholesale Banking ("GWB") comprises the key business segments of Group Investment Banking, Group Corporate Banking, Commercial Banking, Group Treasury and Global Markets, Group Asset Management, Transaction Banking and Economics. GWB was established following a restructuring of the Group's Strategic Business Groups in 2021.

GWB provides comprehensive and coordinated services across a wide spectrum of products and solutions to cater to the needs and requirements of our customers both in Malaysia and in the region. We are able to help our customers progress as we tap the collective expertise and potential for synergies across our business segments, which is crucial in opening up new opportunities and strengthening our business in the markets we are present in.

**Group Investment Banking** offers a full range of capital market products, structuring, advisory services and investment products to Large-Cap, Mid-Cap clients, conglomerates, governmentlinked companies and agencies. The primary market capital raising includes equity and various debt instruments, whilst the secondary market equities trading/brokerage covers both institutional and retail clients. In addition we provide structured investment ideas and products to clients.

**Group Corporate Banking** provides a comprehensive suite of Conventional and Shariah-compliant financing solutions to corporate clients, apart from assisting corporates in structuring their financing requirements, while **Commercial Banking** focuses on mid-sized companies that fall in between large corporates and SMEs.



#### FY2021 PERFORMANCE

GWB posted a pre-tax profit of RM1,999.2 million, 2.1% higher from previous year. This is on the back of higher net fund based income of 30.0%, partially offset by lower non fund based income of 13.4% from lower net trading and investment income, and higher expected credit losses of 108.5%.

Gross loans and financing increased by 1.6% year-on-year to RM50.3 billion. Total deposits increased by 3.4% to RM93.0 billion mainly due to the increase in money market time deposits, partly offset by the decline in current account deposits.





#### OPERATIONAL REVIEW

RHB

**Group Treasury and Global Markets** offers a comprehensive suite of Treasury products and solutions, including FX, Structured Products and Money and Capital Market Instruments, catering to the funding, hedging and investment needs of our diverse customers, besides managing the investment and liquidity needs of the Banking Group.

**Transaction Banking** offers customers transaction banking services and liquidity management by providing cash management services such as payments, collections and trade finance solutions for business enterprises.

**Group Asset Management,** inclusive of its trustee business, adds value by providing investment management services to customers to enhance financial performance on their investments by offering a comprehensive suite of unit trust funds to meet the differing needs of businesses and individuals, including retirement schemes, investment management advisory, private mandate and trustee and will-writing services.

GWB is further complemented by the Economics department, which provides research services to internal stakeholders as well as external customers to enable them to make informed and sound investment decisions.

The Asset Triple A

Islamic Finance Awards

• Best ASEAN Sustainability SRI Sukuk - Quasi-Sovereign Cagamas Berhad's RM100.0 million Sustainability SRI

IFN Deals of the Year Awards

2021

(Sole Principal Adviser, Sole Lead Arranger & Sole Lead Manager)

Cellco Capital Berhad's RM520.0 million Sukuk

Commodity Murabaha Sukuk

• Structured Finance Deal of the Year

(Sole Lead Manager)

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#### OPERATIONAL REVIEW

#### **GROUP INVESTMENT BANKING**

# 

#### OVERALL **PERFORMANCE:**

Group Investment Banking recorded a pre-tax profit of RM257.8 million in 2021, which was 91.0% higher than the pre-tax profit of RM135.0 million compared to 2020. The performance was due to improved year-on-year performance by the Capital Markets businesses and Equity Derivatives and lower impairments. The Retail Equities business in the key overseas markets of Indonesia and Thailand also turned profitable in FY2021. Total Group Investment Banking income also grew by 9.4% from RM608.9 million in FY2020 to RM667.3 million in FY2021.

#### AWARDS

#### The Edge Malaysia Best Deals of the Year 2021

٠	Best Deal – Initial Public Offering
	CTOS Digital Berhad's RM1.2 billion IPO
	(Joint Principal Adviser, Joint Global Coordinator, Joint Bookrunner, Joint Managing Underwriter & Joint Underwriter)

• Best Deal - Mergers & Acquisitions Kuala Lumpur Kepong Berhad's acquisition of a 56.2% stake in IJM Plantation Berhad from IJM Corporation Berhad for RM1.53 billion (Sole Principal Adviser to Kuala Lumpur Kepong Berhad)

#### Alpha SEA 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Best Deal & Solution Awards 2021

- Best ASEAN Green SRI Sukuk
- Best SRI Sukuk

SME Bank's RM3.0 billion ASEAN Sustainability Islamic MTN Programme with first issuance of RM500.0 million (Sole Principal Adviser, Sole Lead Arranger & Joint Lead Manager)

#### Asian Banking & Finance Corporate & Investment Banking Awards 2021

• Islamic Equity Deal – Malaysia Sunway Berhad's RM977.8 million Islamic Irredeemable Convertible Preference Shares (Sole Principal Adviser)

#### **HOW WE CREATE VALUE**

#### LEAGUE TABLE RANKINGS FOR MALAYSIA

	Position (2021)	Market Share
Bonds	3	14.8%
Sukuk	3	15.4%
Equities	4	9.3%
M&A Advisory (by value)	4	35.2%
Equities Broking	4	8.9%

(source : Bloomberg, Bursa Malaysia & RHB)

BUSINESSES	KEY INITIATIVES
Malaysia – client coverage	Cross-sell banking products origination of capital marke idea generation with produc
	Increase fee Share of Waller holding ratio for existing clie
<b>Malaysia -</b> capital markets & advisory	Focus on deal execution ex
<b>Malaysia –</b> equities broking	Grow market share and cli digitalisation and technolo
<b>Cambodia –</b> capital markets & advisory	Drive Investment Banking Corporate/Commercial Ba under the CIB Model
<b>Thailand –</b> capital markets & advisory	
<b>Thailand –</b> broking	
<b>Indonesia –</b> broking	Digitalisation of retail equi marketing, trading, accoun
Vietnam – broking	
FIT22	INITIATIVES
Fund Our Journey	Increase Share of Wallet ("SOW") for Large-Caps
	Enhance Penetration Rate into Mid-Caps
	Position Overseas Businesses to Focus on Ke Strengths

**OPERATIONAL REVIEW** 

	DUTCOMES (AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021)
nd drive leals through partners	Higher cross-selling targets met across Retail, Commercia and Treasury products. Increased fee Share of Wallet in Large-Cap and Mid-Cap
nd product	client segments.
ts	Increased product holding ratio from 3.98 to 4.40.
ellence	Increased deal completion by 7% year-on-year. Going into 2022, healthy pipeline consisting of more than 200 ongoing deals and mandates to be secured, supported by strong league positions.
	Dominant league table positions: • No. 3 for Bonds and Sukuk • No. 4 for ECM, M&A and Equities Broking
nt base through y enhancement	e-KYC is targeted for launch to RHB Investment Bank's remisiers in Q1 2022. Since the pilot launch in 2H 2021, more than 200 accounts have been successfully opened by dealers via e-KYC.
nd king as one	Gained traction with three deals through greater collaboration under the CIB Model in 2021.
	Targeted client approach strategy after undergoing rigorous account planning process.
	Enhanced website and trading and communication channels for clients and Investment Consultants.
es – opening	Growth in new accounts by 17% year-on-year.
	Launched a new trading platform in February 2021 and Mobile App in May 2021. Continued enhancement of both Web Trading and Mobile Apps with new features in 2022.

	OUTCOMES (AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021)
llet ips	<ul> <li>Market leader in fee SOW since the inception of FIT22 and have defended leadership position since then.</li> <li>Revenue uplift has grown steadily since 2018.</li> <li>Penetration rate maintained at 85.7%.</li> <li>Steady loan growth based on volume and value.</li> </ul>
Rate	<ul> <li>Defended Top 3 position in Fee SOW with current #1 ranking in Mid-Cap space.</li> <li>83 new clients acquired together with new product penetration since FIT22 inception.</li> <li>Steady loan growth based on volume and value.</li> </ul>
on Key	<ul> <li>Overseas investment banking business in Indonesia and Cambodia have turned profitable. Thailand and Vietnam have closed the losses gap by focusing on key strengths and niche business.</li> <li>Exited broking business in Singapore, disposed of Indonesian asset management business and ceased operations in Hong Kong to focus on other growth markets in ASEAN.</li> </ul>

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STAKEHOLDERS' INFORMATION

#### OPERATIONAL REVIEW

#### **GROUP CORPORATE BANKING**



KEY BUSINESS INITIATIVES	
Development of selective strategies for growth and new business acquisitions	Recorded loans & assets growth of 2.1% and year-on-year new client acquisition growth of 34.8%.
Intensify collaboration with internal product partners and businesses to deliver holistic financial solutions	Improved domestic ancillary fee income by 5.5% year-on-year.
Deployment of corporate task force to manage rescheduling and restructuring of clients' banking facilities during the pandemic	Total repayment assistance accorded to clients in need constituted approximately 9.0% of total GCB domestic loans and assets for the year.

#### **FIT22 INITIATIVE**

To increase earnings contribution from Large-Caps and enhance penetration and advance market share in Mid-Cap segment. This was implemented via the intensification of collaborative action internally with product partners and deployment of 'go to market' approaches to bundle a comprehensive range of products and services, as well as a selective growth strategy for new and existing clients.

#### OUTCOME

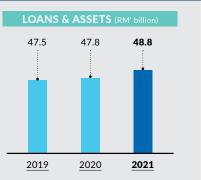
GCB registered year-on-year loans & assets growth of 4.2%, contributed mainly by both Large-Cap and Mid-Cap segments.

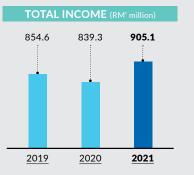
## Financial **OVERALL**

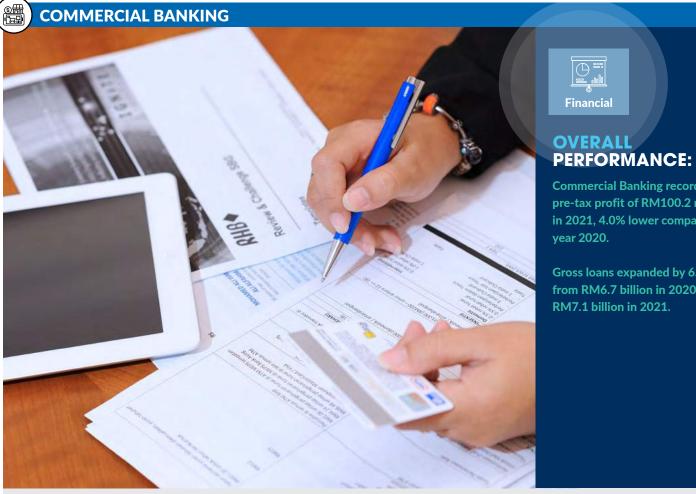
## **PERFORMANCE:**

Group Corporate Banking recorded pre-tax profit of RM103.2 mil in 2021, declined by 79.4% from 2020 primarily due to higher allowances for credit losses.

Gross loans and assets expanded by 2.1% from RM47.8 billion in 2020 to RM48.8 billion in 2021.







#### **KEY BUSINESS INITIATIVES** Enhancement of asset quality managemen

Collaborate within the Group through vari cross-selling of different products and services to provide holistic solutions

#### **FIT22 INITIATIVES**

Grow Loan and Deposits business

Enhance customer-centric approach

#### **OPERATIONAL REVIEW**

RHB

**OVERALL** 

Commercial Banking recorded pre-tax profit of RM100.2 million in 2021, 4.0% lower compared to

Gross loans expanded by 6.2% from RM6.7 billion in 2020 to RM7.1 billion in 2021.

	>	OUTCOMES
nt		Loan moratorium granted to 43.45% of Commercial Banking customers.
		Improvement in gross impaired loans ratio to 0.14% compared to 0.22% in 2020.
ious		Designed to enhance customer experience and satisfaction. This enabled Commercial Banking to capture 70% of the main operating customer accounts.

#### OUTCOMES

Continued to focus on increasing loan and deposit base by driving productivity and efficiency with a strong compliance culture.

Provided holistic solutions to clients through various ancillary businesses across the Group and improved turnaround time to enhance customer journey and create a long-term relationship with the client.

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#### OPERATIONAL REVIEW

					KEY BUSINESS INITIATIVES	$\boldsymbol{\boldsymbol{\succ}}$
				Financial OVERALL	Rebalance Investment Portfolio	
				<b>PERFORMANCE:</b> Group Treasury and Global Markets ("GTGM") recorded a pre-tax profit of RM1,457.0 million, representing a 26.0% growth from the previous year.	Implement Fully Automated Murex Hedging Module	
	~			This was mainly contributed by higher net interest income of 77.0%, partially offset by lower non-interest income of 38.5% due to lower trading and investment income and higher	Active Management of Operating Costs	
	otal Income Growth:	Pre-Tax Profit:	Pre-Tax Profit Growth:	other operating expenses of 2.4%.	AWARDS	
DM1 622 6		DM1 /57 0	1		Best Forex Ba 202	
RM1,633.6 Million 2	3.3%	RM1,457.0 Million	<b>26.0%</b>		<b>Global Banking and Finance Awa</b> GBAF Publication Pte. Ltd.	rds 2
KEY BUSINESS INITIA		TCOMES				
Digitalisation of Distrib Channels for Structure	d Link	ed Investments. There	was strong take-up from	de high-yield Auto-Callable and Equity- affluent and mass affluent customers,		
Investment Products			-	ructured investment product sales. access to structured investment	Best Multi Currency 202	
	proo This	ducts, we increased tou digital platform provic	uchpoints via an online tr les for real-time competi	access to structured investment rade booking and processing system. tively priced structured investment and reduced operational risks.	<b>Global Banking and Finance Awa</b> GBAF Publication Pte. Ltd.	rds 2
Transition of LIBOR to Free Rates ("RFR")	cont	tracts referencing cease y and enhanced our inte	ed on 31 December 2021 ernal systems to ensure le	s transitioned to RFR as LIBOR . We planned for this IBOR transition egacy contracts and new transactions ternative reference rates.	Highly Commended Be Malaysia Rir The Asset Benchmark Research /	ggit
				BOR transition, we increased customer ing key differences between RFR and ash instruments, derivatives and loan	Currency Bond Awards, Asset Publishing and Research Ltd.	wai

#### OPERATIONAL REVIEW

RHB

## **DBAL MARKETS**

#### TCOMES

ned to rising market expectations for higher bond market yields as economic conditions rove, we have positioned our fixed income exposure to remain optimally invested and nced between the risk of higher-trending bond yields and the value proposition of ening credit spreads to opportunistically improve Return on Investment ("ROI").

suing a robust risk mitigation strategy, we continued to automate workflows and cesses. Remaining wary of the prospect of pivotal changes in the direction of interest as and their impact on business risk, we improved hedging effectiveness with the lementation of the hedge accounting module in Murex to cover the end-to-end process edging effectiveness, including downstream reporting and disclosure.

remained vigilant in managing operating costs. Budgets and resources were reallocated ards continuous improvement of systems and processes to increase business ductivity and enhance cost-efficiency.



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#### **GROUP ASSET MANAGEMENT**

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#### **OVERALL PERFORMANCE:**

**Group Asset Management** ("GAM") achieved a pre-tax profit of RM 77.1 million, a year-onyear increase of 9.3%, driven by higher revenue despite increased overall operating costs.

#### AWARDS

#### **Mixed Asset MYR Flexible -RHB Thematic Growth (3 Years)**

Lipper Fund Award 2021, Lipper Awards by Refinitiv

#### Most Astute Investor (Malaysia) -Ranked 2<sup>nd</sup>

The Most Astute Investors in Asian -Local Currency Bonds for 2021, The Asset Benchmark Research

#### Top Investment House (Malaysia) -Ranked 1<sup>st</sup>

Top Investment Houses in Asian Local Currency Bonds for 2021, The Asset Benchmark Research

#### Most Astute Investor (Malaysia) -Ranked 9<sup>th</sup>

The Most Astute Investors in Asian - Local Currency Bonds for 2021, The Asset Benchmark Research

In 2021, we launched a total of 15 new funds across Malaysia and regional offices. These new funds included four innovative ESG thematic and impact investing funds, in addition to multi-currency funds across various asset classes in both the Conventional and Shariah space. These funds were designed to meet our existing and prospective investors' needs, by taking economic and industry trends, investment outlook and overall market developments into consideration. We are committed to creating a sustainable fund management business, with our holistic ESG framework and integration process and governance oversights put in place, working alongside other businesses within the Group on various ongoing sustainability initiatives.

#### **EMBEDDING SUSTAINABILITY**

Group Wholesale Banking has continued to strongly support the Bank's growing sustainability ambitions through a variety of initiatives, including creating new credit policies that demonstrate our commitment to furthering the ESG agenda. We have also clearly stamped the ESG mark on a number of new products and funds, which we believe will not only capture the interest of investors, but also advance the financial services industry's overall contribution to the transition to a low-carbon economy.

Notable ESG Initiatives in 2021:

- Sukuk by a development financial institution ("DFI"), valued at RM500 million.
- of stocks, thus giving investors a more comprehensive understanding of their investments.
- phase out existing direct coal financing exposures.
- Structured Investment Linked Index with Autoswitch payoff with reference to the ESG Index.

As a combined entity, Group Wholesale Banking remains committed to building stronger relationships with our customers in order to cast a wider net that will enable us to capture new opportunities for cross-selling and deepen our share of wallet.

- cross-border advisory and fundraising deals.
- high-growth economic sectors, as well as promoting and supporting sustainable financing.

In line with the Group-wide digitalisation strategy, we will continue to focus on delivering wholesale financial solutions to our clients, capitalising on our digital capabilities to serve our clients better by enhancing our products and services digitally. Concurrently, we will continue to strive to improve and enhance the efficiency of our middle office capabilities and ensure a strong risk and compliance culture.

- technology and will contribute towards operational efficiency and overall productivity.

#### **OPERATIONAL REVIEW**

QUR

• Investment Banking was the sole principal adviser, sole lead arranger, joint lead manager, facility agent, Shariah adviser and commodity trading participant for SME Bank's RM3 billion Sukuk Wakalah Programme and its inaugural issuance of the country's first Sustainability

Green commitment of RM5 billion for non-Retail lending, with RM4.32 billion achieved, of which 20.7% was for renewable energy.

• Investment Banking's Research Team introduced its proprietary ESG scoring system that will embed ESG considerations in its evaluation

• Group Corporate Banking's approved green financing stood at RM801 million as at end December 2021 and in line with the Bank's stance on not extending new coal financing from 2022 onwards, Group Corporate Banking will be reviewing its portfolio to eventually

Group Treasury and Global Markets structured and executed Malaysia's first ESG-KPI Linked Cross-currency Interest Rate Swap and

 Group Asset Management launched a total of four new funds covering ESG thematic and impact investing funds, namely the RHB i-Global Sustainable Disruptors Fund, RHB Global Impact Fund RHB Sustainable Global Thematic Fund and RHB Asia Sustainable Leaders Fund during the year. The combined AUM of these funds stood at RM836 million as at end-December 2021.

#### **OUTLOOK & PROSPECTS**

• Group Investment Banking: We will continue to enhance the client coverage model to deepen personalised relationships and expand the acquisition of new relationships, supported by digital capabilities in monitoring the monetisation of these relationships. We will also implement the Hub & Spoke model, which will help us better serve our overseas customers and Malaysian clients with overseas presence, as we seek to leverage market dynamics and the wider capabilities in RHB Investment Bank to generate more

 Group Corporate Banking: The COVID-19 pandemic has enabled us to gain vast knowledge in steering our business forward under challenging conditions over the last two years. Moving forward, we will continue to focus on strengthening our relationships with our existing clients, while continuing to grow Mid-Cap companies through enhancements in the existing business model and aligning with

• Commercial Banking: With the current challenges to business recovery posed by the pandemic, we will continue to proactively engage with and offer assistance to our clients. For clients who opted for loan moratoriums, we will closely engage with them to consider restructuring when the loan moratorium ends to ensure their continued viability and at the same time, protect our asset quality.

• Group Treasury and Global Markets ("GTGM"): GTGM remains optimistic about the outlook for financial markets in the year ahead. High vaccination rates and efficient responses from the regulators and central banks are likely to improve market confidence, alleviate volatility and reduce liquidity risk premiums. However, headwinds to financial market stability may arise from the tightening of monetary policies, pandemic concerns and growing geopolitical risk. Despite these market challenges, the prudent application of a business-driven risk management framework will act as the fulcrum for structured and disciplined trading and investment activities. Overall, we remain steadfast in strengthening customer-centricity with high-value treasury products and solutions delivered through agile business processes, to deliver on our commitment of Customer First.

• Group Asset Management: We will be launching an online client portal for our valued customers and prospective investors in 2022 as part of our ongoing digital initiatives. This portal aims to enhance our customer experience and satisfaction by embracing

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**CUSTOMERS' DEPOSITS** 

60,830

2020

71,661

2021

54,417

2019

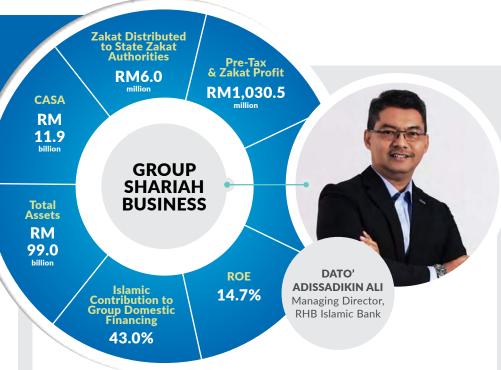
#### **OPERATIONAL REVIEW**

## **GROUP SHARIAH** BUSINESS

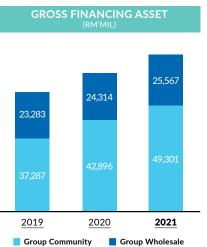
#### **RHB Islamic Bank is the Group's Islamic banking** arm, providing Shariahcompliant financial products and services offered through **Group Community Banking** and Group Wholesale Banking pillars.

Our products and services are delivered in a fast, efficient and seamless manner nationwide to fulfil the needs of customers, cutting across the Commercial Banking (covering retail, corporate and commercial business segments) and Investment Banking business streams. Our customer touchpoint network is one of the largest in the country with services available at all RHB Islamic Bank branches as well as RHB Bank branches, totalling 208 locations nationwide, with the added convenience of ATMs and mobile and internet banking.

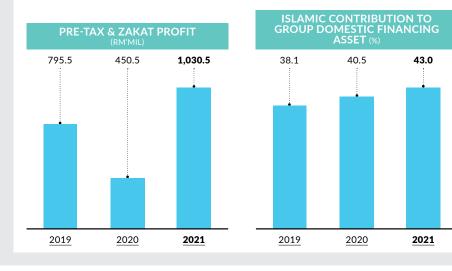




#### **HOW WE CREATE VALUE**







KEY BUSINESS INITIATIVES	$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$	ουτο
Driving growth across all Banking franchises through		Busines
our 'Islamic First' product strategy		• Reg of m
Stategy		billio
		• Tota at e
		RM8 year
		• The
		fina indu
		• Gros
		202
		• Gro
		reco
		202
		of th
		gros
		of 1
		mor ASB
		ASB (6.9
		end
		Ban
		RM
		con
		Con
		afte 42.8
		• Gro
		34.1
		asse
		Ban
		Gro
		asse
		Con
Increasing our penetration into government and		In 2021 strengtl
government agencies, as well		paymer
as the healthcare ecosystem		nationw
		payroll

#### **OPERATIONAL REVIEW**

RHB

#### OMES

#### ss Performance

sistered pre-tax and zakat profit growth nore than 100%, crossing the RM1 ion mark for the first time.

al assets grew to RM99.0 billion as end-2021, a 13.9% increase against 86.9 billion recorded in the previous

Bank maintained a gross impaired ncing ratio of 0.52%, well below the ustry average of 1.23%.

oss financing asset grew by 11.4% to 74.9 billion from RM67.2 billion in 20.

oup Community Banking contributed 9% of the total Bank's financing asset, ording a growth rate of 14.9% from 20. Retail Banking contributed 88.4% he total Group Community Banking's ss financing asset with a growth rate 12.1%, mainly backed by growth in rtgage financing (16.5%), followed by B financing (9.8%), auto finance business %) and personal financing (6.3%). As at I-2021, gross financing asset for Retail king stood at RM43.6 billion against 38.9 billion in 2020. The SME segment tributed 11.6% to the total Group nmunity Banking's gross financing asset er experiencing robust annual growth of 8%.

up Wholesale Banking accounted for 1% of the total Bank's gross financing et, up by 5.2% from 2020. Corporate king contributed 94.0% of the total up Wholesale Banking's gross financing et, with the remaining balance from the nmercial Banking segment.

#### **Product Launches**

- Trade Solution product the first in the industry to use Bai Istijrar Contract for Trade Financing purposes.
- Hybrid car financing for hybrid, plug-in and electric cars launched in January 2021. As at end-2021, we have provided financing of RM34.8 million.
- The Wakalah Money Market Investment Account ("WMMIA-I") has been enhanced to include PF-i as underlying financing assets, allowing for more appealing product packaging to suit customers' risk appetites.
- Launched Restricted Investment Account-i under Corporate Banking, which leverages underlying financing assets to further improve varieties of product offerings to suit customer demand.

#### CASA Growth from 2019 to 2021

Improvements were also seen from the CASA perspective with CASA growth for the last three years trending upwards:



1, we made strong headway into the higher education sector. At the same time, we hened our presence in the government healthcare ecosystem where we now provide nt and collection solutions to 13 major government hospitals and over 300 large clinics vide. In the private healthcare space, we support more than 20 hospitals, providing solutions as well as a wide range of retail financing, and takaful products.

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#### **KEY BUSINESS INITIATIVES** OUTCOMES **Contributing to Value-Based** Rumah Ibadah Hijau Programme Intermediation ("VBI") and We collaborated with the Malaysian Green sustainability Technology and Climate Change Centre ("MGTC") to install solar panels for mosques and religious buildings under the Rumah Ibadah Hijau programme. In 2021, we contributed to the installation of solar photovoltaic ("PV") panels in two mosques in Bangi, Selangor and Kangar, Perlis. Both installations resulted in total savings of

RM33,600, while the installation in Kangar is able to offset 800 tonnes of  $CO_2$ .

#### Ocean Harmoni

We issued 69,779 units of the ecofriendly recycled plastic RHB Debit Card-i and collected contributions of RM34,511 to fund marine research carried out by Universiti Malaysia Terengganu under our Ocean Harmoni initiative.

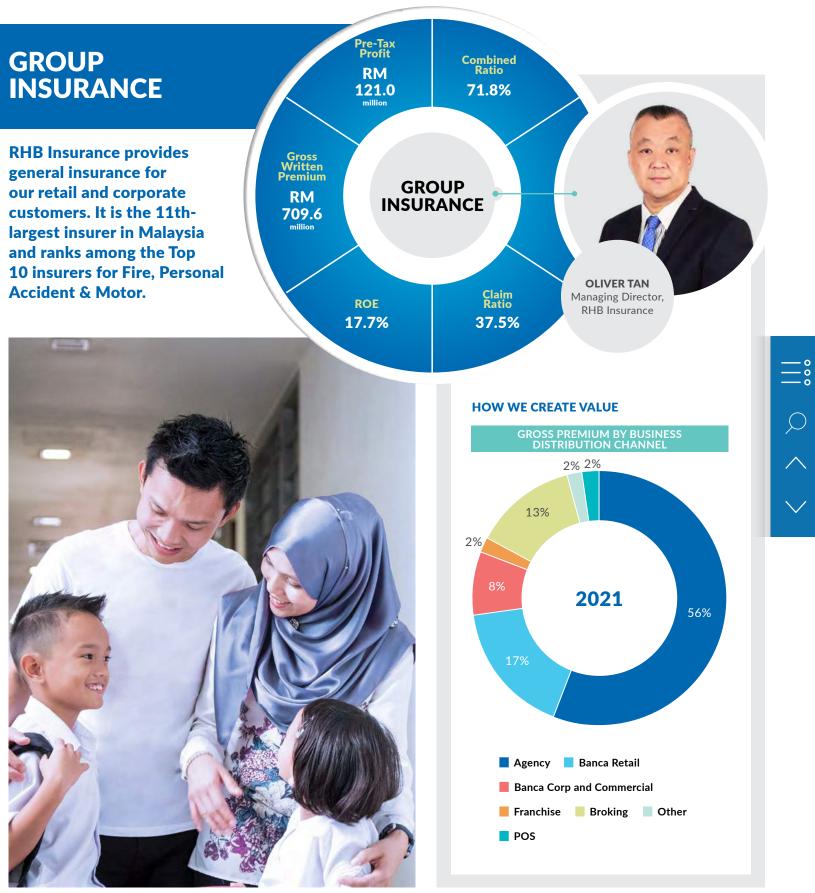
FIT22 INITIATIVES	OUTCOMES
Target 40% of financing asset contribution to the Group	Exceeded the target with 43% financing asset contribution as at December 2021.
Target to reach Top 3 position in financing assets	Maintained the Top 3 position with financing assets of RM74.9 billion as at December 2021.
Target to achieve business mix of 60% Retail, 30% Corporate and 10% Business Banking	Business mix was on track at 58% for Retail, 34% for Corporate and 8% for Business Banking.

#### **OUTLOOK & PROSPECTS**

Looking ahead, the Islamic banking industry will be developing digital channels to reach out to more customers and to capture new business opportunities, especially given the shift to digital adoption that has been accelerated by the pandemic. From a sustainability perspective, the growing concerns regarding climate change will also impact Islamic banks as the industry will naturally move towards responsible financing.

Notwithstanding these larger trends, we note the positive economic recovery momentum that began in the fourth quarter of 2021 that will take us well into 2022. RHB Islamic Bank will continue to focus its efforts on improving its leadership position in selected markets and product segments, and on further enhancing its relationships with existing customers, while simultaneously focusing on exploring and developing new relationships.

In 2022, we will be prioritising initiatives that strengthen our core business, especially within the government, health and higher education ecosystems. In addition, there will be a renewed emphasis on capturing new business opportunities in the SME and wealth management business, leveraging the combined strength of RHB Banking Group's physical and digital capabilities.



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policies to support the Group's ESG agenda.

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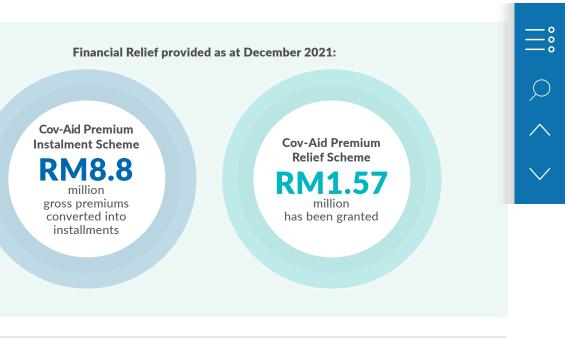
KEY BUSINESS INITIATIVES	OUTCOMES	FIT22 INITIATIVES
Distribution Excellence through focused customer campaigns and white labelling/API digital product distribution	We have rapidly scaled up our API/white labelling digital product distribution capabilities with the onboarding of 100 agents in FY2021, which will be further enhanced with an additional 250 agents in 2022.	To be Top 4 in PBT and Top 7 in Gross Written Premium by 2026
Deepen Banca Penetration – To ramp up SMEs, cross-selling and product and service innovation to suit customer personas	We have achieved RM11 million in Gross Written Premium for FY2021 from our new SME business and we are aiming for RM15 million in FY2022. Our fee-based income to the Bank for FY2021 was RM2 million and we are working towards achieving RM3 million in FY2022.	To adopt a customer-centric business
Customer-centricity by focusing on car owners, families and SMEs, while also implementing a design thinking approach to product and service innovation	We have enhanced end-to-end customer experience by ensuring customers receive excellent service not only at the point of sales, but more importantly, during the claims process, as well as from panel workshops. As at December 2021, 84% of customers rated the service provided by workshops as satisfactory and above.	model underpinned by digital technology
Digital Ventures focusing on acquisition, increased stickiness and online/digital products	<ul> <li>Total premiums obtained through the Mobile App and Online Insurance increased to RM1.23 million in FY2021 (FY2020: RM1.04 million), mainly resulting from:</li> <li>Quick product roll-out through Minimum Viable Products ("MVPs") as part of the Agile way of working - four MVPs were launched through the insurance Mobile App and 11 MVPs through online insurance and white label/API.</li> <li>The launch of MediSure Supreme through online insurance.</li> </ul>	RHB Insurance continued to support our customers throughout 2021 with the Cov- Aid Premium Instalment Scheme and Cov-Aid Premium Relief Scheme. The Cov-Aid Premium Relief Scheme provides financial
Technical Skills – To prepare for liberalisation and empowerment of frontline sales force to provide one- stop service	Our underwriters and frontline staff have been empowered to further improve overall productivity. For instance, we now have 18 marketing staff who have been trained as underwriters. This enhancement of job functions enables quicker turnaround times for policy applications.	relief of up to 50% for both new and existing SME policyholders while the Cov-Aid Premium Instalment Scheme enables individuals and SME clients whose income or business have been
Incorporating ESG into our products and operations	We provided maximum discounts for private car comprehensive insurance cover for electric or hybrid cars from August 2021. As at 31 December 2021, we have issued 665 policies generating a Gross Written Premium of RM885,321. In December 2021, we launched 'Motor Saver', in which the premium charged is linked to vehicle mileage. This is an initiative to promote a greener lifestyle by encouraging less car usage, which will help reduce carbon emissions. As at 31 December 2021, we have insured 65 policyholders, contributing a Gross Written Premium of RM44,550.	Looking ahead to 2022, we will continue to c to launch innovative simple retail policies to customers, noting the potential of the untappe through digitalisation or greater automation. I

### OPERATIONAL REVIEW

RHB

#### OUTCOMES

- 2021 was a difficult year for bonds following rising interest yields and even with the resulting mark-to-market investment losses, we continued to deliver PBT of RM121.0 million, albeit 20% lower than 2020.
- By prioritising customer segments and customer-centric product innovation and providing a seamless end-to-end customer journey through direct engagement with some customers, we achieved consistently high NPS scores of 15 in 2021 and 13 in 2020.
- Implementing Robotic Process Automation in our claims registration process for motor, medical and personal accident insurance has improved efficiency and productivity, data quality and turnaround time, resulting in 0.5 Full-time Equivalent ("FTE") savings.



#### **OUTLOOK & PROSPECTS**

ue to create customer-centric products and services to defend and capture market share. We plan cies to provide relevant protection to customers as well as a one-stop insurance solution for SME ntapped SME market. Beyond this, we are constantly exploring ways to improve efficiencies, whether ation. In addition, we will start incorporating ESG criteria to expand the scoping of our investment

•	WE ARE RHB BANK	LEADERSHIP STATEMENTS	OUR STRATEGIC REVIEW	OUR PERFORMANCE REVIEW	OUR GOVERNANCE	STAKEHOLDERS' INFORMATION

**OPERATIONAL REVIEW** 

## GROUP **INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS**

**Group International Business ("GIB") comprises** our commercial banking and investment banking\* portfolios overseas. We have a strong presence through an established network of offices and branches across Singapore<sup>\*</sup>, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Brunei, Laos, and Cambodia.

We offer a wide variety of products and services to customers of all segments, ranging from loans, deposits, wealth management solutions and trade financing to stockbroking, derivatives and capital market-related services such as initial public offerings, raising of debt capital and mergers & acquisition.

\* Singapore and overseas investment banking operations have been included as part of Group International Business since February 2021.



#### FY2021 PERFORMANCE

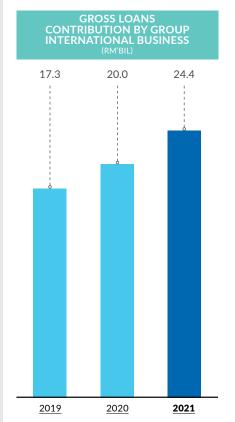
GIB continued to grow from strength to strength notwithstanding the challenges posed by the pandemic. With the addition of the Singapore and regional Investment Banking operations to GIB during the financial year, we are activating the many opportunities presented by the greater synergies that have been created.

Throughout 2021, our franchises across the region focused on improving their contribution to the Group's loans growth and profitability objectives, protecting asset quality and being active participants in progressing the Group's sustainability agenda.

In the year under review, the pre-tax profit of GIB grew from RM6.7 million to RM149.6 million, supported by strong loans and deposits growth of 22.1% and 14.1%, respectively. Asset quality also improved with gross impaired loans ratio dropping from 4.68% to 2.42%.



#### **HOW WE CREATE VALUE**



Note: Performance includes Singapore and IB overseas operations.

#### **CREATING VALUE, SUSTAINING GROWTH**

Our Singapore operations reported a pre-tax profit of SGD36.5 million, attributed to higher net fund based and non-fund based income. Gross loans and advances grew 23.0% to SGD6.3 billion, while deposits grew 15.0% to SGD6.7 billion.

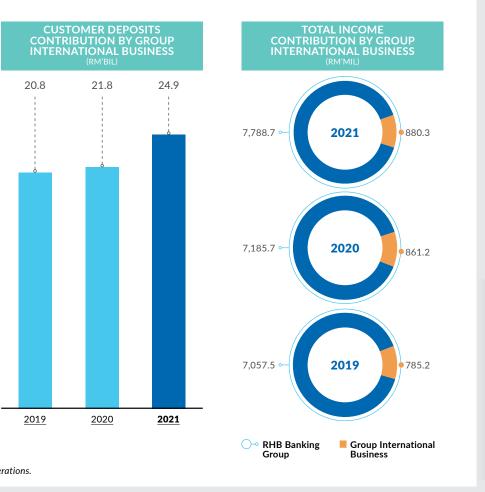
Throughout 2021, in various lead roles and capacities, we assisted several Singapore-listed REITs to raise capital across the debtto-equity spectrum. We acted as one of the lead arrangers in a SGD1.2 billion term and revolving facility in support of the privatisation of a Singapore-listed REIT.

We were also the sole lender on a loan facility of AUD68.5 million to a Singapore-listed REIT, a landmark transaction to fund their investment in Australia, which was the REIT's maiden acquisition outside of Singapore.

Additionally, we were mandated joint global coordinator and bookrunner on an SGD126.7 million equity fundraising for a Singapore-listed REIT in which the net proceeds were used to support the REIT's pivot from a pure-play office REIT to a diversified REIT.

#### **OPERATIONAL REVIEW**

RHB



#### **BUSINESS PERFORMANCE**

#### SINGAPOR

Notwithstanding the challenging environment with COVID-19, commercial banking continued to see a healthy total assets growth year-on-year. Commercial loans grew 27.7%, due to concerted efforts to grow quality secured loans such as Enterprise Singapore government loans and commercial property loans to support the SMEs.

As part of our transformation journey, we have started to reposition our network of branches to bring our services to our customers more strategically. To this end, we opened our Orchard Premier Centre in September 2021, a flagship regional wealth management centre with a Peranakan theme inspired by the shared cultural heritage of Singapore and Malaysia. RHB Premier offers a holistic suite of investment, insurance and financing solutions, focusing on growing the affluent client segment in Singapore and the region.

Our wealth management fee income rose by more than 166.9% in 2021 and was at its highest in 10 years. Retail loans also grew by 46.6% to SGD1.43 billion.

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#### OPFRATIONAL REVIEW



#### CAMBODIA

Our Cambodia subsidiary reported a pre-tax profit of USD19.1 million, close to six times higher than the 2020 profit of USD2.7 million, on the back of a 10.4% increase in total income. Gross loans and advances grew 16.1% to USD679.2 million.

Through strict credit discipline and higher recovery, allowances for ECL comprised a writeback of USD1.6 million, resulting in a positive credit charge ratio for the year. Recovery of impaired accounts also improved by more than 50% in 2021, with the total recovery amount valued at USD3.1 million.

In June 2021, we launched 'goWave by RHB', which is a financial literacy website developed by the bank to support the National Bank of Cambodia's agenda to increase financial literacy and inclusion. This content platform aims to increase the financial literacy of Cambodian young adults through useful bite-sized articles, video capsules and financial tools spread across the digital space, including its own website, as well as social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram and YouTube).

To date, goWave has managed to attract more than 200,000 young adults to its goWave Facebook page to discover financial knowledge in a fun and engaging platform.

One of our key digital solutions, RHB Reflex, was also launched on 15 June 2021, providing an integrated banking solution with cash management, trade and payments capabilities for our corporate customers.

RHB Cambodia's website was ranked in the top four of Cambodia's financial industry by Amazon Alexa in 2021, up from a mid-teen ranking.

RHB Cambodia won three awards in different categories that increased brand visibility, its first-ever banking awards won since inception:

- Most Innovative New Online Financial Literacy Platform from International Finance for our goWave platform.
- Most Innovative New Business Banking Payment Solutions App from International Finance for RHB Reflex.
- HR Asia Best Companies to Work For in Asia.

#### **THAILAND**

Our Thailand branch recorded a pre-tax profit of THB80.4 million, maintaining CIR below 60% and supported by good momentum of loans and deposits growth of 10.7% and 11.0%, respectively. We continued to grow our market share in the more profitable and

high-security coverage commercial and SME segments, shifting our loan portfolio from the heavily weighted corporate segment to a more balanced mix of commercial and SME segments.

#### LAOS

Due to the pandemic and poor asset quality, our Laos operations continued to register losses as we set aside substantial provisions in 2021. Nevertheless, we believe the worst is over for our Laos operations as we continue to grow cautiously.

However, customer deposits grew 36.9%, leading to a significant improvement in the loan deposit ratio. Meanwhile, corporate and SME loans comprised 23.0% of our loans mix and were on an upward trend, in line with our strategy.

#### BRUNEI

Our Brunei branch posted higher non fund based income by 17.4% and highest pre-tax profit in the last five years at BND1.5 million loan growth of 5.0%.

notwithstanding the setback caused by the pandemic and slower

#### **INVESTMENT BANKING**

Our overseas IB operations turned around in 2021, with a profit of RM25.1 million. Singapore, Indonesia and Cambodia contributed profit of RM16.9 million, RM13.3 million and RM1.0 million, respectively, while Thailand and Vietnam continued to register small losses.

Through active capital recycling, we created capacity to undertake attractive business opportunities and yet operate within various regulatory caps and ratios, thus sustaining RHB Singapore's position in the marketplace as an active player.

We fulfilled all conditions set by the Singapore Exchange ("SGX") for authorisation of RHB Singapore as a Catalist Full Sponsor and Mainboard Issue Manager, which enabled us to continue to deliver comprehensive advisory and transactional execution services for our clients across a wide range of corporate finance products, including initial public offerings, secondary fundraising, listing sponsorships and capital structure solutions.

We are currently growing our retail franchise via our digital initiatives, supported by mortgage and premier banking products. We also intend to expand our SME business with the roll-out of SME programme lending and the new target operating model in 2022. In addition, the corporate and investment banking franchise will intensify collaboration to drive fee revenue and to nurture SMEs

We will continue our focus on growing the commercial and SME segments, targeting industries such as renewable energy, medical and healthcare, information and communications technology services and businesses supplying products and services to the

focusing on being the bank of choice for specific customer segments. In parallel with loan recovery, loan growth will be moderated with

We will cautiously expand our portfolio during this pandemic phase while striving to progressively deepen our wallet share through the identified top clientele with whom we have engaged in the market. Our Brunei branch will also be relocating to a more strategic

Retail equities have been the key driver of our regional investment banking businesses and we will focus on a digital strategy to accelerate account acquisitions to build higher scale in this space. We are also exploring strategic partnerships as part of a new business model to jump-start business growth.

The newly established 'Hub & Spoke' model will assist all countries with product expertise, structuring and distribution while the

**OPERATIONAL REVIEW** 

RHB

#### **GROWTH STRATEGIES**

#### SINGAPORI

With Singapore as a leading financial services hub, the regional wealth management business segment will be a key growth engine. The RHB proposition has been strengthened by an open architecture strategy, partnering with multiple leading insurers and investment houses to give clients wider choices. Our Regional Premier Banking service also offers cross-border convenience and extends the full suite of wealth management and financing solutions to regional clients with a seamless customer experience.

#### CAMBODIA

towards potential listings on the stock exchange. This teamwork showed promising results in 2021 with successful loans jointly completed totalling USD17 million and a 50% revenue uplift from our list of identified customers. Through this initiative, the team also won a new IPO deal in 2021.

#### THAILAND

government. We will also further drive our 'one-country' strategy forward by harnessing the synergies created from having both a commercial banking and an investment banking presence in Thailand to better serve our customers.

#### LAOS

Our overall strategy includes strengthening the fundamentals and a prudent risk appetite as we shift focus to corporate and SME lending, while expanding our transactional and deposits customer base.

#### BRUNE

location with higher customer traffic and closer to our clients and their businesses. We will be introducing a safe deposit box service, in addition to installing cash deposit and cheque deposit machines to improve efficiency.

#### INVESTMENT BANKING

existing CIB model seeks collaboration and referrals, providing our customers with more comprehensive and tailored solutions.

We have also taken decisive actions to exit businesses that are either non-core or non-competitive, as in the case of the asset management business in Indonesia and securities business in Hong Kong.

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#### **OPFRATIONAL REVIEW**

### **ESG INITIATIVES**

#### SINGAPORE

In 2021, our Singapore operations extended green loans totalling SGD115 million to support our customers' acquisition and/or development of green properties in Singapore and Australia.

As one of the early adopters of ESG metrics in investment evaluations, the research team, in collaboration with the institutional equities team and the SGX, hosted a country-specific ESG event in November 2021. In addition, the team has incorporated our proprietary ESG ratings into stock valuation criteria to give our investors a better perspective of potential investments.

Within RHB Singapore, we implemented a series of workshops to equip staff with knowledge of the bank's ESG initiatives and to reinforce a strong culture to support sustainability development in Singapore. The workshop topics included 'Environmental Sustainability, Climate Change & Financial Institutions', 'Waste Management' and 'Eco Labels and Certifications'. Around 60 staff attended these workshops.

The treasury team has also started to incorporate sustainability into its investment activities and has invested SGD27 million worth of 'sustainable financing/activities' bonds.

CAMBODIA

In 2021, RHB Cambodia entered into a green financing facility agreement to finance the development of a new 20 MW solar power plant by a Malaysia-based electrical power technology company in Svay Teab District, in Svay Rieng Province of Cambodia. The facility granted by RHB Cambodia led to the successful development and commissioning of the plant in January 2022.

RHB Cambodia is also a member of the Sustainable Finance Committee and the Financial Inclusion Committee of the Association of Banks in Cambodia ("ABC"), with the objective of having a greater impact on the country's ESG agenda. We also helped to drive financial literacy among young adults in Cambodia through our goWave community platform.

#### THAILAND

LAOS

In Thailand, we have onboarded new green & sustainable lending customers in the renewable energy sector and provided financing

amounting to over THB1 billion. Our treasury team has also invested close to THB0.4 billion in green or sustainable bonds.

We will intensify our efforts to enrich and empower by sharing ESG-related information through our webinar series 'The Journey of

Progress' to create awareness and educate the Laotian community on ESG and to enhance their general financial literacy levels.

#### **DIGITAL/OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS**

Retail banking has digitally enabled branch service and sales interactions. Staff-assisted digital forms that allow quicker processing and backend automation are being implemented in phases. The initial roll-out supports straight-through account opening for customers with more services being added in the year ahead. Retail banking has also enhanced its mobile banking

capabilities with 80% of individual accounts now opened via the RHB Mobile SG app.

The Treasury team successfully transitioned the front-end system to cater for SGD SORA and USD SOFR benchmarks, which enables us to offer derivative products based on these two benchmarks.

#### CAMBODIA

In 2021, RHB Cambodia implemented the Branch Transformation Initiatives to improve service delivery and to lay the foundation of operational excellence in the long term. One noticeable achievement arising from this initiative was the improvement in the average waiting time, with 98% of our customers served within 5 minutes for over-the-counter transactions at our branches. We will be accelerating our digitalisation efforts by rolling out the RHB

Cambodia Digital Retail Bank in 2022, which will transform our internet and mobile banking platforms to provide a more seamless and efficient experience for our customers. In addition, we will be investing in various initiatives to achieve operational excellence in 2022, such as automation of reports and processes and a new financial and procurement system and human resource system.

#### THAILAND

We continue to seek operational improvements within the branch with the aim of improving the productivity and efficiency of our

employees, among which we commence the Regulatory Data Transformation ("RDT") project.

1 AOS

We will improve our infrastructure to support internal process products such as banca and reaffirm our relationships with both

automation, focus on product diversification by introducing new corporate and retail customers in order to grow prudent asset quality.

Going into 2022, overall prospects remain challenging given the persistence of the pandemic. We will continue to explore growth opportunities across key markets within the region, while remaining cognisant of the need to closely monitor asset quality. We will also continue supporting RHB's broader sustainability agenda, in line with the growing interest of investors, by pursuing more green financing-related opportunities, supporting the growth of ESG-related businesses and investing in green financial instruments with an overall ESG contribution by GIB of RM2.0 billion by 2026.

#### Singapore

While the emergence of COVID-19 variants could create some volatility, we believe Singapore will maintain the gradual reopening of its economy. It is expected that Singapore's economic growth will moderate in 2022 from an exceptionally high growth rate of 7.6% in 2021. Nevertheless, Singapore will still register an 'above-trend growth' in 2022, as contributions to GDP growth from the various sectors will become more balanced, and the recovery more broad-based.

We believe Singapore banking system loans will continue to grow at a healthy pace, albeit a moderation from the high single-digit increase in 2021, as the low base effect wears off. Net interest margin prospects are improving as persistent inflation pressures point to an imminent interest rate upcycle by major central banks. Asset quality, which was resilient in 2021, is expected to remain solid in 2022 notwithstanding the early stage of economic recovery. Thus, we will look to further diversify our loan portfolio, which is resilient and experiencing growth, with a focus on extending more secured loans and selectively pursuing better-structured unsecured deals. For real estate lending, we will focus on good-quality assets with a diversified tenancy base. We will also leverage our strength in providing multi-product options to our clients across corporate finance, loans, treasury, equities and Mergers and Acquisitions ("M&A"), while intensifying cross-border deals in support of existing key clients.

#### Cambodia

In Cambodia, the economic outlook for 2022 is positive on the back of global recovery, tourism revival and rising exports. Cambodia's trade will be further bolstered with the ratification of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership ("RCEP"), the Cambodia-China FTA and Cambodia-Korea FTA, which will provide preferential market access and transfer of production technology for the economy. This is also expected to attract foreign direct investment inflows to boost the external sector and investment. The consensus is that the economy will expand by around 5.5% in 2022, with recovery expected in the tourism sector and exports of non-garment products such as electrical spare parts and bicycles.

#### Thailand

With substantial impacts from the pandemic, the Thai economy is expected to return to pre-COVID-19 levels post-2022. It is expected that the BOT will delay raising interest rates from record lows by at least a year to support the tourism-dependent economy hit hard by COVID-19-related travel restrictions. We foresee a slight resumption of major industries in our portfolio on the back of steadily strengthening demand, completion of the vaccination programme and the reopening of the country to foreign arrivals.

#### Laos

2022 GDP growth for Laos has been forecast to be positive but challenging at 4.2%. The COVID-19 pandemic may continue to be a setback; however, the completion of infrastructure projects and the expectation of a fully open economy, together with the government's five-year socio-economic development plan (2021-2026), are expected to moderate the outlook.

We are cautiously optimistic about the outlook for our overseas investment banking business, given the US Federal Reserve's withdrawal of massive liquidity from the system in response to the threat of rising inflation rates. Nevertheless, our overseas investment banking operations are now in a better shape to withstand higher volatility of business swings arising from global realignment.

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## **OPERATIONAL REVIEW**

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#### **OUTLOOK & PROSPECTS**

## SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW

## **CREATING AND SHARING VALUE**

We continued to progress in our sustainability journey despite the challenges and headwinds brought about by COVID-19 and the prolonged Movement Control Order ("MCO"). As a financial services provider, we are in a unique position to create value for our stakeholders. Led by our vision of Building a Sustainable Future, our approach to sustainability is guided by the Group's Sustainability Framework.

Our sustainability journey began in 2018 with the development of the Group Sustainability Framework, anchored on 10 Sustainability Principles and the three thematic pillars of Sustainable and Responsible Banking, Embedding Good Practices and Enriching and Empowering Communities.

In 2021, we refreshed our sustainability strategy and enhanced our sustainability governance to better integrate Environmental, Social and Governance ("ESG") considerations within the Group's business and operations, while also focusing on promoting sustainability and inclusive growth.

S&P Global ESG Score

over the past one year

**MSCI ESG Ratings** 

RHB Bank Berhad scored

47/100 in the 2021 S&P Global

reflecting an improvement of **4** points

Maintained an AA rating (Leader) in MSCI

**ESG Ratings** since September 2019

**Corporate Sustainability Assessment**,

#### **OUR ESG ACCOLADES AND RECOGNITION**

**FTSE4Good Index Series** 

Remained a constituent of the FTSE4Good **Bursa Malaysia Index** as at December 2021

#### **Top 25%**

by ESG Ratings among public listed companies in FTSE Bursa Malaysia EMAS Index as at December 2021





Scan the QR code to read more about our sustainability initiatives and progress.



#### PILLARS



#### REFERENCES

To read about how we engage with our stakeholders, refer to Engaging With Stakeholders from pages 42 to 47 of this Report.

For more on our Material Matters. refer to pages 48 to 49 of this Report.

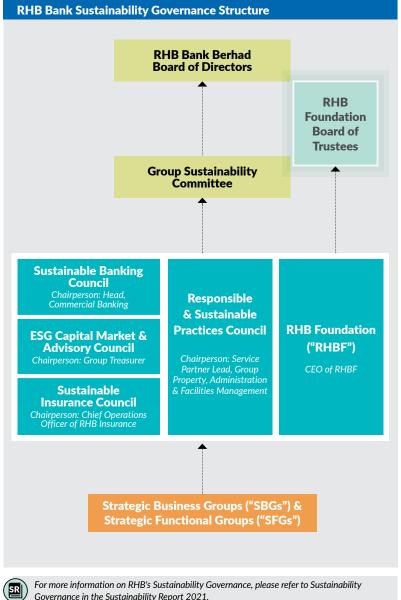
For more information on how we generated positive impacts for our stakeholders in 2021, please read about our sustainability performance in our stand-alone Sustainability Report 2021.



#### SUSTAINABILITY GOVERNANCE

In 2021, we enhanced our sustainability governance with the establishment of the Group Sustainability Committee ("GSC"), comprising the Group's Senior Management and chaired by the Group Managing Director. The GSC is supported by four Councils, namely the Sustainable Banking Council, ESG Capital Market and Advisory Council, Sustainable Insurance Council and Responsible and Sustainable Practices Council.

We adopt a top-down approach in our sustainability governance, whereby the Group's Board of Directors holds ultimate responsibility for the Group's sustainability strategy, which includes governance, key priorities, targets and integration of ESG considerations across the Group's business and operations. With clear oversight by the Board, we are able to better align with local and international best practices as well as reporting and disclosure requirements.



SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW

#### **RHB BANK BERHAD BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Ge The Board has the ultimate responsibility for the Group's sustainability strategy and direction, including matters on climate change, and oversees the Group's sustainability practices towards embedding ESG considerations across the Group's strategies, risk management and decision making process.

#### **GROUP SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE**

• The GSC strategically drives the Group's sustainability and climate agenda, in line with the Group's strategic direction and commitments, sustainability vision, prioritised United Nations Sustainable Development Goals ("UN SDGs") and sustainability pillars, as guided by the Group Sustainability Framework.

#### SUSTAINABILITY COUNCILS

- Sustainable Banking Council
  - ESG Capital Market and Advisory Council
  - Sustainable Insurance Council
  - Responsible and Sustainable Practices Council
- G The execution of the Group's sustainability strategy and key focus areas.
- G Comprise key senior leaders and Sustainability Champions and conduct their meetings on a quarterly basis.

#### **RHB FOUNDATION**

• The RHBF manages and drives the Group's third Sustainability Pillar - Enriching and Empowering Communities. The Board of Trustees of the RHBF has oversight of the programmes being undertaken by the RHBF and the impact these programmes have on the community.

#### SBGs AND SFGs

General The SBGs and SFGs, represented by their respective Champions, execute and implement sustainability initiatives and programmes and monitor the performance of metrics and targets.

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WE ARE RHB BANK

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#### SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW

	RECOMMENDED	DISC	LOSURE	SECTION OR REFERENCE
	GOVERNANCE	a)	Describe the Board's oversight of climate-related risks and opportunities	<ul> <li>Sustainability Governance</li> <li>External: Board Charter</li> <li>Environmental Stewardship &gt; Climate Change</li> </ul>
Sustainability CLIMATE CHANGE Task Force on Climate-		b)	Describe management's role in assessing and managing climate- related risks and opportunities	<ul> <li>Sustainability Governance</li> <li>Environmental Stewardship &gt; Climate Change</li> <li>People &amp; Workplace &gt; Talent Management &amp; Development &gt; Sustainability Capability Building &amp; Awareness</li> </ul>
related Financial Disclosures Content Index We have been incrementally stepping up our efforts in disclosing our climate- related risks and opportunities by adopting a phased approach. In the year under review, we moved	STRATEGY	a) b) c)	Describe the climate-related risks and opportunities the organisation has identified over the short, medium and long term Describe the impact of climate risks and opportunities on the organisation's businesses strategy and planning Describe the resilience of the organisation's strategy taking into consideration different climate- related scenarios, including a 2°C or lower scenario	<ul> <li>Sustainability Approach &gt; Sustainability Strategy 2022-2026</li> <li>Sustainable Financing &gt; ESG Risk Management</li> <li>Sustainable Financing &gt; Green Financing</li> <li>Environmental Stewardship &gt; Climate Change</li> <li>Appendix &gt; Membership &amp; Association</li> </ul>
from a soft approach to the adoption of the Recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures ("TCFD") as reflected in this table, which addresses TCFD- recommended	RISK MANAGEMENT	a) b) c)	Describe the organisation's processes for identifying and assessing climate-related risks Describe the organisation's processes for managing climate- related risks Describe how processes for identifying, assessing and managing climate-related risks are integrated into the organisation's overall risk management	<ul> <li>Sustainable Financing &gt; ESG Risk Management</li> <li>Environmental Stewardship &gt; Climate Change</li> <li>Risks &amp; Opportunities</li> <li>Statement on Risk Management and Internal Control</li> </ul>
disclosures across our reporting suite and other publicly available information.	METRICS AND TARGETS	a)	Disclose the metrics used by the organisation to assess climate- related risks and opportunities in line with its strategy and risk management process	<ul> <li>Sustainable Financing &gt; ESG Risk Management</li> <li>Sustainable Financing &gt; Green Financing</li> <li>Environmental Stewardship &gt; Climate Change</li> <li>Sustainability Approach &gt; Sustainability Strategy 2022-2026</li> </ul>
		b)	Disclose scope 1, scope 2 and, if appropriate, scope 3* Greenhouse Gas ("GHG") emissions and the related risks	<ul> <li>Environmental Stewardship &gt; Climate Change</li> <li>Performance Data &gt; Environment</li> </ul>
E For more information on RHB's		c)	Describe the targets used by the organisation to manage climate related risks and opportunities and performance against targets	<ul> <li>Sustainable Financing &gt; Green Financing</li> <li>Sustainability Approach &gt; Sustainability Strategy 2022-2026</li> <li>Environmental Stewardship &gt; Climate</li> </ul>

#### **OUR APPROACH TO SUSTAINABILITY**

The Group's Sustainability Framework consists of three thematic pillars with nine focus areas that are aligned to our Material Matters. The focus areas address our ESG impacts and the integration of sustainability considerations into our business and operations to support the country's transition to a low-carbon economy. This enables us to identify opportunities and mitigate risks, apart from meeting stakeholder needs to continue creating value.

We have continuously strengthened our sustainability strategy by reviewing the Sustainability Framework and our key commitments periodically to ensure its relevance and alignment with the Group's corporate strategy as well as the rapid changes in the business environment. This has not only helped in the implementation of robust policies and initiatives, but also in meeting our targets towards generating long-term positive impacts.

In the third guarter of 2021, we undertook a major exercise to review and refresh our Sustainability Framework and to establish our sustainability strategy for the next five years. As a result, a holistic 5-year (2022-2026) Sustainability Strategy and Roadmap was developed as part of the Group's long-term strategy. The new strategy will further guide us in embedding ESG considerations in the Group's business and operations, enabling us to create value by providing sustainable and responsible financial services, promote inclusive growth, nurture customers, employees and communities, as well as uphold good governance.



#### 5-Year (2022-2026) Sustainability Strategy and Roadmap

**Sustainability Purpose:** To be a sustainably responsible financial services provider by promoting sustainable and inclusive growth, and nurturing customers, employees and communities, while upholding good governance to create value.

• Support sustainable development by mobilising RM20 billion in sustainable financial services by 2026 • Empower more than two million people across ASEAN by 2026 • Achieve carbon neutral operations by 2030

#### Sustainable & Responsible Financial Services

Integrate ESG considerations into our business strategies and decision-making process while nurturing customers and communities towards achieving sustainable growth

#### Focus Areas

- Sustainable Financial Services -Create positive impact through our lending, capital markets, wealth management. deposits, investment, asset management and insurance business
- Financial Inclusion & Empowerment -Provide financial services to targeted segments of the community (students, new to workforce, SMEs, microenterprises, etc.) to promote inclusion





Robust sustainability governance across the Group to drive decision-making and provide appropriate oversight of sustainability

credibility and trust

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Scope 1: Direct emissions from stationary combustion (generator sets) and mobile combustion (Company-owned vehicles).

Scope 2: Indirect emissions from purchased electricity and cooling. Scope 3: Indirect emissions from business travel.

#### SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW

#### Our aspirations are to -

#### Embedding Good Practices

Foster responsible practices and nurture a sustainable culture within our organisation

#### Focus Areas

- Ethics & Conduct -Uphold integrity, ethics and compliance through robust policies and practices
- Environmental Stewardship -Improve internal environmental footprint while promoting resource management and green practices
- People & Workplace -Nurture a fair, diverse, inclusive and sustainable workforce
- Sustainable Procurement -Promote responsible and sustainable practices





Data & Technology Leverage data points and technology for monitoring and reporting to ensure reliability,

Human Capital & Training Attract, retain and develop people with the right skill sets and capabilities to support the

sustainability agenda

Enriching & Empowering

Create long-term positive impact on the communities, focusing on nurturing children and young adults

#### Focus Areas

- Nurturing Future Generations -Promote resilience in children and young adults through a holistic learning and development programme
- Lifting Communities -Improve the lives of vulnerable & underserved members of the community through meaningful initiatives that build capacity, develop skills and promote volunteerism



Partnership & Advocacy

Build trusted partnerships and continuously advocate for and nurture others towards sustainable practices

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#### SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW

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#### PILLAR 1 🖹 SUSTAINABLE & RESPONSIBLE BANKING

EMBEDDING GOOD PRACTICES

ENRICHING & EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

ALIGNMENT & CONTRIBUTION

#### Key Capitals <IR>

## Value to Stakeholder(s)

- Shareholders &
- Investors • Customers
- Business Partners • Regulators & Policymakers



For more information on RHB's performance and initiatives in Sustainable & Responsible Banking, please refer to Pillar 1 in the Sustainability Report 2021.



As a financial services provider, we play an important role in providing innovative solutions for customers and

clients, building a sustainable community and accelerating the transition to a low-carbon economy. In recent

years, we have integrated ESG considerations into our risk management and decision-making processes across

#### SUSTAINABLE FINANCING

#### Focus Area(s) and Material Matter(s)

- Sustainable Financing
- Risk Management
- Climate Change\*

• Financial Performance

• Financial Inclusion and Education\*

- Expanded the ESG Risk Assessment tool from five in 2020 to eight ESG-Sensitive Sectors. The eight sectors are as follows: - Oil & Gas
- Palm Oil
- Iron. Steel and Other Metals
- Cement - Plastics

- Power Producers
- Wood Products
- Chemicals

- Effective 2022 onwards:
- Position on coal activities: RHB will not pursue opportunities or provide financing for any new thermal coal mine projects and coal-fired power plant projects.
- Position on NDPE: For the agriculture, forestry and palm oil sectors, RHB will only support responsible companies that demonstrate alignment with the No Deforestation, No New Peat and No Exploitation ("NDPE") policy.
- Kickstarted the Group Climate Action Programme, towards managing the risk of climate change in the Group's business and operations.
- RM4.32 billion was extended under the RM5 billion Green Financing Commitment by 2025 in support of green activities, of which about 20.7% or RM894.56 million was granted towards supporting renewable energy projects.
- Launched the RHB Sustainability Financing Programme, a green financing product bundling programme for SME and retail customers focusing on Green Energy, Green Buildings, Green Process and Green Products. As at end-December 2021, a total of RM44.36 million has been extended.
- Key Sustainable and Responsible Investment ("SRI")/ESG programmes and deals that focused on social and sustainable development:
- Cagamas Berhad's ASEAN Sustainability Bonds Lead arranger for Cagamas' issuance of RM300 million two-year ASEAN sustainability bonds
- Sukuk Wakalah Programme Sole lead arranger, principal adviser, joint lead manager, facility agent, Shariah adviser and commodity trading participant for SME Bank's RM3 billion Sukuk Wakalah Programme and its inaugural issuance of the country's first Sustainability Sukuk by a development financial institution ("DFI"), valued at RM500 million.

\* Material matter appears in more than one Focus Area

#### **PILLAR 1** 🖄 SUSTAINABLE & RESPONSIBLE BANKING

#### SUSTAINABLE FINANCING

- 'RHB ESG Forum Envisioning A Better Future' and 'When Shariah Meets ESG'.

#### CUSTOMER-CENTRIC BANKING

#### Focus Area(s) and Material Matter(s)

- Customer Relationship Management
- also recorded a positive NPS of +9 and was +20 points ahead of its competitors.
- service skills in handling deaf, blind and disabled customers.
- customers and three working days for non-Premier customers.
- RHB is committed to the FTFC in managing our business.
- promptly and effectively.

#### DIGITALISATION

#### Focus Area(s) and Material Matter(s)

- Digitalisation and Investment in Technology
- Digital Business Origination grew from <1% in 2017 to 25% in 2021. the Group and contribute to the sustainable growth of the Group.
- Online Banking and RHB Financing (SME) Mobile App.
- Investment commitments:
- RM200 million in CAPEX on digital investments between 2018 and 2022 DevOps between 2019 and 2022.
- 15% revenue from ecosystem partnerships (embedded finance)
- Digital transactions to exceed 95% of total customer transactions
- 50% customer acquisition done digitally
- Top 3 in DuitNow transactions by volume - Analytics-driven benefits to be 10% of PBT

\* Material matter appears in more than one Focus Area.

**Primary SDGs** 

#### SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW

**EMBEDDING GOOD PRACTICES** 

ENRICHING & EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

• Structured and executed Malaysia's first Green Cross-Currency Interest Rate Swap transaction set against ESG-linked Key Performance Indicators ("KPIs") to hedge a USD100 million (RM432 million) two-year sustainable loan.

• Launched four SRI-qualified ESG funds to meet the growing appetite for ESG investments, with RM836 million in combined AUM achieved in FY2021 across the four funds. These funds allow investors to participate in long-term sustainability-focused investments centred on climate change, healthcare, empowerment and sustainable infrastructure.

• Hosted industry engagement and capability building sessions to sharpen ESG investing knowledge and decision-making, such as

#### • Fair Treatment of Financial Consumers ("FTFC")

• RHB achieved a Net Promoter Score ("NPS") of +15, ahead of competitors by +4 points in Malaysia; while Singapore operations

• More than 5,500 frontliners received Disability Related Service Training ("DRST"), which provided the frontliners with the right

• Resolved 99.6% of customers' feedback or grievances within the Group's Service Level Agreement of two working days for Premier

• Provided Mobile Bank Services (Mobile Vehicle) to the underserved/rural communities in Asajaya and Sadong Jaya in Sarawak.

• Incorporated the principles of FTFC into our Complaints Management Manual and Policy for guidance and internalisation.

• The Complaints Management Process is governed by Customer Advocacy, which ensures that every complaint is resolved fairly,

• Financial Inclusion and Education\*

• Digital transactions grew from 64% in 2017 to 93% in 2021, including ATM transactions (86% without ATM transactions).

• Introduced "Dragon's Den", an initiative to motivate employees to innovate new product ideas or processes that will add value to

• Comprehensive Digital ecosystems for Retail and SME customers, which include MyHome App, RHB Partners App, RHB SME

RM300 million for IT Modernisation Programme to future-proof our technologies and adopt modern architecture like Cloud and

• Under RHB's Digital Transformation Programme, we target to achieve the following by 2026:

• Plan to roll out Digital Academy in 2022 to accelerate the Group's transformation towards becoming a digital-first organisation by building digital capabilities, cultivating a digital mindset and driving the adoption of cutting-edge technologies through Groupwide and targeted initiatives that will be made possible through collaborations with strategic key partners.

RHR

PILLAR 2

#### SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW

PILLAR 1

SUSTAINABLE & RESPONSIBLE BANKIN

LEADERSHIP

STATEMENTS

<sup>®</sup> EMBEDDING GOOD PRACTICES

Embedding good practices is fundamental to the long-term sustainability of the Group. We strive to

foster and integrate sustainable practices and responsible behaviour within the Group by upholding high

standards of corporate governance and sound business conduct, and we promote a workplace culture that is engaging, inclusive and compassionate. At the same time, we strive to implement eco-friendly practices

within the workplace and improve our internal operational footprint by adopting and implementing

ENRICHING & EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

#### ALIGNMENT & CONTRIBUTION

#### Key Capitals <IR>

#### Value to Stakeholder(s)

- Employees
- Business Partners
- Regulators & Policymakers

(SR For more information on RHB's performance and initiatives in Embedding Good Practices, please refer to Pillar 2 in the

Sustainability Report 2021.



#### **ETHICS & GOVERNANCE**

#### Focus Area(s) and Material Matter(s)

- Good Business Governance
- Dynamic Regulatory Landscape
- Data Protection and Cybersecurity
- Maintained **30%** women's representation on RHB Bank Berhad Board of Directors.
- Enhanced the Group Anti-Bribery & Corruption Policy and Group Whistleblowing Policy.

#### Whistleblowing and Non-Whistleblowing Reports

	• •		
	Year 2020	Year 2021	% Y-o-Y
Whistleblowing Cases	12	17	+42%
Non-Whistleblowing Cases	1	11	+1000%
Total Complaint Cases	13	28	+115%
Founded Cases	9	11*	+22%

Note: \* Subject to outcome of ongoing investigation on 5 cases in progress.

- Conducted 65 training and awareness sessions on Anti-Bribery and Corruption for more than 4,777 employees across the Group.
- Rolled out RHB AML Capabilities Enhancement Project ("RACE") to strengthen our Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Financing of Terrorism ("AML/CFT") efforts.
- Continued to enhance frameworks and policies relating to technology and cyber risk management as well as continuously strengthened IT security controls, taking into consideration the new norm and the constantly evolving technology landscape.

## SUSTAINABLE & RESPONSIBLE BANKI

#### **PEOPLE & WORKPLACE**

#### Focus Area(s) and Material Matter(s)

- Talent Management
- Employee Training and Education
- 53% of women in Management and 28% in Senior Management.
- Organised sustainability training and awareness sessions for more than 1,000 employees from various business groups
  - Launched Women in Leadership League programme with Melbourne Business School and LeadWomen to empower women in leadership roles
- Rolled out capability building for 600 Digital, IT and Analytics employees to develop proficiency in high-demand and future-looking skills. • Inculcated our workforce with a culture of innovation and developed innovative capabilities through programmes such as Future Skills, Solutions Design Lab and the "Dragon's Den".
- **7,648 employees** participated in 14 safety, health and wellness training programmes. • More than **RM370,000** raised by employees for the RHB Humanitarian Fund to aid **more than 175** RHBians impacted by COVID-19 and the flood.
- Achieved 90% in the Employee Engagement Score, on par with the Malaysian financial services industry average and met our target score for 2021.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP**

#### Focus Area(s) and Material Matter(s)

#### • Environmental Stewardship

- We aspire to achieve carbon neutral operations by 2030.
- Operational GHG emissions:
- Total GHG emissions: 25,580 tCO\_eq<sup>a</sup> - GHG emissions intensity: **1.85 tCO\_eq/employee**
- Improved reduction in GHG emissions intensity per employee in 2021 by 41% compared to baseline 2016 for Malaysia • Rolled out Waste Recycling Management programme for our Head Office building and collected a total of 1,147 kg of recyclables and waste within three months.
- Delivered **28.2 million e-statements** to reduce paper consumption.
- Launched 'Beli Nothing Project' to encourage waste reduction among RHBians by allowing them to donate and exchange preloved items, and 1,400 employees took part in the internal initiative. • Targeted to replace all traditional lighting with LED lighting across all of RHB's main buildings by 2023 and completed 80% of the
- initiative in 2021.

#### SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT

#### Focus Area(s) and Material Matter(s)

• Sustainable Procurement

- Spent over **RM762 million on 563 suppliers** to procure goods and services<sup>b</sup> - Of which RM689.8 million (91%) was spent on 523 local suppliers (93%).
- procurement practices.
- Procurement Unit) and vendor approval.

#### Note:

<sup>a</sup> Scope 1 (154 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq), scope 2 (23,810 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq) and scope 3 (1,615 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq) in Malaysia. \* Material matter appears in more than one Focus Area.

#### **Primary SDGs**



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RHR

INTEGRATED REPORT 2021

### SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW

PILLAR 2 <sup>7</sup> EMBEDDING GOOD PRACTICES

ENRICHING & EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

- Employee Health, Safety and Wellness
- Diversity and Equal Opportunity
- RM24.6 million invested in upskilling and reskilling our employees:
- 606,623 total training hours with 48 average training hours per employee per year

Climate Change\*

- Expanded reporting boundary to cover all main buildings and branches in Malaysia

• Employed a centralised and decentralised approach to streamline procurement activities, ensuring fair, ethical and responsible

• Guided by the Group Procurement Guideline that ensures compliance with Group and regulatory requirements. • Fully digitalised the e-procurement system since 2014, comprising vendor registration, assessment by vendor management (Group

• 82% or RM623.48 million of the Group's procurement budget was spent on IT items and IT professional services.

#### SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW

SUSTAINABLE & RESPONSIBLE BANKING

<sup>7</sup> EMBEDDING GOOD PRACTICES

**ENRICHING & EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES** 

#### ALIGNMENT & CONTRIBUTION

#### Key Capitals <IR>



#### Value to Stakeholder(s)

- Communities Customers
- Employees
- Regulators & Policymakers



performance and initiatives in Enriching & Empowering Communities, please refer to Pillar 3 in the Sustainability Report 2021.

True to our Brand Promise of Together We Progress, we aim to create long-lasting positive impacts on the communities in which we operate by enriching and empowering them through various programmes. We reach out to those in need, particularly the underprivileged from low-income and B40 communities. Focusing on children and youth, our programmes are aimed at nurturing the future generations and developing them into holistic individuals. As a financial services provider, we believe in promoting financial literacy among the younger generation and our customers to help shape a financially literate society and promote responsible financial behaviour, which will contribute to the nation's economic health.



#### **COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT**

#### Focus Area(s) and Material Matter(s)

- Community Enrichment
- Invested **RM9.1 million** in community enrichment and empowerment programmes in 2021.
- Nurturing Future Generations through Education:
- The RHB X-Cel Academic Excellence programme has benefited more than 4,000 underprivileged students from the B40 segment and 40 schools since 2018.
- Enrolled more than 1,500 students in the RHB X-Cel Academic Excellence programme in 2021, surpassing the target of 1,000 to 1,400 students.
- Awarded **30 students** with RHB X-Cel Star Scholarships since 2019 for enrolment in local public universities, with a target to award 60 scholars by 2023.
- Organised the SPM Readiness Workshop for our X-Cel students, which included a motivational talk called Breakthrough Mindset - A.B.C.D. of Success as well as subject revision classes covering BM, Physics, English, Math, Add Maths and History.
- Conducted capability-building programmes for our X-Cel Scholars, which include Mentor-Mentee programme, English Communication & Confidence Training and Mental Health & Stress Management Workshop.

## SUSTAINABLE & RESPONSIBLE BANKING

- with total funds of RM7.74 million as at June 2021.
- of our communities.

#### **FINANCIAL EDUCATION**

#### Focus Area(s) and Material Matter(s)

- Financial Inclusion and Education\*
- Championed financial literacy through the Money Ma\$ter Programme ("MMP"):
- roll-out in 2018

- and information on financial management matters.

\* Material matter appears in more than one Focus Area.

#### **Primary SDGs**



RHB

#### SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW

EMBEDDING GOOD PRACTICES

PILLAR 3 **ENRICHING & EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES** 

• Supported research on human capital development by cultivating knowledge in digital technology, particularly in banking and finance, in partnership with a local public university, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, through the **RHB-UKM Endowment Fund**,

• Since 2020, the Group contributed close to RM8.4 million under our Uplifting Communities Pillar to provide COVID-19 relief assistance, which included provision of medical equipment to selected hospitals and donations to families who were financially impacted by the pandemic. During the festive season, we also **contributed more than RM800,000** to the underprivileged members

• Contributed approximately RM6.1 million since 2020, for the benefit of the B40 community under our Nurturing Future Generations Pillar. These initiatives impacted more than 6,000 beneficiaries through our RHB X-Cel Academic Excellence programme and RHB X-Cel Star Scholarship programme. This also includes RM5.0 million for the CERDIK programme, where we contributed digital devices to B40 students to support their online lessons and e-learnings during the pandemic.

- Reached out to 1,075 students in 2021, bringing the total number of students engaged to more than 25,000 students since its

#### - Launched a six-episode online financial education series, which recorded more than 112,000 total engagements.

• Launched the 'goWave by RHB' website to promote financial awareness among young adults in Cambodia by sharing knowledge

• Accumulated **11.8 million visits** on RHB MERGE, RHB's financial literacy ecosystem for customers, since its inception in 2018.

**TAN SRI AHMAD** 

Non-Independent Non-Executive Chairman

**BADRI MOHD ZAHIR** 

OUR STRATEGIC REVIEW

OUR GOVERNANCE

STAKEHOLDERS' INFORMATION

#### OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND GROUP COMPANY SECRETARY as at 15 February 2022

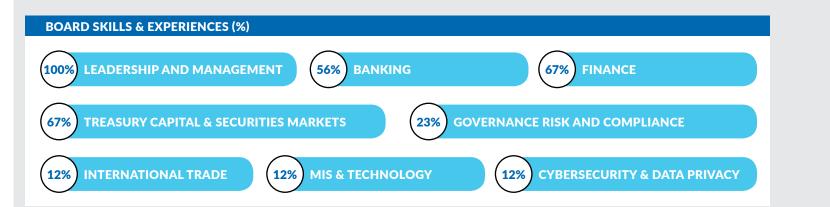
## LEADING WITH **EXPERIENCE AND INTEGRITY**



ONG AI LIN



Independent Non-Executive Director





RHB Bank Berhad

#### OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND GROUP COMPANY SECRETARY

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LEADERSHIP STATEMENTS OUR STRATEGIC REVIEW

TAN SRI ONG LEONG HUAT @

Date of Appointment 20 November 2012

• Senior Cambridge, Federation of Malaysia Certificate awarded by

• Capital Markets and Services Representative's Licence issued by the

For over 17 years since 1969, Tan Sri Ong Leong Huat @ Wong Joo

Hwa ("Tan Sri Ong") was attached to a leading financial institution

where he last held the position of Senior General Manager. He was the

Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") of OSK Investment

Bank Berhad (now known as OSKIB Sdn Bhd) from July 1985 to January

2007 and thereafter was appointed as the Group Managing Director/

CEO. He was then re-designated as a Non-Independent Non-Executive

on the Board of Bursa Malaysia Berhad from 2008 to 2015 and was

previously a Member of the Securities Market Consultative Panel of

Securities Commission of Malaysia under the Capital Markets and

**WONG JOO HWA** 

Ion-Independent

**Qualifications** 

Methodist English School

Other Directorship(s)

Public Companies:

• KE-ZAN Holdings Berhad

Skills and Experience

• OSK Foundation (Chairman)

Listed Entities:

Services Act, 2007 for dealing in securities

• OSK Holdings Berhad (Executive Chairman)

• RHB Investment Bank Berhad (Chairman)

• PJ Development Holdings Berhad (Chairman)

• OSK Property Holdings Berhad (Chairman)

BCC

Non-Executive Director

OUR GOVERNANCE

## **PROFILE OF OUR BOARD AND GROUP COMPANY SECRETARY**



#### Qualifications

- Master in Business Administration, University of Hull, United Kingdom • Degree in Land and Property Management, MARA University of
- Technology

#### **Other Directorship(s)**

#### Listed Entities:

• Sime Darby Berhad

#### **Public Companies:**

• Nil

#### **Skills and Experience**

Tan Sri Ahmad Badri Mohd Zahir ("Tan Sri Ahmad Badri") started his career as a Senior Valuation Executive at C.H. Williams, Talhar & Wong Sdn Bhd prior to his appointment as the Assistant Secretary in the Finance Division of the Ministry of Finance in 1989 where he served for nearly 30 years in various capacities, the last being the Secretary General of Treasury.

Tan Sri Ahmad Badri was appointed as the Chairman of the Employees Provident Fund on 1 May 2020. He has sat on the EPF Investment Panel since 2014 and is vastly experienced in the fields of strategic investment, loan management, financial market and actuarial science.

Tan Sri Ahmad Badri previously served on the Boards of Bank Negara Malaysia, Kumpulan Wang Persaraan (Diperbadankan), Permodalan Nasional Berhad and Tenaga Nasional Berhad, amongst others.

\* Subsequently formalised as Chairman of RHB Bank Berhad on 24 March 2021.

#### **Attended Board Meetings:**

Chairman/Chairperson

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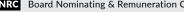
Member

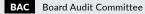
Director and subsequently resigned on 30 April 2013. Tan Sri Ong was also a Director of MESDAQ from July 1999 to March 2002 and a member of the Capital Market Advisory Council appointed by the Securities Commission in 2004 to advise on issues relating to the implementation of the Capital Market Master Plan. He was a Director

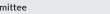
#### Attended Board Meetings:

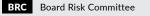
Bursa Malaysia.













#### **Qualifications**

- Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in English Literature, University of Malaya
- Diploma in Public Administration from the National Institute of Public Administration ("INTAN")
- M.S. in Counselling from Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (now known as Universiti Putra Malaysia)
- Ph.D from the University of Georgia in Athens, USA

#### Other Directorship(s)

- Listed Entities:
- Sunway Berhad
- Hartalega Holdings Berhad
- Eco World International Berhad

#### **Not-For-Profit Organisations:**

- Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs ("IDEAS")
- MyKasih Foundation (Trustee)
- Hartalega Foundation (Trustee)

#### **Skills and Experience**

Tan Sri Dr Rebecca Fatima Sta Maria was previously the Secretary-General of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry ("MITI"). She began her career in the Administrative and Diplomatic Service in 1981 and served in various capacities in the then Ministry of Trade and Industry

She was involved in handling trade-related matters of the Ministry, including administering Malaysia's interests under bilateral and regional Free Trade Agreements ("FTAs"), as well as Malaysia's engagements in various international organisations such as ASEAN, APEC and WTO. After 35 years in civil service, serving six trade ministers and overseeing 12 trade pacts, she retired as the Secretary-General of MITI in July 2016. She is now the Executive Director of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation ("APEC") Secretariat based in Singapore.

#### Attended Board Meetings:

RHB Bank Berhad

**BNRC** Board Nominating & Remuneration Committee

#### PROFILE OF OUR BOARD AND GROUP COMPANY SECRETARY



#### Qualifications

- Bachelor's Degree in Social Science (Economics), Universiti Sains Malaysia
- Certified Diploma in Accounting and Finance from the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants
- Master of Science in Investment Analysis from the University of Stirling, United Kingdom

#### **Other Directorship(s)**

- Listed Entities:
- Malaysian Resources Corporation Berhad
- Yinson Holdings Berhad
- United Plantations Berhad

#### **Public Companies:**

- RHB Islamic Bank Berhad (Chairman)
- PLUS Malaysia Berhad (Chairman)

#### **Skills and Experience**

Dato' Mohamad Nasir Ab Latif started his career with the Employees Provident Fund Board in 1982 and held several positions including State Enforcement Officer (1990 to 1995), Senior Research Officer, Manager and Senior Manager in the Investment and Economics Research Department (1995 to 2003) and General Manager of the International Equity Investment Department (July 2009 to 2013). He was last appointed as Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Investment) in 2013 and retained this position until his retirement in December 2019.

He is currently the Chairman of the Investment Panel of Kumpulan Wang Persaraan (Diperbadankan).

**Attended Board Meetings:** 

17/17 **100%** 

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RHB

BCC Board Credit Committee

17/17 **100%** 

REVIEW

**Oualifications** 

Listed Entities:

**Public Companies:** 

**Skills and Experience** 

Attended Board Meetings:

Nil

Nil

Other Directorship(s)

OUR GOVERNANCE STAKEHOLDERS' INFORMATION

#### PROFILE OF OUR BOARD AND GROUP COMPANY SECRETARY



## LIM **CHENG TECK** ndependent <u>Non-Executive</u> Director BRC BCC Date of Appointment28 November 2018

• Master of Business Administration, Brunel University, United Kingdom

Lim Cheng Teck was the Regional Chief Executive Officer for ASEAN at

Standard Chartered Bank. He first joined Standard Chartered Bank in 1988 and

has held various roles within the bank's Corporate and Institutional Banking

Division before being appointed as the Chief Operating Officer for Standard

Chartered Bank (China) Ltd in 2005. In 2006, he was appointed as the Chief

Executive Officer of Standard Chartered Bank (Singapore) Ltd. He returned to

China in 2009 to take up the role of Chief Executive Officer and Executive Vice

He has served on several Standard Chartered Bank subsidiary boards, notably

as the Chairman of Standard Chartered Bank (Mauritius) Ltd, Standard

Chartered Bank (Thailand) Ltd, Standard Chartered Bank (Singapore) Ltd, and

as the Deputy Chairman of Standard Chartered Bank (Malaysia) Ltd and the

President Commissioner of PT Bank Permata, Indonesia. He has also served

as a Non-Executive Director of Standard Chartered Bank (Taiwan) Ltd. He has

previously served as a Director on the boards of Clifford Capital Pte Ltd and the

Singapore International Chamber of Commerce, a Governor of the Singapore

International Foundation and a Council Member of the Institute of Banking and

Additionally, he was the Chairman of the Overseas Financial Service Commission

the China Chamber of Commerce, the Vice Chairman of the Association of Banks in Singapore and a Member of the Monetary Authority of Singapore's

Financial Centre Development Committee. Having served in the banking arena

for over 28 years, he retired from Standard Chartered Bank in April 2016 and

Further, he served as Chief Executive Officer of Pontiac Land Group from March

2017 to May 2018 and he completed his 12-year term with the Advisory Board

of Sim Kee Boon Institute of Financial Economics, Singapore Management University in 2021. Currently, he sits on the Boards of Minterest Holdings Pte Ltd and Bright Vision Community Hospital, Singapore. He is also an Independent Director of National Council of Social Service, a statutory board governed by the Ministry of Social and Family Development of the Singapore Government.

Finance Singapore and the Singapore National Employers Federation.

continued as a senior advisor on a non-executive role till April 2017.

• Bachelor of Arts from the National University of Singapore

Chairman of Standard Chartered Bank (China) Ltd.

#### **Oualification**

- Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Economics, the University of Leeds, United Kingdom
- Associate of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales Member of the Malaysian Institute of Accountants

#### Other Directorship(s)

#### Listed Entities:

- Tenaga Nasional Berhad
- IHH Healthcare Berhad

#### **Public Companies:**

- RHB Islamic Bank Berhad
- FIDE Forum (Trustee)

#### **Skills and Experience**

Ong Ai Lin began her career with Deloitte Haskins & Sells ("DH&S") in London in 1978, prior to joining PricewaterhouseCoopers ("PwC") in 1991 as Senior Manager. At PwC, she built the IT audit practice, an integral part of the firm's financial audit services. She was then appointed as Partner/Senior Executive Director of PwC in 1993 and was the Business Continuity Management and Information Security Practice Leader for PwC Malaysia. She has also served as the past President of the Information Systems Audit and Control Association ("ISACA")-Malaysia Chapter.

She has over 30 years of experience in providing business continuity management, governance risk and compliance, information security, cybersecurity, technology risk and governance and data privacy services in the United Kingdom, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Cambodia and Malavsia.

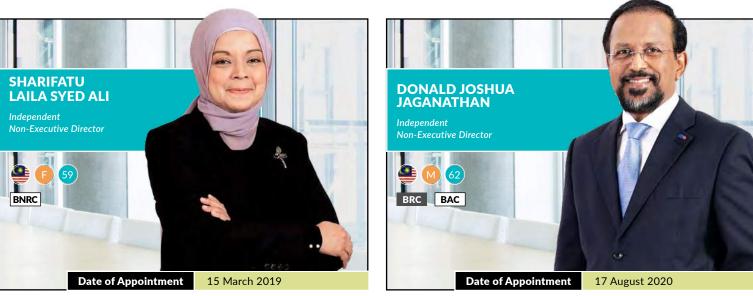
Her extensive experience includes collaboration with regulators, government ministries agencies and organisations in various sectors encompassing financial services, telecommunications and multimedia, energy, capital markets, transportation, aviation, manufacturing and trading, cybersecurity, provident fund and sovereign wealth fund, as well as non-governmental organisations.

Her knowledge and experience earned her the "Best Certified Business Continuity Professional in Malaysia" award from Disaster Recovery Institute International at their inaugural awards in 2012. She was also awarded the "Cybersecurity Lifetime Achievement Award" in 2018 by CyberSecurity Malaysia.

#### **Attended Board Meetings:**

17/17 100%

17/17 100%



#### Qualifications

- Master of Business Administration, University of Malaya, Malaysia
- Bachelor of Science (Honours), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Malaysia
- Advanced Management Programme, Harvard Business School, USA

#### Other Directorship(s)

Listed Entities:

#### • Bursa Malaysia Berhad

#### Public Companies:

- RHB Insurance Berhad
- Minority Shareholders Watch Group

#### Skills and Experience

Sharifatu Laila Syed Ali ("Sharifa") has extensive experience in the field of investment management and portfolio investing, having served various premier institutions and government-linked investment funds over a period of more than 30 years. She played a key role in the setting up of Valuecap Sdn Bhd ("Valuecap"), a government-led initiative, whose founding shareholders were Khazanah Nasional Berhad, Kumpulan Wang Amanah Pencen and Permodalan Nasional Berhad ("PNB").

Sharifa began her career at PNB and subsequently moved on to hold various senior leadership positions at the Employees Provident Fund including Head of Treasury & Equity Markets, gaining broad exposure within the domestic and regional capital markets environment over a period of 15 years. Following a brief period as Head of Investments at the Pilgrims Fund, she was appointed the Chief Executive Officer of Valuecap in October 2002. She became Group Chief Executive Officer of Valuecap in 2015.

Under her stewardship, the Group spearheaded the country's move into new frontiers within the domestic markets, including launching Malaysia's first exchange traded fund (Ringgit & USD) and various Environmental, Social and Governance ("ESG")-type Funds. Pursuant to her departure from Valuecap, she served as an Advisor to the Board of Directors of Valuecap, afterwhich she took on various roles in other Boards and Committees. She is also a Member of the Invesment Committee of University of Malaya.

Attended Board Meetings:

#### PROFILE OF OUR BOARD AND GROUP COMPANY SECRETARY

#### Qualifications

- Bachelor of Accounting (Hons), University of Malaya
- Chartered Accountant, Malaysian Institute of Accountants
- Master in Business Administration from the Cranfield School of Management, United Kingdom
- Fellow Chartered Banker of the Asian Institute of Chartered Bankers • Advanced Management Programme, Harvard Business School, USA

#### Other Directorship(s) Listed Entities:

Nil

#### Public Companies:

- Asian Institute of Chartered Bankers
- RHB Insurance Berhad
- Zurich Life Insurance Malaysia Berhad

#### Skills and Experience

Donald Joshua Jaganathan ("Donald") serves as a Council Member of the Asian Institute of Chartered Bankers and the Chairman of its Education Committee. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Asian Banking School and the Chairman of its Talent Development Committee.

Donald has had a fulfilling career with Bank Negara Malaysia ("BNM") for 36 years, rising to the rank of Assistant Governor, with key responsibilities over the financial stability function, including oversight of BNM's Financial Stability Report. His work experience included leadership and management oversight over the supervision and regulation of the banking and insurance industry in Malaysia, training and development activities with the banking and insurance institutes. He also served as the Malaysian representative in international supervisory bodies, including the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision ("BCBS") and the International Association of Insurance Supervisors ("IAIS").

His previous positions include the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Payments Network Malaysia Sdn Bhd ("PayNet"), Chairman of the Board of Finance Accreditation Agency Berhad ("FAA"), Chairman of the Board Executive Committee of the Malaysian Insurance Institute, Council Member of the Malaysian Institute of Accountants and Member of the Malaysian Financial Reporting Foundation.

**Attended Board Meetings:** 

17/17 100%

www.rhbgroup.com

17/17 **100%** 

PROFILE OF OUR BOARD AND GROUP COMPANY SECRETARY

## PROFILES OF THE CHAIRMEN OF THE KEY OPERATING COMPANIES



#### **Qualifications**

- Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, University of California, Los Angeles ("UCLA")
- Master of Science in Civil Engineering from UCLA

#### **Other Directorship(s)**

#### **Listed Entities:**

- Sapura Energy Berhad
- Digi.com Berhad

#### Public Companies:

RHB Investment Bank Berhad

#### **Skills and Experience**

Datuk lain John Lo ("Datuk lain") retired as the Country Chairman of Shell Malaysia Limited on 31 March 2021. He is a proven leader who has extensive experience and held a broad range of roles over the past 30 years in Shell's exploration and production, gas and downstream businesses both in Malaysia as well as abroad. Datuk lain was the Chairman of Shell Refining Company Bhd till the company was sold in 2016.

He joined Sarawak Shell Berhad as a Field Engineer in 1990 before moving on to undertake various engineering, business development and corporate roles based in Malaysia, Singapore and Netherlands. His areas of responsibilities included governance of LNG and Chemicals joint ventures in Malaysia, Middle East, China and Russia. He was appointed as a Board Director of Singapore's Economic Development Board in 2009 and served till 2012 when he returned to Malaysia as Chairman and Managing Director of Sarawak Shell Berhad and Sabah Shell Petroleum. In 2017, Datuk Jain was appointed as Asia Pacific Commercial Vice President for Shell's exploration, production and gas businesses with accountability for regional acquisitions, divestments and new business development.

**Attended Board Meetings:** 

17/17 100%



#### Qualifications

- LLB (Honors), International Islamic University Malaysia ("IIUM")
- A qualified Advocate & Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya
- A Licensed Company Secretary (LS 0006901)
- An affiliate of the Malaysian Institute of Chartered Secretaries & Administrators
- A Certified Integrity Officer ("CeIO") accredited by the Malaysia Anti-Corruption Academy ("MACA")

#### **Skills and Experience**

Azman Shah Md Yaman ("Azman Shah") leads the Group's Legal, Secretariat & Governance functions. He is accountable directly to the Board, through the Chairman, on all matters with regards to the formal functioning of the Board. He leads and acts as the guardian to the policies and principles of good governance and anti-corruption.

He shoulders the responsibilities as the Group Company Secretary, General Legal Counsel and also Chief Integrity and Governance Officer ("CIGO") within RHB Banking Group.

Prior to employment with RHB Banking Group, Azman Shah was attached with the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange (now known as Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad) for more than 10 years serving in various capacities, the last being Head, Group Corporate Secretarial & Compliance/Group Company Secretary. He was also a practicing Advocate & Solicitor until 1993, after being admitted to the Malaysian Bar in 1991.

#### Declaration:

#### Save as disclosed, the Directors have:

- No conflict of interest with RHB Bank and/or family relationship with any Director and/or major shareholder except for:
  - (a) Tan Sri Ong Leong Huat and his spouse, Puan Sri Khor Chai Moi, who are deemed major shareholders of RHB Bank pursuant to Section 8(4) of the Companies Act 2016, by virtue of shares held through OSK Holdings Berhad
  - (b) Tan Sri Ahmad Badri Mohd Zahir and Dato' Mohamad Nasir Ab Latif who are nominees of the Employees Provident Fund Board, a major shareholder of RHB Bank.
- Never been convicted of any offence within the past five years nor have had any public sanction or penalty imposed on them by the relevant regulatory bodies during the financial year under review.







Date of Appointment 24 April 2018

#### **Board Committee Membership(s)**

- Investment Committee of RHB Asset Management Sdn Bhd (Chairman)
- Investment Committee of RHB Islamic International Asset Management Berhad (Chairman)

#### **Oualifications**

- Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
- Fellow of the Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants

#### Other Directorship(s) Listed Entities:

• ARA Trust Management (Suntec) Limited – Suntec REIT (Singapore)

#### Non-Listed Companies:

- RHB Investment Bank Berhad (Malaysia)
- AXA Insurance Pte Ltd (Singapore)



**IR** For more details, go to page 107.



**IR** For more details, go to page 106.

#### **RHB Asset Management Group:**

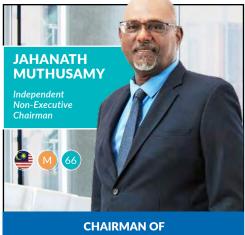
- RHB Asset Management Sdn Bhd (Malavsia)
- RHB Islamic International Asset Management Berhad (Malaysia)
- RHB Asset Management Pte Ltd (Singapore)
- RHB International Investments Pte Ltd (Singapore)

#### **Skills and Experience**

Yap Chee Meng was KPMG International's Chief Operating Officer for the Asia Pacific Region and a Member of its Global Executive Team from 1 October 2010 to 30 September 2013.

Prior to 1 October 2010, he was a Senior Partner in KPMG Singapore and part of the firm's leadership team. Yap Chee Meng's key appointments then (within KPMG locally, regionally and globally) included as Asia-Pacific Head of Financial Services, Singapore Head of Financial Services and Singapore Head of Real Estates and Specialised REITs Group, as well as Member of KPMG International's Professional Indemnity Insurance Steering Committee and Member of KPMG International's Financial Services Leadership Committee.

In a career with over 38 years of experience in the financial and accounting sector, he has also served in various professional/ regulatory committees of the Singapore Accounting & Corporate Regulatory Authority and the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Singapore.



**RHB INSURANCE BERHAD** 

Date of Appointment

**Board Committee Membership(s)** 

1 November 2016\*

• Board Risk Committee of RHB Insurance Berhad

#### **Oualifications**

- Fellow of the Chartered Insurance Institute, United Kingdom
- Fellow Malaysian Insurance Institute

#### Other Directorship(s)

- Listed Entities:
- Nil

Public Companies:

• Nil

#### Skills and Experience

Jahanath Muthusamy ("Jahanath") has over 40 years' experience, having joined the insurance industry in 1975. During this period, he was actively involved in the Insurance Institutes and Insurance Associations of both Malavsia and Indonesia serving in various capacities. In 2002, Jahanath was seconded to PT Assuransi AXA as the President and Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") and a member of the Board of Directors. He returned to AXA Affin General Insurance Malaysia at the end of 2006 and assumed the role of CEO and a member of the Board of Directors until his retirement in October 2012. He remained on the board of PT Assuransi AXA until 2012. From 2013 to 2015, he was appointed as a Senior Advisor to Solution Providers Pte Ltd, a Swiss insurance solution provider/consultant based in Singapore.

\* Subsequently appointed as an Independent Non-Executive Chairman of RHB Insurance Berhad on 28 May 2020.

Other Institutions:

WAN ABDUL

WAN

**RAHIM KAMIL** 

**MOHAMED ALI** 

**Date of Appointment** 

• Permodalan Nasional Berhad

**Other Institutions:** 

United Kingdom

Qualifications

Qualifications

LEADERSHIP STATEMENTS OUR STRATEGIC REVIEW



## **PROFILE OF THE SHARIAH COMMITTEE**

Present Membership of Shariah Committees in

• Bank Pembangunan Malaysia Berhad ("BPMB")

• B.A (Hons) in Islamic Jurisprudence and Legislation,

University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan

#### Master's Degree in Islamic Revealed Knowledge and Heritage, International Islamic University Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur

• PhD in Islamic Law, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom

#### Areas of Expertise:

- Islamic Law of Transactions
- Principles of Islamic Jurisprudence (Usul al-Fiqh)
- Islamic Legal Maxims
- Islamic Criminal Law

Areas of Expertise:

• Islamic Banking & Finance

**Experience & Achievements:** 

• Islamic Capital Market

• Debt Capital Market

• Corporate Advisory

Islamic contracts.

#### Experience & Achievements:

- Currently the Vice President and Head of Shariah Management, Permodalan Nasional Berhad ("PNB").
- Was formerly the Deputy Dean (Academic Affairs) at the Kulliyyah of Islamic Revealed Knowledge and Human Sciences, IIUM and a

• Post Graduate Degree in Islamic Banking &

Economics, International Institute of Islamic

Banking & Economics, Turkish Cyprus (in

association with Al-Azhar University, Cairo)

• Pioneered the development of the Islamic

Capital Market in Malaysia and has innovated

the development of several benchmark capital

market securities through the securitisation of

• An Islamic Capital Market consultant and

regular trainer and speaker at various seminars

and in-house training workshops organised

by the World Bank, BNM, the Securities

Board Member of the IIUM Institute of Islamic Banking and Finance ("IIiBF").Previously served as Chairman of the Shariah

Number of Meetings attended Gender Age

- Previously served as Chairman of the Shariah Committee at OSK Investment Bank Berhad and Great Eastern Takaful Sdn. Bhd, and as a Shariah Committee member of Hong Leong Islamic Bank Berhad and SME Bank.
- Possesses vast experience in teaching and has produced numerous publications in his fields of specialisation.
- Has conducted lectures on Usul al-Fiqh and the Islamic law of transactions at various agencies such as the Central Bank of Malaysia ("BNM"), PNB, SIRIM, Great Eastern Takaful Berhad, CIMB and OCBC Al-Amin.
- Has received several grants and awards for his research work.
- Industries Development Corporation ("SIDC"), the Islamic Banking and Finance Institute Malaysia ("IBFIM") and other event organisers, both locally and internationally.
- A Registered Shariah Advisor with the Securities Commission Malaysia ("SC") and a Member of the Association of Shariah Advisors in Islamic Finance ("ASAS").
- A Member of the Investment Committee, Lembaga Penduduk dan Pembangunan Keluarga Negara ("LPPKN"), Malaysia.
- A Member of the Investment Committee, Islamic International University Malaysia.
  Won the award for "Most Outstanding
- at the Kuala Lumpur Islamic Finance Forum 2017.
- Won the award for "Outstanding Leadership in Islamic Finance" at London Sukuk 2011, organised by ICG Events and the UK Trade and Industry Ministry, United Kingdom.

Present Membership of Shariah Committees in

• Professional Member, Institute of Statisticians,

13 April 2013 /

1 April 2020



## Present Membership of Shariah Committees in Other Institutions:

- Bank Simpanan Nasional
- Swiss Retakaful
- Employees Provident Fund
- Limra Assets

RHB Bank Berhad

#### Qualifications

• Registered Shariah Adviser with Securities Commission Malaysia ("SC")

\_\_\_\_\_

- Member of the Association of Shariah Advisors in Islamic Finance ("ASAS")
- Bachelor's Degree in Shariah and Master's Degree in Business Administration from Universiti Malaya, Ph.D. in Islamic Studies from University of Wales, United Kingdom

#### Areas of Expertise:

- Islamic Banking & Finance
- Takaful

#### Experience & Achievements:

• Currently the Shariah Committee Chairman of Swiss Reinsurance Company Ltd. ("Swiss Re-Takaful") and LIMRA Group of Companies. In addition to this, he is currently a Shariah committee member of Employees Provident Fund ("EPF") Malaysia. Previously, he has served as Chairman of Shariah Committee at Kenanga Investment Bank Berhad.

- Currently a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Shariah and Management, Academy of Islamic Studies of University of Malaya ("UM").
- Previously the Head of Shariah Management Department at UM, the Deputy Director of the Institute of Public Policy and Management ("INPUMA"), as well as the Manager of the Unit Pengajian Awam at Academy of Islamic Studies of UM.
- Has published numerous journal articles, contributed in books, as well as conducted numerous training programmes and seminars concerning Islamic finance and Shariah.



## Present Membership of Shariah Committees in Other Institutions:

- Sun Life Malaysia Takaful Berhad
- Opus Asset Management Sdn Bhd
- Apex Investment Services Berhad)
- Bank Pembangunan Malaysia Berhad ("BPMB")

\_\_\_\_\_



Present Membership of Shariah Committees in Other Institutions: NII

#### Qualifications

- Bachelor of Accountancy, University Putra Malaysia
- Master of Accounting, University of Illinois, Urbana- Champaign, U.S.A



Present Membership of Shariah Committees in Other Institutions: NIL PROFILE OF THE SHARIAH COMMITTEE

Number of Meetings attended Gender

nder 🛛 🔵 Age

RHR

#### Qualifications

- Bachelor of Syariah (1<sup>st</sup> Class Honours), University of Malaya
- Postgraduate Diploma in Administration of Judiciary & Islamic, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

#### Areas of Expertise:

- Islamic Banking & Finance
- Islamic Capital Market & Derivatives

#### **Experience & Achievements:**

- Accredited trainer for the Islamic Finance Qualification ("IFQ") of the Chartered Institute for Securities and Investment ("CISI").
- A Registered Shariah Advisor with the Securities Commission Malaysia and a Member of the Association of Shariah Advisors in Islamic Finance ("ASAS").
- Was a Manager at the Islamic Capital Market Department of the Securities Commission Malaysia where he was involved in Shariah
- \_\_\_\_\_
- Certified Shariah Adviser & Auditor ("CSAA"), Accounting and Auditing Organization for Islamic Financial Institutions ("AAOIFI"), Bahrain

#### Areas of Expertise:

- Finance & Islamic Finance
- Accounting & Islamic Accounting
- Islamic Capital Market & Derivatives

#### **Experience & Achievements:**

- Presently the Group Executive Vice President of SHAPE® Knowledge Services, an Islamic finance consulting firm.
- Appointed as the Securities Commission-Oxford Centre of Islamic Studies Visiting Fellow in Islamic Finance for 2021/2022.
   Spearheads research and development
- activities including financial analysis, strategic & business plan formulation, design and implementation of customised surveys, research and training for different clients at SHAPE<sup>®</sup>.
- A Member of the Association of Shariah Advisors in Islamic Finance ("ASAS").

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Qualifications

- Bachelor of Shariah (Shariah & Economy) from the University of Malaya
- Master's degree in Fiqh and Usul Fiqh from the University of Jordan
- Ph.D. in Islamic Studies from the University of Birmingham

#### Areas of Expertise:

- Islamic Jurisprudence of Transactions (Muamalat)
- Islamic Jurisprudence and Fundamental of Islamic Jurisprudence (Figh and Usul Figh)
- Islamic Jurisprudential Rules (Qawaid Figh)
- The Objective of Shariah Law (Maqasid Shariah)
- Islamic Capital Market & Derivatives

#### **Experience & Achievements:**

• Previously a lecturer in the Faculty of Shariah, University of Malaya.

- compliance supervision in relation to submissions for the issuances of Sukuk, structured products, collective investment schemes and Islamic Real Estate
- Undertook in-depth research for the development of new Islamic Capital Market instruments and provided technical input for the preparation of various guidelines issued by the Securities Commission Malaysia
- Actively participated in various industry development initiatives such as the International Organization of Securities Commissions' ("IOSCO") Task Force on Islamic Capital Market and the Islamic Financial Services Board's ("IFSB") Governance of Islamic Investment Funds Working Group, and as a technical member for the publication of Resolutions of the Securities Commission Shariah Advisory Council and in Islamic Capital Market educational and promotional programmes.
- She formerly headed capital markets research for the International Shariah Research Academy ("ISRA"), an institution established by Bank Negara Malaysia.
- Has conducted various training programmes on Islamic banking, Sukuk and Islamic Capital Market products, and on risk management and financial reporting for clients in the ASEAN region, the Gulf Cooperation Council ("GCC") and the European market.
- Has contributed chapters to Housing the Nation (Cagamas, 2013), Managing Fund Flows, Risks and Derivatives: Applications in Islamic Institutions (Sweet & Maxwell, 2012), Islamic Financial System: Principles & Operations Market (ISRA, 2011), Sukuk (Sweet & Maxwell, 2009) and Partnership Accounting, Principles and Practice (McGraw Hill).
- From 2010 to 2014, was a Member of the Shariah Advisory Panel of the Malaysian Rating Corporation Berhad ("MARC").
- Prior positions include adjunct professor of finance at both Depaul University (Chicago) and IE Business School (Madrid) and lecturer of accounting, finance and bank management at University Putra Malaysia.
- Served in the Securities Commission of Malaysia in various roles until his last position as the Deputy Director in 2020.
- Pioneer member of the Islamic Instrument Study Group set up by the Securities Commission
- Involved in the development of the Shariahcompliant securities screening methodology for securities listed on Bursa Malaysia
- Representative in the Islamic Financial Services Board (IFSB), Malaysian Accounting Standard Board, Law Harmonization Committee, Special Committee for Islamic Finance (under the Ministry of Finance), a member of the Islamic Consultative Council (ICC) panel under the Prime Minister's Department, Malaysia and a member of consultative representative under the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA).

LEADERSHIP STATEMENTS

## EFFECTIVE, DEDICATED AND PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

OUR STRATEGIC

REVIEW



MOHD RASHID MOHAMAD Officer-in-Charge/Principal Officer and Managing Director, Group Wholesale Banking



DATO' ADISSADIKIN ALI Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer, RHB Islamic Bank/Head, Group Shariah Business



NIK RIZAL KAMIL TAN SRI NIK IBRAHIM KAMIL Group Chief Financial Officer



SYED AHMAD TAUFIK ALBAR Managing Director, Group International Business



OUR GOVERNANCE

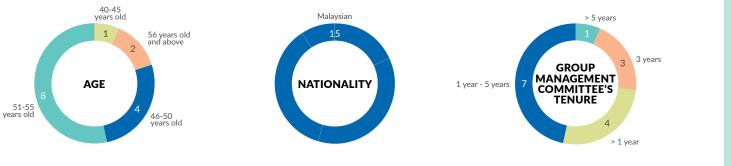
OUR PERFORMANCE

REVIEW

**JEFFREY NG** Managing Director, Group Community Banking



OLIVER TAN Managing Director, RHB Insurance





STAKEHOLDERS'

INFORMATION

ROHAN KRISHNALINGAM Group Chief Digital & Technology Officer



DAVID CHONG Group Chief Operations Officer



WENDY TING Head, Group Corporate Banking

WE ARE RHB BANK

#### GROUP SENIOR MANAGEMENT



DR CHONG HAN HWEE Group Chief Risk Officer



**DR SIEW CHAN CHEONG** Group Chief Strategy Officer



JAMALUDDIN BAKRI Group Human Resource Advisor



FAZLINA MOHAMED GHAZALLI Group Chief Compliance Officer



GANESH SABARATNAM Chief Executive Officer/Managing Director, RHB Group Investment Banking



NORAZZAH SULAIMAN Group Chief Communications Officer/Chief Executive Officer, RHB Foundation

## **PROFILE OF GROUP SENIOR MANAGEMENT**

## 🔮 M 54

#### MOHD RASHID MOHAMAD

Officer-in-Charge/Principal Officer and Managing Director, Group Wholesale Banking

#### Date of Appointm

#### Officer-in-Charge/Principal Officer: 24 January 2022 anaging Director, Group Wholesale Banking: 1 July 2021

#### **Responsibilities:**

- Leads the Group in managing its businesses and operations both in Malaysia as well as the Group's overseas operations to achieve its targeted deliverables and maximize the Group's shareholder returns
- Lead the formulation and execution of business strategy for GWB which covers Group Investment Banking, Group Treasury & Global Markets, Group Corporate Banking, Group Asset Management, Group Transaction Banking, Group Commercial Banking and Economics
- Drive the performance of GWB by fostering better collaboration amongst the various businesses, improve product offerings and operational excellence

#### **Experience:**

- Started his career in the Examination/Supervision Department in Bank Negara Malaysia in 1988 after which he moved to the Investment Operations & Treasury Department in 1994 where he spent more than five years in the Monetary Policy Implementation section
- Over 20 years of regional treasury experience in senior level positions within several financial institutions in Singapore & Malaysia such as ABN Amro, the Royal Bank of Scotland and AmBank Group

#### **Oualifications:**

- Master's in Business Administration with Distinction, University of Wales, Cardiff, United Kingdom
- Bachelor of Accounting (Hons) from University Technology Mara ("UiTM"), Shah Alam, Selangor

#### **External Memberships:**

- Vice President, Financial Market Association ("FMA")
- Member of Malaysian Institute of Accountants ("MIA")
- Member of Industry Advisory Council, PayNet
- Member of Financial Market Committee ("FMC"), BNM

## 🚨 M (49)

#### **NIK RIZAL KAMIL** TAN SRI NIK IBRAHIM KAMIL

Group Chief Financial Officer

#### Date of Appointment

#### 2 February 2021

#### **Responsibilities:**

• Leads Group Finance and ensures the effectiveness of the various finance functions across the Group, including budgeting, reporting, capital and balance sheet management, taxation and procurement

#### **Experience:**

- 25 years of working experience in the areas of accounting and finance as well as strategic investments, domestically and globally
- Prior to this appointment, was an Executive Director of Investments at Khazanah Nasional Berhad ("Khazanah") and was responsible for Khazanah's investments in Telecommunications, Media & Technology ("TMT")
- Was also the Head of Private Markets for North America, EMEA and South Asia, leading Khazanah's investment and divestment projects, value creation activities and overall Private Equity asset class strategy execution, whilst heading the international offices in San Francisco, Istanbul and Mumbai
- Nik Rizal also served as Khazanah's Nominee Director on the boards of several public listed and private companies both domestically and internationally
- Held various leadership positions overseeing finance, strategy, and planning within the Royal Dutch Shell Plc. group of companies, having been based in the United Kingdom, Singapore, and Malaysia

#### **Qualifications:**

- MSc Finance, London Business School, United Kingdom
- BSc (Hons) Economics & Accounting, University of Bristol, United Kingdom
- Fellow Chartered Accountant ("FCA") and Business Finance Professional ("BFP") with the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales ("ICAEW")

#### **External Memberships:**

- Member of Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales ("ICAEW")
- Member of Committee of Finance for Association of Banks in Malaysia ("ABM")

## 🚨 M 48

#### **JEFFREY NG**

Managing Director Group Community Banking

#### Date of Appointment

#### **Responsibilities:**

• Lead and drive the growth of Group Community Banking to

1 July 2021

- ensure alignment with the Group's strategic aspirations, across the Group's regional presence, primarily covering Malaysia, Singapore and Cambodia
- Aspire to be the best community bank by delivering a high level of service and seamless experience for individual and SME customers
- Responsible to ensure the Bank remains at the forefront in terms of balance sheet growth, profitability and market share by leveraging on the strength of community banking channels and digitalisation of customer journeys

#### **Experience:**

- More than 20 years of experience in banking, covering various management roles within the industry
- Prior to his appointment to Group Community Banking, he was leading the Group's Business Banking and Transaction Banking
- Spent 8 years with Standard Chartered Malaysia, he last helmed the SME Business segment prior to joining RHB
- Qualified accountant with early part of his career spent with PricewaterhouseCoopers covering the area of assurance

#### **Qualifications:**

- Chartered Accountant Malaysian Institute of Accountant (MIA)
- Chartered Certified Accountant The Association of Chartered Certified Accountant of the United Kingdom (ACCA)
- Chartered Banker Asian Institute of Chartered Bankers (AICB)
- Advance Diploma in Finance Tunku Abdul Rahman College

#### **External Memberships:**

- Member of the Malaysian Institute of Accountants
- Member of the Associate of Chartered Certified Accountants of the United Kingdom
- Member of the Asian Institute of Chartered Bankers

## PROFILE OF GROUP SENIOR MANAGEMENT

## 🚨 M 51

#### DATO' ADISSADIKIN ALI

Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer, RHB Islamic Bank/Head, **Group Shariah Business** 

#### Date of Appointment

1 August 2016

#### **Responsibilities:**

• Lead, manage and grow Islamic Banking and Shariah Business within RHB Group

#### **Experience**:

- More than 20 years of experience in financial services industry
- Held senior positions in Bank Islam Malaysia and AlKhair International Islamic Bank Berhad
- Prior to joining RHB, was the Managing Director and Chief Operating Officer at Export- Import Bank Malaysia Berhad

#### **Qualifications:**

- MBA (Finance), University of Malaya
- Bachelor's Degree in Business (Banking and Finance), Monash University, Australia
- Diploma in Investment Analysis, University Teknologi MARA ("UiTM"), Malaysia
- Advanced Management Program ("AMP"), Harvard Business School, Boston, USA
- Chartered Banker, Asian Institute of Chartered Bankers ("AICB")
- Chartered Banker, Chartered Banker Institute, UK
- Chartered Professional in Islamic Finance, Chartered Institute of Islamic Finance Professionals, Malaysia

#### **External Memberships:**

- President and Council Member, Association of Islamic Banking Institutions Malaysia ("AIBIM")
- Member of the Board of Islamic Banking & Finance Institute Malaysia (IBFIM)

OUR GOVERNANCE

PROFILE OF GROUP SENIOR MANAGEMENT

## 🕰 M 49

#### SYED AHMAD TAUFIK ALBAR

Managing Director, **Group International Business** 

#### Date of Appointment

#### 2 February 2021

#### **Responsibilities:**

• Lead and drive the growth and performance of the Group's international businesses which cover commercial banking, investment banking and asset management, and oversee the non-Retail Loan Recovery function with a focus of strengthening recovery efforts

#### **Experience:**

- More than 20 years of experience as a finance professional and served as RHB's Group Chief Financial Officer for over 4 years to 1 February 2021
- Started finance career with Shell and worked in various Shell offices in Malaysia, Australia and the Netherlands
- Held various Finance roles in Axiata Group including as Chief Financial Officer of Smart Axiata in Cambodia
- Prior to joining RHB, was the Group Chief Financial Officer of **UEM Group Berhad**

#### **Qualifications:**

- Bachelor of Accounting (Hons), International Islamic University Malaysia
- Master of Economics, International Islamic University Malaysia

#### **External Memberships:**

- Fellow of Chartered Institute of Management Accountants ("CIMA"), UK
- Member of Malaysian Institute of Accountant ("MIA")

## 🔮 M 56 **OLIVER TAN** Managing Director, RHB Insurance Date of Appointment 21 February 2022

#### **Responsibilities:**

• Lead, manage & grow Insurance business to ensure alignment with the Group's strategic aspirations

#### **Experience:**

- 22 years of experience within the insurance industry locally and regionally
- Held various senior positions, including as Chief Executive Officer at MPI Generali Insurans Berhad, Swiss Reinsurance Company Limited in Kuala Lumpur and Head of Kuala Lumpur branch, managing business operations in Malaysia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Brunei and Myanmar
- Held various senior positions in AIU Insurance Company Limited in Shanghai and AXA General Insurance Hong Kong Limited

#### **Qualifications:**

- Bachelor of Laws, Staffordshire Polytechnic in United Kingdom and a Certificate in Legal Practice (CLP) from University Malaya in Malaysia.
- Fellow of Malaysia Insurance Institute since 2017



#### **ROHAN KRISHNALINGAM**

Group Chief Digital & Technology Officer

#### Date of Appointment

#### **Responsibilities:**

• Responsible for the provision of accurate and timely Technology and Digital services for the relevant business/ functional units

1 August 2019

- Develop the IT and Digital Strategy towards driving the implementation of Digital and IT transformation
- Lead the efforts on the digitalisation of RHB Banking Group
- Drive the adoption of Agile@ Scale as part of the Group's strategic focus to create a winning operating model

#### **Experience:**

- Initially appointed as Group Chief Operations Officer of RHB Banking Group in January 2014, to drive Group-wide digital, technology and operations functions
- Previously a Senior Partner with a technology and management consulting firm
- More than 25 years of experience with financial services organisations in designing and implementing large scale transformation programmes, predominantly in areas of technology and operations
- Worked with various industries in Malaysia and the ASEAN region
- Strong technology delivery and programme management skills, especially in the implementation of large scale technology and IT strategic planning
- Led major banking and financial services projects including the implementation of core banking systems, enterprise resource planning ("ERP") and customer relationship management ("CRM") systems, IT transformation programmes, IT merger integration programmes and industrywide payment systems

#### **Qualifications:**

• Bachelor of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (Honours), University of New South Wales, Australia

## PROFILE OF GROUP SENIOR MANAGEMENT

### 🔮 M 46

#### **DR CHONG HAN HWEE**

Group Chief Risk Officer

#### Date of Appointment

28 September 2020

#### **Responsibilities:**

- Managing Group-wide Risk and Credit Management in alignment with Group Risk Appetite
- Overseeing the continuous improvement in managing risk
- Driving timeliness of emerging risk management
- Transforming risk management to meet the control needs of digital era from Strategic, Performance, Analytics and Talent perspectives

#### **Experience:**

- Over 20 years of experience in advising and managing risk in the financial sector
- Assisted financial institutions across Australia, ASEAN and the Middle East
- Prior to joining RHB, Dr Chong was a Partner in EY Malaysia where he built the Financial Services Risk Management Practice since 2012

#### **Qualifications:**

- Bachelor of Commerce in Economics and Finance (1st Class Honours), Curtin University of Technology, Australia
- Doctor of Philosophy in Economics, Curtin University of Technology, Australia

2 February 2021

PROFILE OF GROUP SENIOR MANAGEMENT

## 🚨 M 45

#### **DR SIEW CHAN CHEONG**

Group Chief Strategy Officer

WE ARE RHB BANK

#### Date of Appointment

#### 2 May 2019

#### **Responsibilities:**

- Drive the Group's strategic priorities
- Support strategy teams within each business unit in the development of business unitspecific strategies and drive improvement in financial and strategic outcomes
- Develop and refine valuebased portfolio management of the Group
- Drive top-down change initiatives across the Group
- Spearhead the Group's annual business planning and steer the progress of FIT22 strategy execution

#### **Experience:**

- 20 years of experience in strategy, designing and implementing large-scale transformation programmes, especially for financial services providers across Europe and Asia
- Developed and implemented strategies for large global/ regional banks and insurance firms, covering business growth, operational improvement, talent and technology strategies
- Prior to this appointment, he was the Senior Director for Financial Services with Strategy& (formerly Booz & Company), which is part of the PwC network, serving financial services clients in South East Asia

#### **Oualifications:**

- Ph.D in Engineering, University of Southampton, UK
- MBA from London Business School, UK
- BEng (1st Class Hons) Engineering, University of Southampton, UK

## 🔮 M 54

#### **DAVID CHONG**

Group Chief Operations Officer

#### Date of Appointment

#### **Responsibilities:**

- Oversee the overall RHB Banking Group's operations within Malaysia and ASEAN to achieve excellence, continued improvement and optimisation across the Group's operation functions including credit operations, treasury operations, banking and payment operations, investment banking and asset management operations, as well as the call centre and property services
- Provides leadership in driving customer experience and operational excellence strategy and programmes Group-wide, which includes initiatives on robotic process automation

#### **Experience:**

- More than 25 years of experience in various global consulting organisations and Malaysian financial services institutions
- Has covered diversified roles in operational transformation, programme management, strategic planning, analytics and CRM, as well as business and marketing leadership roles
- Prior to the current role, was the Group Chief Digital Officer of RHB Group

#### **Qualifications:**

- Chartered Certified Accountants, UK
- Master of Business Administration, Strathclyde University, UK

#### **Appointments:**

• Director, Financial Park Labuan Sdn Bhd



#### **JAMALUDDIN BAKRI**

Group Human Resource Advisor

#### Date of Appointment

#### **Responsibilities:**

- Develop and execute longterm Human Resources ("HR") strategies
- Build HR capability to support the Group's long-term strategic goals
- Manage various aspects of HR functions including strategic planning and organisational development, human capital development, succession planning, rewards and performance management

#### **Experience**:

- A solid track record with more than 20 years in HR functions. with 15 years being spent abroad. Has experience working with different nationalities and diverse cultures and working styles
- Partnered with business leaders of multinationals and local organisations in driving various HR strategies globally and locally

#### **Qualifications:**

• Masters in Business Administration (Human Resources), University of Hull, United Kingdom

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#### **GANESH SABARATNAM**

Chief Executive Officer/Managing Director, RHB Group Investment Banking

#### Date of Appointment

#### 1 July 2021

#### **Responsibilities:**

- Lead, build and drive the overall growth and profitability of Group Investment Banking (GIB) in Malaysia and South East Asia (SEA) in line with the Group's strategic aspirations of growing the ASEAN franchise
- To position RHB Investment Bank as the leading and go to Investment Bank in Malaysia

#### **Experience**:

- Over 25 years of experience across investment banking, global markets and private equity
- Prior to this appointment, he was a Partner at Grant Thornton Specialist Advisory Services Singapore and Senior Partner at Oxley Capital Partners, Singapore, a private equity firm
- Held various senior positions with bulge bracket investment banks, including as the CEO and Country Manager of Barclays Corporate and Investment Bank Malaysia, and MD of Barclays IB South East Asia (SEA); Head of Malaysia and Thailand, Credit Suisse IB; Head of Asset Liability Management SEA Global Markets, Rabo Bank Singapore; and Head of Money Market Short Term Interest Rates Trading Global Markets, Deutsche Bank Malaysia
- Held various roles in trading, structured products, risk solutions and treasury at Bank of America Global Markets (BofA) London, and posted to BofA Hong Kong, Tokyo, San Francisco and Malavsia
- Originated and structured various transactions which included transformational multibillion dollar cross border mergers and acquisitions in SEA, Australia, Europe, the Middle East and the United States. Additionally, IPO for SEA companies, USD bond and convertible bond issuances, structured lending, leveraged buyouts, private equity, platform builds, joint ventures, corporate restructuring, distressed debt, structured products as well as trading of credit, swaps/derivatives and hedging risk solutions for clients in commodities. rates and currencies

#### **Oualifications:**

- M.Sc Finance in Financial Economics and Capital Markets, University of London, United Kingdom
- B.Sc Joint Honours in Engineering Production and Economics, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom

#### **External Memberships:**

• Council Member of Malaysian Investment Banking Association ("MIBA")

RHB

12 April 2021

1 June 2018

PROFILE OF GROUP SENIOR MANAGEMENT

## 🚇 🕞 😏

#### WENDY TING

Head, Group Corporate Banking

#### Date of Appointment

#### 1 October 2013

#### **Responsibilities:**

• Lead and drive the overall growth and profitability of Group Corporate Banking in Malaysia, Singapore and regions where RHB has footprints

#### **Experience**:

- More than 20 years of experience in trade finance, capital markets, financial services and investment banking, with the opportunity to rotate among different business groups within Maybank as their scholar
- Prior to joining RHB, spent 15 years with Maybank Group with last position as Director, Client Coverage (Private Sector)

#### **Qualifications:**

- Bachelor of Business Administration, National University of Malaysia
- Graduate, Executive Development Program, Chicago Booth, Executive Education
- Senior Leadership Development Programme, INSEAD

#### **Appointments:**

• Director, RHB Bank (L) Ltd

#### **External Memberships:**

- Member of the Association of Banks in Malaysia
- Member of the Asian Institute of Chartered Bankers
- Member of the Asia Pacific Loan Market Association

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#### **FAZLINA MOHAMED GHAZALLI**

Group Chief Compliance Officer

#### **Responsibilities:**

- Lead and execute Group-wide compliance strategic plans that enables RHB Banking Group to comply with regulatory requirements
- Key area of responsibilities include establishing comprehensive compliance policies and framework, monitoring the overall compliance risk of the Group and ensuring timely identification and reporting of new/emerging compliance risk

#### Experience:

- More than 20 years of experience in banking sector
- Prior to joining RHB, she was a senior associate of a leading law firm, specialising in property and financial services matters and thereafter, she went on to serve for 5 years as the Head of Legal of a development bank
- She started her career in RHB in 2005 as a senior legal officer and was subsequently appointed as the Head of Group Legal in 2008. She went on to become the Head of Group Compliance in 2016 and assumed her current role as the Group Chief Compliance Officer in 2018

#### **Qualifications:**

- Bachelor of Laws, University of East Anglia, United Kingdom
- Certified Professional in Anti-Money Laundering/ Combating the Financing of Terrorism ("AML/CFT")
- Chartered Banker, Asian Institute of Chartered Bankers

#### **Appointments:**

• Director, RHB Corporate Services Sdn Bhd

#### **External Memberships:**

• Member, Asian Institute of Chartered Bankers



#### NORAZZAH SULAIMAN

Group Chief Communications Officer/ Chief Executive Officer, RHB Foundation

#### Date of Appointment

#### **Responsibilities:**

- Lead and manage the Group's strategic communications functions which entails building brand relevance and trust, as well as manage corporate reputation through effective crisis communications and stakeholder management
- Promote greater disclosure and transparency through multiple platforms, which includes corporate disclosure via the Integrated Report and Sustainability Report
- Lead and drive the Group's Sustainability agenda and the integration of Environmental, Social and Governance ("ESG") considerations into the Group's business and decision making process
- Drive sustainability culture transformation across the Group
- Lead RHB Foundation in fulfilling its vision and objectives, through impactful community engagement programmes and initiatives that benefit the underprivileged segments of the community

#### **Experience:**

• More than 25 years of experience in various management positions in the financial services sector, predominantly covering legal advisory, human resource management, corporate services, strategic communications and driving community engagement

#### **Qualifications:**

- Bachelor of Laws ("LLB") with Honours, University of Warwick, United Kingdom
- Senior Leadership Development Programme, INSEAD

#### **Appointments:**

- Board of Trustees, RHB Foundation
- Board of Trustees, RHB UKM Endowment Fund
- Member of ESG Committee, Association of Banks in Malaysia

## Date of Appointment

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RHB

INTEGRATED REPORT 2021

## PROFILE OF GROUP SENIOR MANAGEMENT

#### 27 July 2017

#### Declaration:

Save as disclosed, the Group Senior Management have:

- 1. no family relationship with any Director and/or major shareholder.
- 2. no conflict of interest with RHB Bank and have never been convicted of any offence within the past five years nor have had any public sanction or penalty imposed on them by the relevant regulatory bodies during the financial year under review.

Dato' Khairussaleh Ramli has resigned as Group Managing Director / Chief Executive Officer of RHB Banking Group, effective 25 March 2022.

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## **GOVERNANCE FOR A SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS**

## OUR COMMITMENT -**CREATING VALUE THROUGH GOOD GOVERNANCE**

The Board firmly supports the Group's long-term value creation process by practicing Ethical business conduct, ingraining consideration of Sustainability into business decisions and managing them with good Governance. This integrated thinking and subsequently the integration process are driven top-down and applied consistently across our Group with proper guidance and strategic supports being accorded to our management team.

This RHB Corporate Governance Overview Statement should be read together with its Corporate Governance Report which can be downloaded from the Group's corporate website at www.rhbgroup.com or the Bursa Malaysia announcement web page.

RHB Banking Group's strong enterprise governance fundamentals

ensured we remain resilient even during troubled times, as witnessed

throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. As we navigate from the

pandemic to an endemic, we continue to ensure the Group remains

in a strong position and less susceptible to the volatile business

Another milestone to depict the strong pillar in corporate governance

was the smooth leadership transition at the top helm with the

replacement of the outbound Group Managing Director with an interim

Officer-in-Charge or the Principal Officer on 24 January 2022 to take

charge of managing the Group until a new Group Managing Director is

The process of evaluating and electing the new candidate was

undertaken by the Board immediately, with both internal and external

candidates being considered for the position. The potential candidates

include two identified internal successors, backed by a successful

succession plan spearheaded by the Group's human capital framework.

The Board's swift response to the change caused minimal disruption

environment by being dynamic, agile and forward thinking.

despite sudden movement at the very top 'C-suite' level, ensuring business continuity and smooth strategy execution.

At the end of the year, the Board also oversaw enhancement to the Group's business integration with formulation of the Group's new 5-year strategic plan. The transition from the preceding strategic plan. namely FIT22 is mainly to steer the Group's businesses forward in the upcoming digital banking opportunities for greater financial inclusion and at the same time, embedding sustainability related matters into its business operations and activities that are most important to the stakeholders.

This move is in line with the newly approved sustainability governance framework that showcases establishment of the Group Sustainability Committee, chaired by the Group Managing Director and supported by four working-level sustainability committees across the Group. These efforts by the Board echoed the newly introduced good governance practices per the latest Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance, updated in April 2021 ensuring sustainability related matters are no longer in the periphery and that we are in a position to make positive impacts in the lives of our stakeholders as Together We Progress.

#### **ANNUAL ASSESSMENT OF BOARD &** INDIVIDUAL DIRECTOR'S PERFORMANCE

Per our Board Charter, we continue to assess the Board members annually to ensure the current boardroom's combined skillset and expertise are balanced and are able to steer the Group's sustainable journey and the Company's agenda.

In line with the requirements of Bank Negara Malaysia's Corporate Governance Policy Document and the Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance, which call for the appointment of an external party on periodic basis to conduct an objective and independent board assessment, we appointed Ernst & Young Consulting Sdn Bhd ("EY") to facilitate our Board Effectiveness Evaluation ("BEE") exercise for year 2020.

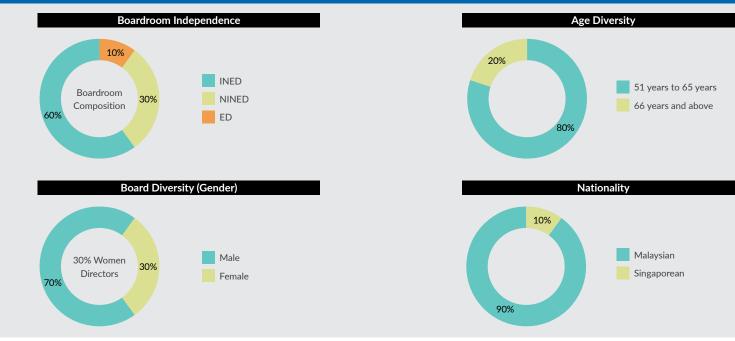
EY undertook a comprehensive assessment of the Board, Board Committees and Individual Directors. The questionnaire for each Board member were customized based on the Individual representation in the respective entity's Board and/or Board Committee in 2020. The assessment also included interview sessions with selected Directors and Senior Management officers within the Group to gain more insight for overall evaluation.

#### **COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD**

being appointed.

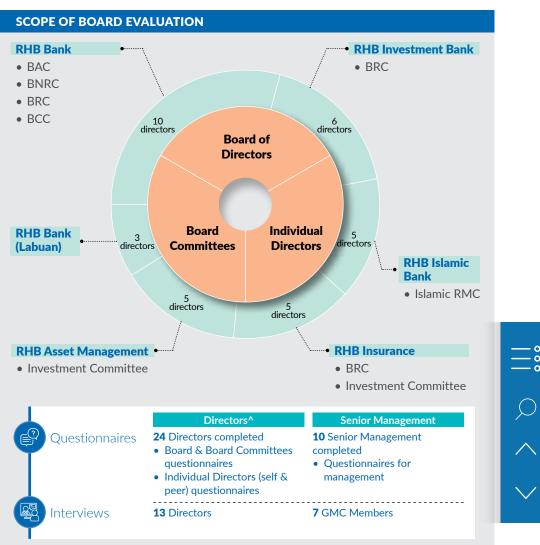
The Board understands and acknowledges the importance of having a well-balanced, diverse, experienced and cohesive group to drive the long-term sustainable success of the Group through ethical, responsible and experienced leadership. During the year, there were six Independent Non- Executive Directors ("INED"), three Non-Independent Non-Executive Directors ("NINED") and one Executive Director ("ED") i.e. the Managing Director/CEO serving on the Board of RHB Bank Berhad.

The existing Board composition provides extensive relevant business experience needed to oversee the efficiency and sustainable operation of the Group's activities where individual Directors bring a diverse range of skills, knowledge and experience (including financial & non-financial, industries and local & international experiences), which are necessary to provide effective governance and oversight of the Group. In our case, board diversity has added value to our discussion and deliberation of the Group's business operations with strong opinions and challenges from the independent and non-independent viewpoints.

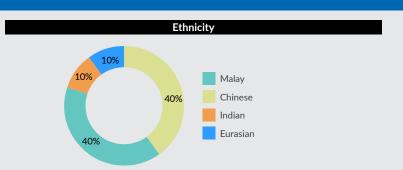




## **GOVERNANCE FOR A SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS**



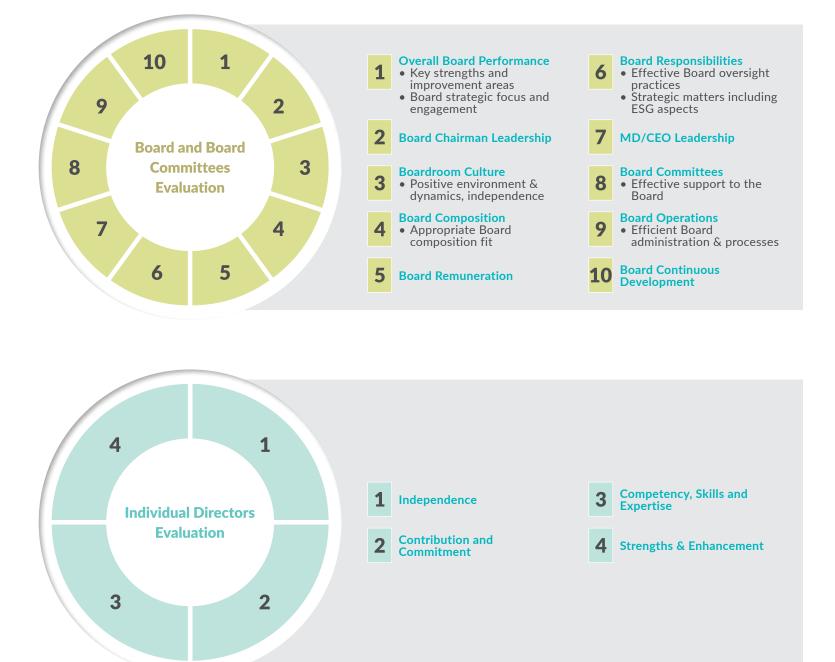
Note: ^ includes common Directors who also serve on subsidiary boards



Combine	d Board Skills & Experiences
Leadership and Management	100%
Banking	56%
Finance	67%
reasury Capital & Securities Markets	67%
Governance, Risk and Compliance	23%
International Trade	12%
MIS & Technology	12%
Cybersecurity & Data Privacy	12%

GOVERNANCE FOR A SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

The Board Effectiveness Evaluation ("BEE") questionnaires were designed based on the principles and governance practices set out in local regulatory standards and requirements, as well as international good practices, which covered the following pertinent areas:

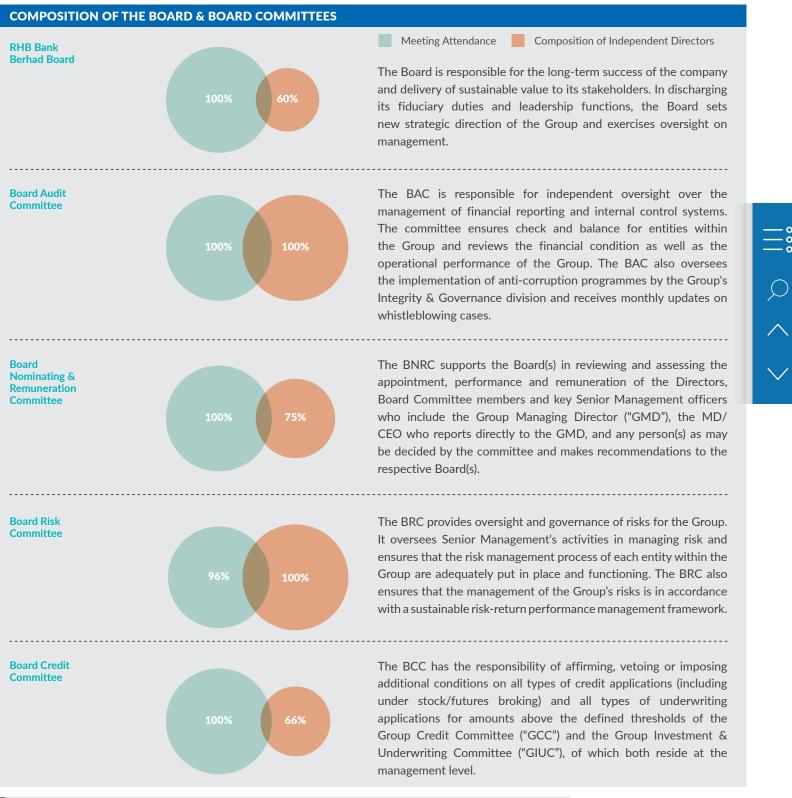


Based on the external consultant's assessment, the current Board has positive culture and dynamics allowing for open deliberation, active participation and strong commitment by its members. It has good diversity with appropriate mix of experience and expertise that collectively contribute to board effectiveness, strong oversight in areas of governance, compliance, risk management and financial reporting. On areas of improvements, it needs better strategic focus, which includes incorporation of ESG related matters and stronger engagement with senior management in matters related to strategy.

(🔄) For detailed information on the BEE for FY2020, kindly refer to Practice 6.1 of RHB Bank Berhad's Corporate Governance Report 2021.

#### **BOARD AND BOARD COMMITTEES' MEETING ATTENDANCE IN 2021**

In line with the Group's effort to safeguard our directors and employees during the COVID-19 pandemic, most of the Board and Board Committees' meetings were conducted virtually. The Board and Board Committees continued meeting regularly to carry out their respective duties and responsibilities and we are pleased to disclose that all directors were able to join, participate and contribute in the meetings efficiently during the year with no absentees recorded for RHB Bank Berhad's Board meetings.



#### GOVERNANCE FOR A SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

WE ARE RHB BANK

OUR GOVERNANCE STAKEHOLDERS INFORMATION

GOVERNANCE FOR A SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

#### **BOARD ACTIVITIES & FOCUS DURING THE YEAR**

Year 2021 saw the fourth year of RHB's FIT22 strategy in motion and the Group began to be strategically ready itself for a refresh of its strategic plan. The Group will look into further strengthening its brand promise of *Together We Progress* organically and seamlessly to better serve our communities.

	THE BOARD	GOVERNANCE DASHBOARD
Performance and Strategy	Governance, Sustainability, Risk & Compliance	Financial
<ul> <li>Reviewed and approved the Group's strategic business plan for the year</li> <li>Monitored the progress of FIT22 strategic plan</li> <li>Reviewed and approved the new strategic plan</li> <li>Received updates from various business units locally and abroad on market conditions and business performance</li> <li>Discussed on the challenges and opportunities faced by the Group (during the Board off-site session)</li> <li>Received updates on the progress of Agile@Scale of working</li> <li>Reviewed RHB's response to COVID-19 and assessed the impact of COVID-19 on the Group's business operations and financial performance</li> <li>Received progress updates on the Group's digital</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Approved the updated Group Anti-Bribery &amp; Corruption Policy &amp; Group Whistleblowing Policy</li> <li>Reviewed the Group's risk, compliance and audit reports</li> <li>Received various briefing/trainings to equip themselves with latest industry and regulatory developments</li> <li>Reviewed the Group's annual Corporate Governance statutory disclosure</li> <li>Discussed on the findings and improvement considerations deriving from the annual BEE assessment conducted by an independent consultant (external party)</li> <li>Received update on ESG/Sustainability matters and Climate Risk Management</li> <li>Reviewed half-yearly reports to Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission ("MACC")</li> <li>Received updates on matters relating to integrity, governance,</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Approved the yearly operational budget</li> <li>Approved contents of the Integrated Report for FY202</li> <li>Approved dividend payment for FY2020/2021</li> <li>Reviewed the impact of moratorium to the Group's finstrategies</li> <li>Deliberated various matters related to moratorium for stakeholders</li> <li>Received updates related to economics and global fina markets</li> <li>Deliberated capital management plan &amp; internal target updates on international &amp; regulatory capital framewo</li> <li>Received update on Tax related matters</li> </ul>

- Received progress updates on the Group's digitation banking initiatives and IT transformation
- Received updates on matters relating to integrity, governance, whistleblowing and anti-corruption
- Approved the formation of the Group Sustainability Committee and its supporting committees
- Approved RHB Banking Group's 5-Year (2022 2026) Sustainability Strategy and Roadmap
- Received updates on RHB's AML/CFT Capabilities Enhancement (RACE) Programme

This is supported by the Group's refreshed purpose statement, *Making Progress Happen for Everyone*, which sees RHB Banking Group reigniting its own corporate identity towards achieving our goals and aspirations. The Board continued its attentive oversight of management to ensure that the Group's businesses are well-managed and controlled by embracing good corporate governance and giving consideration to ESG-related matters in support of the Board's agenda to take the Group's businesses forward.

#### CORPORATE GOVERNANCE ("CG") -PROGRESS AND MILESTONES

#### **REFLECTION ON KEY CG BOARD FOCUS AREAS**

- Approved RHB Banking Group's 5-year (2022-2026) latest strategic roadmap
- Approved RHB Banking Group's 5-year (2022-2026) Sustainability Strategy and Roadmap
- Continued to monitor and accord the necessary protection for our Human Capital throughout the COVID-19 pandemic
- Continued to assess strategies related to developing and retaining the Group's Human Capital
- Annual Board Effectiveness Evaluation for FY2020
- Approved the updated Group Anti-Bribery & Corruption Policy and Group Whistleblowing Policy to strengthen our existing internal controls
- Oversaw Strategic Succession Planning & Performance Appraisal for key senior management personnel
- Review of Board Remuneration

## IN YEAR **2021**

#### BOARD FOCUS AREAS

- Review of Board Charter
- Conduct of Annual Board Effectiveness Evaluation for FY2021

IN YEAR

2022

- Adoption of updated internal Group Policies and Guideline by regional subsidiaries
- Oversight over publication of the Organisational Anti-Corruption Plan ("OACP") for RHB Banking Group
- Performance-based Remuneration linked to ESG metrics
- Recovery & Resolution Planning

IN YEAR 2023 BOARD FOCUS AREAS • Succession planning for INEDs • Climate risk management • Recovery & Resolution Planning • Scenario Planning • Corporate Integrity Pledge • Conduct of Annual Board Effectiveness Evaluation for FY2022 • Review on the implementation of the action plans set under the OACP

#### FY2020

- p's financial
- m for its
- al financial
- targets, with nework

#### People & Culture

- Discussed on talent management and succession planning
- Approved appointment of senior management personnel Received update on employees engagement and internal
- customers satisfaction surveys
- Received reports on COVID-19 impact on employees wellbeing and performance
- Reviewed and approved revision of employees' remuneration and value proposition, including Long-Term Incentive Plan ("LTIP") for the Group

## IN YEAR **2024**

#### BOARD FOCUS AREAS

- Review of Group Anti-Bribery & Corruption Policy
- Review of Group Whistleblowing
   Policy
- Conduct of Annual Board
- Effectiveness Evaluation for FY2023
- Review the progress of key milestones
- set within the approved OACP

#### **BOARD FOCUS AREAS**

- Review of OACP
- Conduct of externally facilitated
- BEE
- Business Integrity Quality Assurance

IN YEAR

2025/

2026

GOVERNANCE FOR A SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

LEADERSHIP

STATEMENTS

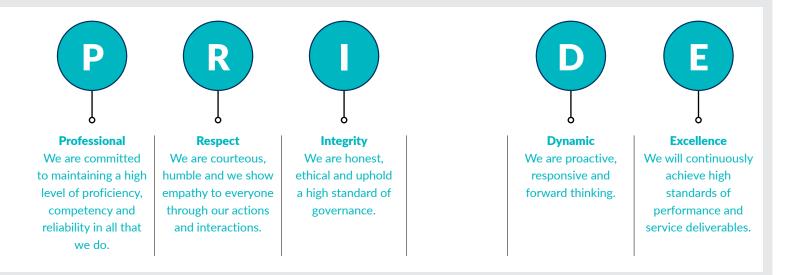
#### **Ethical & Sound Leadership**

The Board's role is to promote long-term sustainable success of the Group, mainly generating value for all its stakeholders, including shareholders, employees, customers, suppliers and the communities in which the Group operates, while exercising good business judgement in developing strategy, delivering objectives and managing the risks that are faced by the organisation. The Board is also responsible for instilling the right and appropriate culture, values and behaviours throughout the organisation.

The Board views ethical leadership as one of its core responsibility. The Group's ethical culture is guided and led by the tone from the top. The ethical principles and values are driven by the Board through RHB's leadership team and are embedded across the Group. To ensure our messages on this matter is consistent, the Group has in place codes of business ethics and conduct for the Board and employees. These codes convey the minimum requirements that must be met by our people in doing business the RHB Way.

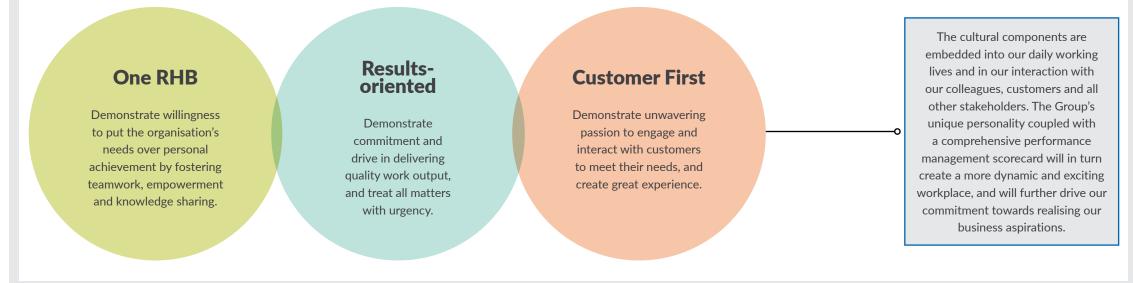
#### **Driving Our Core Values**

The Group's Core Values remained unchanged as they are pillared to our efforts in creating value for our customers and business partners. Our values define who we are and at RHB, the Board takes P.R.I.D.E in who we are and what we do. The effort to ensure consistent application of values and cultural norms are supported by the tone at the top, the board and senior management, who set, review and drive the application group-wide throughout the whole organisation.



#### Our DNA Culture - Cultivate & Nurture:

At RHB, we understand the value of cultivating and nurturing a corporate culture that is inclusive, customer-centric and productivity driven. A strong corporate culture contributes to the identity and values of our organisation and supports our efforts to attract and retain the right talent, differentiate ourselves from our peers and highlight our corporate competitive advantage and brand identity.

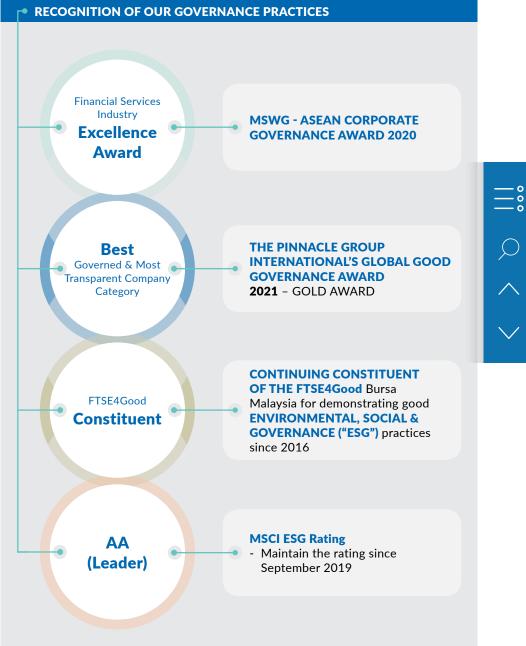


#### GOVERNANCE FOR A SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

#### APPLICATION OF THE PRACTICES ESPOUSED BY THE MCCG

RHB Bank Berhad has adopted and applied all Practices as recommended by the Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance except **Practice 8.3 – Step up** which requires *disclosure of detailed remuneration of each member of senior management on a named basis.* Detailed disclosure on the governance practices can be found in the Corporate Governance Report.

#### **AWARDS & RECOGNITION**



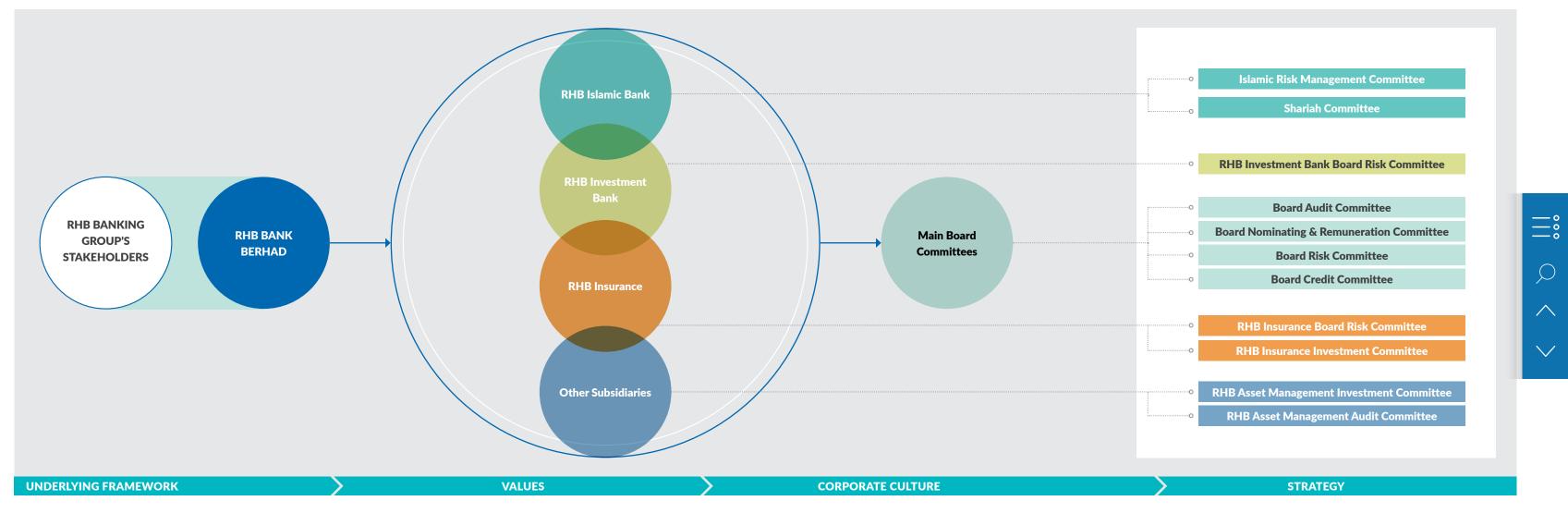
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GOVERNANCE FOR A SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

## **Governance Framework**

RHB Banking Group operates within a clearly defined governance model which is approved by the Board. This model provides the Group with a clear governance structure which guides the governance practices and authority of decision-making across the Group.

This delegation of authority is clearly defined within the Terms of Reference ("ToR") of the respective Board Committees. The ToRs are reviewed periodically by the Board and respective committees to ensure their mandates are carried out in-line with the best practices and regulatory requirements. The composition of the Board Committees are periodically reviewed by the Board and where required, improved with the support of the Board Nominating & Remuneration Committee.



#### **Board & Senior Management Remuneration**

The Board ensures the remuneration package offered promotes the achievement of strategic objectives within the ambient of RHB's cultural components, risk appetite and regulatory compliance. The Board Nominating & Remuneration Committee ("BNRC") has been entrusted with discharging the remuneration strategies, as outlined in its Terms of Reference, which can be referred on RHB corporate website. Detailed information on RHB's remuneration practice can be found per disclosure in Section B of our Corporate Governance Report 2021.

#### **Decision Making**

The Board has a formal schedule of matters specifically reserved to it for decision as noted herewith and delegates other responsibilities to Management for day-today operations. Decisions made by the Board during deliberations are only approved when there is unanimous support.

#### Matters Reserved for the Board

- i. Business and operating strategiesii. New business plans or changes to existing ones
- iii. New investments/divestments
- iv. Mergers and Acquisitions
- v. Expansion/entry into new markets/ geographical regions
- vii. Set-up of new subsidiaries
- viii. Joint ventures
- ix. Partnerships or strategic alliances
- x. Acquisitions/disposal of significant assets

vi. Corporate restructuring/reorganisation

- xi. Progress of Business Strategy
- xii. Senior Officers' Appointment

#### Anti-Bribery & Corruption ("ABC")

The Board continues to pay heed towards the culture and conduct of our employees. As financial services providers, we are held to a higher moral standard as guardians of public trust on the financial system.

RHB Banking Group operates on a zero tolerance approach towards internal fraud, including bribery and corruption. All employees, customers and associated persons with the Group are expected to conduct their business dealings with utmost integrity and in-line with the Group Anti-Bribery & Corruption Policy. Any wrongdoings or corrupt practices can be reported through the Group's various whistleblowing channels, including via **speakup@rhbgroup.com** 

The Board has overseen the establishment of the Group Integrity & Governance division to drive the Group's anti- bribery and corruption efforts by inculcating good business ethics and promoting integrity in daily workplace conduct. For detailed information on integrity strengthening efforts, kindly refer to the Corporate Integrity & Ethical Business Conduct section within this Integrated Report.

#### GOVERNANCE FOR A SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

OUR GOVERNANCE

# **Corporate Governance**

#### Continuous Professional Development

The Board undertook necessary training programmes to ensure members are well equipped with industry and regulatory developments. Detailed information on the training programmes attended by individual Directors is provided under Section B of our Corporate Governance Report.

#### Board Diversity Policy

The Boards of RHB Bank Berhad and its subsidiaries are committed towards maintaining a board composition that embodies diversity. The Group is cognisant of the value arising from having a diverse Board as it is a crucial component in influencing how the Board functions and the dynamics between its members. RHB Bank Berhad currently has 30% women directors serving on its Board. Apart from gender diversity, the Board Diversity Policy also recognizes and emphasizes on diversity in its widest sense, including ethnicity, thought, tenure, age, experience, skills, geographical expertise, educational and professional background.

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Note: In relation to gender diversity for senior management, please refer our Sustainability Report 2021

#### Company's Dividend Policy

Since 2020, the Company also adopted a dividend policy where the dividend pay-out ratio is to be 30% of its net profit at minimum, providing a sustained return to the shareholders as its commitment moving forward.

# **Highlights 2021**

possible conflict of interest.

The Board had put in place a Board Governance Handbook ("BGH") for quick reference and easy guidance, incorporating code of ethics and business conduct, diversity policy, remuneration policy, etc. Please refer to RHB Bank Berhad's Sustainability Report for additional information on the BGH.

(I) Please refer to RHB Bank Berhad's Sustainability Report for additional information on the BGH.

Board meetings for the calendar year in 2022 are scheduled in advance, prior to the start of the new calendar year to ensure proper management of meetings and schedules for the Board. The agenda for each board meeting is also set and disseminated in a timely and efficient manner prior to the meetings to allow directors to prepare ahead of time.

#### **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### Chairman

- Lead the Board in its deliberations
- Preside over the General Meeting(s)
- Ensure effective communication between the Board and its stakeholders
- Communicate regularly with Group Managing Director and other Senior Management officers on the affairs of the Group

#### Senior Independent Non-Executive Director

- Act as a sounding board member to the Chairman and be a conduit between the independent and non-independent members of the Board
- Lead the Independent Directors in conducting executive sessions with Senior Management

#### Independent Non-Executive Director(s)

- Monitor and challenge the performance of the management
- Exercise independent judgment in deliberating and reviewing items brought before the Board and Board Committees



#### **Company Secretary & Chief Integrity & Governance Officer**

Azman Shah Md Yaman leads the Group's Legal, Secretariat & Governance functions. He is accountable directly to the Board, through the Chairman, on all matters with regards to the formal functioning of the Board. He leads and acts as the guardian to these policies and principles of good governance. Azman is a qualified Advocate & Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya with an LLB (Honors) from the International Islamic University Malaysia ("IIUM"), a Licensed Company Secretary (LS 0006901) and an affiliate of the Malaysian Institute of Chartered Secretaries & Administrators. Azman also shoulders the responsibility as the Group's Chief Integrity and Governance Officer ("CIGO") within RHB Banking Group. He is a Certified Integrity Officer ("CeIO") accredited by the Malaysia Anti-Corruption Academy ("MACA").

### GOVERNANCE FOR A SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

#### Independence and Fit & Proper Test

• The Chairman of the Board is neither a member of the Board Audit Committee nor the Board Nominating & Remuneration Committee. • All Independent Non-Executive Directors ("INEDs") have passed the Fit & Proper requirement and have provided their declaration on any

#### Board Governance Handbook

#### Board Meetings

#### **Group Managing Director**

• The Group Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer undertakes the responsibility to execute the Group's overall strategies

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OUR STRATEGIC REVIEW

OUR GOVERNANCE

## ACCOUNTABILITY

#### **RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROLS**

The Board is responsible for the Group's risk management and internal control systems, which are designed to facilitate effective and efficient operations and to ensure the quality of internal and external reporting in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. The Directors and Senior Management are committed to maintaining a robust control framework as the foundation for the delivery of effective risk management. The Directors acknowledge their responsibilities in relation to the Group's risk management and internal control systems, including reviewing their effectiveness.

In establishing and reviewing the risk management and internal control systems, the Directors carried out a robust assessment of the principal risks facing the Group, including those that would threaten its business model, future performance, solvency or liquidity, the likelihood of a risk event occurring and the costs of control. The process for identification, evaluation and management of the principal risks faced by the Group is integrated into the Group's overall framework for risk governance. The Group is forward-looking in its risk identification processes to ensure emerging risks are identified. The risk identification, evaluation and management process also identifies whether the controls in place result in an acceptable level of risk.

At Group level, consolidated risk report and risk appetite dashboard are reviewed and regularly debated by the executive Group Capital & Risk Committee, Board Risk Committee and the Board to ensure that they are satisfied with the overall risk profile, risk accountabilities and mitigating actions. The report and dashboard provide a monthly view

of the Group's overall risk profile, key risks and management actions, together with performance against risk appetite and an assessment of emerging risks which could affect the Group's performance over the life of the operating plan. Information regarding the main features of the internal control and risk management systems in relation to the financial reporting process is provided within the statement on risk management and internal control on pages 154 to 163. The Board concluded that the Group's risk management arrangements are adequate to provide assurance that the risk management systems put in place are suitable with regard to the Group's profile and strategy.

The effectiveness of the risk management and internal control systems is reviewed regularly by the Board and the Board Audit Committee. which also receives reports of reviews undertaken by Group Risk & Credit Management and Group Internal Audit. The Board Audit Committee receives reports from the Group's external auditor, PricewaterhouseCoopers PLT (which include details of significant audit and accounting matters that they have identified), and meet with the external auditor at least twice a year without the presence of Management and Executive Director for private discussions and to ensure that there are no unresolved issues of concern.

The Group's risk management and internal control systems are regularly reviewed by the Board and are consistent with Bursa Malaysia's guidance on Risk Management & Internal Control, and Related Financial and Business Reporting issued by the Malaysian Financial Reporting Council and compliant with the requirements of Bank Negara Malaysia. They have been in place for the year under review and are periodically reviewed and updated.

## **GROUP COMPLIANCE**

The regulatory environment for financial institutions is increasingly complex and always changing. New laws and regulations continue to evolve which consequently increases regulator's expectations. Any failure to ensure compliance may result in significant financial losses, heavy penalties and reputational consequences.



#### **Group Chief Compliance Officer**

Fazlina Mohamed Ghazalli leads and executes Group-wide compliance strategic plans that enables RHB Banking Group to comply with regulatory requirements. She reports to the Board Risk Committee.

Fazlina has over 20 years of banking experience and was in legal practice prior to starting her career in banking in 2001. Fazlina holds a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of East Anglia, UK. She is a Chartered Banker and a Certified Professional in Anti-Money Laundering / Combating the Financing of Terrorism ("AML/CFT").

upholding good governance principles and regulatory requirements. These principles are further outlined in the Group's Compliance Management Framework and Policy which serve as an important guide for the Group to enable incorporation of compliance best practices throughout the Group's business.

As a prudent financial services provider, the Group is committed to The Group's compliance function, which acts as a second line of defense, operates on a group-wide basis with an appointed Group Chief Compliance Officer overseeing the compliance risk management of the Group which extends to all entities within Malaysia and its overseas branches and subsidiaries.

#### **MATERIAL RISK**



become more sophisticated, more frequ and widespread. As the Group me towards embracing digitalisation automation, the threat to informa security becomes imminent, more so, due to the current COVID-19 pandemic where digital channels became a necessity.

#### **PROTECTION OF B INFORMATION**

The Group has an obligation to ensure that information pertaining to its business and its clients and all activities related to them remain secure, confidential and private.

**REGULATORY** COMPLIANCE

> As regulatory requirements evolve and constantly change, managing noncompliance risk and meeting regulatory standards and expectations has become a daily focus for the Group.

#### Compliance Amidst COVID-19

As the world continued to fight its battle against the COVID-19 pandemic, the Group continued to operate through the various movement control orders and experienced its own set of challenges. Like many other industries, the Group was forced to adapt and navigate through the new normal and ensure business continuity while maintaining its standards to provide quality services to its customers. Our compliance function on the other hand, remained dedicated to ensure that there is no compromise to the Group's regulatory obligations amidst the uncertainties and focused on strengthening its oversight responsibilities.

#### **GROUP COMPLIANCE**

RHB

#### ACTION TAKEN

and	٠	Continuous monitoring and engagement with business units/IT team to
uent		ensure awareness on technology related regulatory requirements and the
oves		risk of cyber threats.
and	٠	Heightened cyber-risk assessments in relation to the existing systems of the
ition		Group including regular reviews on processes and controls to establish the

need for any additional security measures.

#### **ACTION TAKEN**

- Implementation of the Group Chinese Wall and Insider Trading Policy ("Chinese Wall Policy") to ensure that there is an information barrier between departments to prevent and/or control the flow of material non-public and price sensitive information.
- Various engagement sessions and development of training tools for employees to better understand the principle behind the Chinese Wall Policy and secrecy provisions of the Financial Services Act 2013 and Islamic Financial Services Act 2013.
- Heightened oversight and monitoring vis-à-vis handling of customer information including ensuring strict observance to BNM's policy on Management of Customer Information and Permitted Disclosures and the Group's Data and Information Management Framework and Policy.

#### **ACTION TAKEN**

Instilling a strong compliance culture across all functions of the Group through the following compliance monitoring framework:

- Implementation of comprehensive and clear compliance policies, circulars and guidelines throughout the Group.
- Frequent compliance reviews and testing to evaluate effectiveness of current processes and close regulatory gaps.
- Timely reporting of compliance matters, findings and corrective measures to the Board.
- Annual compliance risk assessments to identify high risk areas and allocate resources effectively to mitigate such risks.
- Promote adherence to regulatory requirements through regular compliance trainings and awareness programmes.
- Address employee misconduct that resulted in regulatory non-compliance by incorporating a penalty in the final rating of employee's performance evaluation.

WE ARE RHB BANK	LEADERSHIP STATEMENTS	OUR STRATEGIC REVIEW	OUR PERFORMANCE REVIEW	OUR GOVERNANCE	STAKEHOLDERS' INFORMATION
••••••					

#### **GROUP COMPLIANCE**

The following are some of the key initiatives by Group Compliance for 2021 in its effort to remain vigilant amidst the COVID-19 pandemic:

INITIATIVES	
<ul> <li>Organised focused compliance clinics where topics were selected based on the outcome of compliance reviews.</li> <li>Optimised the usage of alternative learning platforms such as short explainer videos, webinars, Microsoft Teams to conduct compliance trainings.</li> <li>Issuance of compliance bulletins and regulatory alerts on key compliance issues and development throughout the year.</li> <li>Published educational materials for RHB customers on financial and cyber scams.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Continued accessibility to compliance learning, particularly for employees under remote work arrangement.</li> <li>Increased learning attentiveness and improved understanding by employees on regulatory requirements and what is expected of them resulting in improved compliant behavior.</li> <li>Raised both employees and customer awareness to prevent scams and frauds.</li> </ul>
• Enhancement of the AML/CFT robotic process automation and the AML Graph Analytics Measurable Metric system to further facilitate the conduct of transaction monitoring/AML investigation.	• Productive and efficient AML transaction monitoring and data gathering process which translate into a faster and shorter timeframe in completing AML alert reviews and assessments.
<ul> <li>Overall review of policies, circulars and guidelines to ensure that the Group's operational and business processes are updated where required, to cater for the new normal.</li> <li>Performed annual compliance and AML risk assessments.</li> <li>Increased compliance and regulatory reviews to detect procedural gaps vis-à-vis regulatory requirements.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Business continuity while minimising non-compliance risks amidst the new normal.</li> <li>Timely compliance risks identification and solutions to address the same.</li> </ul>
• Use of technology and system enhancements to meet compliance requirements.	<ul> <li>Automated monitoring in the area of employee personal trading.</li> <li>Enhanced surveillance on equity market activities.</li> <li>Improved oversight from shariah compliance perspective vis-à-vis customer on boarding.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>The "A Branch Compliance Day Programme" was continued on a wider scope in 2021 in line with the Group's effort to build a positive compliance culture. In 2021, a total of 80 branches benefited from the initiative and exchanged various compliance issues and developments.</li> <li>Launched the Compliance Culture and Behavioral Assessment Survey to better understand staff's perception towards compliance and assess the state of compliance of the Group.</li> <li>Conducted various refresher / re-train the trainer sessions for compliance advocates to ensure that they stay updated vis-à- vis their compliance knowledge.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Minimised communication gap between the compliance team and branch staff, particularly on the challenges faced by them in ensuring compliance.</li> <li>Improved understanding on how compliance is perceived amongst staff. Further, the survey assisted compliance in identifying new focus area for monitoring.</li> <li>Aligned understanding on regulatory and compliance expectation.</li> </ul>

#### **KEY PRIORITIES FOR 2022**

Cultivating a culture of compliance goes beyond just communicating the importance of obeying regulatory requirements to its employees. It requires continuous vigilance and efforts to influence a widespread change. The Group understands this and is always looking out for new strategies to ensure that compliance is embedded as part of everyone's responsibility in the organisation.

The following are our key priorities for 2022:

- Optimise the use of innovative solutions such as data & advanced analytics, artificial intelligence and digital initiatives to enhance and automate regulatory and AML compliance capabilities;
- Continue with the Group's effort to raise staff awareness on compliance requirements;
- Cultivate a self-sufficient, confident and responsible decision-making process at the first line of defence and overseas staff; and
- Continuous development of compliance competency and talents of the future.

The above are by no means an exhaustive list of priorities that the Group has set for 2022. With the uncertainties surrounding the economic environment due to the continuous threat posed by the pandemic, the Group will not underestimate the emergence of new compliance risks and the need to come up with improved strategies to combat the same and protect its stakeholder's interest.

## CORPORATE INTEGRITY AND ETHICAL BUSINESS CONDUCT

#### The Board firmly believes the manner in which we conduct our business affairs must embed good practices which are, ethical, honest, fair and transparent.

During the year, Group Integrity & Governance ("GIG") division as empowered by the Board had undertook several initiatives to ensure the Group's corporate integrity and ethical business conduct are strengthened and reinforced. A new Integrity & Governance Charter was also approved by the Board on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021. Pursuant to this, all GIG staff led by the Group's Chief Integrity & Governance Officer were required to sign a Confidentiality Undertaking to ensure that their access to privileged and confidential information related to whistleblowing and other sensitive matters are adequately governed and protected.

The mandatory e-learning on Anti-Bribery & Corruption module introduced in year 2020 for all the Group's employees had a completion rate of 99%. During 2021, new employees who joined RHB Banking Group were required to complete this e-learning module as part of their on-boarding programme.

Organised group-wide Corruption Risk Management ("CRM") and Organisational Anti-Corruption Plan ("OACP") workshops for various units/departments/divisions to facilitate with the development of RHB Banking Group's OACP.

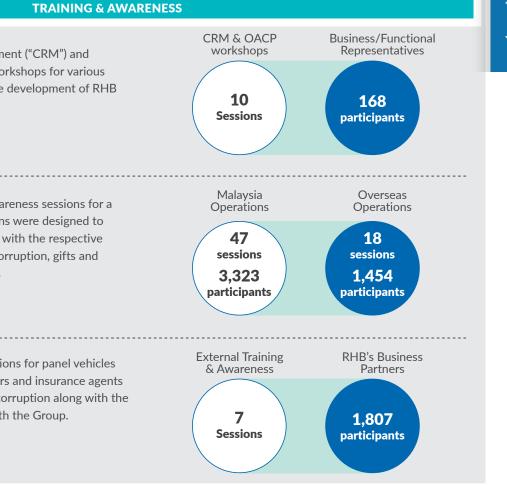
Conducted a total of 65 internal training and awareness sessions for a total of **4,777** participants. These training sessions were designed to create awareness and ensure employees comply with the respective policies and guidelines covering anti-bribery & corruption, gifts and hospitality and whistleblowing within the Group.

Conducted external training and awareness sessions for panel vehicles workshops operators, tow truck owners, adjusters and insurance agents emphasising the Group's stance on bribery and corruption along with the Group's expectations of third parties working with the Group.

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In addition, the Group also embarked on the following initiatives in 2021:

- Strengthened the GIG division by recruiting two new staff during the year to take charge of the Detection & Verification function and also Integrity Strengthening function.
- Established the Information & Complaints Assessment Committee at management level to evaluate all complaints (whistleblowing and nonwhistleblowing) received by GIG.
- Established two Functional Manuals covering Complaint Management and Detection & Verification for internal reference to ensure tasks are carried out effectively.
- Obtained access to the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission's integrity vetting system (e-STK) which allows RHB to conduct due diligence on identified high-risk senior officers' positions prior to their appointment.
- Included Anti-Bribery and Corruption clause within the Current Account & Savings Account ("CASA")'s standard Terms & Conditions to convey the Group's stance on bribery and corruption to our customers.
- Undertook annual corruption risk assessment with the results being elevated to the respective Board Committee(s) and the Boards for review and evaluation;
- Conducted a group-wide survey on integrity, governance & corruption to better understand the level of employee understanding on matters related to antibribery and corruption, gifts and hospitality and the Group's whistleblowing avenues and processes.
- Organised relevant townhall and briefing sessions for awareness, as follows:



www.rhbgroup.com

OUR GOVERNANCE

CORPORATE INTEGRITY AND ETHICAL BUSINESS CONDUCT

#### WHISTLEBLOWING & 'SPEAK-UP'

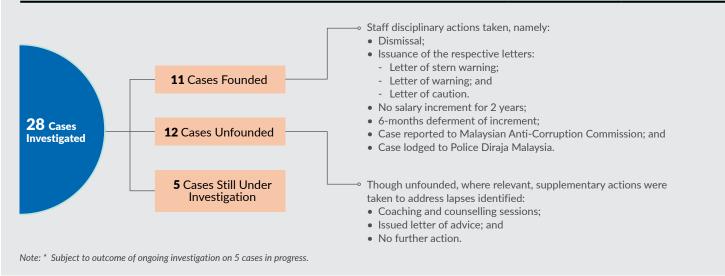
WE ARE RHB BANK

The Board Audit Committee ("BAC") is empowered by Board of RHB Bank Berhad to oversee all complaints (whistleblowing and nonwhistleblowing) monitored by Group Integrity and Governance. The Group has in-place a Group Whistleblowing Policy and procedures which were further strengthened during the year by introducing a new primary whistleblowing channel, namely, speakup@rhbgroup. com and establishing the roles and responsibilities of the Group's Chief Integrity & Governance Officer.

The Group witnessed an increase in number of whistleblowing cases received from 12 cases in year 2020 to 17 cases in 2021, primarily attributed to additional training and awareness programmes conducted for the Group's employees and third parties during the year. These programmes allowed the Group's targeted stakeholders to have better understanding and greater confidence in the Group's overall whistleblowing processes and procedures.

#### The Lowdown on Whistleblowing and Non-Whistleblowing Reports

	Year 2020	Year 2021	% Y-o-Y
Whistleblowing Cases	12	17	+42%
Non-Whistleblowing Cases	1	11	+1000%
Total Complaint Cases	13	28	+115%
Founded Cases	9	11*	+22%



The Board, supported by GIG, will continue to undertake the following activities to ensure the Group continues to uphold a high standard of integrity and ethical business practices:

- Conduct periodic bribery and corruption risk assessment for the Group;
- Continue to conduct training and awareness sessions on the Group's existing policies and procedures;
- Communicate with both internal and external stakeholders on RHB's anti-bribery and corruption stance and relevant policies and procedures;
- Continue building capacity and capability for Group Integrity & Governance's staff to enhance their competency and credibility which include certification of newly recruited staffs as Certified Integrity Officer by Malaysia Anti-Corruption Academy;
- Ensure appropriate attention is given to all whistleblowing and non-whistleblowing reports within the purview of Group Integrity & Governance; and
- Manage all anti-bribery and corruption programs as well as integrity and governance related matters within RHB Banking Group.

In ensuring the Group's anti-bribery and corruption efforts are adequate and proportionate, the Group is guided by the following statutory and supervisory requirements:

- The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission ("MACC") Act 2009;
- Bursa Malaysia's Main Market Listing Requirements;
- The Guidelines on Adequate Procedures issued by the Prime Minister's Department in December 2018;
- The Guideline for the Management of Integrity and Governance Unit issued by the MACC in 2019; and
- Strategic Plan of Integrity and Governance Unit 2019-2021 issued by MACC.

**RHB'S EXISTING INTERNAL CONTROLS TO CURB BRIBERY & CORRUPTION** 

### CORPORATE INTEGRITY AND ETHICAL BUSINESS CONDUCT

	Group Anti-Bribery & Corruption Policy	
	Group Gifts & Hospitality Guideline	
	Group Whistleblowing Policy	
	Code of Ethics & Conduct for Employees	(
	Group Corporate Sponsorship & Donation Policy	
	Group Fit & Proper Policy	$\mathcal{O}$
L	Group Anti-Money Laundering & Counter Financing of Terrorism Policy	$\wedge$
	Anti-Bribery & Corruption stance and commitments	$\sim$
	Whistleblowing or Speak Up channels and avenues	
	Code of Ethics & Business Conduct for Directors	
	Core Shared Values ("P.R.I.D.E.")	
	Group Fraud Risk Management Policy	
	Doligy on Dolated Darty Transactions	
	Policy on Related Party Transactions	
	Annual Corruption Risk Assessment	

OUR

# **STAKEHOLDER COMMUNICATIONS**

#### **INVESTOR RELATIONS**

The Group is committed to providing timely and transparent information on corporate strategies and financial data to the investing communities. We consider ongoing engagement and communication with stakeholders as key to building trust and understanding between the Company and its stakeholders.

The Group manages communications with its key financial audiences, including institutional shareholders and financial analysts, fund managers and credit rating agencies through a dedicated investor relations unit. Communication channels include one-on-one meetings, group meetings, conferences and roadshow, conference calls, email and our corporate website.

In addition, presentations and conference calls take place after publishing financial results on Bursa Malaysia. A broad range of public communication channels (including stock exchange news services, corporate website, news wires and news distribution service providers) are used to disseminate news releases.

The company's corporate website provides the latest and historical financial and other information, including financial reports.

Virtual platform continued to be IR's main communication mode in 2021 as the pandemic situation prolonged

2021 share price closed slightly lower than a year ago, whilst our 3-year TSR remained at 1<sup>st</sup> rank

#### IR conducted:

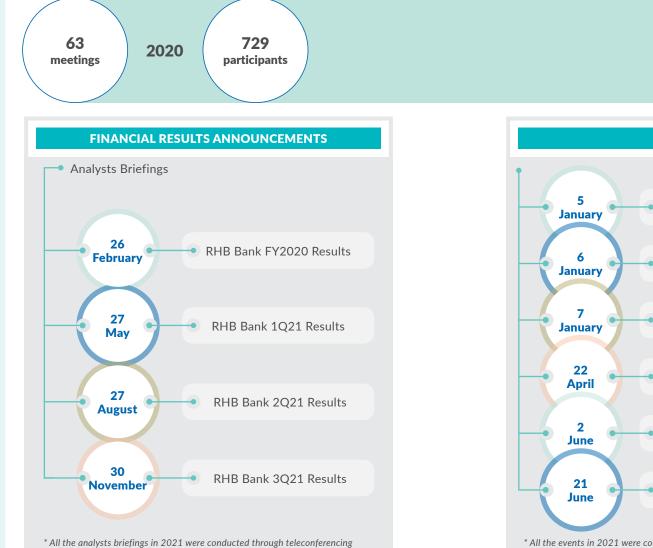
- Analysts Briefings for Financial Results Announcement
- Deal Roadshow for Medium Term Note (MTN) Issuance
- Digital Day

Corporate website: www.rhbgroup.com

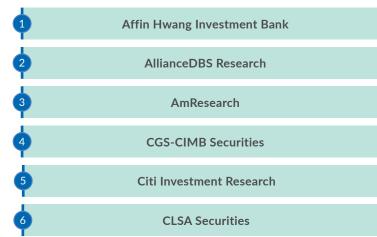
Email: investor.relations@rhbgroup.com



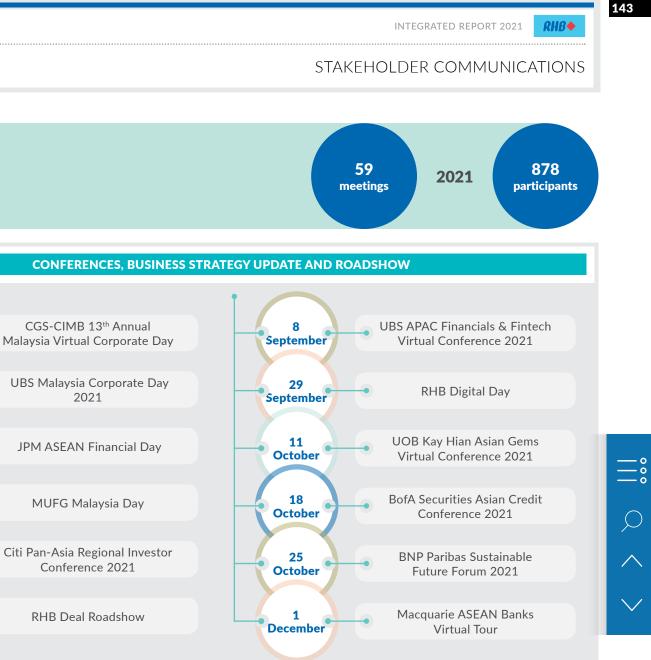
The Board encourages shareholders to attend the annual general meeting, notice of which appears in this Integrated Report, where shareholders have the opportunity to put questions to the Board, management and chairs of the various committees.

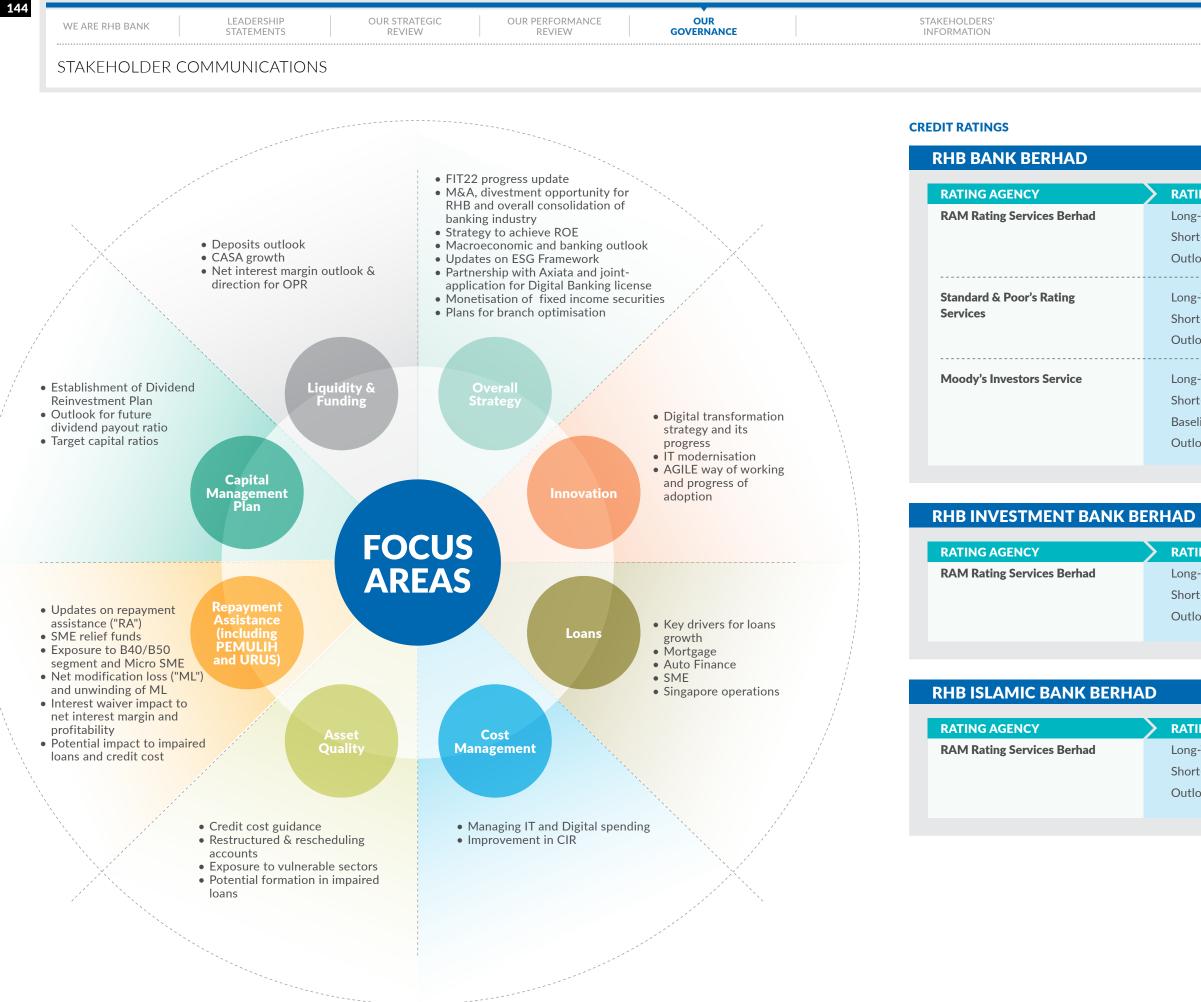


#### **ANALYST COVERAGE LIST**









## STAKEHOLDER COMMUNICATIONS

ATING CLASSIFICATION	
ong-Term Financial Institution	AA2
hort-Term Financial Institution	P1
Dutlook	Positive
ong-Term Financial Institution	BBB+
hort-Term Financial Institution	A-2
Dutlook	Negative
ong-Term Bank Deposits	A3
hort-Term Bank Deposits	P-2
aseline Credit Assessment	baa2
Dutlook	Stable

ATING CLASSIFICATION	
ong-Term Financial Institution	AA2
hort-Term Financial Institution	P1
Dutlook	Positive

ATING CLASSIFICATION	RATINGS
ong-Term Financial Institution	AA2
hort-Term Financial Institution	P1
Dutlook	Positive

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RHB

# **BOARD AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT**

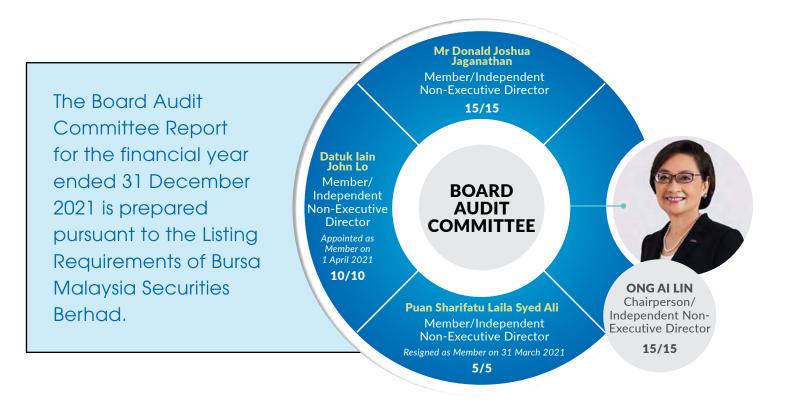
LEADERSHIP

STATEMENTS

## **COMPOSITION AND ATTENDANCE OF MEETINGS**

A total of fifteen (15) Board Audit Committee ("BAC") meetings were held during the financial year ended 31 December 2021. The BAC comprises the following members and the details of attendance of each member at the BAC meetings held during the year are as follows:

REVIEW



The BAC undertakes the functions of the Audit Committee of the entities within the Group encompassing RHB Bank, RHB Investment Bank Berhad, RHB Islamic Bank Berhad and RHB Insurance Berhad.

The BAC meetings were also attended by the Group Chief Financial Officer, being the Chairman of the Management Audit Committee ("MAC") of RHB Bank, the Group Chief Operations Officer and the Group Chief Internal Auditor ("Group CIA") while the attendance of other Senior Management is by invitation, depending on the matters deliberated by the BAC.

Where required, Management of the relevant functions were also invited to the BAC meeting to provide explanations on control lapses and remediation measures undertaken arising from matters highlighted in the audit reports.

Key matters deliberated at the BAC meetings together with the BAC's recommendations and decisions are summarised and presented to the relevant Boards, in the same month, by the Chairperson or representative of the BAC. This allows the respective Boards to be timely apprised of significant matters deliberated by the BAC and for the Boards to provide direction, if necessary. Extracts of the minutes of the BAC meetings held were provided to the respective Boards for their information.

#### **AUTHORITY**

The BAC is authorised by the Board to, among others, review and investigate any matters within its terms of reference; have direct communication channels with the external and internal auditors as well as regulators; obtain independent professional advice, if necessary, at the Company's expense; and access to Management and resources to enable effective discharge of its functions. The full terms of reference, including the authority, duties and responsibilities of the BAC are published on RHB Bank's website.

#### **SUMMARY OF BAC ACTIVITIES IN 2021**

The work carried out by the BAC in the discharge of its duties and responsibilities during the financial year are summarised as follows:

#### FINANCIAL REPORTING

- a) Reviewed the quarterly unaudited financial results and the b) Discussed with the external auditors on the following matters annual audited financial statements of RHB Bank and the Group identified during the statutory audit for the financial year ended as well as the draft announcements before recommending them 31 December 2021 as highlighted in their Audit Committee for the Board's approval. The review process encompassed the Report: following: • Significant audit and accounting matters including credit and impairment assessment as well as repayment assistance • Reviewed changes in accounting policy and adoption of new or updated accounting standards, and its impact to the initiated by the Government due to COVID-19 pandemic; financial statements. • Internal control recommendations; • Reviewed the financial statements and sought explanations • Data auditing: from the Senior Management including the Group Chief • Tax related matters; and
- - Financial Officer on any significant changes between the current and corresponding quarter / period to assess their reasonableness.

#### **INTERNAL AUDIT**

- a) Reviewed and approved the annual audit plan for the financial year 2021 to ensure adequacy of scope, coverage and resources as well as competency of the internal auditors.
- b) Reviewed the audit activities undertaken by Group Internal Audit ("GIA") for the financial year covering the planned audit assignments, investigations, ad-hoc audit projects, review of frameworks, policies and guidelines, products and services and IT project participation.
- c) Reviewed and approved the Balanced Scorecard for the Group CIA. Appraised the performance of the Group CIA and reviewed the appraisals of senior staff members of GIA, and approved the performance rewards for the Group CIA in accordance with the matrix approved by the Board.
- d) Reviewed and deliberated on the updates made to the Internal Audit Charter and recommended the same for approval by the Board of the respective entities.
- e) Reviewed and deliberated on the minutes of all MAC meetings, internal audit reports, audit recommendations, risk & impact and Management's responses to these recommendations as well as the root causes and timely remedial actions taken by Management to improve the system of internal controls and its processes on the areas highlighted.

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BOARD AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

- f) Reviewed and deliberated on the investigation reports tabled to the BAC and directed the Management to establish and implement the necessary controls to strengthen the internal control system.
- g) Reviewed the reports issued by the regulatory authorities and the Management's response as well as the remedial actions taken by Management in respect of the reported findings to ensure that all matters highlighted in these reports had been adequately and promptly addressed by Management.
- h) Reviewed the minutes of meetings of the Audit Committees of the overseas subsidiaries to the extent permitted by the relevant regulatory authorities to satisfy itself that all matters arising therefrom had been appropriately addressed by these Audit Committees.
- Deliberated on the External Quality Assurance Review Report prepared by the independent external assessor and provided guidance and directions to further enhance the effectiveness of the internal audit function.

• Summary of uncorrected misstatements.

OUR GOVERNANCE

## BOARD AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

#### **EXTERNAL AUDIT**

- a) Reviewed the 2021 audit plan of the external auditors for RHB Banking Group covering the audit strategy, risk assessment and areas of audit emphasis for the year.
- b) Reviewed with the external auditors, the results of their audit together with their recommendations and Management's response to their findings as detailed in the following reports, and provided the BAC's views and directions on the areas of concern where necessary:

Reports issued by External Auditors in 2021	Date tabled to BAC
Audit Committee Report for the financial year 2020	25 January 2021
Internal Control Report for the financial year 2020	23 April 2021
Limited Review of the unaudited financial statements of RHB Bank and RHB Islamic Bank, RHB Investment Bank and RHB Insurance for the financial period ended 30 June 2021	22 July 2021

The BAC further directed the respective MACs to track the audit findings highlighted by the external auditors in their Internal Control Report to ensure timely resolution of all matters by Management.

- c) Met with the external auditors on 25 January 2021 and 22 July 2021 without the presence of Management to enable the external auditors to discuss matters with the BAC privately.
- d) Reviewed the appointment of the external auditors for the provision of non-audit services before recommending them for the Board's approval. Areas that are considered include the external auditors' expertise, adequacy of knowledge and experience required for the services rendered, competitiveness of fees quoted and whether its independence and objectivity would be impaired.

Reviewed on a quarterly basis, the non-audit services rendered by the external auditors and the related fees taking into consideration the fee threshold established under the Group policy to ensure that the external auditors' independence and objectivity were not compromised.

- Reviewed the external auditors' performance and independence before recommending them to the Board for reappointment as external auditors for the Group:
- The external auditors have declared in their 2021 audit plan, which was tabled to the BAC in July 2021, that they have maintained their independence for the audit of the financial statements of the Group in accordance with the firm's requirements and with the provisions of the By-Laws on Professional Independence of the Malaysian Institute of Accountants. They have further declared that the non-audit services provided to the Group during the year have not compromised their independence as external auditors of the Group.
- The annual assessment on the external auditors covering the key areas of performance, independence and objectivity in accordance with the BNM Guidelines on External Auditor.
- The performance of the external auditors was also assessed through a survey completed by the Management personnel of the Group based on their dealings with the external auditors covering areas such as the people, meeting the objectives, responsiveness, knowledge of the business and industry, ideas that add value and communications.
- A comprehensive review was also conducted in December 2021 prior to the reappointment of the external auditors to assess its independence and the potential risk of familiarity threat at all the banking entities within the Group. The comprehensive review covered three main categories, i.e. governance and independence, communication and interaction, and quality of services and resources.

The comprehensive review was conducted by Group Finance and independently verified by GIA prior to tabling to the BAC for deliberation.

#### **GROUP INTEGRITY & GOVERNANCE**

- a) Reviewed and deliberated on the proposed establishment of the Information & Complaints Assessment Committee and its Terms of Reference, and the proposed Integrity and Governance Charter and recommended the same for approval by the Board.
- b) Reviewed and endorse the half-yearly report for submission to Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission on Group Integrity & Governance Unit's core functions.
- c) Reviewed and deliberated on the monthly report from Group Integrity & Governance, particularly in relation to the whistleblowing & non-whistleblowing cases and existing anticorruption programme, and provided guidance and directions, where necessary.

#### **RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

- a) Reviewed the reports of Related Part Transactions ("RPTs") on a quarterly basis covering the nature and amount of the transactions including any possible Conflict of Interest ("COI") situations in ensuring that the terms and conditions of the transactions are commercially based and at arm's length.
- b) The review covered the aggregate consideration of Recurrent RPTs ("RRPTs") which are individually tracked and monitored against the ceiling set to ensure proper reporting and disclosures in accordance with the regulatory requirements.

#### TRAINING

During the year, the BAC members have attended various training programmes, conferences and seminars to keep abreast of the latest developments within the banking industry as well as to enhance their knowledge for the discharge of their duties and responsibilities.

The detailed information of mandatory and professional development programmes attended by the BAC members are disclosed in Section B of the Corporate Governance Report available at www.rhbgroup.com.



**Group Chief Internal Auditor** Alex Tan Aun Aun leads the internal audit function of RHB Banking Group and he reports to the BAC. He has more than 25 years of multifaceted experience in the banking business with more than 10 years' experience in internal auditing. He holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Finance) degree from the University of Toronto and is a professional member of Institute of Internal Auditors Malaysia. GIA provides the Board with independent assurance that the risk management systems, internal controls and governance processes of the Group are effective and that its operations are operating as intended.

#### **INTERNAL AUDIT FUNCTION**

RHB Banking Group has an in-house internal audit function, which authority and responsibility of the internal audit function and is approved by the Board. The approved Audit Charter is published on the Group's is guided by its Internal Audit Charter approved by the Board, Bank intranet portal, which can be viewed by all employees of the Group. Negara Malaysia ("BNM") Guidelines on Internal Audit Function of Licensed Institutions and the Institute of Internal Auditors' latest International Professional Practices Framework. GIA's main The Audit Charter is reviewed by the Group CIA every two years or as and when necessary to assess whether the GIA's purpose, authority and responsibility, being the third line of defence, is to provide an responsibility, as defined in the Audit Charter, continue to be adequate independent assessment on the adequacy and effectiveness of the and relevant to enable the internal audit function to accomplish its Group's risk management, internal control and governance processes implemented by the Management. objectives.

The Group CIA reports functionally to the BAC and administratively The main activities undertaken by GIA during the financial year are to the Group Managing Director to maintain GIA's impartiality and summarised as follows: objectivity. To further preserve the independence of the internal audit function, the Group CIA's appointment and performance appraisal, as a) Prepared the annual risk-based audit plan for RHB Banking Group well as GIA's scope of work and resources, are approved by the BAC.

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### BOARD AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

c) The Group has in place an approved policy on RPTs which governs the process of identifying, evaluating, approving, reporting and monitoring of RPTs, RRPTs and potential COI situations as well as outlining the duties and responsibilities of the relevant parties involved in the RPT process.

Internal Audit Charter

The Internal Audit Charter ("Audit Charter") defines the purpose,

#### Summary of GIA's Activities

- which includes the audit objectives and scope, and manpower requirements for each planned auditable unit.
- b) Conducted audits as per the approved audit plan as well as ad hoc reviews and investigations requested by Management, the Board or regulators during the year.

## BOARD AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

- c) Areas audited during the financial year encompassed all the business and support pillars including Wholesale Banking, Community Banking, Distribution Channels, Shariah Business, Insurance Business, Overseas Operations, IT Security and Operations, Group Support Functions as well as key areas such as Anti-Money Laundering & Counter Financing of Terrorism, market conduct, customer information secrecy and outsourcing.
- d) Carried out ad-hoc compliance and validation reviews as requested by regulators.
- e) Reviewed the adequacy and effectiveness of the Risk Mitigation Plan implemented by Management to address the Composite Risk Rating ("CRR") matters highlighted by BNM in their CRR Report.
- f) Monitored and followed up through the respective MACs on the timely rectification of all reported audit findings and the underlying causes highlighted by the internal and external auditors. The status of any outstanding audit findings including requests with justification for extension of rectification timelines are summarised and reported to the BAC on a monthly basis.
- g) Performed root cause analysis and shared the results with the Management for the appropriate actions to be taken to address the identified issues holistically.
- h) Reviewed new or updated framework, policies and guidelines as requested by Management to provide feedback on the adequacy of internal controls to address the relevant risks.
- i) Participated in new IT system or new product development activities to provide recommendations upfront on the relevant control features to be considered by Management.
- i) Assisted the BAC in the annual review exercise on the reappointment of external auditors by assessing its independence and potential risk of familiarity threat at all the banking entities within the Group.
- k) Attended Management meetings as permanent invitee on a consultative and advisory capacity to provide independent feedback where necessary on internal control related matters.
- I) Organised MAC meetings, prepared meeting materials as well as prepared minutes of meetings and summary of key audit findings for submission to the BAC and the Boards of the respective entities.
- m) Prepared the BAC Report and the Statement on Risk Management and Internal Control for approval by the BAC and the Board respectively, and for inclusion in RHB Bank's Integrated Report for the year 2021.

#### Internal Audit Resources

The Group CIA, in consultation with the BAC and the Group Managing Director, decides on the appropriate resources required for the GIA taking into consideration the size and complexity of operations of the Group. The primary organisation chart/structure of GIA is reviewed and approved by the BAC annually.

As at 31 December 2021, GIA has 162 auditors (Malaysia: 143) with relevant academic/professional qualifications and experience to carry out the activities of the internal audit function. Total costs of RM32.5 million (Malaysia: RM27.2 million) was incurred to maintain the internal audit function of the Group for the financial year 2021.

#### **Professional Proficiency**

The Group CIA ensures that the internal auditors are suitably gualified and provided with the necessary trainings and continuous professional development for the purpose of enhancing their audit and relevant technical skills to effectively perform their duties and responsibilities.

The internal auditors are further required to pursue the relevant certification programmes such as those offered by the Institute of Internal Auditors ("IIA") and Asian Institute of Chartered Banker in order for them to be proficient and competent in the relevant disciplines.

Based on each staff's Individual Development Plan for the year 2021, the internal auditors attended the relevant technical as well as leadership and management programmes offered by RHB Academy, the Group's Learning and Development Centre, and external programmes.

#### Internal Audit Quality Assurance Review

To ensure effectiveness of the internal audit function, the Group CIA has developed and maintained a quality assurance and improvement programme that covers all aspects of the internal audit activities. The guality assurance programme assesses the effectiveness of processes within the internal audit function and identifies opportunities for improvement through both internal and external assessments.

The internal assessment is performed according to the approved annual Quality Assurance Review ("QAR") plan by a QAR team within GIA. The Head of QAR function reports directly to the Group CIA to maintain its independence of the internal audit activities within GIA.

In addition to the internal assessment, external quality assessment is conducted once every five years by qualified external assessor. The appointment of independent external assessor is subject to the Group's established procurement process and endorsed by the BAC.

The latest external quality assessment was conducted in 2021 where GIA was assessed to be in conformance with all the applicable rules, standards and requirements stipulated in The IIA's International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing, BNM Guidelines on Internal Audit Function of Licensed Institutions, Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance: Principle B - Effective Audit and Risk Management and Bursa Malaysia Listing Requirements - Chapter 15.27 Internal Audit. The results of review were tabled by the independent reviewer to the BAC.

# SHARIAH COMMITTEE REPORT

## **COMPOSITION AND ATTENDANCE OF MEETINGS**

A total of twelve (12) regular meetings and one (1) special meeting were held as at 31 December 2021. All existing members satisfied the minimum attendance requirement under BNM's Shariah Governance Policy Document, which provides that a Shariah Committee member is required to attend at least 75% of the Shariah Committee meetings held in each financial year. Details of the attendance of each member are as follows:

The Shariah Committee was established under RHB Islamic Bank Berhad ("the Bank" or "RHB Islamic") with the following main objectives:

- 1. To provide objective and sound advice to the Bank to ensure that its aims, operations, business, affairs and activities are Shariah-compliant.
- 2. To ensure effective working arrangements are established between the Shariah Committee, the Shariah Advisory Council ("SAC") of Bank Negara Malaysia ("BNM") and that of the Securities Commission ("SC").
- 3. To ensure the establishment of appropriate procedures leading to prompt compliance with Shariah principles.

#### **ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS & TRAININGS ATTENDED**

Group staff by sharing insights, expertise and experience through "Shariah Committee Sharing Series" sessions as follows: 1. *Hibah Amanah* by Dr. Ahmad Basri Ibrahim held on 12 March 2021 2. AI & Fintech Made Easy: Opportunity for Social Finance by Shabnam Mohamad Mokhtar held on 27 May 2021 Directors and Shariah Committee Members held on 5 July 2021 3. Resetting Our Agenda by Wan Abdul Rahim Kamil Wan Mohamed and 8 November 2021. Ali held on 9 August 2021 Preference Shares: Equity or Debt Instrument by Dr. Md. Nurdin 4 Compliance by Tan Sri Dr. Mohd. Daud Bin Bakar held on 8 Ngadimon held on 21 September 2021 November 2021 Furthermore, one of the Shariah Committee members participated in an online course as follows: 1. Oxford Impact Investing Program, 19 April 2021 to 28 May 2021.

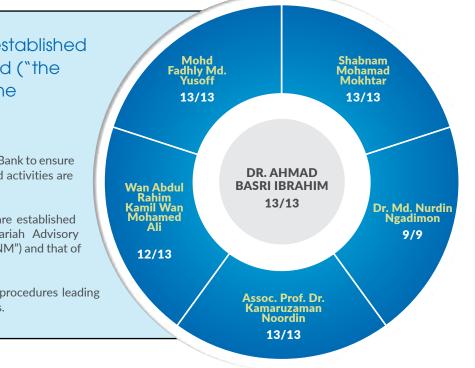
**ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS & TRAININGS** As part of the initiatives aimed at maintaining effective communication between the Shariah Committee, the Management and the Board of Directors of RHB Islamic Bank, special in-house training programmes were held as follows: 1. Engagement session between RHB Islamic Bank Board of 2. Digital Transformation in Islamic Finance Towards Shariah In addition, the Shariah Committee also contributed to the efforts of spreading Shariah knowledge and awareness among RHB Banking

The Shariah Committee members are also enrolled in the Certified Shariah Advisor ("CSA") and Certified Shariah Practitioner ("CSP") programmes organised by the Association of Shariah Advisors in Islamic Finance ("ASAS").

#### SHARIAH COMMITTEE'S EFFECTIVENESS ASSESSMENT

In compliance with BNM's Shariah Governance Policy Document, the Shariah Committee undergoes a process of assessing the effectiveness of individual members and the Committee as a whole on a yearly basis. The Shariah Committee's annual assessment exercise is primarily based on a detailed questionnaire that is distributed to the respective Committee members and the permanent invitees to the Shariah Committee meetings. The questionnaire encompasses considerations on the effectiveness of the Committee in discharging its duties and responsibilities, and each individual member's level of skill and competency in the areas of expertise expected of a Shariah Committee member.

The results of the assessment are tabled to RHB Islamic's Board of Directors for approval.



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OUR GOVERNANCE

# ADDITIONAL COMPLIANCE INFORMATION DISCLOSURES

OUR STRATEGIC

REVIEW

### **INTEGRITY REPORT**

Disclosure on corporate exercises

#### 1. Proposed Disposal by PT RHB Sekuritas Indonesia ('RSI') of Its Entire 99.62% Equity Interest in PT RHB Asset Management Indonesia ('RAMI') ('Proposed Disposal')

On 26 July 2021, RHB Bank announced that RSI, a 99% subsidiary of RHB Investment Bank, had on 23 July 2021, entered into Conditional Share Purchase Agreement ('CSPA') with Allianz Global Investors Asia Pacific Limited ('AllianzGI') and PT Asuransi Allianz Life Indonesia ('Allianz Life Indonesia') in respect of the Proposed Disposal.

RAMI, a company incorporated in Indonesia, is a 99.62% subsidiary of RSI. The remaining 0.38% equity interest is held by Daniel Budiman. The principal activity of RAMI is rendering of investment management services in Indonesia.

The Proposed Disposal will entail the disposal by RSI of its entire 98.62% equity interest and 1.00% equity interest in RAMI to AllianzGI and Allianz Life Indonesia respectively.

The Proposed Disposal is conditional upon of inter-alia, the approval of the Financial Services Authority of Indonesia or Otoritas Jasa Keuangan for the fit and proper test of AllianzGI as the new controlling shareholder of RAMI and the candidate for new member(s) of Board of Commissioners of RAMI as proposed by AllianzGI. The last date to fulfil all the conditions precedent for the Proposed Disposal is 8-months from the date of the CSPA which can be mutually extended.

This exercise is part of RHB Banking Group's strategic plan to reprioritise its overseas businesses to focus on niche markets, leveraging the key strengths of its investment banking team in order to meet its customers' needs. Accordingly, RHB Bank has decided to exit from the asset management business and to focus on its stockbroking and investment banking business in Indonesia.

On 31 January 2022, RHB Bank announced that RSI had completed the Proposed Disposal. With the completion of the Proposed Disposal, RAMI is no longer an indirect subsidiary of RHB Bank.

#### 2. Proposed Cessation of Business of RHB Hong Kong Limited and its subsidiaries.

On 4 December 2019, RHB Hong Kong Limited ('RHBHK') and its subsidiaries namely RHB Securities Hong Kong Limited, RHB Futures Hong Kong Limited, RHB Finance Hong Kong Limited, RHB Capital Hong Kong Limited, RHB Asset Management Limited, RHB Fundamental Capital Hong Kong Limited, RHB Wealth Management Hong Kong Limited and RHB (China) Investment Advisory Co Ltd decided to cease their business operations ('Cessation').

Pursuant to the Cessation, RHBHK and its subsidiaries have discontinued offering financial services to its existing and potential clients.

٩s	at	15	February	2022,	the	following	activities	ha

No.	Activities
1	In the process of winding up
2	Has been dissolved upon its deregistration
3	In the process of winding up

#### 3. Disposal of RHB International Trust (L) Ltd ("RHBIT")

On 12 March 2021, RHB Bank announced that RHB Bank (L) ("RHBBL") Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of RHB Bank, had on 11 March 2021 completed the disposal of its entire equity interest in its wholly-owned subsidiary, RHBIT to Pacific Trustees Berhad for a cash consideration of approximately USD173,490. With the completion of the disposal, RHBIT has ceased to be a wholly-owned subsidiary of RHBBL.

### ADDITIONAL COMPLIANCE INFORMATION DISCLOSURES

ave been/will be carried out by the subsidiaries of RHBHK:

Subsidiaries of RHBHK
RHB Securities Hong Kong Limited
RHB Futures Hong Kong Limited
<u>18 Apr 2019</u>
RHB Fundamental Capital Hong Kong Limited
0.471.0000
On 17 June 2020
RHB (China) Investment Advisory Co Ltd
On 17 March 2021
RHB Finance Hong Kong Limited
On 15 October 2021
RHB Asset Management Hong Kong Limited
RHB Capital Hong Kong Limited
RHB Wealth Management Hong Kong Limited by 4 January 2022.

This Statement on **Risk Management** and Internal Control ("Statement") is prepared pursuant to the Listing **Requirements of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad** ("Bursa Malaysia").

**The Statement has** been prepared in accordance with the guidelines as set out in the "Statement on **Risk Management** and Internal Control: **Guidelines for Directors of Listed Issuers**" endorsed by Bursa Malaysia.

The Statement outlines the key features of the risk management and internal control system of **RHB** Banking Group ("the Group") during the year under review.

#### **BOARD RESPONSIBILITY**

STATEMENT ON RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROL

The Board is committed to its overall responsibility in establishing a sound risk management and internal control system in the Group. The Board's responsibility includes reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of the risk management and internal control system in safeguarding shareholders' interest and the Group's assets. While total elimination of risks is not possible, the system has been designed to manage the Group's risk appetite within the established risk tolerance set by the Board and Management to support the achievement of the Group's business objectives. The system can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance against the occurrence of any material misstatement, loss or fraud.

In acknowledging that having a sound risk management and internal control system is imperative, the Board established a governance structure that ensures effective oversight of risks and internal controls in the Group at all levels. To this end, the Board is assisted by the Board Risk Committee ("BRC") and Board Audit Committee ("BAC") which have been delegated with primary oversight responsibilities on the Group's risk management and internal control system. The Board remains responsible for the governance of risk and for all the actions of the Board Committees with regard to the execution of the delegated oversight responsibilities.

The Board has also obtained assurance from the Officer-in-charge/Principal Officer and the Group Chief Financial Officer that the Group's risk management and internal control system is operating adequately and effectively.

#### MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY

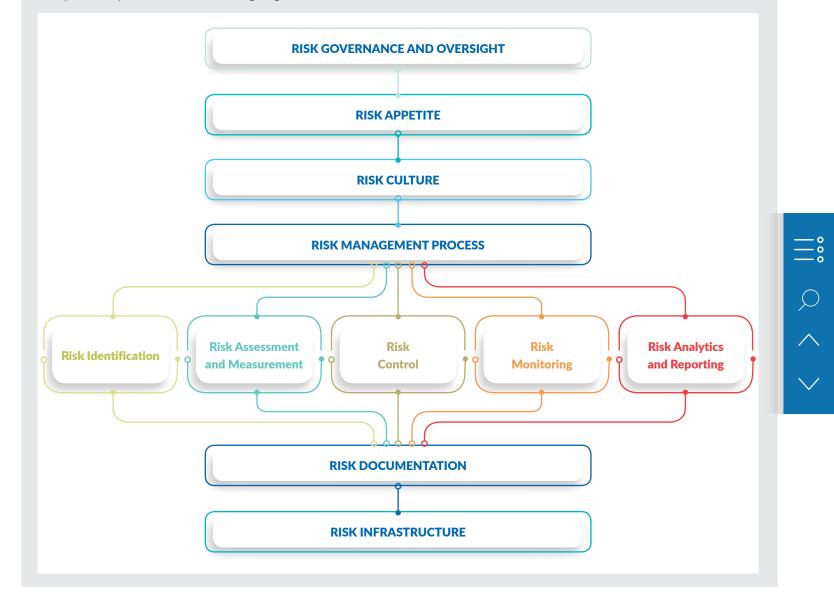
The Management is responsible for the overall implementation of the Group's policies and processes to identify, evaluate, measure, monitor and report on risks as well as the effectiveness of the internal control systems, taking appropriate and timely remedial actions as required. Its roles include:

- Identifying and evaluating the risks relevant to the Group's business and achievement of its business objectives and strategies;
- Designing and implementing the risk management framework in accordance with the Group's strategies and risk appetite, and monitoring its effectiveness; and
- Reporting in a timely manner to the Board on any changes to the risks or emerging risks and the appropriate actions taken.

Accordingly, the Management has provided assurance to the Board that the Group's risk management and internal control system is operating adequately and effectively with the necessary processes having been implemented.

#### **RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK**

The Group has put in place a risk management framework approved by the Board for identifying, assessing and measuring, controlling, monitoring and reporting of significant risks faced by the Group in the achievement of the Group's business objectives and strategies. The Group's risk management framework ensures that there is an effective on-going process to identify, evaluate and manage risk across the Group and is represented in the following diagram:



#### **Risk Governance and Oversight**

The Board of Directors sits at the apex of the risk governance structure and is ultimately responsible for the Group's/respective entities' risk management strategy, appetite, framework and oversight of risk management activities.

In order to manage the businesses and risks across all subsidiaries in an integrated basis, Group level committees are established to ensure consistency in practices. However, the Group maintains entity-specific committees to allow for greater flexibility and agility in managing specific regulatory and business requirements. Each Board Risk Committee which reports directly to the respective Boards provides oversight and assists the respective Boards to review the Group's overall risk management philosophy, frameworks, policies and models, and risk issues relevant and unique to its business.

The responsibility for the supervision of the day-to-day management of enterprise risk and capital matters is delegated to the Group Capital and Risk Committee comprising senior management of the Group and which reports to the relevant board committees and the Group Management Committee. The Investment Bank Risk Management Committee is responsible for oversight of risk management matters relating to RHB Investment Bank Group's business while the Group Asset and Liability Committee ("Group ALCO") oversees market risk, liquidity risk and balance sheet management.

### STATEMENT ON RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROL

STATEMENT ON RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROL

#### **Risk Appetite**

Risk appetite for the Group is defined as the amount and the type of risks that the Group is willing to accept in pursuit of its strategic and business objectives. Risk tolerance on the other hand, is the acceptable level of variation relative to the achievement of the Group's strategic and business objectives. It is measured in the same units as the related objectives. It translates risk appetite into operational metrics, and it can be defined at any level of the Group.

The defined risk appetite and risk tolerance are periodically reviewed by the Management and the Board in line with the Group's business strategies and operating environment. Such review includes identifying and setting new risk appetite metrics for the business entity or removal of risk appetite metrics that are no longer applicable as well as updates on the risk appetite thresholds to be in line with the Group's business strategy and risk posture.

The main business and operations inherent risks that were considered in the risk appetite review include regulatory compliance risk, credit risk, market and liquidity risk, operational risk, technology and cyber risk, and Shariah non-compliance risk.

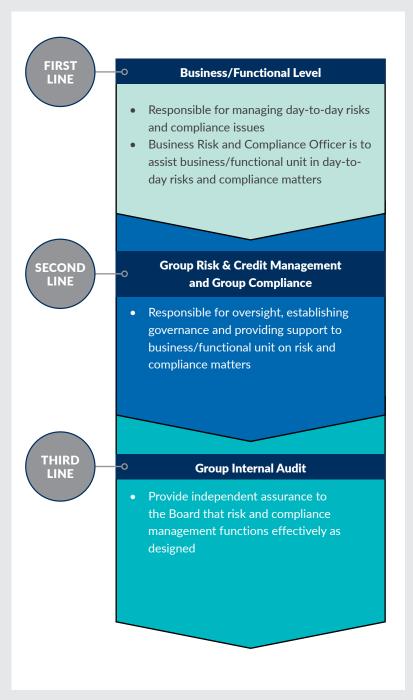
#### **Risk Culture**

Risk management is integral to all aspects of the Group's business and operations and is the responsibility of all employees across the Group. In line with regulatory requirements and industry best practices, the Group subscribes to the principle that "Risk and Compliance is Everyone's Responsibility" and hence, risk management is a core responsibility of the respective businesses and operating units. This has been articulated and documented in the Group Risk Management Framework.

Guided by the said principle, the Group has implemented on-going Risk Culture and Awareness programme which comprises training and awareness campaigns, throughout the Group (including overseas branches and subsidiaries) to promote a healthy risk culture. A strong risk culture minimises the Group's exposure to financial and nonfinancial risks including reputational impact, over time.

In addition, the Group has implemented the Business Risk & Compliance Officer ("BRCO") programme that aims to cultivate proactive risk and compliance management and to establish a robust risk culture. The BRCO programme entails the appointment of BRCO at the respective business and functional units who acts as key liaison on all risk and compliance matters.

The implementation of the BRCO programme is in line with the 'Three Lines of Defence' model practised globally. There is clear accountability of risk ownership across the Group. The model is depicted in the diagram below:



Assessment and Identification Measurement The identification Risks are measured, and analysis of assessed and the existing and aggregated using potential risks is a comprehensive continuing process, qualitative and in order to facilitate quantitative risk and proactive and measurement timely identification methodologies, of risk within the and the process Group's business also serves as an operations. This important tool ensures that risks as it provides an can be managed and assessment of controlled within capital adequacy and the risk appetite solvency. of the Group and specific entity, where necessary.

**Risk Management Process** 

In addition, risk management seeks to ensure t appetite.

#### **Risk Documentation**

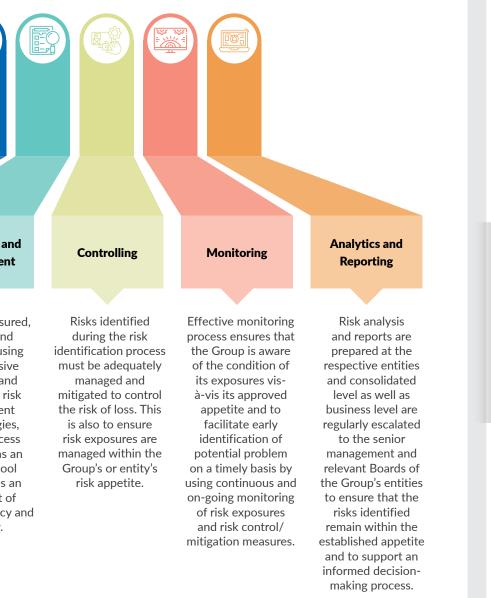
The Group recognises that effective implementation of the risk management system and process must be supported by a robust set of documentation and infrastructure. Towards this end, the Group has established frameworks, policies and other relevant control documents to ensure clearly defined practices and processes are implemented consistently across the Group.

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#### STATEMENT ON RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROL

The risk management process identifies, assesses and measures, controls, monitors and reports/analyses risk. This ensures that risk exposures are adequately managed and that the expected return compensates for the risk taken.



In addition, risk management seeks to ensure that risk decisions are consistent with strategic business objectives and within the risk

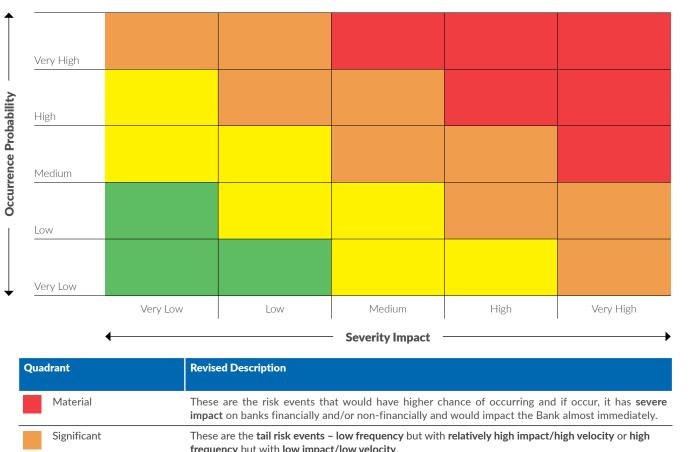
#### **Risk Infrastructure**

### STATEMENT ON RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROL

#### **Risk Assessment**

The Group has an established and comprehensive process for risk identification at every stage of the risk taking activities, namely transactional, product and even at the respective entities and Group level. Risks are also identified through Operational Risk Loss Event reporting and Portfolio thematic analysis. As part of the Group's periodic material risk assessment, the Group reviews the types and components of material risks, determines its quantum of materiality and refinement of processes taking into consideration the feedback received, including the independent reviews.

Material risk assessment is measured from the dimension of occurrence probability and severity impact. In addition, risk assessment also considers among others, the effectiveness of controls in place, and the impact to financial and non-financial indicators such as reputational risk. These are translated into a heat map matrix to derive the materiality of the risk as shown in the table below.



Significant	frequency but with low impact/low velocity.
Moderate	These are the <b>normal risk events</b> that do not happen very often and if occur, it has no severe impact on banks or would not impact the Bank immediately. These are to be <b>recognized and managed as day- to-day business</b> operations
Insignificant and Immaterial	These are the risk events that <b>do not happen often</b> , do <b>not</b> have <b>severe impact</b> on banks and would only impact the Bank after one year (or a month for technology risk related events). These are to be <b>recognised and managed as day-to-day</b> business operations

The use of the above matrix is a simple mechanism to increase visibility of risks and assist in decision-making. The Group considers residual risks which fall within the Red zones are 'Material', which may have severe impact on the Group financially and/or non-financially. Significant efforts will be taken to manage and mitigate these risks events.

#### **KEY INTERNAL CONTROL PROCESSES**

The Group's system of internal control is designed to manage and reduce risks that will hinder the Group from achieving its goals and objectives. It encompasses the policies, procedures, processes, organisational structures and other control aspects that are implemented for assuring the achievement of the Group's objectives in operational effectiveness and efficiency, reliable financial reporting and compliance with laws, regulations and internal policies.

The key processes established by the Board that provide effective governance and oversight of internal control systems include:

#### **Control Environment and Control Activities**

#### **Organisation Structure**

The Group has a formal organisational structure with clearly defined lines of accountability and responsibility, authority limits and reporting. The organisational structure provides the basic framework in ensuring that the Group's business and operations operate smoothly as well as depicting the span of control in ensuring effective supervision of day-today business conduct and accountability.

#### **Sustainability Management**

The Board of Directors has oversight of the Group's sustainability practices towards ensuring appropriate Environmental, Social and Governance ("ESG") factors are embedded within the Group's business strategies, operations as well risk management process. In carrying out the said responsibility, the Board is also responsible to ensure that the Group's Sustainability practices are aligned with the Group's long term strategic direction.

The Group Sustainability Framework sets out its approach in managing material matters, mitigating negative impacts and contributing towards sustainable development. The Framework consists 3 thematic sustainability pillars, i.e. Sustainable and Responsible Banking, Embedding Good Practices and Enriching and Empowering Communities. Within each pillar, the Group has identified key focus areas that are important to the business and operations as well as to its stakeholders.

In July 2021, the Group Sustainability Committee ("GSC") was established at senior management level. The GSC, led by the Group Managing Director / Group CEO strategically drives the Group's sustainability and climate agenda, and reports to the Board.

To support the GSC, four Sustainability Councils were established comprising key senior leaders from the Strategic Business Groups and Strategic Functional Groups, to ensure successful implementation of the Group's sustainability and climate-related matters. The four Sustainability Councils are the Sustainable Banking Council, ESG Capital Markets and Advisory Council, Sustainable Insurance Council, and Responsible and Sustainable Practices Council. In driving the Group's key focus areas, a network of Sustainability Sponsors and Champions comprising senior leaders has also been identified to lead and embed sustainability practices in their respective business and functional areas.



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### STATEMENT ON RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROL

**Policies and Guidelines** 

Policies, guidelines and processes governing the Group's businesses and operations are documented and communicated Group-wide as well as made available to employees through the Group's intranet portal for ease of reference and compliance. These policies, guidelines and processes are reviewed and updated by the business and functional units through a structured review and approval process to cater to changes in laws and regulations as well as changes to the business and operational environment.

#### **Authority Limits**

The Board has approved the Group Manual of Authority ("MOA") which defines the approving authority with its approving limits for the various levels of Management in the Group. Accordingly, the Management is empowered to discharge their responsibilities and be accountable for their decisions and actions. The Group MOA is reviewed periodically and updated in line with changes in the organisation structure, business environment or operational needs.

#### Information Technology ("IT") Security

The Group regards IT security as a very high priority to ensure the confidentiality, integrity and availability of the Group's information assets and IT infrastructure.

IT security in the Group is achieved through the implementation of a risk based control approach covering people, process and technology. IT Security policies, standards, guidelines and procedures are well established and supported by proper organisational structures with competent resources. Defence in depth strategy is used where multiple layers of IT Security controls are enforced throughout the IT infrastructure and system. But equally important to the technology and process controls is the continuous programme to raise the level of security awareness of staff of all levels, Board members as well as third party technology service providers.

With the increasing number of cyber threats globally as well as locally, the Group has established a Cyber Incident Response Guideline to ensure that there is a structured process of prompt monitoring and timely response to cyber threats and incidents.

In order to strengthen and enhance the level of information security management, the Group has obtained certifications of ISO/ IEC27001:2013 - Information Security Management System and ISO/ IEC 20000:2011 - Information Technology Service Management, in addition to complying with various regulatory requirements on managing information technology risk holistically.



STATEMENT ON RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROL

LEADERSHIP

STATEMENTS

#### **Control Environment and Control Activities**

In addition, the rapid adoption of digitisation has led to increased risks to traditional on-premises computing system. To address this emerging risk, the Group has adopted a multi-pronged approach:

- Gradual deployment of digital solutions with increased investment in security infrastructure and the hiring of support personnel with skillset covering digital fraud and cloud security.
- Establishing proper governance in the management of digital deployment including independent third party security reviews and introduction of policies to strengthen the security controls covering the overall digitisation initiative.
- Continuous assessment of Third Party's cyber security posture and subscription of threat intelligence service for better visibility of the current cyber landscape.
- Enforcement of secure coding practices that applies security considerations to how software will be coded and encrypted to best defend against cyber-attack or vulnerabilities.

#### **Budgeting Process**

A robust budgeting process is established requiring all key operating entities in the Group to prepare budgets and business plans annually for approval by the respective Boards. The Group's budget and business plans as well as strategic initiatives, taking into account the established risk appetite, goes through a challenged session with Management prior to deliberation at the Board where the Group budget is presented.

#### **Human Capital Management**

One of the key constituents of any internal control system is its people and that our system of risk management and internal control is dependent on the responsibility, integrity and sound judgement that employees apply to their work. Hence, the Group has in place policies and procedures that govern recruitment, appointment, performance management and rewards as well as matters relating to discipline, termination and dismissal.

For sustainable growth, the Group places emphasis on human capital development, talent management and succession planning. To enhance employee competencies, structured and technical trainings as well as management and leadership workshops are provided to them based on their identified needs during the annual performance assessment. For talent management, initiatives such as Leadership Development Programme, Individual Development Plan and mentoring are implemented to develop identified talents in the Group to facilitate the continuous supply of high potentials and suitable successors for future leadership roles.

#### Group Code of Ethics and Conduct

The Group Code of Ethics and Conduct ("the Code") is established to ensure a high standard of ethical and professional conduct is upheld by all employees in performing their duties and responsibilities. It is a requirement that all employees of the Group understand and observe the Code. New recruits are briefed on the Code and are required to sign the Employee Declaration of Compliance Form upon joining the Group.

The Group has also established the Gifts and Hospitality Guideline to promote integrity and transparency for giving and receiving gifts. The Guideline complements the Code and are designed to help the Group and its employees understand the respective parties' obligations in upholding corporate integrity and transparency about gifting.

#### Group Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy

The Group has zero tolerance on bribery and corruption in line with its core shared values and the Group Code of Ethics and Conduct for employees. The Group is committed to conducting its business in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, and the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission Act 2009. The Group Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy set out the guiding principles to support the Group's business operations and assist the employees in upholding corporate integrity and the Group's reputation.

#### Group Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Financing of Terrorism Policy

The Group Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Financing of Terrorism ("AML/CFT") Policy ("Group AML/CFT Policy") is drawn up in accordance with the Anti-Money Laundering, Anti-Terrorism Financing and Proceeds of Unlawful Activities Act 2001 and Bank Negara Malaysia's ("BNM")'s standards on AML/CFT. It sets out the high level standards towards building a stronger and robust AML/CFT compliance regime within the Group, facilitates consistency in managing the AML/ CFT compliance risk across the local and regional entities within the Group, and sets out the Group's policy statements in respect of the general principles and key measures to which the Group adheres to.

Pursuant to the Group AML/CFT Policy, the entities and/or employees within the Group are required to adopt Risk Based Approach ("RBA") to customer acceptance and implement the AML/CFT Compliance Programme framework. This includes customer due diligence ("CDD") requirements, monitoring of customer activities/transactions, reporting of suspicious transactions, record keeping, AML/CFT training, protection of customer information, and enforcement actions for noncompliance to the requirements.

#### **Control Environment and Control Activities**

The Group AML/CFT Policy also outlines the roles and responsibilities as well as establishes clear accountability of the Board, Senior Management and all employees within the Group.

The Board has an oversight responsibility for establishing the AML/ CFT policies/guidelines and minimum standards while the Senior Management is accountable for the implementation and management of AML/CFT compliance programmes in accordance with the policies and guidelines as approved by the Board.

#### **Business Continuity Management**

The Group recognises and is fully committed to the need to provide uninterrupted critical services to its customers, ensure the safety of its employees, protect its assets including data, and safeguard the interest of its key stakeholders that collectively ensure the viability of the organisation. Hence, the Group is aware of the importance of a sound Business Continuity Management ("BCM") Framework and Programme to build organisational resilience and an effective response and recovery mechanism to safeguard the interest of key stakeholders, reputation and brand. The Group's BCM Programme is based on good business continuity practices, BNM and other regulatory guidelines and international standards.

The Board has an oversight function on the Group's BCM readiness through the BRC and GCRC. The Group Business Continuity Committee is the management committee established to oversee the Group's business continuity framework, policies, budget and plans, and reports to GCRC.

A sound BCM Programme has been implemented in the Group to ensure the critical business functions are recovered in a timely manner in the event of any disruption. Reviews, assessments, updates and testing of the BCM plans are conducted regularly to ensure adequacy, effectiveness and readiness of the business recoveries. Simulation exercises and drills are conducted to familiarise and equip staff with the skills and processes required to ensure that in the event of any disruption, critical business processes can continue or be recovered in a timely manner.

### STATEMENT ON RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROL

#### Group Fraud Risk Management Policy

The Group Fraud Risk Management Policy is designed to promote consistent organisational behaviour through the development, implementation, and regular review of fraud prevention, detection and response strategies. The Policy defines the core governing principles for fraud risk management within the Group which include leadership and ethical culture, fraud awareness and prevention, fraud control and detection, fraud reporting and escalation as well as fraud response with appropriate corrective actions. The policy also outlines the roles and responsibilities of the Board, Senior Management and respective stakeholders within the Group on fraud risk management.

2021 was proven to be another challenging year due to the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak. The Management has taken proactive and precautionary measures to mitigate and manage the outbreak and risk of infection while ensuring continuous provision of essential services. The Group has activated its Business Continuity Plan ("BCP") pandemic strategy for all business functions across the Group which includes split operations and Work-From-Home arrangements, utilisation of digital platform for any meetings and provided constant advisory and updates on the COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedures ("SOP") for all RHB staff.

Moving in tandem with COVID-19 coordination are some new initiatives to enhance the BCM programme. The Group has enhanced the crisis management processes with a view of expediting the crisis response and minimising the impact to ensure the resiliency of our operations. The Group has expanded the scope of BCP/Disaster Recovery Plan ("DRP") test activities of RHB Banking Group to prepare for all scenarios. The Group has also conducted assessment on managing and responding to COVID-19 outbreak and incorporated lessons learned to enhance the control measures arising from the new norm and the operational resiliency within the Group.

RHB Bank Berhad

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OUR GOVERNANCE

#### STATEMENT ON RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROL

#### Information and Communication

#### **Performance Review**

Regular and comprehensive information is provided by Management to monitor its performance against the strategic business plan and the annual budget approved by the Board. This information covers all key financial and operational indicators as well as key strategic initiatives undertaken by the Group during the year.

The Board and the Group Management Committee ("GMC") receive and review financial reports on the Group's monthly and quarterly financial performance against approved targets and the reasons for any significant variances as well as measures that are being put in place to meet such targets.

The heads of the core businesses and functions in the Group present their respective management reports to the GMC at its monthly meeting, covering areas such as financial performance, key activity results and new business proposal or process for information of and deliberation by the GMC.

#### **Group Whistleblowing Policy**

A Group Whistleblowing Policy ("GWBP") was established by the Group in 2007 and last updated in 2021. The GWBP provides proper mechanism and sets a minimum standard to be adhered by the Group in dealing with disclosure of questionable actions or wrong doings by personnel within the Group. The updated GWBP introduced a primary designated whistleblowing channel, namely speakup@rhbgroup.com in addition to the existing Senior Independent Non-Executive Director. Details of the GWBP can be found under Practice 3.2 of the RHB Bank Berhad's Corporate Governance ("CG") Report, available at www.rhbgroup.com

#### **Incident Management Reporting**

To complement the Group's internal control monitoring, a comprehensive incident management reporting guideline has been implemented to ensure proper escalation and management of incidents according to the level of severity. The established incident management reporting process ensures that all incidents with material risk and losses are escalated promptly within the escalation timeline to Senior Management and the Board with necessary steps taken to mitigate any potential risks that may arise. Periodic monitoring and updating on the progress of the incidents until resolution enables the decision makers to undertake informed decision-making and be kept up to date on situations as well as manage risks effectively.

#### Monitoring

#### **Board Committees**

The Board has in place, Board Committees that are set up to support the Board in its oversight function. The Board Committees include the BRC, BAC, Board Nominating & Remuneration Committee, Board Credit Committee, Investment Bank Board Risk Committee ("IBBRC"), Islamic Board Risk Committee ("BRC-i) and Insurance Board Risk Committee ("Insurance BRC"). These Board Committees have been delegated with specific duties to review and consider all matters within their scope of responsibility as defined in their respective Terms of Reference ("ToR"). Detailed responsibilities of these Board Committees can be found under RHB Bank Berhad's CG Report, Board Charter and their respective ToRs available at www.rhbgroup.com

#### **Group Management Committee**

The GMC comprises the Group Managing Director as the Chairman, the Chief Executive Officers/Managing Directors of the relevant key operating subsidiaries and the key Senior Management of the Group. The GMC provides the leadership and direction in the implementation of strategies and policies approved by the Board and meets monthly to discuss and deliberate strategic matters that impact the Group's operations.

#### Management Audit Committees

Management Audit Committees ("MACs") are established at the key operating entities in the Group to ensure timely rectification of any audit findings and the underlying causes highlighted by the internal and external auditors, and regulators. The status of rectification of all audit findings and the mitigation action plans implemented by Management to adequately address the underlying causes are closely monitored by the MACs at every meeting.

The MACs comprising senior level representatives from different business/functional groups are chaired by the Group Chief Financial Officer/Managing Director of the entity concerned. The MACs meet monthly/bi-monthly and the minutes of meetings together with the relevant audit reports are subsequently tabled to the BAC for information, deliberation and direction for further action where required.

#### **Group Compliance**

Compliance is the collective responsibility of the Board, Senior Management and every employee of the Group. The compliance function forms an integral part of the Group's risk management and internal control framework. In view that a strong compliance culture reflects a corporate culture of high integrity and ethics, everyone is expected to promote self-regulation and be accountable for their own activities while maintaining ethical principles and behaviour.

#### Monitoring

In addition to day-to-day monitoring, Group Compliance's commitment towards instilling a strong compliance culture across the Group is demonstrated through the establishment of a robust compliance monitoring framework which includes, among others, implementation of comprehensive compliance policies, frequent compliance reviews, regular engagement sessions with business/functional units and branches, annual compliance risk assessment to identify high risk areas and conduct of regular training/awareness sessions across the Group to ensure that all employees are well informed of the latest regulatory requirements and expectations.

Further, the Boards and Senior Management are also apprised of the Group's state of compliance through the submission of the Group Compliance report on a periodic basis.

#### **INTERNAL AUDIT**

The Board, through the BAC, BRC, IBBRC, BRC-i and Insurance BRC Group Internal Audit ("GIA") is established by the Board to provide confirms that it has reviewed the adequacy and effectiveness of the an independent appraisal on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Group's risk management, internal control and governance processes Group's risk management and internal control system. implemented by the Management.

The internal audit universe covers all key activities of the Group, including that of its branches, all the business and support functions, overseas operations, subsidiaries as well as outsourced activities. GIA adopts a risk-based approach in determining the auditable units and frequency of audits in line with the Group's key risks, strategies and areas of focus, which are identified based on GIA's risk assessment methodology.

As required by paragraph 15.23 of the Main Market Listing Requirements The risk-based internal audit plan is approved by the BAC annually. Audit reports detailing the audit findings, root causes and impact, of Bursa Malaysia, the external auditors have reviewed this Statement GIA's comments and recommendations, and Management's response on Risk Management and Internal Control. Their limited assurance are tabled to MACs and BAC on a monthly basis. In addition, Shariah review was performed in accordance with Audit and Assurance Practice Audit reports are also tabled to Shariah Committee for notification and Guide ("AAPG") 3 issued by the Malaysian Institute of Accountants. deliberation.

GIA is headed by the Group Chief Internal Auditor who reports functionally to the BAC and administratively to the Group Managing Director to ensure GIA's independence from Management.

Further information on the GIA function is provided in the Board Audit Committee Report of this Integrated Report.

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## STATEMENT ON RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROL

#### Shariah Compliance

In line with the Shariah Governance Policy Document issued by BNM, a comprehensive Shariah Governance Framework has also been put in place by the Group which encompasses the Group's Shariah governance structure, the key principles Shariah governance and control functions, the reporting structure as well as its roles and responsibilities.

Various activities and initiatives involving Shariah reviews, assessment. trainings and briefings and the staff implication of non-compliance review findings aimed to further strengthen the Bank's compliance culture and Shariah compliance awareness as well as continuous learning programmes were conducted throughout the year to educate employees on the importance of Shariah requirements and compliance surveillance.

#### CONCLUSION

Based on the monthly updates from its Board Committees and the assurance received from the Management, the Board is of the view that the Group's risk management and internal control system is operating adequately and effectively for the financial year under review and up to the date of approval of this Statement.

#### **REVIEW OF THE STATEMENT BY EXTERNAL AUDITORS**

AAPG 3 does not require the external auditors to form an opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the risk management and internal control systems of the Group.

Negligible percentage.

Deemed interested pursuant to Sections 8(4) and 59 of the Companies Act 2016, by virtue of shares held through OSK Holdings Berhad and his family members. 1

#### RHB Bank Berhad

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Number of Issued Shares : 4,142,918,508 ordinary shares

Class of Shares : Ordinary shares

Voting Rights : Each shareholder present in person or by proxy at any Shareholders' Meeting shall have one vote for each ordinary share held

OUR STRATEGIC REVIEW

Number of Shareholders : 20,972

Category	No. of Shareholders	% of Shareholders	No. of Shares Held	% of Shareholdings
Less than 100 shares	2,074	9.89	47,747	0.00
100 - 1,000 shares	4,102	19.56	2,319,739	0.06
1,001 - 10,000 shares	11,317	53.96	39,050,604	0.94
10,001 - 100,000 shares	2,577	12.29	73,505,783	1.77
100,001 to less than 5% of the issued shares	900	4.29	2,031,339,575	49.03
5% and above of the issued shares	2	0.01	1,996,655,060	48.19
Total	20,972	100.00	4,142,918,508	100.00

#### SUBSTANTIAL SHAREHOLDERS

		No. of Shares			
No.	Name of Substantial Shareholders	Direct	%	Indirect	%
1.	Employees Provident Fund Board ("EPF") <sup>1</sup>	1,745,926,021	42.14	-	-
2.	OSK Holdings Berhad	421,715,757	10.18	-	-
3.	Kumpulan Wang Persaraan (Diperbadankan)	200,782,810	4.85	41,918,205	1.01
4.	Tan Sri Ong Leong Huat @ Wong Joo Hwa²	-	-	421,715,757	10.18
5.	OSK Equity Holdings Sdn Bhd <sup>2</sup>	-	-	421,715,757	10.18
6.	Puan Sri Khor Chai Moi	31,144	*	421,715,757 <sup>2</sup>	10.18

Notes:

Negligible percentage.

The interest of EPF is held through various fund managers. 1

2 Deemed interested pursuant to Section 8(4) of the Companies Act 2016, by virtue of shares held through OSK Holdings Berhad.

#### DIRECTORS' INTEREST IN SECURITIES OF THE COMPANY AND ITS RELATED CORPORATION

	Sharehol	dings
The Company	No. of Shares Held	%
Tan Sri Ong Leong Huat @ Wong Joo Hwa		
- Indirect <sup>1</sup>	421,748,335	10.18
Ong Ai Lin		
- Direct	27,410	*

# STAKEHOLDERS' INFORMATION

OUR GOVERNANCE

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REVIEW

	No. of Shareh	olders	Shareho	oldings	% of Total Share	eholdings
Category	Malaysian	Foreign	Malaysian	Foreign	Malaysian	Foreign
Individual						
Bumiputera	578	0	3,220,851	0	0.08	0.00
Chinese	14,436	0	80,310,066	0	1.94	0.00
Indian	545	0	1,951,692	0	0.05	0.00
Others	71	437	918,247	5,269,727	0.02	0.13
Body Corporate						
Banks/Finance Companies	45	0	585,958,237	0	14.14	0.00
Investments Trusts/						
Foundation/Charities	8	0	418,320	0	0.01	0.00
Other Types of Companies	329	17	304,103,837	28,637,704	7.34	0.69
Government Agencies/						
Institutions	2	0	6,089,090	0	0.15	0.00
Nominees	3,395	1,109	2,408,908,886	717,131,851	58.15	17.31
Others	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Total	19,409	1,563	3,391,879,286	751,039,282	81.87	18.13

# CLASSIFICATION OF SHAREHOLDERS as at 15 February 2022

RHB Bank Berhad

LIST OF THIRTY (30) LARGEST SHAREHOLDERS as at 15 February 2022

**CHANGES IN SHARE CAPITAL** as at 15 February 2022

The number of issued shares of the Company as at 15 February 2022 is 4,142,918,508 ordinary shares.

The changes on the number of issued shares since 1999 are as follows:-

			Cumulative No.	of Issued Shares
	No. of Shares		Preference	Ordinary
Date	Allotted	Description	Shares	Shares
03/06/1999	308,500,000 (preference shares)	Issued pursuant to Sale of Shares Agreement between RHB Bank Berhad ("RHB Bank"), Rashid Hussain Berhad (as promoter), Sime Darby Financial Services Holdings Sdn Bhd and KUB Malaysia Berhad for the acquisition of 90.36% equity interest in Sime Bank Berhad.	308,500,000	3,899,971,952
03/06/1999	1,000,000,000 (preference shares)	Issued pursuant to Subscription Agreement dated 30 November 1998 between Danamodal Nasional Berhad, RHB Capital Berhad ("RHB Capital") and RHB Bank.		3,899,971,952
01/09/1999	4,469,561 (preference shares)	Issued pursuant to the compulsory acquisition of the remaining 9.64% equity interest in Sime Bank Berhad.	1,312,969,561	3,899,971,952
23/09/1999	55,129,584 (preference shares)	Issued pursuant to the compulsory acquisition of the remaining 9.64% equity interest in Sime Bank Berhad.	1,368,099,145	3,899,971,952
27/03/2008	2,736,198,290 (ordinary shares of RM0.50 each)	Issued pursuant to the Conversion Notice received by RHB Bank in respect of the Irredeemable Non-Cumulative Convertible Preference Shares ("INCPS") holder, RHB Capital's intention to convert its entire 1,368,099,145 INCPS of RM1.00 each into new ordinary shares of RM0.50 each in RHB Bank.	-	6,636,170,242
31/10/2014	94,802,428 (ordinary shares of RM0.50 each)	Issued pursuant to Rights Issue on the basis of 1 new ordinary share for every 70 existing ordinary shares held.	-	6,730,972,670
03/04/2015	190,197,391 (ordinary shares of RM0.50 each)	Issued pursuant to Rights Issue on the basis of 28.26 new ordinary shares for every 1,000 existing ordinary shares held.	-	6,921,170,061
18/02/2016	Not applicable	Consolidation of every 2 existing ordinary shares of RM0.50 each into 1 new ordinary share of RM1.00 each.	-	3,460,585,030
07/04/2016	101,618,705 (ordinary shares of RM1.00 each)	Issued pursuant to Rights Issue on the basis of 29.3646 new ordinary shares for every 1,000 existing ordinary shares held.	-	3,562,203,735
14/04/2016	447,841,886 (ordinary shares of RM1.00 each)	Cash.	-	4,010,045,621
08/07/2021	58,314,499 (ordinary shares of RM4.61 each)	Issued pursuant to Dividend Reinvestment Plan applicable to the Final Dividend in respect of financial year ended 31 December 2020.	-	4,068,360,120
03/11/2021	74,558,388 (ordinary shares of RM4.69 each)	Issued pursuant to Dividend Reinvestment Plan applicable to the Interim Dividend in respect of financial year ended 31 December 2021.	-	4,142,918,508

## No. Name

- **CITIGROUP NOMINEES (TEMPATAN) SDN** 1 EMPLOYEES PROVIDENT FUND BOARD
- 2 OSK HOLDINGS BERHAD
- 3 KUMPULAN WANG PERSARAAN (DIPER
- 4 AMANAHRAYA TRUSTEES BERHAD AMANAH SAHAM BUMIPUTERA
- 5 PUBLIC INVEST NOMINEES (TEMPATAN) FOR OSK HOLDINGS BERHAD
- **CITIGROUP NOMINEES (TEMPATAN) SDN** 6 EXEMPT AN FOR AIA BHD
- PERMODALAN NASIONAL BERHAD 7
- 8 **CITIGROUP NOMINEES (TEMPATAN) SDN** GREAT EASTERN LIFE ASSURANCE (MALAYSIA)
- 9 CARTABAN NOMINEES (ASING) SDN BHE EXEMPT AN FOR STATE STREET BANK & TRUST
- 10 AMANAHRAYA TRUSTEES BERHAD AMANAH SAHAM MALAYSIA 3
- 11 CARTABAN NOMINEES (TEMPATAN) SDN PAMB FOR PRULINK EQUITY FUND
- 12 CITIGROUP NOMINEES (ASING) SDN BHI CBNY FOR NORGES BANK (FI 17)
- 13 RHB NOMINEES (TEMPATAN) SDN BHD MALAYSIAN TRUSTEES BERHAD PLEDGED SEC (OSK I CM T1)
- 14 HSBC NOMINEES (ASING) SDN BHD JPMCB NA FOR VANGUARD EMERGING MARK
- 15 HSBC NOMINEES (ASING) SDN BHD JPMCB NA FOR VANGUARD TOTAL INTERNAT
- 16 HONG LEONG ASSURANCE BERHAD AS BENEFICIAL OWNER (LIFE PAR)
- 17 CITIGROUP NOMINEES (ASING) SDN BH UBS AG
- 18 GUOLINE (SINGAPORE) PTE LTD

	Shareholdi	ngs
	No. of Shares	%
N BHD	1,745,926,021	42.14
	250,729,039	6.05
RBADANKAN)	200,782,810	4.85
	196,281,768	4.74
I) SDN BHD	131,525,465	3.17
N BHD	107,077,107	2.58
	64,657,895	1.56
N BHD A) BERHAD (PAR 1)	63,452,190	1.53
<b>ID</b> ST COMPANY (WEST CLT OD67)	42,188,517	1.02
	36,886,760	0.89
N BHD	31,458,260	0.76
ID	29,037,392	0.70
CURITIES ACCOUNT FOR OSK HOLDINGS BHD	25,719,323	0.62
KETS STOCK INDEX FUND	21,680,000	0.52
FIONAL STOCK INDEX FUND	20,809,869	0.50
	20,136,222	0.49
ID	19,118,366	0.46
	18,492,000	0.45

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WE ARE RHB BANK	LEADERSHIP STATEMENTS	OUR STRATEGIC REVIEW	OUR PERFORMANCE REVIEW	OUR GOVERNANCE	

# LIST OF TOP TEN (10) PROPERTIES

Loc	ation	Owner	Description of Property	Land Area (sq m.)	Usage	Age of building (Years)	Tenure	Year of Expiry on Lease	Net Book Value 31.12.2021 (RM' 000)	Year of Acquisition or Revaluation
MA	LAYSIA									
Kua	ala Lumpur									
1.	Tower 1, Tower 2 & 3, RHB Centre 424 & 426 Jalan Tun Razak	RHB Bank Berhad	12 storey & 16 storey office building	10,270	Office Space	32 & 26	Freehold	-	184,125	2016
Pen	lang									
2.	44 Lebuh Pantai Georgetown	RHB Bank Berhad	1 unit of 6½ storey commercial building	896	Bank Branch	62	Freehold	-	3,116	1968
3.	Unit 11 & 12 Jalan Chain Ferry Tmn Inderawasih Seberang Prai	RHB Bank Berhad	2 units of 3 storey commercial building	603	Bank Branch	27	Freehold	-	3,334	1998
Sela	angor									
4.	Lot No. 8 Jalan Institusi Bandar Baru Bangi	RHB Bank Berhad	6 storey office Block, 5 storey Training Block, 7 storey IT Block & 5 storey Car Park Block	55,713	Training Centre	21	Leasehold	2090	58,888	1992
Per	ak									
5.	No. 2,4,6 & 8 Jalan Tun Sambanthan Ipoh	RHB Bank Berhad	4 storey office building	890	Bank Branch	24	Freehold	-	4,315	1991
SIN	GAPORE									
6.	90 Cecil Street	Banfora Pte Ltd	2 commecial buildings	796	Commercial Building	42	Leasehold	2980	149,374	1997
7.	10, Jalan Besar 01-03 Sim Lim Tower	RHB Bank Berhad	Ground Floor of office buildings	543	Bank Branch	43	Freehold	-	25,400	1999
8.	14A/B, 16A/B & 18A/B East Coast Road	RHB Bank Berhad	3 units of 3 storey shophouses	442	Bank Branch	63	Freehold	-	13,403	1999
9.	1/1A/1B Yio Chu Kang Road	RHB Bank Berhad	First Floor of office buildings	101	Bank Branch	41	Freehold	-	9,622	1999
10.	No. 537/539 Geylang Road	RHB Bank Berhad	3 storey shophouses	374	Bank Branch	98	Freehold	-	8,823	1999

LIST OF THIRTY (30) LARGEST SHAREHOLDERS
as at 15 February 2022

		Shareholdir	igs
No.	Name	No. of Shares	%
19	<b>CITIGROUP NOMINEES (TEMPATAN) SDN BHD</b> GREAT EASTERN LIFE ASSURANCE (MALAYSIA) BERHAD (PAR 3)	17,343,752	0.42
20	AMANAHRAYA TRUSTEES BERHAD AMANAH SAHAM MALAYSIA 2 - WAWASAN	17,262,200	0.42
21	<b>CITIGROUP NOMINEES (TEMPATAN) SDN BHD</b> GREAT EASTERN LIFE ASSURANCE (MALAYSIA) BERHAD (LSF)	13,791,885	0.33
22	<b>RHB NOMINEES (TEMPATAN) SDN BHD</b> MALAYSIAN TRUSTEES BERHAD PLEDGED SECURITIES ACCOUNT FOR OSK HOLDINGS BHD (OSK I CM MTN T2)	13,741,930	0.33
23	HSBC NOMINEES (ASING) SDN BHD J.P. MORGAN SECURITIES PLC	13,195,367	0.32
24	AMANAHRAYA TRUSTEES BERHAD AMANAH SAHAM BUMIPUTERA 2	12,998,400	0.31
25	<b>DB (MALAYSIA) NOMINEE (ASING) SDN BHD</b> BNYM SA/NV FOR PEOPLE'S BANK OF CHINA (SICL ASIA EM)	12,663,300	0.31
26	HSBC NOMINEES (ASING) SDN BHD JPMCB NA FOR BLACKROCK INSTITUTIONAL TRUST COMPANY, N.A. INVESTMENT FUNDS FOR EMPLOYEE BENEFIT TRUSTS	12,416,850	0.30
27	HSBC NOMINEES (TEMPATAN) SDN BHD HSBC (M) TRUSTEE BHD FOR ALLIANZ LIFE INSURANCE MALAYSIA BERHAD (MEF)	11,544,922	0.28
28	CITIGROUP NOMINEES (ASING) SDN BHD CBNY FOR DIMENSIONAL EMERGING MATKETS VALUE FUND	10,833,946	0.26
29	<b>CITIGROUP NOMINEES (TEMPATAN) SDN BHD</b> KUMPULAN WANG PERSARAAN (DIPERBADANKAN) (ABERDEEN)	10,056,427	0.24
30	<b>CITIGROUP NOMINEES (ASING) SDN BHD</b> EXEMPT AN FOR CITIBANK NEW YORK (NORGES BANK 14)	9,548,701	0.23

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**Ordinary Resolution 8** 

## NOTICE OF 56<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 56th Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of RHB Bank Berhad ("RHB Bank" or "Company") will be held on a virtual basis at the broadcast venue, Meeting Room 3, Level 16, Tower Three, RHB Centre, Jalan Tun Razak, 50400 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia ("Broadcast Venue") on Wednesday, 27 April 2022, at 10.00 a.m. to transact the following businesses:

#### AGENDA

#### **AS ORDINARY BUSINESS:**

1. To receive the Audited Financial Statements of the Company for the financial year ended (Please refer to 31 December 2021 and the Directors' and Auditors' Reports thereon. Explanatory Note 1) 2. To approve the payment of a single-tier final dividend of 25.00 sen per share in respect of the financial **Ordinary Resolution 1** year ended 31 December 2021. To re-elect the following Directors who retire by rotation pursuant to Clause 94 of the Company's 3. Constitution and being eligible, offer themselves for re-election: Tan Sri Dr Rebecca Fatima Sta Maria **Ordinary Resolution 2** (i) Mr Lim Cheng Teck **Ordinary Resolution 3** (ii) (iii) Puan Sharifatu Laila Syed Ali **Ordinary Resolution 4** To approve the increase of Directors' fees and Board Committees' allowances from the 56<sup>th</sup> AGM of the **Ordinary Resolution 5** 4 Company and further to approve the payment of the same to the Non-Executive Directors for the period from the 56<sup>th</sup> AGM to the 57<sup>th</sup> AGM of the Company. 5. To approve the payment of Directors' remuneration (excluding Directors' fees and Board Committees' **Ordinary Resolution 6** allowances) of an amount up to RM2,000,000 to the Non-Executive Directors for the period from the 56<sup>th</sup> AGM to the 57<sup>th</sup> AGM of the Company. 6. To re-appoint Messrs PricewaterhouseCoopers PLT as Auditors of the Company to hold office until the **Ordinary Resolution 7** conclusion of the 57<sup>th</sup> AGM of the Company, at a remuneration to be determined by the Directors.

#### **AS SPECIAL BUSINESS:**

To consider and if thought fit, to pass the following resolutions:

#### AUTHORITY FOR DIRECTORS TO ISSUE SHARES 7

"THAT subject always to the Companies Act 2016, the Company's Constitution and approval of the relevant government/regulatory authorities, the Directors be and are hereby authorised pursuant to Sections 75 and 76 of the Companies Act 2016, to issue and allot shares in the Company at any time and upon such terms and conditions and for such purposes as the Directors may, in their absolute discretion deem fit, provided that the aggregate number of shares to be issued does not exceed 10% of the total number of issued shares of the Company for the time being, AND THAT the Directors be and are also empowered to obtain the approval for the listing of and quotation for the additional shares so issued on Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad and that such authority shall continue to be in force until the conclusion of the next AGM of the Company."

#### 8 ALLOTMENT AND ISSUANCE OF NEW ORDINARY SHARES IN THE COMPANY ("RHB BANK SHARES") PURSUANT TO THE DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT PLAN ("DRP") ("DRP SHARES")

**"THAT** pursuant to the DRP as approved at the 55<sup>th</sup> AGM of the Company held on 25 May 2021 and subject to the approvals of all relevant authorities being obtained, approval be and is hereby given to the board of directors of the Company ("Board") to allot and issue such number of DRP Shares from time to time as may be required to be allotted and issued, upon the terms and conditions and to such persons as the Board may, in its absolute discretion, deem fit or expedient, and in the best interest of the Company **PROVIDED THAT** the issue price of the DRP Shares, which will be determined by the Board on the price-fixing date to be determined and announced ("Price Fixing Date"), shall be fixed by the Board at a price of not more than a 10% discount to the 5-day volume weighted average market price ("VWAP") of RHB Bank Shares immediately before the Price Fixing Date. The 5-day VWAP of RHB Bank Shares shall be adjusted ex-dividend before applying the aforementioned discount in fixing the issue price of the DRP Shares and that such authority to allot and issue the DRP Shares shall continue to be in force until the conclusion of the Company's next AGM;

**THAT** the DRP Shares shall, upon allotment and issuance, rank equally in all respects with the then existing issued shares in RHB Bank, save and except that the DRP Shares shall not be entitled to any dividends, rights, benefits, entitlements and/or other distributions that may be effected before the date of allotment of the DRP Shares;

**AND THAT** the Board be and is hereby authorised to do all such acts and enter into all such transactions, arrangements, deeds and undertakings and to execute, sign and deliver for and on behalf of the Company, all such documents and impose such terms and conditions or delegate all or any part of its powers as may be necessary or expedient in order to implement, finalise and give full effect to the allotment and issuance of DRP Shares, with full powers to assent to any conditions, variations, modifications and/or amendments, including amendment, modification, suspension and termination of the DRP, as the Board may, in its absolute discretion, deem fit or expedient, and in the best interest of the Company and/or as may be imposed or agreed to by any relevant authorities."

9. To transact any other business of which due notice shall have been given in accordance with the Companies Act 2016.

#### NOTICE OF DIVIDEND ENTITLEMENT AND PAYMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT subject to the shareholders' approval for the payment of a single-tier final dividend of 25.00 sen per share in respect of the financial year ended 31 December 2021 ("Final Dividend") under Ordinary Resolution 1 at the 56th AGM of the Company to be held on Wednesday, 27 April 2022, the Final Dividend will be paid on 16 June 2022 to Depositors whose names appear in the Record of Depositors of the Company as at 18 May 2022.

A Depositor shall qualify for entitlement to the Final Dividend only in respect of:

- (a)
- (b) mandatory deposits; and

#### **BY ORDER OF THE BOARD**

Azman Shah Md Yaman (LS 0006901) (SSM PC No.: 201908001628) Hasnita Sulaiman (MAICSA No. 7060582) (SSM PC No.: 201908001631) **Company Secretaries** 

Kuala Lumpur 30 March 2022 INTEGRATED REPORT 2021

NOTICE OF 56<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Securities transferred into the Depositor's securities account before 4.30 p.m. on 18 May 2022 in respect of transfers;

Securities deposited into the Depositor's securities account before 12.30 p.m. on 16 May 2022 in respect of securities exempted from

Securities bought on Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad on a cum entitlement basis according to the Rules of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad.

#### **Ordinary Resolution 9**

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NOTICE OF 56<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

#### NOTES:

#### Virtual AGM

- 1. The 56<sup>th</sup> AGM of the Company will be conducted on a virtual basis through live streaming and online remote voting via the Remote Participation and Electronic Voting facilities which are available on the website of the Share Registrar of the Company, Boardroom Share Registrars Sdn Bhd, at Boardroom Smart Investor Portal at https://investor.boardroomlimited.com/. Please follow the procedures provided in the Administrative Details for the 56<sup>th</sup> AGM in order to register, participate and vote remotely.
- 2. The Broadcast Venue of the 56<sup>th</sup> AGM is strictly for the purpose of complying with Section 327(2) of the Companies Act 2016 which requires the Chairman of the meeting to be present at the main venue of the meeting. The venue of the 56<sup>th</sup> AGM is to inform members where the virtual AGM production and streaming would be conducted from. Members/proxies from the public will not be allowed to be physically present at the meeting venue.

#### **Appointment of Proxy**

- 1. In respect of deposited securities, only members whose names appear in the Record of Depositors on 20 April 2022 (General Meeting Record of Depositors) shall be entitled to participate and vote remotely at the forthcoming 56<sup>th</sup> AGM using the remote participation and electronic voting facilities.
- A member of the Company entitled to participate and vote remotely at the forthcoming 56<sup>th</sup> AGM is entitled to appoint one or more proxies 2 to participate and vote remotely in his/her place. A proxy may but need not be a member of the Company.
- The Form of Proxy must be signed by the appointer or his/her attorney duly authorised in writing or in the case of a corporation, be executed 3. under its common seal or under the hand of its attorney duly authorised in writing.
- If the Form of Proxy is returned without any indication as to how the proxy shall vote, the proxy will vote or abstain as he/she thinks fit. 4.
- Where a member appoints two proxies, the appointment shall be invalid unless he/she specifies the proportion of his/her holdings to be 5. represented by each proxy. Where a member of the Company is an authorised nominee as defined under the Securities Industry (Central Depositories) Act 1991 ("SICDA"), it may appoint at least one proxy in respect of each Securities Account which is credited with ordinary shares of the Company.
- Where a member of the Company is an exempt authorised nominee which holds ordinary shares in the Company for multiple beneficial 6. owners in one securities account ("Omnibus Account"), there is no limit to the number of proxies which the exempt authorised nominee may appoint in respect of each Omnibus Account it holds. An exempt authorised nominee refers to an authorised nominee defined under SICDA which is exempted from compliance with the provisions of subsection 25A(1) of SICDA.
- 7. The Form of Proxy or other instruments of appointment must be deposited at the office of the share registrar of the Company, Boardroom Share Registrars Sdn Bhd, 11th Floor, Menara Symphony, No. 5, Jalan Prof. Khoo Kay Kim, Seksyen 13, 46200 Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia or lodged electronically via "Boardroom Smart Investor Portal" at https://investor.boardroomlimited.com/ not later than 48 hours before the time fixed for holding the forthcoming 56<sup>th</sup> AGM or any adjournment thereof.

#### **Explanatory Notes**

#### Item 1 of the Agenda – Audited Financial Statements for Financial Year Ended 31 December 2021 1.

Item 1 of the Agenda is meant for discussion only as the provision of Section 340(1)(a) of the Companies Act 2016 does not require a formal approval of the shareholders for the Audited Financial Statements. Hence, this Agenda item is not put forward for voting.

#### Ordinary Resolution 1 - Payment of Single-Tier Final Dividend 2

The proposed single-tier final dividend as per Ordinary Resolution 1 shall be subjected to the fulfilment of the condition(s) as may be imposed by the regulatory authority.

#### 3. Ordinary Resolutions 2, 3 and 4 – Re-election of Retiring Directors

Clause 94 of the Company's Constitution provides that one-third (1/3) of the Directors for the time being, or if their number is not a multiple of three (3), then the number nearest to one-third (1/3), shall retire by rotation at an AGM of the Company and be eligible for re-election. With the current Board size of nine (9), three (3) Directors are to retire in accordance with Clause 94 of the Company's Constitution.

(a) Financial Year ("FY") 2020.

> EY undertook a comprehensive assessment of the Board, Board Committees and Individual Directors. The questionnaires for each Board Member were customized based on the Board Member's representation of the respective entity's Board and/or Board Committee during FY2020. The assessment also included interview sessions with selected Directors and Senior Management officers within the Group. The BEE questionnaires were designed based on the principles and governance practices set out in local regulatory standards and requirements, and international good practices.

(b) following:

#### A) Board of Directors & Board Com

- 1. Overall Board Performance
- 2. Board Chairman Leadership
- 3. Boardroom Culture
- 4. Board Remuneration
- 5. Board Responsibilities
- 6. MD/ CEO Leadership
- 7. Board Committees
- 8. Board Operations
- 9. Board Continuous Development
- (c) Practice 5.7 of the CG Report.

Based on the above, the Board approved the BNRC's recommendation that Tan Sri Dr Rebecca Fatima Sta Maria, Mr Lim Cheng Teck and Puan Sharifatu Laila Syed Ali who retire in accordance with Clause 94 of the Company's Constitution are eligible to stand for re-election. These three (3) retiring Directors had abstained from deliberations and decisions on their own eligibility to stand for reelection at the relevant Board meeting.

Section 54(2)(a) of the Financial Services Act 2013 ("FSA") provides that the appointment, election, re-appointment and re-election of a Chairman, Director or Chief Executive Officer of the Company is subject to the prior written approval of BNM. In this respect, the approval of BNM on the proposed re-election of Tan Sri Dr Rebecca Fatima Sta Maria, Mr Lim Cheng Teck and Puan Sharifatu Laila Syed Ali as Directors under Ordinary Resolutions 2, 3 and 4 has been obtained.

### NOTICE OF 56<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

For the purpose of determining the eligibility of the Directors to stand for re-election at the 56<sup>th</sup> AGM, the Board Nominating & Remuneration Committee ("BNRC") has assessed each of the retiring Directors via the annual Board Effectiveness Evaluation ("BEE") exercise. In line with the requirements of the Bank Negara Malaysia ("BNM")'s Policy Document on Corporate Governance and the Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance, which call for the appointment of an external party on periodic basis to conduct an objective and independent board assessment, we appointed Ernst & Young Consulting Sdn Bhd ("EY") to facilitate our BEE exercise for

The annual assessment of the Directors of the Company was conducted based on the relevant performance criteria which include the

Sco	pe of Board e	evaluation	o
nmittees	B)	Individual Directors Evaluation	$\sim$
	1.	Independence	
	2.	Contribution and Commitment	
	3.	Competency, Skills and Expertise	
	4.	Strengths & Enhancement	

The full profile of the Directors up for re-election/re-appointment can be found in RHB Bank Berhad's Integrated Report 2021 and the detailed write-up on the outcome of the BEE is disclosed under Practice 6.1 of RHB Bank Berhad's Corporate Governance Report 2021 ("CG Report"). Details of the BNRC's view on the re-election/re-appointment of the respective Directors can be found under

NOTICE OF 56<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

#### 4. Ordinary Resolutions 5 and 6 - Payment of Directors' Fees, Board Committees' Allowances and Directors' Remuneration (excluding Directors' Fees and Board Committees' Allowances) to the Non-Executive Directors

The Directors' Remuneration for the Non-Executive Directors was last reviewed and approved at the 52<sup>nd</sup> AGM of the Company held on 25 April 2018.

As part of a periodical review to ensure the Group remains competitive against its peers and with the heightened responsibilities and accountabilities required for Directors per current requirements under the Companies Act 2016, the Financial Services Act 2013, the Capital Markets & Services Act 2007, the Main Market Listing Requirements and the Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance, an external consultant was engaged in 2021 to undertake the benchmarking analysis and recommend the appropriate remuneration taking into account the demands, complexities and performance of the Company as well as skills and experience required.

The proposed remuneration review was comprehensively deliberated by the BNRC in December 2021, and was duly approved by the Board for tabling at the 56<sup>th</sup> AGM for the shareholders' approval. Accordingly, it is recommended that the existing Directors' Fees, Board Committees' Allowances and Directors' Remuneration (excluding Directors' Fees and Board Committees' Allowances) be revised as follows:

		EXIS	TING	PROP	OSED
No.	Description	Non-Executive Chairman (RM)	Non-Executive Directors/ Members (RM)	Non-Executive Chairman (RM)	Non-Executive Directors/ Members (RM)
1	Annual Directors' Fees	200,000.00	175,000.00	300,000.00	200,000.00
	Annual Board Committees' Allowances				
2	Board Audit Committee	40,000.00	30,000.00	60,000.00	40,000.00
3	Board Nominating & Remuneration Committee	40,000.00	30,000.00	60,000.00	40,000.00
4	Board Risk Committee	40,000.00	30,000.00	60,000.00	40,000.00
5	Board Credit Committee	50,000.00	40,000.00	60,000.00	40,000.00

		EXISTING		PROPOSED			
No.	Description	Non-Executive Chairman (RM)	Directors	Non-Executive Chairman (RM)	Directors		
1	Monthly Fixed Allowance (a)	25,000.00	Not Applicable	25,000.00	Not Applicable		
2	Meeting Allowance (per meeting): (a) Board of the Company (b) Board Committees <sup>(b)</sup>	1,500.00 1,500.00	1,500.00 1,500.00	2,000.00 2,000.00	2,000.00 2,000.00		
3	Farewell Pot Scheme (for the entire tenure of directorship) $^{\scriptscriptstyle (c)}$	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00		
4							

4 Other Benefits

Club membership, Directors & Officers liability insurance coverage, driver, car and petrol allowance, electronic devices and peripherals for meeting purposes, Directors' business-use credit card, banking benefits, air travel coverage, medical coverage, etc.

#### Notes:

- The monthly fixed allowance is given to the Chairman of the Company as a Special Allowance, in recognition of the significant roles in (a)leadership and oversight, and the wide-ranging scope of responsibilities expected of him.
- (b) The abovementioned Board Committees are Centralised Committees which are shared by the Company and its relevant subsidiaries of RHB Banking Group (the Group).
- A farewell gift with the value of up to RM3,000.00 will be granted to a Non-Executive Director for the entire tenure of directorship (c) upon his/her exit from the Group, either upon retirement or resignation.

The Group Managing Director/Group Chief Executive Officer does not receive any Director's remuneration.

In determining the estimated total amount of remuneration (excluding Directors' fees and Board Committees' allowances) for the Non-Executive Directors including the Non-Executive Chairman of the Board of the Company, the Board had considered various factors including the number of scheduled meetings for the Board and Board Committees as well as the number of Non-Executive Directors involved in these meetings.

Payment of the Non-Executive Directors' remuneration will be made by the Company on a monthly basis and/or as and when deemed appropriate, if the proposed Ordinary Resolutions 5 and 6 have been passed at the 56<sup>th</sup> AGM of the Company. The Board is of the view that it is just and equitable for the Non-Executive Directors to be paid the Directors' remuneration on a monthly basis and/or as and when deemed appropriate, particularly after they have discharged their responsibilities and rendered their services to the Company throughout the relevant period.

#### Ordinary Resolution 7 – Appointment of Auditors 5.

The Board Audit Committee ("BAC"), at its meeting on 21 January 2022, conducted its annual assessment on the external auditors of the Company, Messrs PricewaterhouseCoopers PLT ("PricewaterhouseCoopers") in accordance with BNM's Guidelines on External Auditors. The assessment covered a wide spectrum of matters such as performance, suitability, independence and objectivity of the external auditors, based on qualifying criteria for the appointment of auditors and terms of audit engagements.

Having satisfied itself with their performance and fulfilment of criteria as set out in BNM's Guidelines on External Auditors, the BAC recommended the re-appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers as the external auditors of the Company for the financial year ending 31 December 2022. The Board, at its meeting on 21 January 2022, approved the recommendation for shareholders' approval to be sought at the 56<sup>th</sup> AGM of the Company on the re-appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers as the external auditors of the Company for the financial year ending 31 December 2022, under Ordinary Resolution 7.

#### Ordinary Resolution 8 - Authority for Directors to Issue Shares 6.

The proposed Ordinary Resolution 8 is to renew the general mandate to the Directors of the Company to issue ordinary shares of the Company from time to time pursuant to Sections 75 and 76 of the Companies Act 2016. The resolution, if passed, will give powers to the Directors of the Company to issue ordinary shares in the capital of the Company provided that the aggregate number of shares issued pursuant to this resolution does not exceed 10% of the total number of issued shares of the Company for the time being ("General Mandate"), without having to convene a general meeting. The General Mandate, unless revoked or varied at a general meeting, will expire at the conclusion of the next AGM of the Company.

The General Mandate will enable the Directors to take swift action in case of, inter alia, a need for corporate exercises or in the event business opportunities or other circumstances arise which involve the issue of new shares and to avoid delay and cost in convening general meetings to approve such issue of shares. In any event, the exercise of the mandate is only to be undertaken if the Board considers it to be in the best interest of the Company.

#### 7. Ordinary Resolution 9 - Allotment and Issuance of DRP Shares

The proposed Ordinary Resolution 9 if passed, will give authority to the Directors to allot and issue new RHB Bank Shares pursuant to the DRP in respect of dividends declared after this AGM, and such authority shall expire at the conclusion of the next AGM of the Company.

#### STATEMENT ACCOMPANYING NOTICE OF THE 56<sup>TH</sup> AGM OF THE COMPANY

Additional information pursuant to Paragraph 8.27(2) of the Main Market Listing Requirements of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad is set out in Annexure A to the Notice of the 56<sup>th</sup> AGM of the Company.

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STATEMENT ACCOMPANYING NOTICE OF THE 56<sup>TH</sup> AGM OF THE COMPANY

# PROXY FORM

No. of Ordinary Shares held		CDS Account No.
	1	
I/We	<i></i>	
		ame in block letters)
of		
being a member of <b>RHB BANK B</b>	BER	HAD ("RHB Bank" or
Name		
	(Na	ame in block letters)
of		
1/ *		
and/or*		
Name		
	(Na	ame in block letters)

or failing him/her, the CHAIRMAN OF THE MEETING, as my/our\* proxy to vote for me/us\* and on my/our\* behalf at the 56<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting ("**AGM**") of the Company to be held on a virtual basis at the broadcast venue at Meeting Room 3, Level 16, Tower Three, RHB Centre, Jalan Tun Razak, 50400 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia ("**Broadcast Venue**") on Wednesday, 27 April 2022 at 10.00 a.m. or at any adjournment thereof.

The proportion of my/our\* holdings to be represented by my/our\* proxies are as follows:

#### First Proxy (1)

of

My/Our proxy\* is to vote as indicated below:

Resolutions	
Ordinary Resolution 1	To approve the payme of the financial year e
	To re-elect the follow
Ordinary Resolution 2	(i) Tan Sri Dr Rebecca
Ordinary Resolution 3	(ii) Mr Lim Cheng Tecl
Ordinary Resolution 4	(iii) Puan Sharifatu La
Ordinary Resolution 5	To approve the increas AGM of the Company Directors for the perio
Ordinary Resolution 6	To approve the payme Board Committees' al Directors for the perio
Ordinary Resolution 7	To re-appoint Messrs office until the conclu determined by the Di
Ordinary Resolution 8	To authorise the Dire Companies Act 2016.
Ordinary Resolution 9	To approve the allotm to the Dividend Reinv

(Please indicate with an "X" in the spaces provided above as to how you wish to cast your vote. If no specific directions as to voting are given, the proxy shall vote or abstain from voting at his/her full discretion.)

Dated \_\_\_\_\_\_ , 2022

### (Pursuant to Paragraph 8.27(2) of the Main Market Listing Requirements of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad)

Annexure A

(i) Further details of individuals who are standing for election as Directors (excluding Directors standing for re-election)

No individual is seeking election as a Director at the 56<sup>th</sup> AGM of the Company.

(ii) A statement relating to general mandate for issue of security in accordance with paragraph 6.03(3) of the Main Market Listing Requirements of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad

The proposed Ordinary Resolution 8 for the general mandate for issue of securities is a renewal mandate. As at the date of this Notice, no new shares were issued pursuant to the general mandate granted to the Directors at the last AGM held on 25 May 2021.

ount No.

Registration No. 196501000373 (6171-M) (Incorporated in Malaysia under the then Companies Ordinances, 1940 – 1946)

NRIC/Passport/Company No.			
k letters)			
(Full	address)		
<b>3 Bank</b> " or " <b>Company</b> ") he	reby appoint:		
	NRIC No. (Mandatory)		
k letters)			
(Full Address,	Email & Tel. No.)		
	NRIC No. (Mandatory)		
k letters)			

(Full Address, Email & Tel. No.)

Second Proxy (2)

	For	Against
nt of a single-tier final dividend of 25.00 sen per share in respect nded 31 December 2021.		
ng Directors pursuant to Clause 94 of the Company's Constitution:		
Fatima Sta Maria		
la Syed Ali		
e of Directors' fees and Board Committees' allowances from the 56 <sup>th</sup> and further to approve the payment of the same to the Non-Executive I from the 56 <sup>th</sup> AGM to the 57 <sup>th</sup> AGM of the Company.		
nt of Directors' remuneration (excluding Directors' fees and owances) of an amount up to RM2,000,000 to the Non-Executive of from the 56 <sup>th</sup> AGM to the 57 <sup>th</sup> AGM of the Company.		
PricewaterhouseCoopers PLT as Auditors of the Company to hold sion of the 57 <sup>th</sup> AGM of the Company, at a remuneration to be ectors.		
tors to issue shares pursuant to Sections 75 and 76 of the		
ent and issuance of new ordinary shares in the Company pursuant estment Plan.		

#### Notes:-

- In respect of deposited securities, only members whose names appear in the Record of Depositors on 20 April 2022 (General Meeting Record of Depositors) shall be entitled to participate and vote remotely at the forthcoming 56<sup>th</sup> AGM using the remote participation and electronic voting facilities.
- 2. A member of the Company entitled to participate and vote remotely at the forthcoming 56<sup>th</sup> AGM is entitled to appoint one or more proxies to participate and vote remotely in his/her place. A proxy may but need not be a member of the Company.
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- 4. If the Form of Proxy is returned without any indication as to how the proxy shall vote, the proxy will vote or abstain as he/she thinks fit.
- 5. Where a member appoints two proxies, the appointment shall be invalid unless he/she specifies the proportion of his/her holdings to be represented by each proxy. Where a member of the Company is an authorised nominee as defined under the Securities Industry (Central Depositories) Act 1991 ("**SICDA**"), it may appoint at least one proxy in respect of each Securities Account which is credited with ordinary shares of the Company.
- 6. Where a member of the Company is an exempt authorised nominee which holds ordinary shares in the Company for multiple beneficial owners in one securities account ("**Omnibus Account**"), there is no limit to the number of proxies which the exempt authorised nominee may appoint in respect of each Omnibus Account it holds. An exempt authorised nominee refers to an authorised nominee defined under SICDA which is exempted from compliance with the provisions of subsection 25A(1) of SICDA.
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PLEASE FOLD HERE	

Postage Stamp

The Share Registrar of **RHB BANK BERHAD** BOARDROOM SHARE REGISTRARS SDN BHD 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, Menara Symphony No. 5, Jalan Prof. Khoo Kay Kim Seksyen 13 46200 Petaling Jaya Selangor Malaysia

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## www.rhbgroup.com

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