



## News Room

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### **RHB Private Equity Secured Leading Venture Capital Firm In Japan As Investment Management Advisor For Its "Asia Cleantech Fund"**

KUALA LUMPUR, 8 November 2011 – RHB Private Equity Holdings Sdn Bhd, a subsidiary of RHB Investment Bank Berhad entered into a preliminary agreement with SBI Investment Co. Ltd ("SBII"), the largest Venture Capital Firm in Japan to act as the Investment Management Advisor to RHB Private Equity Fund Management Ltd ("RHB Private Equity"), an indirect subsidiary of RHB Investment Bank Berhad, to establish the "Asia CleanTech Fund".

As the first fund established in Malaysia targeting clean technology investments in Asia Pacific, the Asia CleanTech Fund will focus on an industry that is drawing great attention in Asia, from the viewpoint of both economic growth and increasing demand for energy. Clean technology is fast becoming a trend as the level of awareness to attain a sustainable environment escalates globally.

The Asia CleanTech Fund, targeting innovative clean technologies primarily for renewable energy, smart technology, transport, agriculture, water and waste sectors, will have a minimal commitment of USD50 million. It focuses on investing in listed and unlisted companies mainly in Japan, China and in other Asian emerging countries. RHB Private Equity aims to commence investing the fund by March 2012.

Patrick Chin Yoke Chung, Chairman of RHB Private Equity Holdings Sdn Bhd, notes that "This is the first fund for RHB Private Equity created in partnership with an external party and we are proud to have SBII as our partner". SBII, he adds, has extensive experience in clean technology industries through hands-on activities and will leverage on its exclusive network to grow values for the shareholders of the Asia CleanTech Fund.

RHB Private Equity currently has a fund size of RM250 million and aims to expand its business mainly in Asia Pacific, focusing on growth sectors and buyouts leveraging on the strength of the RHB Group and its partners.

SBII and its listed holding company, SBI Holdings Ltd became independent from Softbank in 2006 and has been at the forefront of establishing funds investing in 21st century growth sectors such as information technology, biotech and clean technology since its inception in 1996. Currently SBII has ¥160 billion (approximately USD2 billion) in its funds under management and it has generated superior returns for these funds.

*Issued by the Corporate Communications Division, RHB Capital Berhad. For more information, please call Shima Reza at 03-92802533.*

### **About the RHB Banking Group**

*The RHB Banking Group is the fifth largest fully integrated financial services group in Malaysia. The Group's core businesses are streamlined into seven Strategic Business Groups (SBGs): Retail Banking, Business Banking, Group Transaction Banking, Corporate & Investment Banking, Islamic Banking, Global Financial Banking and Group Treasury. These businesses are offered through its main subsidiaries - RHB Bank Berhad, RHB Investment Bank Berhad, RHB Insurance Berhad and RHB Islamic Bank Berhad, while its asset management and unit trust businesses are held under RHB Investment Management Berhad. RHB's Global Financial Banking Division includes commercial banking operations in Singapore, Thailand and Brunei. The Group also has a non-ringgit based offshore funding operations in Labuan as well as a representative office in Vietnam. It is RHB Banking Group's aspiration to deliver superior customer experience and shareholder value; and be recognised as one of the top financial services group in the ASEAN Region.*

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