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RHB ISLAMIC PARTNERS PNB TO STRENGTHEN SOCIOECONOMICS OF B40 COMMUNITY IN KELANTAN

Kuala Lumpur – RHB Islamic Bank Berhad (“RHB Islamic” or the “Bank”) and Permodalan Nasional Berhad (“PNB”) today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (“MoU”) to kick-off their first joint collaborative programme, the *Projek Ternakan Ayam Kampung Kacuk* (“PTAKK”) aimed at fostering sustainable economic growth within targeted communities in Kelantan.

“RHB Islamic and PNB are pleased to work with Universiti Malaysia Kelantan (“UMK”)’s Institute of Research and Poverty Management (“InsPeK”) as the implementation partner of PTAKK. This initiative will enable the participants to venture into poultry farming entrepreneurship. The goal is to gradually improve the livelihoods of the participants and uplift them from poverty, and strengthen food security in Malaysia. This endeavour supports our commitment to integrating Islamic social finance and value-based intermediation as a responsible Islamic banking institution through positive impact initiatives. Together with our strategic partners, we look forward to creating more meaningful initiatives with lasting impacts on the society and economy,” said Dato’ Adissadikin Ali, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of RHB Islamic Bank Berhad.

“In PNB’s more than 40-year journey as a trusted investment institution in the country, we have made it a priority not only to deliver our mandate on the creation of wealth for Bumiputeras and Malaysians at large but also to ensure that we have a positive impact on the economy and the well-being of society. PNB remains committed to promoting social justice through the

redistribution of wealth and fair financial affairs through corporate zakat payment. We strive to improve the livelihood of the underprivileged Asnaf community by promoting better healthcare, enhancing education and providing economic and social support.

These initiatives through PNB's CSR Zakat Distribution Programme, managed by our Shariah Management Department, are aligned with PNB's ESG commitment #7; balancing profitability and social investments, particularly the Company's commitment towards funding education, community upliftment, financial literacy and knowledge sharing initiative," said Dato' Mohd Nizam Zainordin, Deputy President and Group Chief Financial Officer of PNB.

Under this collaboration, RHB Islamic and PNB will collectively contribute RM600,000 as seed funding for the programme. InsPeK, as programme implementer, will manage the programme from farm development to product marketing, including guiding, training and advising the participants on poultry entrepreneurship, and monitoring PTAKK's progress from incubation to project completion.

The founding of a poultry farming ecosystem in Kampung Pohon Menasi, Bachok, Kelantan, will involve several phases including setting up a poultry hatchery and food processing system. The project will benefit the local and UMK's academic community with practical knowledge in agro ecosystem management and research opportunities, and encourage local innovation. In the long-term, this will help to uplift the socio-economy of the B40 community in the area.

RHB Islamic strongly advocates the practice of Islamic social finance through its zakat distribution. The Bank has recently contributed two agriculture drones and a tipper truck to help almost 70 farmers in Kedah to enhance their productivity and defray part of transportation costs.