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## **JAPANESE & ASEAN INVESTORS GAIN KEY INSIGHTS AT RHB-OKASAN TOKYO CONFERENCE**

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**Kuala Lumpur** – Japanese and ASEAN investors gained key insights and updates on investment perspectives at the RHB-Okasan Tokyo Conference 2018, organised by RHB Banking Group and Okasan Securities. The two-day conference held in Tokyo from 5 – 6 July 2018, themed “*Opportunities in ASEAN – A Local Perspective*”, saw the participation of close to 50 delegates, and was aimed at providing insights on investment potential in ASEAN.

Delegates had the opportunity to explore 11 ASEAN companies showcased at the conference, from Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand, mainly comprising small-cap to mid-cap range companies.

According to a 2018 report by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Southeast Asian nations are projected to achieve an average growth of 5.2% between 2018 and 2022, which presents an excellent potential for healthy returns. ASEAN’s prospects look promising with thriving exports and export growth that looks set to average 8% in 2018. Economists at RHB Research Institute expect a similar pace in 2019, with a quarter of trade being between ASEAN neighbours.

“ASEAN is an emerging market that promotes inclusive and innovation-led growth to enhance the economic performance of the members of the ASEAN Economic Community. This works well for the seamless flow of investments within ASEAN which is key to effective regional integration.

“I encourage potential investors to take this opportunity to explore the various facets of investing in ASEAN and how to capitalize on the business opportunities present in the region. Many of the companies showcased at the conference are from the small and mid-cap segment which holds tremendous potential,” said Dato’ Khairussaleh Ramli, Group Managing Director, RHB Banking Group.

RHB Research Institute covers nearly 500 listed companies in Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia and Hong Kong/China. RHB helps investors make informed decisions with the advantage of its comprehensive Economic, Equity and Fixed Income & Currencies research coverage by award-winning economists and analysts in key Asian markets.

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