



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **RHB HOSTS “ONE BELT, ONE ROAD, ONE ASIA” REGIONAL CONFERENCE**

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KUALA LUMPUR: RHB Banking Group (“the Group”) today hosted RHB Regional 2017 Conference entitled “*One Belt, One Road, One Asia*” with the main focus on infrastructure development and investment opportunities within ASEAN. The one-day conference participated by more than 200 delegates, featured an impressive line-up of high-level government representatives and subject matter experts, who shared insights and raised awareness on the scale and benefits of the *One Belt, One Road* or “OBOR” initiative.

The *Silk Road Economic Belt* and the *21<sup>st</sup> Century Maritime Silk Road* initiatives, now commonly known as OBOR would see land and sea trading interconnect between 68 nations, encompassing 68% of the world’s population and 33.3% of global GDP as at 2016. Trade between China and ASEAN – specifically trade between China and Malaysia can be a major cornerstone for the success of OBOR.

Overall, the announced OBOR projects in Malaysia have a cumulative investment size of close to USD50bn or more than MYR200bn, that is to be spread out over a period of 7-10 years up to 2027, said RHB Research in a recent report. Meanwhile, ASEAN needs infrastructure investments to the tune of USD2.2bn between 2016 and 2030, according to McKinsey Global Institute.

“The OBOR initiative offers strong investment prospects to those countries along the land-based *Silk Road Economic Belt* and ocean-going *21<sup>st</sup> Century Maritime Silk Road*. We also believe strongly that the China-Malaysia model can be the template for future investments under this initiative,” said Dato’ Khairussaleh Ramli, Group Managing Director, RHB Banking Group in his opening remarks at the opening of the conference at Westin Hotel.

“RHB’s *One Belt, One Road, One Asia* regional conference aims to highlight business and investment opportunities available to you across the ASEAN region. We hope that this conference will serve as a guide for investment decisions in 2017 and beyond, and provide a platform for investors and industries to converge and to spur a robust regional economy that will benefit Malaysia in particular and ASEAN at large,” added Khairussaleh.

Delegates received invaluable insights from panel speakers of ten regional companies that are involved in OBOR namely Bank of China, Exim Bank, China Communications Construction Company (CCCC), China Railway Group, IJM Corporation (IJM), Kerjaya Prospek Group, Malaysia Airports Holdings, Sino-Thai Engineering and Construction (Sino-Thai), Ticon Industrial Connection and Westports Holdings. The event featured presentations and panel sessions with invited speakers from government bodies and related industries that include ports, railways, infrastructure construction and financial services from Malaysia, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia and Thailand.

In Nov 2016, Malaysia and China inked 14 business-to-business (B2B) agreements and 16 government-to-government (G2G) MoUs amounting to approximately MYR144bn. Among the key deals inked were the East Coast Rail Line (ECRL) infrastructure project amounting to MYR55bn and Malaysia's acquisition of four Chinese littoral mission ships. The ECRL infrastructure development is one of the examples of Malaysia welcoming the OBOR initiative. This ECRL is a part of the Belt's rail network from Singapore to China. For the Road, two examples of Malaysia's strategies that are in line with this vision are Kuantan Port and Malacca Gateway Port. Both ports are being jointly developed by Malaysian and Chinese corporations.

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

*The RHB Banking Group, with RHB Bank Berhad as the holding company, is the fourth largest fully integrated financial services group in Malaysia. The Group's core businesses are structured into seven main business pillars, namely Group Retail Banking, Group Business & Transaction Banking, Group Wholesale Banking, RHB Singapore, Group Shariah Business, Group International Business and Group Insurance. Group Wholesale Banking comprises Corporate Banking, Investment Banking, Group Treasury & Global Markets, Asset Management and Private Equity. All the seven business pillars are offered through the Group's main subsidiaries – RHB Investment Bank Berhad, RHB Islamic Bank Berhad and RHB Insurance Berhad, while its asset management and unit trust businesses are undertaken by RHB Asset Management Sdn. Bhd. and RHB Islamic International Asset Management Berhad. The Group's regional presence now spans ten countries including Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, Brunei, Cambodia, Hong Kong/China, Vietnam, Lao PDR and Myanmar.*

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