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THE LAUNCH OF MALAYSIA'S 1st ESG WHOLESALE FUND

VCAP Asset Managers introduces "Malaysian ESG Opportunity Fund" to the investing community

KUALA LUMPUR - 6 July 2015: VCAP Asset Managers Sdn. Bhd. (VCAM) the wholly owned asset management subsidiary of ValueCAP Sdn. Bhd., launched its **Malaysian ESG Opportunity Fund** in line with the government's efforts to promote a sustainable and responsible domestic capital market.

The **Malaysian ESG Opportunity Fund** is an open-ended equity wholesale fund and the first domestic ESG fund of its kind benchmarked against the recently launched FTSE4Good Bursa Malaysia Index. The Index currently boasts 25 constituent companies that demonstrates a leading approach towards addressing Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) risks derived from the top 200 companies in the FTSE Bursa Malaysia EMAS Index.

These factors have been evaluated using FTSE's proprietary ESG ratings model, the engine of all FTSE4Good indices around the world which measures, amongst others, efforts in environmental conservation, the impact of social responsibility initiatives on the community, and responsible and ethical decision-making.

According to Datuk Khairil Anuar Abdullah, Chairman of VCAM, investors the world over are looking to companies that will deliver sustainable, long term returns.

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Datuk Khairil said, "In addition to fundamentals and value based investing, investors demand that companies to adhere to sound corporate governance principles, craft socially responsible business strategies and pay heed to accountable environmental practices. Investing in such companies has increasingly become the new normal."

"Malaysia needs to take advantage of the opportunity at hand, to align to its aspiration to be a developed country in 2020 with the broader agenda of good governance, sustainability and inclusivity."

"While ESG considerations have been a part of ValueCAP's investment philosophy from the very beginning, we can now utilize the FTSE4Good Bursa Malaysia Index universe of stocks, 25 currently, as a point of departure for our fund. VCAM's value is our portfolio construction capabilities built on fundamentals screens, and our proprietary stock selection methodology to provide investors with long term returns."

With sustainable investments making up over 30 per cent of the global investment market accounting for some US\$21.4 trillion Assets Under Management (AUM), the launch of sustainable investment products in Malaysia will fuel the nation's ambition to make its capital market a global investment destination of choice for socially responsible investment.*

Additionally, Malaysia's success as a leading centre for Islamic Finance *with total assets of US\$423 billion or 25 per cent of global Islamic finance assets at the end of 2014***, has placed it in good stead to capitalise on the global sustainable investment markets where America and Europe are leading the charge.

CEO of VCAM, Shan Kamahl Mohammad who provided an overview of the fund said that the **Malaysian ESG Opportunity Fund** will provide Qualified Investors the opportunity to diversify their investments and build a portfolio delivering sustainable long-term returns tied to ESG policies.

He explained that besides FTSE's proprietary ESG Ratings, the fund will capitalise on ValueCAP's proven portfolio construction capabilities based on its philosophy of value investing.

"We will employ additional screening where financial fundamentals, industrial prospects and management quality are supported by top-down and bottom-up views, alongside proprietary market research to assess the constituents over and above the FTSE4Good Bursa Malaysia Index. Investors may be able to enjoy potential capital growth through active portfolio management and stock selections to enhance their portfolio value."

VCAM's investment team, via its holding company, ValueCAP, has extensive experience in successfully managing equity funds for the past 11 years, with an Annualised Return on Investment (ROI) of over 16% for its proprietary equity funds.

VCAM's **Malaysian ESG Opportunity Fund** heralds ValueCAP's entry into the ESG investing landscape where it aims to build its footprint domestically and regionally.

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** The global sustainable investment market has continued to grow both in absolute and relative terms, rising from US\$13.3 trillion at the outset of 2012 to US\$21.4 trillion at the start of 2014 – a 61% percent growth outpacing the growth in total professionally managed assets; and from 21.5 percent to 30.2 percent of the professionally managed assets in the regions covered – 2014 Global Sustainable Investment Review*

***EPP10 Highlights – April 2015, Economic Transformation Programme*

About ValueCAP Sdn. Bhd. (“ValueCAP”)

Founded in 2003, ValueCAP is part of the Malaysian Government’s initiative to rebuild and revitalize the Malaysian economy following the 1998 Asian Financial Crisis. ValueCAP is equally owned by Khazanah Nasional Berhad, Kumpulan Wang Persaraan (Diperbadankan) and Permodalan Nasional Berhad. The company has two subsidiaries, VCAP Asset Managers Sdn. Bhd. (VCAM), and i-VCAP Management Sdn. Bhd. (i-VCAP) which involve in fund management activities.

For further information, go to www.valuecap.com.my

About VCAP Asset Managers Sdn. Bhd. (“VCAM”)

VCAM, a wholly owned subsidiary of ValueCAP Sdn. Bhd., was incorporated in December 2013, is a holder of the Capital Markets Services Licence (“CMSL”). The investment team at VCAM is made up of the same core team of portfolio managers that have worked together for over ten years at ValueCap Sdn. Bhd., supported by a sound and capable Internal Research and Quantitative teams.

For further information, go to www.vcam.com.my

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