

CIMB Group to invest RM1.1 billion in 1Platform

Monday, 23 August 2010

for immediate release

Kuala Lumpur: CIMB Group today announced the implementation of 1Platform, a regional core banking platform across Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and Thailand, and signed agreements with the four main technology partners namely Silverlake Axis, Accenture, IDS Scheer and IBM.

With an all-in cost of RM1.1 billion over the next five years, 1Platform is the largest component of CIMB Group's regional operations transformation blueprint which is expected to cost RM 2.1 billion. The other four main components of the blueprint are its financial reporting and management system, integrated human resource (HR) management system, all-new front-end sales management system, and regional transaction banking system.

"Our significant investment in our operations transformation, and within it, 1Platform, reflects our commitment towards establishing the internal systems and processes for CIMB Group to operate as one entity across the region. 1Platform is the foundation for a regional IT and operations framework which unifies CIMB Group and enables us to compete as a truly regional bank. With the formal engagement of our partners in this major undertaking, we are ready for the implementation phase," said Dato' Sri Nazir Razak, Group Chief Executive, CIMB Group, who witnessed the signing ceremony.

The signing ceremony formalised the appointment of Silverlake Axis, a Malaysian-grown global IT solutions provider, to provide the core banking system. IDS Scheer will supply the business process management solutions; IBM will provide the IT infrastructure while Accenture will serve as the primary consultant for programme management. Present at the signing ceremony were Goh Peng Ooi, Chairman, Silverlake Axis; Thean Nam Yew, ASEAN Financial Services Managing Director, Accenture Solutions; Lars Bengtsson, ASEAN Managing Director, IDS Scheer; and Ramanathan Sathiamutty, Managing Director, IBM Malaysia.

Due to the scale and magnitude of the project, the implementation of 1Platform will be completed on a country-by-country basis, starting in Thailand and followed by Malaysia, Indonesia and lastly Singapore. The whole Group is expected to be on 1Platform by 2015.

Iswaraan Suppiah, Head of Group Information and Operations, CIMB Group said, “We are very excited about this transformation; the implementation of 1Platform will revolutionise our systems and processes, and will provide the impetus for the Group’s regional agenda in the years to come.”

“The proven experience of Silverlake Axis, Accenture, IDS Scheer and IBM in handling large scale technology integrations, combined with CIMB Group’s two years of project research and development and its own experience in driving regional initiatives gives us the confidence that we will successfully implement 1Platform,” he added.

Elaborating further on the Group’s overall plans, Nazir said: “Building a single operations and IT framework across the region will enable us to generate substantially more synergies from our regional business model, aside from realising significant operational efficiencies from the standardisation of skill-sets across the Group. It will facilitate product development and proliferation across the region, enabling our people to more effectively bundle and cross-sell products.”

“This is a major exercise for CIMB Group and we do not underestimate the enormity and complexity of the challenge. We will also dedicate the human resources necessary to ensure its success. In fact, over 300 staff are currently working full-time on our regional transformation agenda, and we expect this number to double in the implementation phases ahead.”

“The full impact of our investment in 1Platform and other transformation initiatives will only be felt progressively over the next four to five years. However, we want to ensure that we are building a banking institution that will be successful long after our own careers in the organisation,” he added.

About CIMB Group

CIMB Group is Malaysia's second largest financial services provider and one of Southeast Asia's leading universal banking groups. It offers consumer banking, investment banking, Islamic banking, asset management and insurance products and services. Headquartered in Kuala Lumpur, its key operations are located in Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and Thailand. The Group also has presence in Brunei, Myanmar and Vietnam. Beyond ASEAN, the Group has offices in Hong Kong, Bahrain, London and New York, as well as a 19.99% stake in Bank of Yingkou, China.

CIMB Group operates its business through three main brand entities, CIMB Bank, CIMB Investment Bank and CIMB Islamic. CIMB Group is also the majority shareholder of Bank CIMB Niaga in Indonesia, and the single largest shareholder of CIMB Thai in Thailand.

CIMB Group is listed on Bursa Malaysia via CIMB Group Holdings Berhad (formerly known as Bumiputra-Commerce Holdings Bhd). It has a market capitalisation of approximately RM49.4 billion as at 30 June 2010. The Group has over 36,000 employees located in 11 countries.

If you have further queries or require more information, please contact:

Effendy Shahul Hamid
Head, Group Corporate Communications
CIMB Group
Tel: 03 - 2087 3030
Fax: 03 - 2093 1008
Email: effendy.hamid@cimb.com