

## OCBC MALAYSIA REGISTERS 5% GROWTH IN OPERATING PROFIT TO RM1.3 BILLION

Kuala Lumpur, 28 April 2015 – OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad (OCBC Bank) and its subsidiaries (OCBC Malaysia) registered RM1.3 billion in operating profit for the financial year ended 31 December 2014, up 5% from the previous year. This was supported by higher net interest income and Islamic Banking income. Net profit after tax fell 12% to RM834 million due to a sharp increase in allowances.

Total gross loans, advances and financing grew 13% year-on-year to about RM63.6 billion due mainly to additional consumer and business loans of RM4.3 billion and RM2.4 billion respectively. Total assets grew by 12% to RM91.6 billion while the non-performing loans (NPL) ratio improved to 2.0% from 2.3% in 2014.

OCBC Bank Chief Executive Officer Mr Ong Eng Bin said he was pleased with OCBC Malaysia's satisfactory performance attributed to both the business banking and consumer financial services units that continued to record robust growth which was hampered only by the significant increase in allowances.

"The growth in operating profit was supported by the strong performance in lending to the housing sector as well as our significant progress in the wealth management business. As a firm supporter of the SME industry, our lending to small medium enterprises (SME) also grew, by 16% to RM14.3 billion in 2014," he said.

OCBC Malaysia's total income for the year rose 6% to RM2.3 billion, driven by a 12% increase in net interest income (including Islamic banking income) although non-interest income decreased 13%. Overhead expenses expanded at a lower rate of 7% as the Bank continued to make the necessary investments for future growth such as improving its existing branch network to better serve its customers.

OCBC Malaysia continued to maintain a strong capital position, with shareholders' funds strengthening to RM6.0 billion and risk weighted capital ratio standing at 17.5% (before dividends) as at end 2014.

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### **About OCBC Bank**

OCBC Bank is the longest established Singapore bank, formed in 1932 from the merger of three local banks, the oldest of which was founded in 1912. It is now the second largest financial services group in Southeast Asia by assets and one

of the world's most highly-rated banks, with an Aa1 rating from Moody's. Recognised for its financial strength and stability, OCBC Bank is consistently ranked among the world's strongest and safest banks by leading market research firms and publications.

OCBC Bank and its subsidiaries offer a broad array of commercial banking, specialist financial and wealth management services, ranging from consumer, corporate, investment, private and transaction banking to treasury, insurance, asset management and stockbroking services.

OCBC Bank's key markets are Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Greater China. It has over 630 branches and representative offices in 18 countries and territories. These include the more than 330 branches and offices in Indonesia operated by subsidiary Bank OCBC NISP, and 95 branches and offices in Hong Kong, China and Macau under OCBC Wing Hang.

OCBC Bank's private banking services are provided by subsidiary Bank of Singapore, which has received increasing industry recognition as Asia's Global Private Bank, and was voted "Outstanding Private Bank in Southeast Asia in 2014" by Private Banker International.

OCBC Bank's insurance subsidiary, Great Eastern Holdings, is the oldest and most established life insurance group in Singapore and Malaysia. Its asset management subsidiary, Lion Global Investors, is one of the largest private sector asset management companies in Southeast Asia.

OCBC Bank offers Islamic banking products and services in Malaysia through its wholly-owned subsidiary, OCBC Al-Amin Bank Berhad.

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