

OCBC EXPANDING ISLAMIC BANKING BRANCH NETWORK TO EAST MALAYSIA

Kuala Lumpur, 17 November 2015 – OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad (OCBC Bank) is for the first time expanding its Islamic banking branch network to East Malaysia through the establishment of its inaugural OCBC Al-Amin branches in Sibul (Sarawak) and Sandakan (Sabah) next month.



Ong Eng Bin, Chief Executive Officer of OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad and Syed Abdul Aziz Syed Kechik, Director & CEO of OCBC Al-Amin Bank Berhad announcing the upcoming expansion of OCBC Al-Amin's branch network to East Malaysia (Sibul and Sandakan)

The Sibul branch, to be located at Jalan Pahlawan, will cover 4,700 square feet while the Sandakan branch at Bandar Indah will occupy almost 4,400 square feet.

They will both feature a comprehensive range of OCBC Al-Amin Islamic banking products and services including consumer banking offerings, a business banking centre to serve corporate and SME enterprises, safe deposit boxes, and a premier banking centre (in Sibul). Other services will

include 24-hour electronic banking services featuring ATMs and Cash/Cheque Deposit Machines.

The Sibul Premier Banking Centre will include a comfortable private customer discussion area.

According to OCBC Al-Amin Director & CEO Syed Abdull Aziz Syed Kechik the Bank had set its sights on expanding into East Malaysia since its establishment in 2008 and was pleased to see the plans coming to fruition.

“Expansion into East Malaysia has been a key part of our overall Islamic banking network-building strategy from the start. The move brings us a step closer to being better represented in our key markets.

“Beyond this, the upcoming opening of our Sibul branch will mark the establishment of our very first Islamic Premier Banking Centre in East Malaysia, and only the second nationwide after Kota Kemuning.

“With the opening of these branches, we will be more accessible to those who have been looking forward to experiencing our Islamic banking offerings. I am pleased to say that our products and services have caught on well with both Muslims and non-Muslims alike, with both groups appreciating what we have brought to the table. We hope to make our value proposition work well for the people of Sibul, Sandakan and the surrounding areas,” he said.

OCBC Al-Amin has progressively built a stable of 49 products involving 15 key principles of Shariah compliance, ranging from simple deposit and financing offerings to investment banking solutions.

“We believe we are well on track to establishing our Islamic banking practice as one that offers a comprehensive range of alternatives to conventional banking products, and thus a greater number of choices for the consumer,” Syed Abdull Aziz added.

The addresses for the two branches to be opened in December 2015 are: OCBC Bank Sibul Branch, Tingkat Bawah, Wisma Toh Li Hua Foundation, Jaya Li Hua, 21 Jalan Pahlawan, 96000 Sibul, Sarawak; and OCBC Bank Sandakan Branch, Lot 1, Blok 16, Bandar Indah, Batu 4, Jalan Utara, 90000 Sandakan, Sabah.

With the impending opening of both the Sibul and Sandakan branches, OCBC will have five branches in East Malaysia, including the three OCBC Bank branches in Kuching, Miri and Kota Kinabalu. Overall, OCBC will have 45 branches – 13 Islamic and 32 conventional.

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 has been ranked Asean's strongest bank and among the world's five strongest banks by Bloomberg Markets for five consecutive years since the ranking's inception in 2011.

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 620 branches and representative offices in 18 countries and regions. These include the more than 330 branches and offices in Indonesia under subsidiary Bank OCBC NISP, and more than 90 branches and offices in Hong Kong, China and Macau under OCBC Wing Hang.

OCBC Bank's private banking services are provided by its wholly-owned 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.

For more information, please visit www.ocbc.com.my
