

MEDIA RELEASE

OCBC AL-AMIN LINKS UP WITH ZOO NEGARA IN MALAYAN TAPIR CONSERVATION EFFORT

Bank sponsors RM40,000 to ensure tapirs do not become extinct

Kuala Lumpur, 21 July 2020 – The Malayan tapirs at Zoo Negara in Taman Melawati and their progeny have found a new friend in OCBC Al-Amin Bank Berhad (OCBC Al-Amin), which recently contributed RM40,000 over a two-year period toward conserving the endangered species.



OCBC Al-Amin CEO Tuan Syed Abdull Aziz Syed Kechik (left) and OCBC Bank CEO Dato' Ong Eng Bin (right) unveiling the sponsorship for tapir conservation efforts at Zoo Negara Malaysia

OCBC Al-Amin is the wholly-owned Islamic banking subsidiary of OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad (OCBC Bank) (collectively, OCBC Malaysia).

The funds, which are a combination of contributions from both the Bank and the CEOs of both OCBC Bank and OCBC Al-Amin, will be used for maintaining the Malayan tapirs' annual food provision, enrichment and veterinary care.



OCBC Al-Amin CEO Tuan Syed Abdull Aziz Syed Kechik (left) and OCBC Bank CEO Dato' Ong Eng Bin (right) feeding a tapir at Zoo Negara Malaysia following the sponsorship unveiling ceremony

Speaking at a brief ceremony to mark the sponsorship, OCBC Al-Amin Chief Executive Officer Tuan Syed Abdull Aziz Syed Kechik said OCBC Malaysia has been involved in sustainability and conservation efforts for several years now, but mainly in the area of flora rather than fauna.

“This is our first venture into animal-related conservation and we are pleased to be able to partner with Zoo Negara Malaysia to ensure their Malayan tapirs remain well and that they are able to generate more offspring that can then be released into other conservation centres and ultimately into the wild.

“As bankers we have become even more keenly aware of the need for sustainable practices at all levels. While much of our effort goes into ensuring sustainable banking practices, including Value Based Intermediation (VBI), we are mindful of the need to keep looking out at the wider world as well to ensure nature is always operating in harmony with the rest of life.

“OCBC Al-Amin will continue to strive to be more involved in the localities in which we operate and to become even more engaged in the community, going beyond simply providing superior banking products and services to meeting the needs of the environment as well,” he said.

According to Zoo Negara Malaysia Deputy President Encik Rosly@Rahmat Ahmat Lana, the Malayan tapir is classified as an endangered species by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species, which means the population trend of the Malayan tapir is decreasing in the wild and facing a high risk of extinction. Also known as the Asian or Malay tapir, these largest of the world's tapirs are threatened by hunting and forest fragmentation in this region. Despite that, the Malayan tapir population in Malaysia and Southern Thailand are considered the most resilient and stable.

“Zoo Negara Malaysia is more than just home to hundreds of animal species; it is also a conservation centre for endangered and vulnerable wildlife. We take part in conservation efforts to improve and preserve any vulnerable species of wildlife. Zoological parks play an important role in preserving biodiversity, on top of educating the general public about these threatened species.

“Corporate partnership and sponsorship opportunities involving like-minded businesses are vital to our ongoing growth and sustenance, leveraging from high level brand exposure and PR opportunities via the Zoo's broad reach into the community. We are truly grateful to OCBC Al-Amin for this much-needed sponsorship. This will go a long way toward assisting us in our Malayan tapir conservation efforts,” he said.

Also present at the event was OCBC Bank CEO Dato' Ong Eng Bin.

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 Top 50 Safest Banks by Global Finance and has been named Best Managed Bank in Singapore by The Asian Banker.

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 more than 500 branches and representative offices in 19 countries and regions. These include over 250 branches and offices in Indonesia under subsidiary Bank OCBC NISP, and over 80 branches and offices in Mainland China, Hong Kong SAR and Macau SAR under OCBC Wing Hang.

OCBC Bank's private banking services are provided by its wholly-owned subsidiary Bank of Singapore, which operates on a unique open-architecture product platform to source for the best-in-class products to meet its clients' goals.

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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