

For immediate release

## **Manulife Asset Management Services Berhad named Most Outstanding Islamic Asset Management Company by Kuala Lumpur Islamic Finance Forum (KLIFF)**

**Kuala Lumpur, 17 October 2017** - Manulife Asset Management Services Berhad (MAMSB) has been named the Most Outstanding Islamic Asset Management Company in Malaysia by the Kuala Lumpur Islamic Finance Forum (KLIFF). This award acknowledges and honours the significant efforts and contributions by MAMSB in developing the Islamic finance industry.

The award was presented by Yang Berbahagia Dato' Wira Othman Aziz, Deputer Finance Minister I, Ministry of Finance, Malaysia, at the 14th KLIFF Islamic Finance Awards Ceremony held at Hotel Istana, Kuala Lumpur.

Jason Chong, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director of MAMSB said, "It gives us great honour to be recognised as the Most Outstanding Islamic Asset Management Company by KLIFF Islamic Finance Awards 2017. This award is a testament to the strategic progress that MAMSB has made in capturing significant market opportunities in the Shariah-compliant investment space while further leveraging our deep local expertise in terms of portfolio management and investment advisory services."

The commitment of Bank Negara Malaysia, the country's central bank, in ensuring Malaysia remains a leading international Islamic financial centre is met with year-on-year market growth. Driven primarily by the expansion of unit trust funds, assets under management for Islamic funds in Malaysia grew 13% to RM149.6 billion in 2016, accounting for around 21% of Malaysia's fund management industry<sup>1</sup>.

He added, "It is our goal to create value and build our profile in the Islamic finance market by bringing the absolute best of Manulife's wealth and asset management offerings to both our conventional and Islamic retail investors as well as government-linked companies as we work to become a more solution-based and customer-focused organisation."

MAMSB offers a whole suite of 16 Shariah-compliant funds covering equity, sukuk, mixed assets, money market and Private Retirement Scheme. As of 31 August 2017, the total AUM of MAMSB's Islamic funds stands at more than RM1.75 billion. In addition, 70% of the Shariah-compliant unit trust funds are EPF-Members Investment Scheme approved.

In terms of MAMSB's achievements in the Islamic space, over the last ten and a half years, the AUM growth of its Shariah-compliant funds has averaged an impressive +21% p.a. versus total Unit Trust industry growth of 16% p.a.<sup>2</sup>.

For the past seven years, four of MAMSB's Shariah-compliant funds<sup>3</sup> have been award winners and these funds have won a total of 15 "Best Fund" awards for 3-Year &/or 5-Year fund performances from esteemed bodies like Kuala Lumpur Islamic Finance Forum - Islamic Finance Awards, Thomson Reuters Lipper Fund Award - Global Islamic and The Edge | Thomson Reuters Lipper Malaysia Fund Awards.

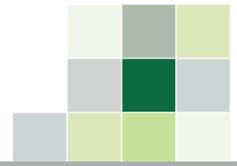
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<sup>1</sup> Source: Securities Commission Malaysia

<sup>2</sup> Source: Lipper Global, from 31 December 2006 and 31 July 2017.

<sup>3</sup> The four funds include Manulife Investment Al-Fauzan, Manulife Investment Shariah Progress, Manulife Investment CM Shariah Flexi and Manulife Investment Al-Umran Funds

**About Manulife Asset Management Services Berhad**

Manulife Asset Management Services Berhad is a wholly owned subsidiary of Manulife Holdings Berhad, which is majority owned by Canada-based Manulife Financial Corporation. Manulife Asset Management Services Berhad offers a comprehensive range of 40 unit trust funds in the asset classes of equity, fixed income and money market. Led by a highly experienced senior management team, Manulife Asset Management Services Berhad is well positioned to be among the most professional unit trust force in Malaysia. Our award-winning MHO Mobile application is available on the iPad, iPhone and Android Smartphones. MHO Mobile empowers investors to monitor and manage their unit trust investments at any time, from anywhere. Visit us online at [www.manulifeinvestment.com.my](http://www.manulifeinvestment.com.my).

**About Manulife Asset Management**

Manulife Asset Management is the global asset management arm of Manulife, providing comprehensive asset management solutions for investors. This investment expertise extends across a broad range of public and private asset classes, as well as asset allocation solutions. As at 30 June 2017, assets under management for Manulife Asset Management were approximately C\$477 billion (US\$370 billion, GBP£285 billion, EUR€324 billion). Manulife Asset Management's public markets units have investment expertise across a broad range of asset classes including public equity and fixed income, and asset allocation strategies. Offices with full investment capabilities are located in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, and the Philippines. In addition, Manulife Asset Management has a joint venture asset management business in China, Manulife TEDA. The public markets units of Manulife Asset Management also provide investment management services to affiliates' retail clients through product offerings of Manulife and John Hancock. John Hancock Asset Management and Declaration Management and Research are units of Manulife Asset Management.

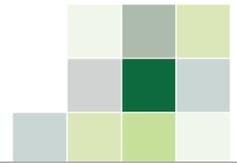
Additional information about Manulife Asset Management may be found at [ManulifeAM.com](http://ManulifeAM.com).

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**About Manulife**

Manulife Financial Corporation is a leading international financial services group providing forward-thinking solutions to help people with their big financial decisions. We operate as John Hancock in the United States, and Manulife elsewhere. We provide financial advice, insurance and wealth and asset management solutions for individuals, groups and institutions. At the end of 2016, we had approximately 35,000 employees, 70,000 agents, and thousands of distribution partners, serving 22 million customers. At the end of June 2017, we had over C\$1,000 billion (US\$780 billion) in assets under management and administration, and in the previous 12 months we made more than \$26.7 billion in benefits, interest and other payments to our customers. Our principal operations are in Asia, Canada and the United States where we have served customers for more than 100 years. With our global headquarters in Toronto, Canada, we trade as 'MFC' on the Toronto, New York, and the Philippine stock exchanges and under '945' in Hong Kong.

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