

## Press Release

22 May 2017

**Affin Hwang AM Investment Forum 2017:  
Navigating Through a Changing World**

**KUALA LUMPUR** – Running for its third consecutive year, Affin Hwang Asset Management Berhad (“Affin Hwang AM” or “the Company”) has successfully hosted its annual investment forum for the year 2017, titled ‘Navigating through a Changing World’.

The Forum took place on the 20<sup>th</sup> May, Saturday at Sime Darby Convention Centre, Mont Kiara and was well received with more than 650 participants eager to gain insights into the investment landscape against increasingly fluid developments in the markets.

Joined by our investment partners, the forum featured prominent speakers including:

- Eric Mueller, Director, Multi-Asset Strategist of BlackRock
- Wang Yu-Ming, Deputy President, Global Head of Investment & CIO – International of Nikko Asset Management
- Mallika Sachdeva, FX Strategist of Deutsche Bank; and
- Teng Chee Wai, Managing Director of Affin Hwang AM

On the local investment-front, Teng Chee Wai, Managing Director of Affin Hwang AM said that markets are bracing for a pre-election rally in the country, as the cheaper Ringgit becomes more attractive to foreign funds as well, drawing more inflows.

Teng also adds that the worst may be over for banking and property-related counters, as both sectors look poised for a turnaround after recent lacklustre performances, driven by increasingly attractive valuations and positive macro-data.

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The Company's portfolios will continue to be managed on an absolute return strategy – through tactical asset allocation and thematic-positioning in the market, including the recent spate of increased corporate activities & restructuring exercises, large-scale infrastructure projects, a commodity catch-up, and high yielding-names.

On currency markets, Mallika Sachdeva, FX Strategist of Deutsche Bank said, “After years of underperformance, we are seeing growth in emerging markets picking up across the region, as positive export growth continue to provide support for Asian currencies.”

Asia is fast regaining interest among foreign investors, attracting close to US\$40 billion of fund inflows year-to-date. Mallika adds that the Ringgit is undervalued with room to catch-up with its regional peers - as bond outflows start to abate, supported by recovering exports.

On global markets, now confronted with a Trump Economy, Eric Mueller, Director, Multi-Asset Strategist of BlackRock adds that the Trump-inspired reflation-trade may have further room to run - as a synchronised pick-up in economic activity and global growth continues to surprise on the upside.

Finally, as global markets contend with new challenges including rising income inequality among population groups, rapid technology advances, and the rise of China; Wang Yu-Ming, Deputy President, Global Head of Investment & CIO – International of Nikko Asset Management maintains that investors would do well to embrace these changes and to maintain a level of flexibility and diversity in one's investments.

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### Photos from Affin Hwang AM Investment Forum 2017



#### PHOTO CAPTIONS

1. L-R: Wang Yu-Ming (Deputy President, Global Head of Investment & CIO - International, Nikko Asset Management), Mallika Sachdeva (FX Strategist, Deutsche Bank), Tunku Dato' Paduka Jaafar Laksmana bin Tunku Nong Jiwa (Director and Chairman of AIIAMAN Asset Management Sdn Bhd) and Teng Chee Wai (Managing Director, Affin Hwang Asset Management Bhd)

2. L-R: Teng Chee Wai (Managing Director, Affin Hwang Asset Management Bhd), Ibrahim Sani (Head of Business Desk, Astro Awani), Nurhisham Hussein (General Manager, Head, Economics & Capital Markets Department, EPF), Ibrahim Suffian (Merdeka Center), Wan Saiful Wan Jan (Chief Executive, Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs) and Tunku Dato' Paduka Jaafar Laksmana bin Tunku Nong Jiwa (Director and Chairman of AIIAMAN Asset Management Sdn Bhd)/

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### **About Affin Hwang Asset Management Berhad**

Affin Hwang Asset Management Bhd (“Affin Hwang AM” or the “Company”) was incorporated in Malaysia on 2 May 1997 under the Companies Act 1965 and began its operations under the name Hwang-DBS Unit Trust Berhad in 2001. In early 2014, the Company was acquired by the Affin Banking Group (“Affin”) and hence, is now supported by a major home-grown financial services conglomerate. Affin has close to 40 years of experience in financial industry which focuses on commercial, Islamic and investment banking services, money broking, fund management and underwriting of life and general insurance business. Additionally, Affin Hwang AM is also 30% owned by Nikko Asset Management International Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Tokyo-based Nikko Asset Management Co. Ltd, a leading independent Asian investment management franchise. Its head office is located in Kuala Lumpur and has a total of 8 main sales offices located in Peninsular and East Malaysia. They are in Penang, Ipoh, Petaling Jaya, Malacca, Johor Bahru, Kuching, Miri and Kota Kinabalu.

Affin Hwang AM's core business is providing fund management services to private clients, as well as to retail clients via its stable of unit trust funds and private retirement schemes. The Company offers wide range of unit trust products and investment solutions with underlying investments comprising conventional equities, balanced, bond, money market, capital guaranteed, capital protected, global, structured and feeder funds, as well as Shariah-compliant equity, Islamic money market instruments and Islamic fixed income funds. Affin Hwang AM's Shariah investment solutions are made available through its wholly-owned subsidiary and Islamic investment arm, AIIMAN Asset Management Sdn. Bhd. (“AIIMAN”) (formerly known as Asian Islamic Investment Management Sdn. Bhd.).

Since its inception in 2001, Affin Hwang AM has achieved an exponential growth in its total assets under administration (AUA). As at 30 April 2017, the total AUA, comprising in-house unit trust funds as well as corporate and discretionary portfolios stood at approximately RM 39.5 billion (combined AUA of Affin Hwang AM and AIIMAN).

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### **Recent Awards:**

1. Institutional Investor 2016 Asia Investment Management Award | Malaysia Equity (Ringgit) – One-Year Return (Affin Hwang Select Opportunity Fund)
  2. Euromoney Private Banking and Wealth Management Survey 2017 | Best Asset Management, Malaysia
  3. Euromoney Private Banking and Wealth Management Survey 2017 | Best Research and Asset Allocation Advice, Malaysia
  4. Morningstar Awards 2017 | Best Asia Pacific Equity Fund (Affin Hwang Select Asia (ex Japan) Quantum Fund)
  5. Morningstar Awards 2017 | Best Malaysia Large-Cap Equity Fund (Affin Hwang Select Opportunity Fund)
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