

BIBD'S REAFFIRMED A- RATING STRENGTHENS BRUNEIAN BANK POSITION AMONG REGION'S BEST

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 20th, 2017 - Bank Islam Brunei Darussalam (BIBD) retained its strong A- (Stable) rating¹ from leading international credit rating agency Standard & Poor's (S&P). BIBD has maintained its A- rating since it was first assigned to it in October 2015 by ensuring adequate internal capital discipline.

The rating, which is the highest for a Bruneian bank and on par with other notable banks in the region, also recognises BIBD's dominant market share in Brunei and the government's support for local financial institutions. At the same time, BIBD was also noted on its competitive position and increased business diversity.

Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Bahrin bin Abdullah, Minister of Development and Chairman of BIBD commented, "Alhamdulillah, this affirmation highlights the Bank's strong capabilities against international benchmarks, a reflection of Brunei Darussalam's aspirations to become an international hub for Islamic Finance and the government's robust efforts to strengthen the Bruneian economy."

Also commenting on the rating reaffirmation, BIBD Managing Director Mubashar Khokhar said, "The S&P Global stable outlook on BIBD is a testament to the Brunei government's support for Brunei's financial sector,"

"This rating further reaffirms our mission to become The First Choice institution for our customers and stakeholders. This is supported by a sound strategy to drive sustainable long term growth for the Bank and the aspirations of its stakeholders, including Bruneian businesses, by providing them with a wide range of innovative products and services. This underscores our commitment and dedication towards the economic diversification agenda outlined in the Wawasan Brunei 2035."

Standard and Poor's uses its Banking Industry Country Risk Assessment to determine an anchor, the starting point in assigning an issuer credit rating. As Brunei's highest rated financial institution, BIBD's A- rating is four notches above the anchor and a notch above other Bruneian banks.

¹ The credit rating indicates BIBD's creditworthiness or its ability to meet its financial obligations and the likelihood of default. It is one of the several tools that customers, investors and other market participants use to make more informed business and investment decisions.

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About BIBD

BIBD is the largest financial institution in Brunei Darussalam, leading the market in terms of assets, financings, and deposits.

BIBD is headquartered in Bandar Seri Begawan with fifteen branches and the largest network of ATMs located strategically in all four districts of Brunei Darussalam.

BIBD is one of the safest banks in the world and has maintained an impressive credit rating of A- by Standard & Poor's since 2015, the highest for a Bruneian bank and among the highest in the region. BIBD has been named the "Best Retail Bank in Brunei" by The Asian Banker in 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017.

For more information on any of BIBD's other products or services, please log on to the BIBD website at www.bibd.com.bn, visit your nearest BIBD branch or get in touch with the BIBD Contact Centre at 2238181.