



MAYBANK ISLAMIC'S REGIONAL RAMADHAN RELIEF PROGRAMME GOES TO 10 ASEAN COUNTRIES

In conjunction with Maybank Islamic 10th year anniversary this year

KUALA LUMPUR: In conjunction with the fasting month of Ramadhan, more than 14,000 underprivileged families in 10 ASEAN countries are receiving food supplies worth RM2.2 million from Maybank Islamic Berhad.

The Bank's annual Corporate Responsibility programme, called "Ramadhan Relief" was introduced in 2013 and while the first 4 years saw the programme focusing on Malaysian families, last year it expanded its reach to 3 other ASEAN countries, namely Indonesia, Singapore and the Philippines.

This year, in conjunction with Maybank Islamic's 10th year anniversary, 6 more countries - Brunei, Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos, Thailand and Myanmar - are added to the list. The Maybank Group has presence in all these 10 countries.

Between 2013 and 2017, this programme had seen some RM5 million worth of food supplies distributed to a total of 82,000 families living in poverty, bringing relief and providing assistance during the fasting month of Ramadhan.

Kicking off the programme this year, a village, situated on the riverbank of Mekong River, called Kampung Sampan (Cong Koh Village) became the site of a simple ceremony to hand over the food supplies to 290 families, some of which live in the sampans and some on land, along the riverside.

Present at the ceremony were Maybank Cambodia Chairman Dato' Johan Ariffin, Maybank Islamic Chairman Encik Zainal Abidin Jamal, Head Group Islamic Banking & Maybank Islamic CEO Dato' Mohamed Rafique Merican and other board members and Minister / Charge d' affaires, The Embassy of Malaysia in Phnom Penh Encik Ruzaimi Mohamad.

"We are very pleased that the Ramadhan Relief programme this year can help not only the less fortunate in Malaysia, but also those in neighboring countries, benefitting close to 75,000 people in the 10 ASEAN countries," said Dato' Mohamed Rafique in his speech at the event which took place recently.

The breakdown of the beneficiaries are 5,000 families in Malaysia, 2,000 families in the Philippines, 500 in Singapore, 3,000 in Indonesia, 1,600 in Cambodia, 80 in Laos, 500 in Vietnam, 100 in Brunei, 900 in Thailand and 980 in Myanmar Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh.

Dato' Mohamed Rafique said this is an evolution of the Group's corporate responsibility (CR) programme which is in line with Maybank Group's mission to

humanise financial services across Asia via such community programmes to help ease the burden of the less fortunate families.”

“We hope that the little help we are extending will bring some cheer to the beneficiaries in this coming blessed month of Ramadhan. For us at Maybank, this is our on-going commitment to always be at the heart of the communities that we serve,” he said.

The food supplies given comprise basic necessities such as rice, cooking oil, flour, sugar and other essential food items which are normally needed in the fasting month.

Ramadhan Relief Regional programme is a collaboration between Maybank Islamic and Islamic Relief Malaysia (IRM) which work with its counterparts in Indonesia and the Philippines, and local implementing partners in other countries such as Cambodia Care in Cambodia, A-Khidmat in Thailand, Samrah in Singapore, We Care in Brunei, Islamic Community of An Giang Province in Vietnam as well as Masjid Azhar Vientiane in Laos.

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About Maybank Islamic Berhad

Maybank Islamic is ASEAN’s leading Islamic bank and the largest Islamic commercial bank in Malaysia with a market share of 34% of Islamic financing as well as 30% of deposit and investment account as at December 31 2017. For the 2017 Financial Year, Maybank Islamic’s total assets stood at RM202.5 billion.

For more information, kindly contact:

Roziana Hamsawi +6012 324 6502 / +603-22972211 / roziana.h@maybank.com

Muhammad Nur’ Fadhli Ahmad Asri +60179300395 / mnfadhli.aa@maybank.com