

BANK NEGARA MALAYSIA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

1. General Information

Bank Negara Malaysia (the Bank) is a statutory body established under the Central Bank of Malaysia Act 1958 which has been repealed by the Central Bank of Malaysia Act 2009. The principal place of business is located at Bank Negara Malaysia, Jalan Dato' Onn, 50480 Kuala Lumpur.

The principal objects of the Bank are to promote monetary stability and financial stability conducive to the sustainable growth of the Malaysian economy. In this regard, the Bank's primary functions are as follows:

- (a) to formulate and conduct monetary policy in Malaysia;
- (b) to issue currency in Malaysia;
- (c) to regulate and supervise financial institutions which are subject to the laws enforced by the Bank;
- (d) to provide oversight over money and foreign exchange markets;
- (e) to exercise oversight over payment systems;
- (f) to promote a sound, progressive and inclusive financial system;
- (g) to hold and manage the foreign reserves of Malaysia;
- (h) to promote an exchange rate regime consistent with the fundamentals of the economy; and
- (i) to act as financial adviser, banker and financial agent of the Government.

The Board of Directors approved the annual financial statements on 27 February 2020.

2. Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These accounting policies are consistently applied to both of the financial years presented, unless otherwise stated.

2.1 Basis of Preparation of Financial Statements

- (a) These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Central Bank of Malaysia Act 2009 and the applicable Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards (MFRS). Section 10 of the Central Bank of Malaysia Act 2009 provides that the Bank, in preparing its financial statements, shall comply with the applicable accounting standards to the extent that it is, in the opinion of the Directors, appropriate to do so, having regard to the objects and functions of the Bank. The Directors, having considered the Bank's responsibilities for the formulation and conduct of effective monetary policy and promoting financial stability, are of the opinion that, it is appropriate to differ, in certain aspects, from the applicable accounting standards.

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- (b) The preparation of the financial statements on the basis stated in 2.1 (a) requires the management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions based on available information that may affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets and liabilities as well as disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of income and expenses during the financial year. Although these estimates are based on the management's best knowledge of current events and actions, the actual results could differ from those estimates.

2.2 Measurement Base and Accounting Basis

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis, using the historical cost convention, except as otherwise disclosed.

2.3 Foreign Currency Translation

- (a) The financial statements have been prepared using Ringgit Malaysia, the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Bank operates.
- (b) Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into Ringgit Malaysia using the exchange rate prevailing as at the end of the financial year. Transactions in foreign currencies during the year are translated into Ringgit Malaysia using the exchange rate prevailing at the transaction dates.
- (c) All foreign exchange gains or losses arising from translation of foreign currency assets and liabilities are recognised in Risk Reserve while realised gains or losses upon settlement on Other Assets and Other Liabilities are recognised in the Income Statement.

2.4 Gold

Gold is carried at fair value. Unrealised gains and losses from changes in the fair value on gold are recognised in Risk Reserve. Realised gains or losses from the sale of gold are recognised in the Income Statement.

2.5 Foreign Securities

Foreign securities comprising fixed income securities and equities are stated at amortised cost or fair value. Fair value changes are recognised in Risk Reserve or in the Income Statement. Upon derecognition, realised gains or losses are recognised in the Income Statement.

2.6 Net Profit

The net profit of the Bank is appropriated in accordance with section 7 of the Central Bank of Malaysia Act 2009 and only realised gains are available for distribution to shareholder.

2.7 Repurchase and Reverse Repurchase Agreements

The amount under repurchase agreements is reported under Other Liabilities and the difference between the sale and repurchase price is recognised as interest expense in the Income Statement. Conversely, the amount under reverse repurchase agreements is reported under Other Assets and the difference between purchase and resale price is recognised as interest income in the Income Statement.

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2.8 Land and Buildings

- (a) The Bank capitalises all its land while buildings are maintained at nominal cost of RM10 each.
- (b) The amount of land capitalised at initial recognition is the purchase price along with any further costs incurred in bringing the land to its present condition.
- (c) After initial recognition, land is stated at revalued amount. Professional valuations of the Bank's land will be carried out once every 10 years with any surplus arising on revaluation to be recognised directly in the Land Revaluation Reserve.
- (d) Freehold land is not depreciated. With effect from 2018, leasehold land is amortised over its remaining life. Land (freehold and leasehold) is revalued once in 10 years and fair value is determined from market based evidence undertaken by professionally qualified valuer. Buildings are not depreciated but revalued to a nominal value in the year of acquisition.
- (e) Gain or loss arising from the disposal of land is determined as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the land. Upon disposal of land, any surplus previously recorded in Land Revaluation Reserve is transferred to Unappropriated Profit.

2.9 Other Fixed Assets

All other fixed assets are completely written-off in the year of acquisition.

2.10 Impairment of Assets

All assets are periodically assessed for impairment losses whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. If such an indication exists, an impairment review is performed to assess whether the carrying amount of the asset is fully recoverable.

3. Gold and Foreign Exchange

	2019 RM million	2018 RM million
Gold	7,723	6,590
Foreign Securities	375,684	361,885
Foreign Deposits	8,929	5,470
Balances with Other Central Banks	13,116	28,326
Others	9,392	8,771
	<u>414,844</u>	<u>411,042</u>

4. International Monetary Fund (IMF) Reserve Position, Holdings of Special Drawing Rights (SDR) and Allocation of Special Drawing Rights

The IMF objectives are to foster global monetary cooperation, secure financial stability, facilitate international trade, promote high employment and sustainable economic growth and reduce poverty around the world. The IMF also provides advice and temporary funding to member countries in the event of balance of payments difficulties.

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IMF Reserve Position

This consists of the reserve tranche position of Malaysia's quota, lending under the Financial Transaction Plan (FTP) and New Arrangements to Borrow (NAB). The IMF quota determines the member country's voting strength, the financial contributions to the IMF, the amount of financing the member can access in the event of balance of payment difficulties and the amount of SDRs allocated to the member. Both FTP and NAB programmes are used to provide loans to members.

Holdings of Special Drawing Rights

Holdings of Special Drawing Rights (SDR) are an international reserve asset created by the IMF. SDR is periodically allocated to IMF member countries on the basis of the size of member countries' quota. A member may use SDR to obtain foreign exchange reserves from other members and to make international payments, including to the IMF.

Allocation of Special Drawing Rights

This liability to the IMF represents an equivalent amount of SDR received since its inception.

	2019 RM million	2018 RM million
IMF Reserve Position	4,584	3,802
Holdings of Special Drawing Rights	4,662	4,728
Allocation of Special Drawing Rights	(7,619)	(7,743)
Net position with IMF	<u>1,627</u>	<u>787</u>

5. Malaysian Government Papers

Malaysian Government Papers refer to holdings of Government debt instruments that are among the instruments that can be used in the Bank's monetary policy operations.

	2019 RM million	2018 RM million
Malaysian Government Securities	1,819	3,024
Malaysian Government Investment Certificates	159	368
	<u>1,978</u>	<u>3,392</u>

6. Deposits with Financial Institutions

Deposits with financial institutions comprise deposits placed by the Bank with financial institutions under section 75 (i) and section 100 of the Central Bank of Malaysia Act 2009.

7. Loans and Advances

Net loans and advances comprise mainly advances extended by the Bank to the participating institutions under various schemes aimed at promoting growth and development of small and medium business establishments as well as to help home buyers from the lower income group to finance the purchase of their first homes. The extensions of these advances are provided under section 48, section 49 and section 100 of the Central Bank of Malaysia Act 2009.

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	2019 RM million	2018 RM million
Funds for Small and Medium Industries	5,766	6,492
Fund for Affordable Homes	1,000	-
Others	346	382
	<u>7,112</u>	<u>6,874</u>

8. Land and Buildings

	2019 RM million	2018 RM million
Land, at cost		
Freehold	3,314	3,314
Land, at revaluation		
Freehold	694	694
Leasehold	154	167
	<u>4,162</u>	<u>4,175</u>

	2019 RM million	2018 RM million
Leasehold land		
As at 1 January	167	170
Less: Accumulated Amortisation	(13)	(3)
As at 31 December	<u>154</u>	<u>167</u>

	2019 RM	2018 RM
Buildings, at nominal value		
Freehold	2,230	2,230
Leasehold	1,380	1,380
	<u>3,610</u>	<u>3,610</u>

Freehold and leasehold land, at revaluation, were revalued by an independent valuer on 1 August 2014.

9. Other Assets

Included in Other Assets are securities purchased under reverse repurchase agreements and investments in shares and bonds acquired under section 48 (1) and section 100 of the Central Bank of Malaysia Act 2009.

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	2019 RM million	2018 RM million
Reverse Repurchase Agreements	6,490	8,266
Investments in Shares and Bonds	4,390	4,401
Others	748	825
	<u>11,628</u>	<u>13,492</u>

10. Deposits from Others

A substantial part of these deposits comprises deposits from national institutions, government agencies and public authorities.

11. Bank Negara Papers

Bank Negara Papers are papers issued by the Bank as an additional monetary policy tool to manage liquidity in the domestic money market. It also includes Bank Negara Interbank Bills (BNIB) in foreign currency and this is part of the Bank's market operations to manage foreign currency liquidity in the domestic money market.

12. Other Liabilities

Other Liabilities include securities sold under repurchase agreements of RM1,643 million (2018: RM863 million).

	2019 RM million	2018 RM million
Repurchase Agreements	1,643	863
Accruals	954	917
Others	362	358
	<u>2,959</u>	<u>2,138</u>

13. Capital

In accordance with section 6 of the Central Banking Act 2009, the capital of the Bank shall be RM100,000,000 and is owned by the Government of Malaysia.

14. General Reserve Fund

	2019 RM million	2018 RM million
As at 1 January	14,810	14,744
Amount approved and transferred to the General Reserve Fund during the year	21	66
As at 31 December	<u>14,831</u>	<u>14,810</u>

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Appropriations of net profits to the General Reserve Fund and dividends to the Government are recognised upon the approval by the Board and the Minister as provided under section 7 of the Central Bank of Malaysia Act 2009.

The transfer to the General Reserve Fund for the year ended 2018 of RM21 million was approved by the Minister on 25 February 2019.

15. Risk Reserve

The Risk Reserve are financial buffers comprising cumulative transfers of net profits, unrealised gains or losses on translation of foreign currency assets and liabilities and fair value changes from securities carried at fair value.

A market risk measurement framework is used to estimate financial buffers required to cushion unexpected loss arising from unfavourable circumstances not within the control of the Bank.

	2019 RM million	2018 RM million
As at 1 January	113,477	118,657
Movements during the year	5,192	(10,180)
Transfer from net profits	5,400	5,000
As at 31 December	<u>124,069</u>	<u>113,477</u>

16. Land Revaluation Reserve

Land Revaluation Reserve relates to unrealised surplus of land (freehold and leasehold) upon their revaluation. Upon disposal, the realised surplus relating to the realised asset is transferred to Unappropriated Profits.

17. Unappropriated Profits

	2019 RM million	2018 RM million
Balance 1 January	2,521	2,566
Less: Appropriations approved during the year		
Transfer to General Reserve Fund	(21)	(66)
Dividend paid to the Government	(2,500)	(2,500)
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Current year's unappropriated profits	3,526	2,521
Balance 31 December	<u>3,526</u>	<u>2,521</u>

In accordance with section 7 of the Central Bank of Malaysia Act 2009, appropriations to the General Reserve Fund and declaration of dividends to the Government are subject to the approval by the Board and the Minister, and if approved will be recognised in the next financial year ending 31 December 2020.

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The dividend paid to the Government for the year ended 2018 amounted to RM2.5 billion was approved by the Minister on 25 February 2019.

For the year ended 31 December 2019, the Board of Directors recommends a transfer to the General Reserve Fund of RM26 million and dividend payable of RM3.5 billion to the Government.

18. Total Income

Total income comprises revenue from foreign reserves management which includes interest and dividends, non-treasury income, realised capital gains or losses, and is stated at net of amortisation/accretion of premiums/discounts and monetary policy cost.

19. Recurring Expenditure

Recurring expenditure are expenses incurred in the management and administration of day-to-day operations of the Bank.

20. Development Expenditure

Development expenditure are expenses incurred mainly to finance developmental and long term projects undertaken by the Bank that are in line with its principal objects and functions.

21. Taxation

The Bank is exempted from payment of income tax and supplementary income tax as set out in the Income Tax (Exemption) (No. 7) Order 1989. Tax expenses relates to unclaimable withholding taxes on income from foreign dividend and interest and capital gains taxes on sale of foreign investments.

22. Contingencies and Commitments

22.1 Contingent Assets

Total contingent assets as at 31 December 2019 amounted to RM1,400 million. These comprise the Bank's total funding to International Centre for Leadership in Finance (ICLIF) Trust Fund of RM800 million and International Centre for Education in Islamic Finance (INCEIF) Trust Fund of RM600 million to finance activities related to training, research and development of human resource in banking and financial services managed by The ICLIF Leadership and Governance Centre and INCEIF, respectively. It is provided in the Trust Deeds that the total funding will be returned to the Bank when these Centres become self-sufficient in the future.

22.2 Commitments

Total commitments as at 31 December 2019 comprise the following:

	Note	2019 RM million	2018 RM million
Total Commitments			
International Monetary Fund (IMF)	(a)		
Unpaid Quota	(i)	16,371	17,300
New Arrangement to Borrow (NAB)	(ii)	1,823	1,790
Bilateral Contribution	(iii)	4,093	4,136
Investment with Bank for International Settlements (BIS)	(b)	68	69

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Swap Arrangements	(c)		
ASEAN Swap Arrangement	(i)	1,228	1,241
Bilateral Currency Swap Arrangement with			
People's Bank of China (PBOC)	(ii)(a)	110,000	110,000
Bank of Korea (BOK)	(ii)(b)	15,000	15,000
Bank of Indonesia (BI)	(ii)(c)	8,000	-
Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation	(iii)	37,263	37,654
Repurchase Agreement with EMEAP Members	(iv)	20,465	20,680
		<u>214,311</u>	<u>207,870</u>

(a) Membership with IMF

- (i) The Bank has an obligation to pay to IMF SDR2,892 million, equivalent to RM16,371 million (2018: SDR3,007 million, equivalent to RM17,300 million) or in other convertible currencies which represents the unpaid portion of Malaysia's quota in the IMF under the Articles of Agreement.
- (ii) The Bank has participated in the New Arrangements to Borrow (NAB), a set of credit arrangements between the IMF and its member countries to provide a supplementary source of financing to IMF for the purpose of safeguarding the stability of the international monetary system. As at 31 December 2019, the amount of undrawn credit under the NAB is SDR322 million, equivalent to RM1,823 million (2018: SDR311 million, equivalent to RM1,790 million).
- (iii) On 23 July 2012, the Bank has pledged a USD1,000 million, equivalent to RM4,093 million (2018: USD1,000 million, equivalent to RM4,136 million) bilateral contribution to the IMF for precautionary and financial crisis resolution purposes.

(b) Investment with Bank for International Settlements (BIS)

The Bank has a commitment of SDR12 million, equivalent to RM68 million (2018: SDR12 million, equivalent to RM69 million) which refers to the uncalled portion of the 3,220 units of shares held by the Bank in the BIS based on the nominal value of SDR5,000 each using the SDR rate at the date of the Statement of Financial Position.

(c) Swap Arrangements

(i) ASEAN Swap Arrangement

The Bank has participated in the multilateral ASEAN Swap Arrangement (ASA) together with other ASEAN central banks and monetary authorities to provide short-term foreign currency liquidity support to member countries with balance of payments difficulties. As at 31 December 2019, the Bank's total commitment amounted to USD300 million, equivalent to RM1,228 million (2018: USD300 million, equivalent to RM1,241 million) and there was no request for liquidity support under ASA from any member country during the financial year.

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(ii) **Bilateral Currency Swap Arrangement**

- (a) On 20 August 2018, the Bank renewed the Bilateral Currency Swap Arrangement (BCSA) agreement with the People's Bank of China (PBOC) with the objective of promoting and facilitating trade settlement in the local currency between the two countries. As at 31 December 2019, the Bank's total commitment under the BCSA is RM110 billion (2018: RM110 billion) and there has been no request to activate the BCSA during the financial year.
- (b) On 25 January 2017, the Bank renewed the Bilateral Currency Swap Arrangement (BCSA) agreement with the Bank of Korea (BOK) with the objective of promoting bilateral trade and facilitating trade settlement in local currency between the two countries. As at 31 December 2019, the Bank's total commitment under the BCSA is RM15 billion (2018: RM15 billion) and there has been no request to activate the BCSA during the financial year.
- (c) On 27 September 2019, the Bank has signed Local Currency Bilateral Swap Arrangement (LCBSA) agreement with the Bank of Indonesia (BI) with the objective of promoting bilateral trade and facilitating trade settlement in local currency between the two countries. As at 31 December 2019, the Bank's total commitment under the LCBSA is RM8 billion and there has been no request to activate the LCBSA during the financial year.

(iii) **Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation Arrangement**

The Bank has participated in the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM) arrangement to provide financial support to ASEAN+3 member countries facing balance of payments and short-term liquidity difficulties. The effective date of the CMIM Agreement is 24 March 2010. Under the CMIM arrangement, member countries facing balance of payments and short-term liquidity constraints can obtain financial support in US dollar through swap arrangements against their respective local currencies. As at 31 December 2019, the Bank's total commitment is USD9.1 billion, equivalent to RM37.3 billion (2018: USD9.1 billion, equivalent to RM37.7 billion) and there was no request for liquidity support from any member country.

(iv) **Repurchase Agreement with Central Banks and Monetary Authorities**

The Bank has entered into repurchase agreements totalling USD5 billion, equivalent to RM20.5 billion (2018: USD5 billion, equivalent to RM20.7 billion) with various central banks and monetary authorities under the Executives' Meeting of East Asia-Pacific Central Banks (EMEAP) to provide liquidity assistance in times of emergency. As at 31 December 2019, there was no request for liquidity assistance from any counterpart.

23. **Financial Risk Management**

The Reserve Management Committee oversees the assessment, measurement and the control of the investment risks in the management of reserves to be within acceptable levels to ensure that the objectives of capital preservation, liquidity and reasonable returns are met. In undertaking this function, the major risks of the investments fall into the following areas:

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(a) **Market Risk**

Market risk is the exposure of the Bank's investments to adverse movements in market prices related to foreign exchange rates, interest rates and prices of bonds and equities. Market risk is assessed and monitored on a daily basis. A benchmark policy approved by the Board of Directors reflects the long-term objectives and acceptable risk-return profile of the investments. Investments may be made in instruments that are different from those in the benchmark. This deviation in investment is controlled through a set of risk management limits, governance arrangements and investment guidelines that are also approved by the Board of Directors. Sensitivity analysis and stress testing are undertaken to assess emerging risks and potential marked-to-market losses from adverse movements and volatility in the market, as well as liquidity conditions.

(b) **Credit Risk**

Credit risk is the risk of default of the issuer of the debt or failure of the counterparty to perform its contractual obligation to the Bank resulting in the Bank not receiving its principal and/or interest that has fallen due in a timely manner. A comprehensive credit risk framework governs the permissible investments and the risk appetite of the Bank, thus ensuring investments in issuers and with counterparties of good credit standing. The framework, which is approved by the Board, also incorporates market-based credit indicators such as ratings implied from financial market prices, and internal credit assessment. This enhances the credit risk framework by providing a more dynamic and forward-looking credit assessment.

(c) **Operational Risk**

Operational risk is the risk of financial losses due to failed internal processes, inadequate controls and procedures, or any other internal or external events that impede operations. Operational risk is mitigated through a governance framework and effective implementation of risk controls and limits. A comprehensive operational risk surveillance mechanism is in place to support the identification of emerging risks in the Bank's operations to allow for action to be taken in managing gaps and in mitigating financial losses.

24. **Bank Negara Malaysia Staff Welfare Account (SWA) and Bank Negara Malaysia Staff Welfare Account (Medical Fund) (termed as the 'Medical Fund Account')**

The SWA was established on 1 March 1991 under section 15 (5) and (6) of the Central Bank of Malaysia Act 1958 while the Medical Fund Account was established on 21 June 2006 under section 15 (6) of the Central Bank of Malaysia Act 1958. Both the SWA and the Medical Fund continue to exist under section 83 (4) and (5) of the Central Bank of Malaysia Act 2009.

The SWA is governed under the Bank Negara Malaysia Staff Welfare Account Trust Directions 1991. As stipulated in the Trust Directions 1991, the SWA shall be administered by a committee authorised by the Board (Authorised Committee of the Board). The accounts of the SWA are to be maintained separately from the other accounts of the Bank and shall be audited in the same manner of the Bank's Account. The objective of the SWA is to provide loans to the staff for certain allowable activities, finance the activities of the staff associations and give education excellence awards to the children of staff. The SWA also manages the insurance compensation of the deceased staff received by beneficiaries who have yet to attain the legal age.

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The Medical Fund Account is governed under the Bank Negara Malaysia Staff Welfare Account (Medical Fund) Trust Directions 2006 and Supplementary Trust Directions 2017. The objective is to assist the Bank to meet the medical expenses of eligible retirees and their dependents. As stipulated in the Staff Welfare Account (Medical Fund) Trust Directions 2006, the Medical Fund shall be administered by a Medical Fund Committee. The Medical Fund Account is to be maintained separately under the Staff Welfare Account and shall be audited in the same manner of the Staff Welfare Account.