

**HLFG GROUP'S PROFIT BEFORE TAX FOR THE FULL YEAR
AT RM 986 MILLION, UP 15% YoY**

Stronger Profit Growth

HLFG Group achieved a higher profit before tax of RM 986 million for the financial year ended 30th June 2007, an increase of 15% year-on-year against the previous financial year of RM 859 million. Net profit attributable to shareholders increased by 20% to RM 488 million, over the same period last year.

Earnings per share for the financial year rose to 47.0 sen (corresponding last period : 39.1 sen) while the Group's Balance Sheet remained strong with net assets per share rising to RM 3.58 in the current financial year (corresponding last period : RM 3.26)

The year in review had been focused on the transformation of the Group's core operating businesses in Malaysia, namely Banking, Insurance and Securities & Asset Management, towards building a strong brand name and strengthening customer loyalty.

Banking Division

The Banking Group delivered a net profit of RM 621 million for the financial year ended 30th June 2007, up 13 % year-on-year against the corresponding financial year of RM 550 million.

The positive profit performance continued to be supported by strong quality loans growth, particularly in the consumer financing segment namely from Mortgage, Credit Cards and Personal Lending. Deposits continued to be a core franchise strength with deposits from customers at RM 56.7 billion (corresponding financial year : 44.3 billion), up 28.1% year-on-year.

The asset quality of the Banking division also improved with gross NPL ratios declining to 3.2% (4.7% last June 06) and net NPL ratio to 1.9% (3.1% last June 06).

Insurance Division

The Insurance Division achieved a higher net profit of RM 91 million for the twelve months ended 30th June 2007, up 32% year-on-year against the corresponding financial year of RM 69 million.

The better performance is mainly attributable to higher investment income and growth in premiums received.

Securities & Asset Management Division

The Securities & Asset Management Division achieved a higher net profit of RM 26 million for the twelve months ended 30th June 2007, up 41% year-on-year against the corresponding financial year of RM 18 million.

The improved profit performance is mainly due to higher brokerage income arising from the strong Bursa Malaysia trading volumes experienced during the year.

Dividends

Total dividends paid out in the current year was 23 sen less income tax of 27%, up from 8 sen less income tax of 28% and 10 sen tax exempt dividends a year ago.

For more details, visit www.bursamalaysia.com

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