

RHB CONTINUES EXTENDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO SMES

KUALA LUMPUR: RHB Banking Group ("RHB" or the "Group") continues to extend financial assistance to Small and Medium Enterprises ("SMEs") whose businesses are impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Targeted Relief and Recovery Facility and the High Tech Facility - National Investment Aspirations are relief funds as announced by The Minister of Finance in the 2021 Budget speech.

"The Targeted Relief and Recovery Facility and the High Tech Facility will further ease SMEs' cash flow, and will help improve their working capital positions as they plan their business strategies for the year ahead. We strongly encourage SMEs, including micro enterprises, that are in need of financial assistance to contact us as soon as possible and leverage on the facilities that have been introduced," said Jeffrey Ng, Head, Group Business & Transaction Banking, RHB Banking Group.

Details of these facilities are outlined below:

Targeted Relief and Recovery Facility ("TRRF")

Aimed at assisting eligible SMEs in the services sector, eligible SMEs can obtain financing of up to RM500,000 at a rate of 3.5% per annum, for a tenor of up to a maximum of 7 years including a repayment moratorium of at least 6 months, with access to guarantee coverage by Syarikat Jaminan Pembiayaan Perniagaan ("SJPP") and Credit Guarantee Corporation ("CGC").

However, this facility is not applicable to SMEs that are recipients of the Special Relief Facility ("SRF"), and other financing facilities under PENJANA programme including the PENJANA SME Financing ("PSF") and PENJANA Tourism Financing ("PTF"). The facility will be available until 31 December 2021 or until full utilisation, whichever is earlier.

• High Tech Facility - National Investment Aspirations ("HTF-NIA")

The HTF-NIA aims to support SMEs in high-tech sectors that are aligned to national strategic long-term development goals embedded in the National Investment Aspirations¹ ("NIA") and is applicable to various sectors including electrical and electronics, aerospace, pharmaceuticals, ICT, and research & design. SMEs that are involved in key Government programmes in the areas of research, development and innovation for critical technologies may also apply for the HTF-NIA.

The HTF-NIA provides working capital financing of up to RM1 million or up to RM5 million for the financing of working capital and CAPEX, with a financing rate of up to 5.0% per annum inclusive of guarantee coverage by CGC for a maximum tenor of 7 years.

However, SMEs that have received assistance via the SRF, PSF and PTF may only apply for CAPEX financing through HTF-NIA.

In addition to the above, RHB has also made available various forms of financial assistance for SMEs since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. At present, the Bank has granted loan and financing facilities amounting to RM1.9 billion to approximately 3,000 SMEs, including RM1.1 billion disbursed through various relief funds earlier in the year to provide much needed capital injections to help businesses weather current economic conditions.

For more information on the relief programmes available for SMEs, please visit www.rhbgroup.com.

Note: ¹The National Investment Aspirations ("NIAs") refer to overarching strategic developmental objectives to increase economic complexity, create high-value jobs, extend domestic industry linkages and develop new and existing clusters.

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About the RHB Banking Group

The RHB Banking Group, with RHB Bank Berhad as the holding company, is the fourth largest fully integrated financial services group in Malaysia. The Group's core businesses are structured into seven main business pillars, namely Group Retail Banking, Group Business & Transaction Banking, Group Wholesale Banking, RHB Singapore, Group Shariah Business, Group International Business and Group Insurance. Group Wholesale Banking comprises Corporate Banking, Investment Banking and Group Treasury & Global Markets. All the seven business pillars are offered through the Group's main subsidiaries – RHB Investment Bank Berhad, RHB Islamic Bank Berhad and RHB Insurance Berhad, while its asset management and unit trust businesses are undertaken by RHB Asset Management Sdn. Bhd. and RHB Islamic International Asset Management Berhad. The Group's regional presence now spans ten countries including Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, Brunei, Cambodia, Vietnam, Lao PDR and Myanmar.

For more information, please visit www.rhbgroup.com