

CIMB Australia and Morgans Sign Strategic Alliance Agreement

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for immediate release

Brisbane, Australia: CIMB Securities International (Australia) Pty Ltd (CIMB Australia) and RBS Morgans Holdings Pty Limited (Morgans) today entered into a strategic alliance agreement for the provision of research reports and cooperation on corporate advisory and capital markets work in Australia.

Under the agreement, CIMB Australia will provide ASX-listed equities, commodities and economic research reports to Morgans for distribution to their clients, as well as access to certain proprietary database platforms and research data. CIMB Australia and Morgans will also work collaboratively to manage equity capital markets (ECM) mandates, and leverage the retail and institutional distribution platforms of CIMB and Morgans, in Australia, Asia and the rest of the world.

The agreement was signed by Nick Rowe, Country Head of CIMB Australia and Brian Sheahan, Managing Director of Morgans.

"We are pleased to announce this strategic agreement with Morgans. We have enjoyed over 15 years working together – albeit under a few different brand names. The agreement is a natural evolution and an important step for both companies," said Nick Rowe.

"The alliance allows Morgan's customers to benefit from the highly ranked research of CIMB Australia and CIMB Australia to access Morgan's unparalleled distribution platform of over 330,000 customers for ECM transactions. In addition, the corporate advisory services cooperation also presents both companies with huge potential for cross referrals. We will be able to leverage off each other in markets that we are strong in respectively," he added.

CIMB Australia is the Australian investment banking operations of CIMB Group, the biggest Asia Pacific (ex-Japan) based investment bank and fifth largest universal banking group in ASEAN. Today, CIMB's research arm covers over 1,000 stocks of Asia Pacific based companies, and is arguably the most comprehensive research

coverage platform in the industry, backed by award-winning teams of research analysts across the region.

Tim Crommelin, Executive Chairman of Morgans, commented, “The alliance is a continuation of a long term working relationship which we believe was one of the most successful in the country and has delivered outstanding results for clients of both groups. We look to a strong future with our partners who are one of Asia’s leading financial institutions and see their unequalled connections into Asia as a great leverage point for all clients.”

In late 2012, Morgans management bought the remaining 50% from The Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) Group. RBS Group has no ongoing association with the business.

The alliance will be overseen by an advisory board consisting of members from CIMB Australia and Morgans.

About CIMB Group

CIMB Group is Malaysia’s second largest financial services provider and one of ASEAN’s leading universal banking groups. It offers consumer banking, investment banking, Islamic banking, asset management and insurance products and services. Headquartered in Kuala Lumpur, the Group is now present in eight out of 10 ASEAN nations (Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, Cambodia, Brunei, Vietnam and Myanmar). Beyond ASEAN, the Group has market presence in China, Hong Kong, Bahrain, India, Sri Lanka, Australia, Taiwan, Korea, the US and UK.

CIMB Group has the most extensive retail branch network in ASEAN of more than 1,000 branches as at 31 March 2013. CIMB Group’s investment banking arm is also emerging as the largest Asia Pacific-based investment bank following its recently announced purchase of RBS’ Asia Pacific investment banking and cash equities operations.

CIMB Group operates its business through three main brand entities, CIMB Bank, CIMB Investment Bank and CIMB Islamic. CIMB Group is also the 97.9% shareholder of Bank CIMB Niaga in Indonesia, and 93.7% shareholder of CIMB Thai in Thailand.

CIMB Group is listed on Bursa Malaysia via CIMB Group Holdings Berhad. It had a market capitalisation of approximately USD18.4 billion as at 31 March 2013. The Group has about 42,000 employees located in 17 countries.

About RBS Morgans

RBS Morgans is Australia's largest national full-service retail stockbroking and wealth management firm, with more than 340,000 clients, 500 authorised representatives and 850 staff, operating from 56 offices in all states and territories.

RBS Morgans was founded on 1 October 1982 as Morgan Stockbroking Limited. In October 2000, ABN AMRO Australia's retail stockbroking operations were merged with Morgan Stockbroking and it acquired 50% of the renamed ABN AMRO Morgans.

ABN AMRO's holding was acquired in a takeover of the group by the Royal Bank of Scotland in 2007. The changeover to the RBS Morgans brand was completed in 2009 with RBS holding 50% and Morgans management & staff holding 50% of the group.

We continue to expand our national network of offices throughout Australia to meet our corporate goal of providing professional, effective and timely advice to all clients.

If you have further queries or require more information, please contact:

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