STATEMENT ON RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROL

Introduction

The Board of Directors ("Board") acknowledges the importance of maintaining a sound system of internal control to safeguard the interests of stakeholders (including shareholders' investments) and the Group's assets. Guided by the *Statement on Risk Management & Internal Control: Guidelines for Directors of Listed Issuers*, Corporate Disclosure Guide and Corporate Governance Guide (2nd Edition), the Board is pleased to present the Statement on Risk Management and Internal Control of the Group (excluding associated companies, as the Board does not have control over their operations) pursuant to the Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad Main Market Listing Requirements.

Board Responsibility

The Board affirms its overall responsibility for the Group's system of risk management and internal control which is key to managing principal risks which may impede the achievement of the Group's corporate and business objectives, consistent with the requirements of Principle 6 of the Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance 2012. This responsibility includes reviewing the adequacy and integrity of this system which covers enterprise risk management, financial, organisational, operational and compliance controls. However, in view of the inherent limitations in any system, such system of internal control can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatements, frauds or losses and unforeseen emerging risks.

The Board regards risk management as an integral part of business operations and confirms that the Management will continue to undertake the process of identifying, evaluating and managing significant risks. The Board delegates the oversight of risk management and internal control to the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

Management Responsibility

The Management is responsible for implementing the framework, policies and procedures on risk and internal control approved by the Board.

The Risk Management Committee ("RMC") continues to play a pivotal role in overseeing the implementation of the risk management framework, periodically reviewing the risk management processes and ensuring that on-going measures taken were adequate to manage, address or mitigate the identified risks and reporting the status to the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

Risk Management Process

In establishing a bottom-up reporting of the risk profile of the key operating companies ("KOCs"), the respective Risk Management Team ("RMT") in the KOCs identified possible and actual risks faced by the KOC together with an analysis of the causes, impact and mitigating actions.

The KOCs' business performance objectives for the financial year are reflected in their Corporate Performance Scorecard ("CPS") which outlined the critical action plans across their value chain system. Key Performance Indicators ("KPI") were assigned to these objectives and their performance were tracked by the KPI owners under the supervision of the heads of the KOCs.

The RMTs identified and analysed risks which may thwart the successful achievement of these objectives and such risks often made up the baseline risks in the KOCs' risk profile. The risk owners were responsible to ensure preventative, detective and corrective controls were in place to address these risks. Gaps in controls and continual improvements were implemented through management action plans. This process was executed by the RMTs and documented in the Corporate Risk Scorecard ("CRS").

The Group's Compliance Function conducted review of the risk profiles, either focusing on specific risk issues or the completeness of the risk assessment process for selected risk profiles. The results of the review were communicated to the administrators of risk scorecards and/or heads of KOCs for improvement and implementation.

The CPS and CRS were presented by the RMT and RMC to the Audit and Risk Management Committee on a half-yearly basis for review on the status of the performance objectives and management action plans implementation.

The Audit and Risk Management Committee reviewed significant risks, if any, across Strategic, Business, Financial and Operational risk themes and guided the KOCs on further mitigations where required.

Key Elements of Risk Management and Internal Control

The Board is committed to maintaining a strong internal control structure for the proper conduct of the Group's business operations. The key elements include:

- An operational structure and organisational chart with defined lines of responsibility and delegation of authority together with a hierarchical structure of reporting and accountability. The authority matrix outlines the decision areas and the persons empowered to requisite, authorise and approve the expenditure/commitment. Delegated authority carries with it the obligation to exercise sound judgement, good business sense and accountability.

- A set of Group level internal policies and procedures which is maintained centrally and accessible to employees via intranet. The policies and procedures at both Group level and business or operational level are regularly reviewed for updates to resolve operational deficiencies or to meet new compliance requirements. Enhancement efforts to streamline local policies, guidelines or procedures at business or operational level to key Group Policies and Procedures are continuing.

- An annual exercise involving all business units to prepare a comprehensive budget and business plan which includes development of business strategies and the establishment of key performance indicators against which the overall performance of the companies within the Group can be measured and evaluated.

- Review of key business variables and the monitoring of the achievements of the Group's performance on a quarterly basis by the Board and the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

- Review of business processes and systems of internal control by the internal audit function which submits its reports to the Audit and Risk Management Committee on a quarterly basis. Regular and systematic risk based reviews of the system of internal control of the operating companies within the Group are performed to provide reasonable assurance that such systems continue to operate satisfactorily and effectively in accordance with Management instructions, policies and guidelines; and in a manner consistent with company objectives and with high standards of administrative practice.

- Confirmation of the effectiveness of internal control and risk assessment process by the respective head of KOC and head of accounts and finance (on financial related matters) with the signing off of the Risk Management and Internal Control – Self-Assessment Questionnaire (RMIC-SAQ) on an annual basis.

- A Corporate Risk Management System encompassing an Enterprise Wide Risk Management Framework (CRMS-ERM) that sets out in a comprehensive manner the process adopted by the Group towards risk identification, evaluation, control and monitoring as well as in determining the Group's risks appetite.

- Compliance Risk Self-Assessment (CRSA) with mitigations identified to address breaches or material non-compliance.

- Updates and tracking of CPS which are developed based on balanced scorecard approach and CRS of operating companies with appropriate performance and risk indicators via an automated and web-based tool, namely Q-Radar system.

- Development of Compliance Matrices reflecting requirements of key Group Policies and Procedures and major statutory and regulatory compliances.

- A compliance programme reviewed by the Audit and Risk Management Committee on an annual basis addressing key compliance areas of statutory and regulatory requirements, codes and internal ethics/standards/policies and procedures. Periodically reported by the Compliance Function to the Compliance Committee to monitor and address on-going changes and implementations in the legislative and regulatory requirements affecting the Group.

- A formalised groupwide integrity framework that accentuates the Group's commitment to uphold integrity in all manner of conduct by its employees at all times in their interaction with various stakeholders, both internal and external. This framework includes Integrity & Fraud Risk Policy which interphases with many of the existing policies adopted within the Group and also addresses fraud reporting and investigation.

- A formalised Group Procurement/Tender Policy providing a fairly standardised, uniform and consistent set of controls by promoting accountability, ownership and transparency. This increases the ability of the Group to develop a pool of reliable and competent vendors through proper governance, selection of appropriate procurement method and vendor management.

- A Code of Business Practices which sets out the principles to guide employees' conduct to the highest standards of personal and corporate integrity. The code covers areas such as conflict of interest, use of company assets, confidentiality of proprietary information, acceptance of gifts and business courtesies as well as prohibition of kickbacks.

- A Whistleblower Policy providing the channels to report wrongdoings by employees and/or other stakeholders whilst ensuring the integrity of the process and information and also protecting the rights of informants. The implementation of this policy enables the Group to address such concerns that may adversely affect the reputation and interests of the Group more effectively.

- Other key policies such as Competition Policy and Sexual Harassment Policy which complement the Group's Code of Business Practices. These policies direct the employees to behave ethically and professionally in ensuring compliance with relevant laws and creation of a conducive working environment.

- A Crisis Management and Communication Policy and process established under the Corporate Communications Function to guide the handling of external communications in the event of any crisis/disaster.

- Development and enhancements to existing operations and safety and hazards action plans of operating companies which include Emergency Action Plan with a view to developing the Business Continuity Management and implementing a roadmap to enhance the business resilience and robustness in contingencies, crisis management and disaster recovery management.

- An appropriate insurance programme to safeguard major assets against financial loss resulting from property damage, machinery breakdown, business interruption and general liability, which is reviewed annually.

- A Group Sustainability Framework and Plan providing the roadmap to enhance Governance, Social and Environmental engagements of the stakeholders.

Conclusion

The Board is of the view that the system of risk management and internal control in place throughout the Group is sound and effective, providing reasonable assurance that the structure and operation of controls are appropriate for the Group's operations.

Implementation measures are continuously taken to strengthen the system of risk management and internal control so as to safeguard shareholders' investments and the Group's assets.

Review by External Auditors

The external auditors have reviewed the Statement on Risk Management and Internal Control in accordance with Malaysian Approved Standard on Assurance Engagements, ISAE 3000, Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information and Recommended Practice Guide 5 (Revised): Guidance for Auditors on Engagements to Report on the Statement on Risk Management and Internal Control included in the Annual Report issued by the Malaysian Institute of Accountants for inclusion in the Annual Report of the Group.

Based on the limited assurance procedures and review, the external auditors have informed the Board that nothing has come to their attention that has caused them to believe that the Statement on Risk Management and Internal Control has not been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the disclosures required by paragraphs 41 and 42 of the *Statement on Risk Management & Internal Control: Guidelines for Directors of Listed Issuers* or that it is factually inaccurate.