

STATEMENT ON INTERNAL CONTROL

RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BOARD

The Board of Directors of Cagamas Holdings Berhad (“the Board”) together with the boards of other companies within the Group affirms its overall responsibility in ensuring that the Cagamas Group of Companies (“the Group”) maintains a sound and effective system of internal controls that supports the achievement of the Group’s objectives. The system of internal controls covers, inter alia, risk management, financial, strategy, organisational, operational and compliance controls. The Board recognises that such a system is designed to manage and control the risks at acceptable levels in line with the risk appetite set by the Board in achieving business objectives. Therefore, the system provides reasonable, but not absolute assurance, against the occurrence of any material misstatement of financial information.

The role of management is to implement the Board’s policies on risk and internal control by identifying and evaluating the risks faced by the Group as well as designing, operating and monitoring a suitable system of internal controls to mitigate and control identified risks.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Board Risk Committee (BRC) of Cagamas Berhad (Cagamas) oversees the management of risks associated with the Group’s business and operations. The BRC oversees the development of risk management strategies, policies, key internal processes and systems to identify, assess, measure, manage, monitor and report risk exposures within the Group. The BRC reports directly to the board of Cagamas which in turn keeps the Board informed of the decisions pertaining to risk reviews and related risk issues.

The BRC is supported by the Risk Management and Compliance Division, which provides risk management functions and performs risk management reviews on the business and operations of Cagamas, the main operating entity, as well as for other entities within the Group. The results of the risk management reviews and other findings are reported to the Board and the boards of the respective subsidiaries. The Group’s risk management principles are generally based on Bank Negara Malaysia guidelines and industry best practices.

KEY INTERNAL CONTROL PROCESSES

The Group’s internal control system encompasses the following key processes:

1. Authority and Responsibility

- (a) An organisational structure, job descriptions and Key Results Areas (KRA) which clearly define lines of responsibility and accountability aligned to business and operational requirements.
- (b) Clearly defined lines of responsibility and delegation of authority to the Committees of the Board, management and staff.
- (c) Management has also set up the Management Executive Committee, Asset Liability Committee, Product Development Review Committee, Reverse Mortgage Credit Committee, Operations Committee, Information Technology Steering Committee, Safety & Health Committee and Crisis Management Committee to ensure effective management and supervision of the areas under the respective Committees’ purview.

2. Planning, Monitoring and Reporting

- (a) The Annual Business Plan and Budget (ABPB) is developed, presented and approved by the board of Cagamas before implementation. In addition, actual performances are reviewed against the targeted results on a quarterly basis allowing timely responses and corrective actions to be taken to mitigate risks. The result of such performance reviews is reported to the Board on a half-yearly basis. Where necessary, the ABPB is revised, taking into account any changes in business conditions.
- (b) Regular reporting to the Board, the boards of other entities within the Group and board committees. Reports on the financial position, status of loans and financings purchased, bonds and notes issued and interest rate swap transactions are provided to the Board at least once each quarter. Where necessary, other issues such as legal, accounting and other relevant matters are also reported to the Board.
- (c) Regular and comprehensive information covering financial and operational reports is provided to management at least on a monthly basis.

STATEMENT ON INTERNAL CONTROL *(continued)*

3. Policies and Procedures

Clear, formalised and documented internal policies and procedures manuals are in place to ensure compliance with internal controls and relevant laws and regulations. Regular reviews are performed to ensure that documentation remains current and relevant.

4. Independent Review by Internal Audit Division

- (a) The Internal Audit Division provides reasonable assurance to the Board by conducting independent reviews on the adequacy, effectiveness and integrity of the system of internal controls. It adopts a risk-based audit approach in accordance with Annual Audit Plan approved by the Group Board Audit Committee (GBAC) of Cagamas Holdings Berhad. The results of the audits were presented to the GBAC, which met four times during financial year ended 31 December 2023 (FY2023).
- (b) The audit plan and audit reports are submitted to the Board and the respective boards of the other entities within the Group, to inform of any gaps in the internal controls system. During the financial year, several observations were highlighted, but none resulted in any material loss, contingencies, or uncertainties as well as no impact on reputational risk that would require disclosure in the Annual Report.

5. Performance Measurement and Staff Competency

- (a) Key Performance Indicators, which are based on the Performance Scorecard approach are used to track and measure staff performance.
- (b) There are proper guidelines for the hiring and termination of staff, formal training programs and upskilling certification by industry experts for staff, annual performance appraisal and other relevant procedures in place to ensure that staff are competent and adequately trained in carrying out their responsibilities.

6. Business Continuity Planning

- (a) A Business Continuity Plan, including a Disaster Recovery Plan is in place to ensure continuity of business operations.
- (b) The governance, controls and processes to manage the business continuity are in place to prepare Cagamas in the event of disaster or pandemic.

CONCLUSION

The system of internal controls in place for the year under review and up to the date of issuance of the Annual Report and financial statements, is sound and sufficient to safeguard the shareholders' investment as well as the interests of key stakeholders namely regulators, counterparties, employees and the Group's assets.

