



BLME acts as co-lead manager on Islamic Development Bank Sukuk issuance

London, 09 April 2014 – BLME, Europe’s largest Islamic bank, has been selected to co-lead the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) US\$1.5 billion five-year Sukuk. The bank’s representative office in Dubai (official documentation was with BLME London) , which opened in May last year, was appointed in to handle the issuance.

IDB Sukuk is the largest ever Islamic bond issued from the AAA rated supranational lender in 2014. It is also the largest Sukuk issuance BLME has been appointed to act as co-lead manager on to date.

The IDB issued 16 Sukuk in London since 2005 which raised around US\$7 billion. It has a US\$ 313 million programme listed in Malaysia and has raised 700 million ringgit since 2008 via three Sukuk.

Humphrey Percy, CEO of BLME, said:

“The IDB is becoming a major economic force both in the region and globally. Our participation as co-lead arranger concluded a significant landmark year for BLME, given our mutual dedication to promoting Islamic finance across the GCC and the UK.

“Islamic finance is gaining real momentum in on a global scale and there are strong signs that this is set to continue. In the GCC specifically, a lot of issuance is expected to mature in 2014, giving more prominence to the sukuk market locally.”

BLME listed on NASDAQ Dubai in October 2013, and announced a strong performance for the full year on 3rd March 2014. The bank was named Best UK Islamic Bank by World Finance, the [fifth] award it has won this year.

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About BLME

BLME is an independent wholesale Sharia'a compliant bank based in London and is a leading provider of alternative finance to the UK mid-market. BLME received FSA authorisation in July 2007 and is the largest of its peers in Europe. Led by a management team that brings together a combination of experienced international bankers and leading experts in Islamic finance, BLME has three key business areas; Corporate Banking, Treasury and Wealth Management, which includes Asset Management, Islamic Capital Markets and Private Banking.

BLME is dedicated to offering innovative Islamic investment and financing products to businesses and high net-worth individuals in the European, US, Asian and MENA regions. To ensure that BLME's services and operations are wholly Sharia'a compliant, the Bank has a dedicated Sharia'a Supervisory Board ("SSB"). The SSB's role is to review contracts and agreements relating to all transactions ensuring that they are consistent with the principles of Islamic jurisprudence.