

BLME Winner Best Islamic Asset Management Company in Europe – IFN Islamic Investor Poll

London, 28 April 2013 – BLME has today announced that it has won the Islamic Finance News's the Best Islamic Asset Management Company in Europe category. This award recognises the consistent performance of BLME Asset Management's sharia'a compliant funds that compete with the bank's conventional peers.

This is the third IFN Islamic Investor poll. IFN, which prides itself on being the only comprehensive and unbiased guide to the leading asset management companies within the Islamic finance industry, believes that Islamic asset management companies should be recognized for their innovation and expertise.

Nigel Denison, Head of Wealth Management at BLME, said:

"We are delighted that BLME's asset management offering has been recognised by Islamic Finance News. We expect that 2013 will be another milestone year for the Islamic finance industry, particularly in light of the commitment shown to the industry by Dubai in recent months."

BLME's Global Sukuk Fund and US\$ Income Fund are part of an unregulated collective investment scheme and are only available to professional clients or eligible counterparties. Shares in these funds should only be purchased by persons with experience of participating in unregulated schemes or through a qualified professional adviser.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

*The Global Sukuk Fund was previously called the US\$ High Yield Fund.

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 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.

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