## INTRODUCTION

The Board of Directors ("the Board") is pleased to present its Statement on Risk Management and Internal Control for the financial year ended 31 December 2022 ("Statement"). This Statement is prepared pursuant to Paragraph 15.26(b) of the Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad ("Bursa Securities")'s Main Market Listing Requirements ("MMLR").

The Board is also guided by the latest "Statement on Risk Management and Internal Control - Guidelines for Directors of Listed Issuers" issued by the Task Force on Internal Control with the support and endorsement of the Bursa Securities and Principle B of the Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance ("the Code") - Risk Management and Internal Control Framework.

## **BOARD'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Board affirms its overall responsibilities of good practice of corporate governance and is committed to maintain a sound system of internal control and effective risk management to safeguard its investments and assets. The system will provide reasonable assurance in ensuring the effectiveness and efficiency of operations, reliability of financial reporting and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

However, due to inherent limitations of any system of internal control and risk management, it should be noted that the system is designed to manage rather than to eliminate the risk of failure to achieve the objectives. Therefore, any system of internal control for that matter could only provide a reasonable and not complete assurance against any material misstatement or omission.

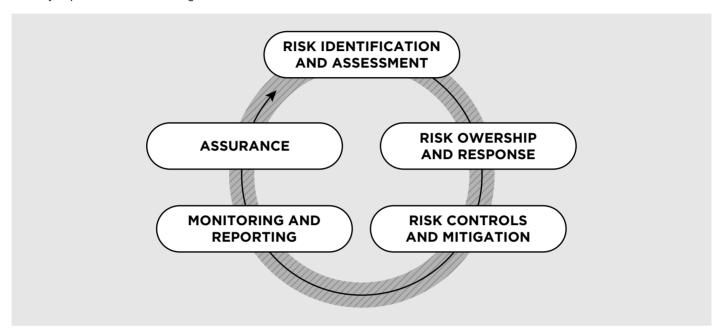
During the financial year under review, the Board is assisted by the Audit Committee, the Risk, Finance and Investment Committee, the Internal Auditors and the Management to identify, approve, and implement policies and procedures on risk management and internal control. The Risk, Finance and Investment Committee assumes the oversight on the risk management matters. Management identifies and evaluates the risks faced, designs, implements and monitors an appropriate system of internal control in line with the policies approved by the Board.

# **RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK**

Risk management is regarded by the Board as part of the business operation activities of the Group. It is the Board's priority to ensure that uncertainties and investment risks in new business ventures are managed in order to safeguard the interest of the shareholders. Collectively, the Board oversees and reviews the conduct of the Group's businesses while the Executive Directors and Management execute measures and controls to ensure that the risks are effectively managed.

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The key aspects of the risk management framework are:



The other key elements of the systems of internal control and the Board's review mechanisms are as follows:-

- a) Organisation structure with well-defined delegation of responsibilities and accountabilities for the Group's operating units.
- b) Establishment of the Nomination and Remuneration, Long Term Incentive Plan, Shariah Advisory and Risk, Finance and Investment Committees, apart from the Audit Committee;
- c) Clearly defined and documented internal policies and procedures for key operational areas have been established and is subject to periodic review;
- d) Establishment of the limits of Management's approvals and authorities and the authority limit is to be reviewed from time to time;
- e) Group Management Committee, attended by the Executive Chairman & President, Group Chief Operating Officer and respective Head of Divisions, are held periodically to identify, discuss and report on operational performance, business strategy financial and key management issues for effective monitoring and facilitating informed management decision making;
- f) Establishment of Tender & Business Development Committee and Contract & Agreement Committee at management level to review all proposals and contracts prior to participation in tender exercise and entering into contract agreement;
- g) The Audit Committee regularly convenes meetings with the Internal Auditors to deliberate on the findings and recommendations for improvement to the system of internal control of the Group. The Audit Committee reviews the action plans taken by the Management to rectify the findings in a timely manner and to evaluate the effectiveness and adequacy of the Group's system of internal control; and
- h) The Risk, Finance and Investment Committee (RFIC) reviews the potential exposure of major investments made by the Group to ensure key business risks are identified, assessed and continuously monitored to safeguard shareholders' investments and the Group's assets.

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In accordance with the Statement on Risk Management and Internal Control - Guidelines for Directors of Listed Issuers issued by Bursa Securities, the Management is responsible to the Board for:-

- a) continuously reviewing the risk profile and action plan to be undertaken to manage the principle risks relevant to the businesses of the Group;
- b) designing, implementing and monitoring the risk management framework in accordance with the Group's strategic vision and overall risk appetite; and
- c) identifying changes to risks or emerging risks, taking actions as appropriate and promptly bringing these to the attention of the

The Board has received assurances from the Executive Chairman & President, the Group Chief Operating Officer, the Chief Financial Officer and the Senior Manager, Internal Audit and Risk Management that, to the best of their knowledge, the Group's risk management and system of internal control, in all material aspects, are operating effectively.

## **INTERNAL AUDIT FUNCTION**

The Audit Committee engaged RSM, an external professional firm to provide independent internal audit services to the Group. RSM provides the Audit Committee with quarterly reports of their audit findings and observations, together with recommendations and Management's action plans to enhance the systems of internal control. The Audit Committee reviews the internal audit reports and reports to the Board on significant control issues noted. Follow-up audits are carried out to ascertain if Management's actions are effectively implemented.

In view of the intricacies of the culture and working environment of the Group, the internal audit function will be internalised by developing an in-house internal audit team. The inhouse internal audit capabilities will continue to be strengthened and adequately resourced to provide an independent assurance on the adequacy and effectiveness of systems of risk management and internal controls. Puan Zunaina Zaini, Senior Manager, Internal Audit and Risk Management was brought-in in October 2022 to spearhead the internalisation of the function.

During the financial year ended 31 December 2022, the cost incurred for the internal audit function (internal and outsourced) amounted to approximately RM118,600/-.

## OTHER RISK MITIGATION PROCESSES

The Board has also adopted various other processes to complement the system of internal control which include:-

- a) the establishment of Board Charter and Code of Ethics and Conduct which assist the Directors and employees of the Group in defining the minimal ethical standards and conducts in discharging their responsibilities; and
- b) the implementation of a Whistle-Blowing Policy and Procedures to provide a channel for legitimate concerns to be raised by employees or other stakeholders to the Audit Committee's Chairman.

The Board Charter, Code of Ethics and Conduct and Whistle-Blowing Policy and Procedures of the Company are available for reference on the Company's website at **www.citaglobal.my**.

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## **BOARD ASSURANCE AND LIMITATION**

The Board confirms that there is an ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing significant risks faced by the Group. While the Board reiterates that the risk management and systems of internal control are continuously improved in line with evolving business developments, it should also be noted that all the risk management systems and systems of internal control can only manage rather than eliminate the risks of failure to achieve business objectives. Therefore, these systems of internal control and risk management in the Group can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance against all material misstatements, frauds and losses.

The Group has invested in associated companies namely SE Satu Sdn Bhd, SE Satu Pelangi Sdn Bhd and WZS Technologies Sdn Bhd. While the Group has board representatives in the associated companies, the Group does not have management control in their operations. Accordingly, the associated companies have not been dealt with and considered for the purposes of this Statement.

## **REVIEW OF STATEMENT BY THE EXTERNAL AUDITORS**

Pursuant to Paragraph 15.23 of the Bursa Securities' MMLR, the External Auditors have conducted a limited assurance engagement on this Statement for inclusion in the Annual Report for the financial year ended 31 December 2022. Their assurance engagement was performed pursuant to the scope set out in Audit and Assurance Practice Guide ("AAPG") 3: Guidance for Auditors on Engagements to Report on the Statement on Risk Management in accordance with ISAE 3000 (Revised 2015) and Internal Control issued by Malaysian Institute of Accountants.

Based on their procedures performed, the External Auditors have reported to the Board that nothing has come to their attention that causes them to believe that this Statement is not prepared, in all material respect, in accordance with disclosure required by paragraphs 41 and 42 of the Statement on Risk Management and Internal Control: Guidance for Directors of Listed Issuers as set out, nor it is factually inaccurate. AAPG 3 does not require the External Auditors to consider whether this Statement covers all risks and controls, or to form an opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Group's risk and control system.

## **BOARD'S CONCLUSION**

For the financial year under review, the Board is of the view that the systems of internal control and risk management, procedures and processes in place are reasonable, adequate and effective in safeguarding the assets of the Group, interests of shareholders and other stakeholders.