MINORITY SHAREHOLDER WATCHDOG GROUP

BADAN PENGAWAS PEMEGANG SAHAM MINORITI BERHAD (Incorporated in Malaysia - Company No. 524989-M) New Straits Times – 2 December, 2014 (C)

MSWG to honour top public-listed firms

KUALA LUMPUR: The Minority Shareholder Watchdog Group (MSWG) will be launching the Annual MSWG-Asean Corporate Governance Index 2014 and Findings, The Malaysian Chapter, at the Sime Darby Convention Centre, here, on December 9.

The event will showcase and recognise top public-listed companies (Plcs) in Malaysia, which have shown outstanding achievements in their corporate governance (CG) practices, based on assessment using the Asean CG scorecard methodology.

Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin is expected to officiate at the event. He will deliver his keynote address and present the recognition awards.

The corporate governance level is measured through an index of Top 100 Plcs in Malaysia, based on international best practice parameters such as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) CG principles with additional performance criteria, said MSWG in a statement.

This year too, as in the previous years. MSWG will showcase companies with good practices and at the same time having sustainable performance.

It is hoped that this recognition will spur more companies to further enhance their CG practices.

Consequently, the communication of such positive practices in the market is expected to bring about more satisfied

Awards will be accorded under the following categories:

- 1. Top Corporate Governance **Recognition Award**
- 2. Top Transparency Recognition Award
- 3. Exemplary ESG Practices
- 4. Most Prompt AGM
- 5. Exemplary Conduct of AGM
- 6. Exemplary AGM Minutes
- 7. Recognition of Balanced and **Diverse Board**
- 8. CG Industry Recognition

Plantation Property Oil and Gas **Financial** Healthcare Industrial

Consumer Goods Consumer Services

Telecommunications/Utilities

9. Chairman of the Year

10. CEO of the Year

11. CG Writer of the Year

12. Investor Watchdog Peer Recognition

and loyal customers, employees and agents in the socio-economic system which ultimately will benefit the companies and shareholders.

This year, MSWG will also be recognising an individual in the Asean region who has contributed immensely towards the promotion of governance

ITEMS	EXAMPLES
Rights of Shareholders	Dividend payments Disclosure of AGM minutes
Equitable Treatment of Shareholders	Shares and voting rights Related party transactions
Role of Stakeholders	ESG initiatives Protection mechanisms eg whistle-blowing policy Effective redress for stakeholders
Disclosure and Transparency	Transparent ownership structure Quality of Annual Report Investor Realtions
Responsibilites of the Board	Board charter, roles & responsibilities, code of conduct Boad diversity Separation of Chairman & CEO roles Internal control & risk management Performance assessment

and minority rights in the country.

In addition, the recognition of a company that promotes transparency through the disclosure of the minutes of the annual general meeting and uploading the company's memorandum & articles of association onto their website will also be accorded recog-

Recognition of an exemplary chairman and a chief executive officer who has promoted good CG practices, in-

cluding the bigger picture of corporate social responsibility (CSR) in their companies will be given due recognition.

A prolific and quality CG writer will

also be recognised.

The Asean CG Scorecard initiative idea was mooted together by the Securities Commission Malaysia (SC) with MSWG and country experts from the Asean region and Asian Development Bank (ADB), under the auspices of the Asean Capital Markets Forum in 2011

which was initially funded by ADB.

This initiative was undertaken in parallel with efforts to achieve convergence of corporate governance standards in public-listed companies in Asean countries by next year as an economic community.

The ultimate aim of this CG convergence is to ensure standard understanding and comparability of each others CG practices for investment purposes.