

PRESS RELEASE

BEWARE OF FRAUDULENT BRUNEI DARUSSALAM CENTRAL BANK CERTIFICATE

- 1. Brunei Darussalam Central Bank (BDCB) has received information regarding an image of a "Shariah Compliant Banking Certificate" purportedly issued by BDCB and certifying a company's incorporation in Brunei Darussalam. BDCB can confirm that the certificate is not authentic and was not issued by BDCB.
- 2. BDCB urges the public to be wary of fraudulent use of BDCB's name and logo which is used to deceive the public.
- 3. BDCB would like to emphasise that any person who uses BDCB's name or logo without its written permission or uses a name, symbol, design or representation identical to or resembles BDCB's name, symbol, design or representation with the intention of deceiving or to cause confusion or to be likely to deceive or cause confusion, is committing an offence under Section 74A of the BDCB Order, 2010, which carries a penalty of a fine not exceeding BND20,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding seven years, or both.
- 4. In this regard, BDCB would also like to advise the public to avoid unlicensed online entities that offer financial services. Members of the public are advised to only deal with financial institutions licensed by BDCB. For the list of financial institutions licensed by BDCB as well as the BDCB Alert List, please visit the BDCB website at www.bdcb.gov.bn.
- 5. Members of the public are advised to lodge a report immediately to the Royal Brunei Police Force at the nearest police station or call 993 if they fall victim to such illegal practices. You may also inform BDCB of any individuals/entities offering unlicensed financial services by contacting the BDCB Financial Consumer Issues at +673 8380007 or email fci@bdcb.gov.bn.
- 6. BDCB remains committed to maintaining domestic financial stability and safeguarding Brunei Darussalam's financial system and the interests of financial consumers. BDCB, in collaboration with other relevant enforcement authorities, will continue to actively monitor any suspicious or unlicensed financial activities in the country.

Brunei Darussalam Central Bank

Date: 22 Sya'ban 1446H/ 21 February 2025M

Reference: BDCB/COMMS/3

BDCB has four main objectives: to achieve and maintain domestic price stability; to ensure the stability of the financial system, in particular by formulating financial regulations and prudential standards; to assist in the establishment and functioning of efficient payment systems and to oversee them; and to foster and develop a sound and progressive financial services sector.