

**PRESS RELEASE
IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Kenanga Growth Fund Wins at FSMOne Awards



From left to right;
Dennis Tan Yik Kuan, Managing Director of iFAST Capital Sdn Bhd
Ismitz Matthew De Alwis, Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer of Kenanga Investors Berhad

Kuala Lumpur, 7 July 2022: Kenanga Investors Berhad (Kenanga Investors) has announced that its funds the Kenanga Growth Fund Series 2 (KGFS2) and the Kenanga Shariah Growth Opportunities Fund (KSGOF) have won the *Sector Equity – Malaysia Focused* award and *Sector Equity – Malaysia Small to Medium Companies (Islamic)* award respectively at the FSMOne Recommended Unit Trust Awards 2022/2023 (Awards).

Both are equity growth funds that seek to provide investors with long-term capital growth. KGFS2 follows a diversified strategy, where up to 30% of the fund may be invested overseas with the balance invested in Malaysia. For KSGOF, the fund primarily invests in Shariah-compliant securities with a focus on small capitalization segments of the market.

Underpinning the funds' success is Kenanga Investors' long-standing bottom-up stock picking strategy which identifies undervalued stocks with strong fundamentals and sustainable earnings. The fund house's preferred method of market research is through corporate management interviews to gain a deep understanding of the business model, management quality, sustainability of growth, and earnings while identifying key risks in the business cycle, industry, and companies that it invests in.

Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, Ismitz Matthew De Alwis says, "We are honoured that the performance of both KGFS2 and KSGOF have been recognised at FSMOne. This also marks KGFS2's second major award within the same year since first

launched in 2018 as the follow-up to the established Kenanga Growth Fund and an impressive first for KSGOF. We appreciate the trust our investors have placed in us, and we aim to continue delivering sustainable returns for them to achieve their financial goals”.

Commenting on the market’s outlook for equities, De Alwis says “With the US entering late-cycle dynamics and decelerating growth, rising inflation and policy tightening would weigh on economic expansion. The key focus remains on the path of central bank monetary policy, easing of geopolitical tensions, China lockdown, as well as corporate earnings. China’s gradual re-opening and shift to more policy stimulus could lend support to its economic recovery. Increased infrastructure investment and looser monetary policy could help demand to recover and markets to bottom out provided that further lockdowns remain limited. Meanwhile, ASEAN continues to benefit from the reopening, with pent-up consumer spending supporting a cyclical upturn. Additionally, higher commodity prices will benefit certain countries within ASEAN

We will “adopt a defensive strategy, focusing on companies where fundamentals remain solid. We prefer sectors such as consumer discretionary, financials, industrials and commodities”, continues De Alwis. Since launch, KGSF2 has delivered a performance return of 56.40%* for its MYR Class and 42.66%* for its USD Class against a benchmark of 36.13%*. Additionally, KSGOF has a comparative showing with a similarly competitive return of 158.89%* against a benchmark of 84.07%*.

The annual Awards honours the unit trusts which have made it to the FSMOne’s Recommended Unit Trust list for the year. The unit trusts are evaluated based on Performance, Risk and Expense Ratio, and other factors such as consistency in the fund manager’s investment approach, the departure of key personnel as well as the stability of the management team.

*Source: Lipper, 31 May 2022

For more information about Kenanga Investors Berhad, please visit www.kenangainvestors.com.my

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About Kenanga Investors Berhad

We provide investment solutions ranging from collective investment schemes, portfolio management services, and alternative investments for retail, corporate, institutional, and high net worth clients via a multi-distribution network.

The Kenanga Growth Fund Series 2 won Best Malaysia Large-Cap Equity Fund at the **2022 Morningstar Awards Malaysia**

At the **Refinitiv Lipper Fund Awards Malaysia 2022**, KIB won overall best Mixed Assets - Malaysia Pension Funds Group award for the third time. Accompanying this were individual fund wins awarded to:

- Kenanga Growth Fund for best Equity Malaysia Fund over 10 Years
- Kenanga Malaysian Inc Fund for best Equity Malaysia Diversified over 3 Years
- Kenanga Growth Opportunities Fund for best Equity Malaysia Small & Mid Cap over 5 Years
- Kenanga Diversified Fund for best Mixed Asset MYR Flexible over 10 Years

The Hong Kong-based Asia Asset Management's **2022 Best of the Best Awards** awarded KIB under the following categories, Malaysia Best Impact Investing Manager, Best Application of ESG (ASEAN), Malaysia - Best Equity Manager, Malaysia CEO of the Year, Malaysia CIO of the Year, and Malaysia Best House for Alternatives.

Additionally, the **FSMOne Recommended Unit Trusts Awards 2022/2023** named Kenanga Growth Fund Series 2 as "Sector Equity – Malaysia Focused" and Kenanga Shariah Growth Opportunities Fund as "Sector Equity - Malaysia Small to Medium Companies (Islamic)".

For the fifth consecutive year, KIB was affirmed an investment manager rating of **IMR-2** by Malaysian Rating Corporation Berhad, since first rated in 2017. The IMR rating on KIB reflects the fund management company's well-established investment processes and sound risk management practices. During the first half of 2021, KIB's 20 largest unit trust funds outperformed its benchmarks for the one-year, three-year and five-year periods.

This Press Release was issued by Kenanga Group's Marketing & Communications department.

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