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- *Global Islamic finance players gather in Jakarta to discuss opportunities in Asia* • *Singapore flashes its Islamic finance growth potential with landmark deal between Maybank and RB Capital* • *Pakistani mergers and acquisitions: A growing traction toward Islamic finance* • *Potentially game-changing Islamic banking developments brewing in the Philippines* • *Iran gradually shifts to capital market financing with new Sukuk instruments* • *Malaysia leads the way in Takaful penetration rate* • *Make way for Germany – the new Islamic investment favorite* • *Sovereign Sukuk: Southeast Asia to the fore* 5

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DEALS

Indonesia raises IDR13.25 trillion (US\$1 billion) from sovereign Sukuk auction; awards IDR5.79 trillion (US\$438.3 million)

CIMB Islamic to redeem Tier 2 junior Sukuk ahead of schedule

ICD launches US\$300 million Sukuk; adds two more banks as arrangers

Malaysian government issues another series of GII Murabahah

Ezdan Holding Group plans US\$2 billion Sukuk issuance

Sunway Treasury Sukuk issues short-term Islamic notes

PRAN Foods signs agreement with **Green Delta Capital** to issue Sukuk for expansion project

Malaysia one step closer to issuing US dollar Sukuk

NEWS

The **IDB** extends US\$27.7 million to Tunisia to develop agriculture sector

Al Amanah Islamic Investment Bank will pursue privatization; hopes to conclude within the next year, says chairman

Large capital buffers and highly profitable position provide Indonesian banks with sufficient shield against asset quality deterioration, says **RAM Ratings**

Sarana Multi Infrastruktur plans to operate Shariah unit in second half of 2016; mulls Sukuk issuance

Global market access to improve for Malaysian banks with the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement, says **RAM Ratings**

Pakistan Stock Exchange adds 41 new companies and removes 26 in re-composition of All-Share Islamic Index

Qatar Islamic Bank (UK) fails to meet regulatory requirements on assessment and maintenance of financial resources; fined GBP1.38 million (US\$1.95 million)

Islamic Fintech Alliance to bring together Muslim-focused technologies and innovations in finance

Central regulatory body for GCC stock markets proposed

Malaysia, Saudi Arabia and the UAE command 84% of US\$321 billion outstanding Sukuk, report finds

USAID to provide long-term financing worth US\$6 million to two Afghan financial institutions

Basel Committee proposing changes to Basel III framework; seeking feedback

NASDAQ Dubai welcomes listing of Indonesia's US dollar Sukuk

MCB Bank competes with local Afghan company to acquire **New Kabul Bank**

IPIC and **Aabar Investments** deny involvement with controversial **1MDB** entity

Italy's sole Iranian bank to recommence operations in Rome

Boursa Kuwait Securities Company to helm **Kuwait Stock Exchange** operations by end-April

Bank Muscat expects to open representative office in Iran later in 2016

Central Bank of Oman adjusts reserves policy encouraging banks to buy

government debts and Sukuk

ASSET MANAGEMENT

Otoritas Jasa Keuangan anticipates Sukuk-based mutual funds to come to market this year and stimulate corporate Sukuk issuance

TAKAFUL

Only 10% of GCC savers opt for Takaful coverage, **National Bonds Corporation** study shows

Qatar's new insurance instructions 'credit positive', **Moody's** says

RATINGS

Indonesia maintains global, ASEAN and national-scale sovereign ratings

Ranhill Powertron redeems and cancels Sukuk facility; rating withdrawn

MARC withdraws 'AA-IS' rating on **Maybank Islamic's** RM1 billion (US\$254.22 million) subordinated Sukuk

MARC affirms **Sunrise's** 'AA-ID' rating on its RM400 million (US\$101.96 million) Islamic notes with stable outlook

MOVES

GFH Financial Group welcomes new board member

Mohammad Saif Ullah Khan named as **National Bank of Oman's** head of compliance

Saturna Capital appoints Scott Klimo as chief investment officer and Nick Kaiser as global strategist

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