# **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT**

STOCK CODE : 0285

**COMPANY NAME**: MERCURY SECURITIES GROUP BERHAD

FINANCIAL YEAR : October 31, 2024

# **OUTLINE:**

**SECTION A – DISCLOSURE ON MALAYSIAN CODE ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**Disclosures in this section are pursuant to Paragraph 15.25 of Bursa Malaysia Listing Requirements.

# SECTION B – DISCLOSURES ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES PERSUANT CORPORATE GOVERNANCE GUIDELINES ISSUED BY BANK NEGARA MALAYSIA

Disclosures in this section are pursuant to Appendix 4 (Corporate Governance Disclosures) of the Corporate Governance Guidelines issued by Bank Negara Malaysia. This section is only applicable for financial institutions or any other institutions that are listed on the Exchange that are required to comply with the above Guidelines.

# SECTION A - DISCLOSURE ON MALAYSIAN CODE ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Disclosures in this section are pursuant to Paragraph 15.25 of Bursa Malaysia Listing Requirements.

# **Intended Outcome**

Every company is headed by a board, which assumes responsibility for the company's leadership and is collectively responsible for meeting the objectives and goals of the company.

#### Practice 1.1

The board should set the company's strategic aims, ensure that the necessary resources are in place for the company to meet its objectives and review management performance. The board should set the company's values and standards, and ensure that its obligations to its shareholders and other stakeholders are understood and met.

Application	:	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	÷	The Board of Directors ("Board") of Mercury Securities Group Berhad ("Company") is primarily responsible for the overall corporate governance, strategic planning for business performance, overseeing the proper conduct of business, internal controls and risk management, succession planning of key Management, as well as stakeholders' communication of the Company and its subsidiaries ("Group"). Our Board sets the strategic direction of our Company, provides oversight of the Management, and sets the appropriate tone at the top, while providing thought leadership and championing good governance and ethical practices throughout our Group.
		Our Board is guided by the Board Charter which outlines the duties, responsibilities and matters reserved for our Board's approval, amongst others, recommendation of dividends, financial results, changes in Board composition, major acquisition of assets or investments and corporate proposals to ensure that the directions and controls of our Company are firmly in its hands.
		Our Board, in carrying out its stewardship responsibilities, has delegated certain responsibilities to the Board Committees, which comprised of the Audit and Risk Management Committee ("ARMC"), Nomination Committee ("NC") and Remuneration Committee ("RC"). Each Board Committee operates under clearly defined Terms of Reference ("TOR"). The Chairmen of these Committees report the outcomes of their meetings to our Board. Notwithstanding that, the ultimate responsibility for making final decisions on all material matters rests with the entire Board.  The details of our Board Charter and TORs are available on our Company's website at www.mercurysecurities.com.my/corporate-governance/.

- Our Board, together with the Management, is committed to promote good corporate governance culture within the Group which reinforces ethical, prudent, and professional behaviour and conduct. To promote good governance, our Board has established a comprehensive set of policies and procedures such as, Directors' Code of Conduct and Ethics, Fit and Proper Policy and Procedures, Anti-Bribery and Anti-Corruption Policy and Guidelines, Whistleblowing Policy and Procedures, Conflict of Interest Policy, Employees' Code of Conduct and Ethics. All these policies and procedures are our Company's available on website www.mercurysecurities.com.my/corporate-governance/.
- (ii) Talent development and succession planning are key priorities for our Board to ensure a high-performing workforce that contributes positively to our Group's sustainability, performance, and competitiveness. Our Board, through the RC and NC, provides guidance and direction on critical human resource matters such as remuneration, retention strategies, performance management, training, and succession planning.
- (iii) Our Board has the overall responsibility and accountability for the Group's risk management and internal control system, and management information system, including compliance with applicable laws, regulations, rules, directives, and guidelines governing the conduct of our Group's business. Assisted by the ARMC, our Board continues to monitor and review the risk management and internal control system to ensure its adequacy, effectiveness, and integrity, as well as to safeguard the Group's assets, reputation, and business. Further details pertaining to our Group's risk management and internal control system and its effectiveness are available in the Statement on Risk Management and Internal Control of the Company's Annual Report 2024.
- (iv) On a quarterly basis, internal audit reports, compliance reports and financial performance are tabled to the ARMC and our Board for review and deliberation. These reviews cover the Group's financial performance, major issues and risks related to business, operations, risk management and internal controls and processes in place to address them.
- (v) Our Board, together with the Management, assumes responsibility for governing economic, environmental, social risks and opportunities by embedding material factors into our Group's strategic plans and directions, business operations, supply chain management, enterprise risk management, waste management, labour practices, health and safety standards and talent management. This approach aims to contribute to a sustainable and better world for all humankind. Details of our Company's Sustainability Governance and Framework are available on our Company's website at www.mercurysecurities.com.my/corporate-governance/.

Explanation for departure	•••		
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to complete the columns below.

Every company is headed by a board, which assumes responsibility for the company's leadership and is collectively responsible for meeting the objectives and goals of the company.

# Practice 1.2

A Chairman of the board who is responsible for instilling good corporate governance practices, leadership and effectiveness of the board is appointed.

Application	: Applied	
Explanation on application of the practice	appointed to the The profile of ou section of the Consection of the Company's web governance/.  The responsibility follows:  Providing leadischarge of the Consection of the C	ne orderly and efficient conduct of our Board and ings of the Company; ffective contributions from all Board members gs; active participation at Board meetings and environment where dissenting views can be freely
Explanation for departure	:	
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Every company is headed by a board, which assumes responsibility for the company's leadership and is collectively responsible for meeting the objectives and goals of the company.

**Practice 1.3**The positions of Chairman and CEO are held by different individuals.

Application	:	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice		There is a clear division of responsibilities at the helm of our Company to ensure a balance of authority and power. The roles and responsibilities of our Chairman and Managing Director (whom has similar duties of a chief executive) are distinct and separate, which not only safeguard the interests of our shareholders and stakeholders, but also promote accountability and facilitate effective governance within our Company.  Presently, our Board is chaired by Dato' Baharon Bin Talib, an Independent Non-Executive Chairman whereas Mr. Chew Sing Guan, a Non-Independent Executive Director / Managing Director, leads our Group's business and operations. The Chairman's role is to ensure the effective functioning of our Board and leading it in establishing and monitoring good corporate governance practices. Conversely, the Managing Director's primary responsibilities include overseeing the Group's business and operations, and executing the policies and decisions made by our Board. To further reinforce our corporate governance framework, neither the Chairman nor the Managing Director are members of any Board Committees.  The distinct and separate roles and responsibilities of our Chairman and the Managing Director are outlined in the Board Charter, which is available on the Company's website: www.mercurysecurities.com.my/corporate-governance/.
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Every company is headed by a board, which assumes responsibility for the company's leadership and is collectively responsible for meeting the objectives and goals of the company.

# Practice 1.4

The Chairman of the board should not be a member of the Audit Committee, Nomination Committee or Remuneration Committee

Note: If the board Chairman is not a member of any of these specified committees, but the board allows the Chairman to participate in any or all of these committees' meetings, by way of invitation, then the status of this practice should be a 'Departure'.		
Application	: Applied	
Explanation on application of the practice	The Chairman of our Board, Dato' Baharon Bin Talib is not a member of any Board Committees, i.e. the ARMC, NC and RC.  During the financial year under review, the Chairman did not attend any Board Committees meetings. This practice ensures there is no self-review, thus maintaining the objectivity of the Chairman when observations and recommendations of the Board	
	Committees are put forth to our Board.	
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Every company is headed by a board, which assumes responsibility for the company's leadership and is collectively responsible for meeting the objectives and goals of the company.

# Practice 1.5

The board is supported by a suitably qualified and competent Company Secretary to provide sound governance advice, ensure adherence to rules and procedures, and advocate adoption of corporate governance best practices.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	Our Board is supported by two (2) qualified and competent Chartered Secretaries, Tan Bee Hwee (MAICSA 7021024) and Soo Siew Peng (MAICSA 7063110), both of whom are associate members of the Malaysian Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators ("MAICSA"). The joint Company Secretaries are also licensed by the Companies Commission of Malaysia to practice as company secretary. The decision for appointing and removing the Company Secretary(ies) rests with our Board.
	The joint Company Secretaries assist our Board in discharging their duties by ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements, guidelines, legislations, and best corporate governance practices.
	They keep our Board informed of new guidelines, directives, and legislation, ensuring compliance with the latest regulatory requirements including the ACE Market Listing Requirements of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad, the Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance 2021 and the Companies Act 2016. All Board members have unrestricted access to the advice and services of the joint Company Secretaries.
	The joint Company Secretaries are responsible for organising and attending all Board and Board Committee meetings, and ensuring that accurate and proper records of the proceedings and resolutions passed are maintained.
	The duties and responsibilities of the Company Secretaries are outlined in the Board Charter, which is available on our Company's website: www.mercurysecurities.com.my/corporate-governance/.
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Every company is headed by a board, which assumes responsibility for the company's leadership and is collectively responsible for meeting the objectives and goals of the company.

# Practice 1.6

Directors receive meeting materials, which are complete and accurate within a reasonable period prior to the meeting. Upon conclusion of the meeting, the minutes are circulated in a timely manner.

Application	:	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	:	Our Board recognises that access to sound and timely information is crucial for effectively overseeing, among others, the Group's business operations and evaluating Management's performance.  The joint Company Secretaries ensure that the Board and Board Committee meeting dates are scheduled well in advance by preparing an annual tentative calendar that includes a formal schedule of matters specifically reserved for our Board's attention. This ensures that the meetings are properly structured, and their direction remains in the hands of our Board.
		To support informed decision-making, relevant information and materials essential for the Directors' understanding of the matters to be discussed will be distributed to the Directors prior to the meeting to provide ample time for review beforehand. As stipulated in the Board Charter, notices of Board meetings shall be issued at least five (5) business days prior to the scheduled meeting, except in situations where shorter notice is unavoidable.
		Selected members of our Management may be invited to attend Board and Board Committee meetings to deliver presentations and provide additional insight into matters to be discussed. In addition, professional advisers appointed by our Company in connection with corporate or other proposals (if any) such as principal advisers, external auditors, valuers, and solicitors may also be invited to attend to provide their professional opinions, explain transactions under deliberation, ensure compliance with regulatory requirements, and clarify any issues raised by Directors.
		Upon the conclusion of a meeting, the joint Company Secretaries will ensure that accurate and proper records of the proceedings and resolutions passed are documented. The minutes are then circulated to the Board members for review before the next meeting.
		In between Board meetings, approvals on matters requiring the Board's sanctions are obtained by way of circular resolutions, enclosing all the relevant information to enable the Directors to make informed decisions. All circular resolutions approved by our Board are tabled for notation at the subsequent Board meeting.

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There is demarcation of responsibilities between the board, board committees and management.

There is clarity in the authority of the board, its committees and individual directors.

#### Practice 2.1

The board has a board charter which is periodically reviewed and published on the company's website. The board charter clearly identifies—

- the respective roles and responsibilities of the board, board committees, individual directors and management; and
- issues and decisions reserved for the board.

Application :	Applied	
Explanation on : application of the practice	The Board Charter clearly defines the respective roles and responsibilities of our Board, Board Committees, Chairman, individual Directors, Managing Director and Management, as well as issues and decisions reserved for our Board's approval.  The Board Charter is reviewed and updated periodically, as and when necessary, to ensure its appropriateness and relevance to our Company's needs. This process ensures alignment with the best practices recommended in the Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance 2021, compliance with provisions in the ACE Market Listing Requirements of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad, Companies Act 2016, as well as any new regulatory and legal requirements that may impact our Company and Board's responsibilities.  The Board Charter, including the TOR of each of the Board Committees is available on our Company's website at www.mercurysecurities.com.my/corporate-governance/.	
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The board is committed to promoting good business conduct and maintaining a healthy corporate culture that engenders integrity, transparency and fairness.

The board, management, employees and other stakeholders are clear on what is considered acceptable behaviour and practice in the company.

#### **Practice 3.1**

The board establishes a Code of Conduct and Ethics for the company, and together with management implements its policies and procedures, which include managing conflicts of interest, preventing the abuse of power, corruption, insider trading and money laundering.

The Code of Conduct and Ethics is published on the company's website.

Application	: Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	: Our Board has established a Directors' Code of Conduct and Ethics ("Directors' Code"), which sets out the standards of conduct expected from Directors. The Directors' Code emphasises the importance of advocating good corporate behaviour in a professional, honest, accountable, and ethical manner, while always acting in the best interest of our Company.
	The Company has also implemented an Employees' Code of Conduct and Ethics ("Employees' Code"), which is readily accessible to all employees. The Employees' Code is built around the following seven (7) core pillars of behaviour, conduct and practice to guide and support ethical decision-making and actions:  • Competence; • Compliance; • Integrity; • Consumer Protection; • Confidentiality; • Objectivity; and • Work Environment.
	Through the Directors' Code and the Employees' Code, our Board sets the tone for professional, compliant and proper ethical behaviour expected of the Board members and the employees of our Group.  To foster and maintain a healthy corporate culture that engenders integrity, transparency and fairness, our Company has adopted additional policies to support this:  • Anti-Bribery and Anti-Corruption Policy and Guidelines
	This policy sets out the framework and responsibilities of the Directors, employees and associated persons (as defined in the policy) in upholding our Company's zero-tolerance stance

	on corruption and bribery. It aligns with the main offences stipulated in the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission Act 2009. This policy provides clear guidance on key areas, including:  • Gifts & hospitality;  • Donations & sponsorships;  • Facilitation payments;  • Dealings with business associates and public officials; and  • Business rewards, rebates, commissions, or other incentives.
	Whistleblowing Policy and Procedures
	To ensure transparency and accountability, all employees, business associates, customers and external parties are made aware of the appropriate channels to raise genuine concerns about improper conduct at the earliest opportunity.
	Conflict of Interest Policy and Procedures
	This policy has been implemented to ensure that the Directors and Senior Management act responsibly and objectively, always in the best interests of our Group and are free from any personal, financial, non-financial or other conflicts that may compromise their judgment or impartiality in making decisions or judgement that could undermine the interests of our Group. This policy enhances corporate governance practices by addressing situations where personal interests may conflict or are perceived to conflict with the proper discharge of duties.  The above policies are reviewed periodically, as and when required, to ensure they remain relevant and reflect the highest standards of professional and ethical behaviour. These policies are accessible on our Company's website at www.mercurysecurities.com.my/corporate-governance/.
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The board is committed to promoting good business conduct and maintaining a healthy corporate culture that engenders integrity, transparency and fairness.

The board, management, employees and other stakeholders are clear on what is considered acceptable behaviour and practice in the company.

# Practice 3.2

The board establishes, reviews and together with management implements policies and procedures on whistleblowing.

Application	Applied	
Explanation on application of the practice	·	
	To reinforce this commitment, our Board has established the Whistleblowing Policy and Procedures aimed at providing a secure and confidential avenue for employees, business associates, customers or external parties to report any improper conduct, unethical practices, fraud or malpractices by employees, Management or Directors regardless of their position, so that appropriate damage control and remedial actions can be taken effectively.	
	The Whistleblowing Policy and Procedures include clear lodgement guidelines and is published on our Company's website at www.mercurysecurities.com.my/corporate-governance/.	
Explanation for departure		
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The company addresses sustainability risks and opportunities in an integrated and strategic manner to support its long-term strategy and success.

# Practice 4.1

The board together with management takes responsibility for the governance of sustainability in the company including setting the company's sustainability strategies, priorities and targets.

The board takes into account sustainability considerations when exercising its duties including among others the development and implementation of company strategies, business plans, major plans of action and risk management.

Strategic management of material sustainability matters should be driven by senior management.

Application	:	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	:	Our Board recognises the importance of business sustainability and is committed to deliver long-term sustainable values to our shareholders and other stakeholders of our Group.
		Our Board oversees the Company's approaches to sustainability, ensuring strategic initiatives and measures effectively address economic, environmental, social and governance ("EESG") related risks and opportunities. Assisted by the ARMC, our Board ensures that all sustainability strategies and initiatives are not only aligned with our business objectives but also reflect the core values of our Company.
		To support these efforts, the Corporate Sustainability Committee ("CSC"), chaired by our Managing Director and comprising of other Senior Management, serves as the main enabler in assisting the ARMC and our Board in driving and implementing the Company's sustainability strategies and initiatives.
		The CSC is responsible for identifying, prioritising and integrating sustainability considerations into day-to-day operations and ensuring the effective implementation of sustainability strategies and initiatives as approved by our Board.
		The CSC actively considers sustainability risks and opportunities in every major decision-making process and continuously engages with and seeks the views of internal and external stakeholders to better understand and drive our Group's sustainability agenda.
		The relevant sustainability matters are discussed in the Sustainability Statement as included in the Company's Annual Report 2024, which is available on our Company's website at www.mercurysecurities.com.my/annual-reports/.

Explanation for departure	•••		
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Measure	:		
Timeframe	:		

The company addresses sustainability risks and opportunities in an integrated and strategic manner to support its long-term strategy and success.

# Practice 4.2

The board ensures that the company's sustainability strategies, priorities and targets as well as performance against these targets are communicated to its internal and external stakeholders.

Application	:	Applied	
Explanation on application of the practice	:	Our Company via the CSC, communicates frequently with stakeholders through various communication contents through various communication and strong relationships with various stakeholders, especially on our Group's sustainability strategies, initiatives, priorities, targets, as well as performance against these targets.  Our Company via the CSC, communicates frequently with stakeholders through various communication channels to raise awareness on the importance of EESG impacts as well as our Company's constant evolving initiatives and priorities in managing EESG related risks and opportunities.  The Sustainability Statement in the Company's Annual Report 2024 provides comprehensive information on our Company's sustainability management and performance as well as insights into our Company's EESG strategies, performance, initiatives, priorities, and targets.	
		The Sustainability Statement as included in the Company's Annual Report 2024 is available on our Company's website at www.mercurysecurities.com.my/annual-reports/.	
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The company addresses sustainability risks and opportunities in an integrated and strategic manner to support its long-term strategy and success.

# Practice 4.3

The board takes appropriate action to ensure they stay abreast with and understand the sustainability issues relevant to the company and its business, including climate-related risks and opportunities.

Application	:	Applied	
Explanation on application of the practice	:	The Management provides regular updates to our Board on sustainability-related developments and initiatives during Board meetings to ensure that these matters are communicated and managed on a timely basis.	
		In the financial year ended 31 October 2024 ("FYE 2024"), our Board has approved the adoption of the following sustainability-related policies for adoption by our Group:	
		<ul> <li>(i) Sustainability Governance and Framework (revised);</li> <li>(ii) Learning and Development Policy;</li> <li>(iii) Code of Business Ethics (Suppliers and Business Associates);</li> <li>(iv) Data Security and Privacy Policy;</li> <li>(v) Environmental Policy;</li> <li>(vi) Human Rights and Labour Standards Policy;</li> <li>(vii) Occupational Safety and Health Policy; and</li> <li>(viii) Supply Chain Policy.</li> </ul>	
		It is pertinent to note that the updated Sustainability Governance and Framework has replaced the previous framework.	
		Our Directors are also encouraged to attend trainings to gain further insights on matters relating to EESG related risks and opportunities.	
		The training programmes attended by certain Board members during the FYE 2024 which include some of the above-mentioned topics, are set out in the Company's Annual Report 2024. Notably, all Directors of our Company have completed "The Mandatory Accreditation Programme Part II: Leading for Impact (LIP)" conducted by the Institute of Corporate Directors Malaysia as required by Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad.	
		Looking ahead, our Board remains committed to maintaining a proactive approach in staying updated with emerging sustainability issues to address challenges and leverage on opportunities that may arise.	

Explanation for departure	:		
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The company addresses sustainability risks and opportunities in an integrated and strategic manner to support its long-term strategy and success.

# Practice 4.4

Performance evaluations of the board and senior management include a review of the performance of the board and senior management in addressing the company's material sustainability risks and opportunities.

Application :	Applied
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Explanation on application of the practice	During the FYE 2024, our Board approved the following sustainability related policies for adoption by our Group:  (i) Sustainability Governance and Framework (revised); (ii) Learning and Development Policy; (iii) Code of Business Ethics (Suppliers and Business Associates); (iv) Data Security and Privacy Policy; (v) Environmental Policy; (vi) Human Rights and Labour Standards Policy; (vii) Occupational Safety and Health Policy; and (viii) Supply Chain Policy.  Our Board also conducted an internal materiality evaluation during the FYE 2024, which included an assessment of its oversight regarding sustainability risks and opportunities that are vital to our Group's overall performance. This evaluation ensures alignment with the sustainability objectives and challenges faced by our Group.  Our Board recognises the importance of sustainability in all its business and operations and has incorporated sustainability as one of the criteria in the performance evaluations of the Board members and Management.  The NC assists our Board in conducting annual reviews of the effectiveness of the Board and all the Board Committees. Together with the RC, the NC also reviews and evaluates the performance of individual Directors and the Management. Having considered the NC's and RC's evaluations, our Board is satisfied that the Directors and Management possess the necessary skills and expertise, as well as have sufficiently discharged their duties and responsibilities in addressing our Group's material sustainability related risks and opportunities.
Explanation for : departure	

Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.		
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The company addresses sustainability risks and opportunities in an integrated and strategic manner to support its long-term strategy and success.

# **Practice 4.5- Step Up**

The board identifies a designated person within management, to provide dedicated focus to manage sustainability strategically, including the integration of sustainability considerations in the operations of the company.

Note: The explanation on adoption of this practice should include a brief description of the responsibilities of the designated person and actions or measures undertaken pursuant to the role in the financial year.  Application : Adopted		
Explanation on adoption of the practice	:	Our Company has formed the CSC, headed by our Managing Director, supported by a Sustainability Co-ordinator and various working groups, including business units and departments. This committee assists our Board and the ARMC in overseeing the formulation, implementation, and effective management of our Group's sustainability agenda, ensuring alignment with its sustainability strategies.  The roles and responsibilities of our Board, ARMC and CSC are set out in our Company's Sustainability Governance and Framework available on the Company's website at www.mercurysecurities.com.my/corporate-governance/.

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

# Practice 5.1

The Nomination Committee should ensure that the composition of the board is refreshed periodically. The tenure of each director should be reviewed by the Nomination Committee and annual re-election of a director should be contingent on satisfactory evaluation of the director's performance and contribution to the board.

Application	: Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	: The NC reviewed the composition of our Board and Board Committees, as well as the tenure of the Independent Non-Executive Directors after the FYE 2024, in line with its TOR and best practices of corporate governance.
	Following the NC's evaluation, our Board concurred that the Directors possess the necessary skills, expertise, and competence, have allocated sufficient time and attention to the Company's affairs, carried out their fiduciary duties professionally, and have met the fit and proper criteria stated in the Directors' Fit and Proper Policy. The Independent Non-Executive Directors also comply with the "independence" requirements stipulated in the ACE Market Listing Requirements of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad and have demonstrated objective judgement in the discharge of their duties.
	With regards to the annual re-election of retiring Directors, the NC assessed the Directors based on their contributions, attendance, participation in meetings, industry and business knowledge, skills, expertise, time commitment, fit and proper criteria, and the independence of the Independent Non-Executive Directors.
	In accordance with Clause 76(3) of our Company's Constitution, one third (1/3) of the Directors, or the number nearest to but not less than one-third (1/3), are required to retire by rotation at every Annual General Meeting. Dato' Baharon Bin Talib and Mr. Chew Sing Guan are scheduled for re-election pursuant to Clause 76(3) of our Company's Constitution at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting, to be held on 30 April 2025.
	Our Board unanimously supports the re-election of the abovenamed retiring Directors and recommends that shareholders vote in favour of their re-election at the forthcoming Company's Annual General Meeting. The retiring Directors have abstained from all deliberations and decisions in relation to their own eligibility to stand for re-election and will continue to do so at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.
	The information of the retiring Directors standing for re-election is set out in the Profile of Directors in the Company's Annual Report

	2024 available on our Company's website at www.mercurysecurities.com.my/annual-reports/.
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Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

# Practice 5.2

At least half of the board comprises independent directors. For Large Companies, the board comprises a majority independent directors.

Application	:	Applied
application of the	:	In the FYE 2024 and up to the date of this Report, our Board consists of six (6) Directors comprising:
practice		(i) one (1) Independent Non-Executive Chairman - Dato' Baharon Bin Talib;
		(ii) three (3) Independent Non-Executive Directors - Datin Chua Suat Khim, Mr. Chan Kim Hing and Ms. Himahlini A/P M. Ramalingam @ Yalumallai;
		(iii) one (1) Non-Independent Non-Executive Director - Dato' A. Rahman Bin Safar; and
		(iv) one (1) Non-Independent Executive Director - Mr. Chew Sing Guan (Managing Director).
		This Board composition is in compliance with the ACE Market Listing Requirements of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad, which stipulates that at least one-third (1/3) of the Board must be Independent Non-Executive Directors. Furthermore, in line with Practice 5.2 of the Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance 2021, our Board is made up of a majority of Independent Directors.
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Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

# Practice 5.3

The tenure of an independent director does not exceed a cumulative term limit of nine years. Upon completion of the nine years, an independent director may continue to serve on the board as a non-independent director.

If the board intends to retain an independent director beyond nine years, it should provide justification and seek annual shareholders' approval through a two-tier voting process.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	Our Board Charter consists of a provision that limits the tenure of an Independent Director to a cumulative term of nine (9) years, as recommended by Practice 5.3 of the Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance 2021.  As at the date of this Report, the tenure of all our four (4) Independent Non-Executive Directors does not exceed the cumulative term of nine (9) years.
Explanation for :	
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Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

# Practice 5.4 - Step Up

The board has a policy which limits the tenure of its independent directors to nine years without further extension.

Note: To qualify for adoption of this Step Up practice, a listed issuer must have a formal policy which limits the tenure of an independent director to nine years without further extension i.e. shareholders' approval to retain the director as an independent director beyond nine years.		
Application	:	Not Adopted
	-	
Explanation on	:	
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Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

# Practice 5.5

Appointment of board and senior management are based on objective criteria, merit and with due regard for diversity in skills, experience, age, cultural background and gender.

Directors appointed should be able to devote the required time to serve the board effectively. The board should consider the existing board positions held by a director, including on boards of non-listed companies. Any appointment that may cast doubt on the integrity and governance of the company should be avoided.

Application	:	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	:	The NC is responsible for making recommendations to our Board for the appointment of new Directors and Senior Management. All nominations to our Board shall first be assessed and considered by the NC. The NC will take into account, the required mix of skills, experience, character, competency, integrity, time commitment, and fit and proper criteria before recommending a candidate to our Board.
		Our Board has adopted the Fit and Proper Policy and Procedures in line with Rules 2.20A and 15.01A of the ACE Market Listing Requirements of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad to ensure among others, that the Directors being considered for appointment or re-appointment fulfil the fit and proper criteria. The abovementioned policy is available on our Company's website at www.mercurysecurities.com.my/corporate-governance/.
		The NC will meet with the shortlisted candidates to assess their suitability before formally considering and recommending them for appointment to our Board and where applicable, to the Board Committees. Based on the NC's recommendation, our Board will then evaluate and decide on the appointment of the proposed candidates as additional Directors or to replace any Director who resigns or retires from our Board and Board Committees.
		Notwithstanding that our Company does not have a formal diversity policy regarding cultural background, age and gender for Senior Management presently, the Board Charter requires that at least 30% of the Board members to be women. Our Nomination Committee and Board are of the opinion that it is important to recruit and retain the best available talent, regardless of cultural background and age, to maximise the effectiveness of our Senior Management, who are equipped with the requisite skills, knowledge, experience, and character are equipped to meet our Group's needs and circumstances.
		During the FYE 2024 and up to the date of this report, our Board has two (2) women Directors out of a total of six (6) Directors,

	achieving the female gender representation of at least 30%, a recommended in Practice 5.9 of the Malaysian Code on Corporat Governance 2021.	
Explanation for : departure		
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.		
Measure :		
Timeframe :		

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

# Practice 5.6

In identifying candidates for appointment of directors, the board does not solely rely on recommendations from existing board members, management or major shareholders. The board utilises independent sources to identify suitably qualified candidates.

If the selection of candidates was based on recommendations made by existing directors, management or major shareholders, the Nominating Committee should explain why these source(s) suffice and other sources were not used.

Applied	
The NC adheres to a formal and transparent procedure for the nomination and appointment of new Directors. Prospective candidates are identified from various sources, including independent sources as stated in the NC's TOR, which is accessible at our Company's website www.mercurysecurities.com.my/corporate-governance/.  The NC seeks suitable candidates from diverse professional and business backgrounds who have the character, qualifications, experience, integrity, competence and time to effectively discharge the role of a Director. In the case of an Independent Non-Executive Director, the independence of the candidate will be one of the key considerations.	
The NC evaluates the suitability of each candidate before recommending them to our Board. The final decision on the appointment of new Director(s) solely lies with our Board as a whole.	
ed to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged	
elow.	

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

# Practice 5.7

The board should ensure shareholders have the information they require to make an informed decision on the appointment and reappointment of a director. This includes details of any interest, position or relationship that might influence, or reasonably be perceived to influence, in a material respect their capacity to bring an independent judgement to bear on issues before the board and to act in the best interests of the listed company as a whole. The board should also provide a statement as to whether it supports the appointment or reappointment of the candidate and the reasons why.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	The NC has assessed the retiring Directors who are seeking reelection at the forthcoming Company's Annual General Meeting. The profiles of the retiring Directors, including details of their qualifications, work experience, directorships in other public companies and listed issuers, and any potential conflicts of interest are disclosed in the Company's Annual Report 2024. Details of the retiring Directors' attendance at the Board and Board Committees' meetings are available in the Corporate Governance Overview Statement, whilst their shareholdings in our Company's ordinary shares are disclosed in the Analysis of Shareholdings section of the Company's Annual Report 2024.  The Board's statement and justification to support the re-election of the retiring Directors are set out in the explanatory notes accompanying the Notice of Annual General Meeting as enclosed in our Company's Annual Report 2024.  Should there be any casual appointment of new Director(s) during the financial year, the following information of the newly appointed Director(s) will be disclosed in the announcement for the new appointment submitted to Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad, containing:  (i) age and nationality; (ii) directorate; (iii) qualifications; (iv) working experience and occupation, (v) directorship in other public companies and listed issuers; (vi) family relationship with any director and/or major shareholder of the Company; (vii) conflict of interest with the Company; and (viii) interest in the Company's securities.

Explanation for departure	•••		
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.			
Measure	:		
Timeframe			

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

# Practice 5.8

The Nominating Committee is chaired by an Independent Director or the Senior Independent Director.

Application	:	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	:	The three (3) members of the NC are all Independent Non-Executive Directors with Ms. Himahlini A/P M. Ramalingam @ Yalumallai acting as the Chairman.
Explanation for departure	•	
Large companies are req	uir	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged
to complete the columns	be	elow.
Measure	:	
Timeframe	•	

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

# Practice 5.9

The board comprises at least 30% women directors.

Application	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	Our Board has two (2) women Directors, both of whom are Independent Non-Executive Directors, representing over 30% of our Board composition of six (6) Directors.
Frankrich fon	
Explanation for	
departure	
Large companies are real	ired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged
•	,
to complete the columns	Delow.
Measure	
Timeframe	

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

# Practice 5.10

The board discloses in its annual report the company's policy on gender diversity for the board and senior management.

Application :	Departure
Explanation on : application of the practice	
Explanation for : departure	The Company supports gender diversity within our Board and Senior Management team. As outlined in our Board Charter, our Company has adopted a policy on gender diversity requiring at least 30% of our Directors to be women.  However, our Board has not formalised specific gender diversity policies, targets, or measures to be taken for the Senior Management team to meet those targets.  Notwithstanding this, our Company at all times, practices non-discrimination in the selection of Senior Management members, ensuring inclusivity irrespective of factors such as age, gender, ethnicity or religion, educational and cultural background. Our Board believes that fostering an inclusive culture will enable our Company to leverage differences in perspective, knowledge, skills, track records and experience in achieving a sustainable and balanced development. All appointments have been and will be based on objective criteria, merit and also due regard for diversity in experience, skill set, age and cultural background.
Large companies are requi	Whilst acknowledging the recommendations of the Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance 2021 regarding gender diversity in Senior Management, our Board collectively believes that adopting a formal gender diversity policy for Senior Management is not necessary at this time, as our Group is committed to providing fair and equal opportunities and nurturing a diverse talent pool within our Group. Moving forward, the NC and our Board will continue to prioritise gender diversity in future selection processes and will endeavour to increase female representation in the Senior Management team.
to complete the columns b	
Measure :	Please explain the measure(s) the company has taken or intend to take to adopt the practice.

Timeframe	:	Choose an item.	

Stakeholders are able to form an opinion on the overall effectiveness of the board and individual directors.

#### Practice 6.1

The board should undertake a formal and objective annual evaluation to determine the effectiveness of the board, its committees and each individual director. The board should disclose how the assessment was carried out its outcome, actions taken and how it has or will influence board composition.

For Large Companies, the board engages an independent expert at least every three years, to facilitate objective and candid board evaluation.

	y to qualify for adoption of this practice, it must undertake annual board independent expert at least every three years to facilitate the evaluation.
Application :	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	After the FYE 2024, an annual evaluation was conducted to assess the performance and effectiveness of the Board, each Board Committee, and each individual Director. This internally facilitated process involved circulation of evaluation forms to all Board members, covering self-evaluation and peer evaluation. The duly completed evaluation forms were collated and the results were reviewed and analysed by the NC.  The NC concluded that our Board and Board Committees were effective as a whole, with the required mix of skills and knowledge, size, composition, experience, core competencies and other qualities necessary for effective governance. The NC was also satisfied that each Director has the character, experience, integrity, competence, and commitment to discharge their respective roles effectively.  The NC subsequently reported its findings to our Board. Based on the evaluation, our Board is satisfied with the overall performance of the Board, the Board Committees, and individual Directors. The overall composition of our Board in terms of size, the mix of skills, experience and their contribution were also balanced and appropriate. Our Board was also satisfied with the level of time commitment of all Directors towards fulfilling their roles and responsibilities as evidenced by their attendance record at the Board meetings during the FYE 2024 as set out in our Company's Annual Report 2024.
Explanation for : departure	

Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.								
Measure								
Timeframe								

The level and composition of remuneration of directors and senior management take into account the company's desire to attract and retain the right talent in the board and senior management to drive the company's long-term objectives.

Remuneration policies and decisions are made through a transparent and independent process.

#### Practice 7.1

The board has remuneration policies and procedures to determine the remuneration of directors and senior management, which takes into account the demands, complexities and performance of the company as well as skills and experience required. The remuneration policies and practices should appropriately reflect the different roles and responsibilities of non-executive directors, executive directors and senior management. The policies and procedures are periodically reviewed and made available on the company's website.

Application	:	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	:	Our Board has in place policies and procedures to determine the remuneration of Directors and Senior Management and these are reflected in the TOR of the RC and the Remuneration Policy for Directors and Senior Management which are available on our Company's website at www.mercurysecurities.com.my/corporate-governance/.
		The RC reviews and recommends the remuneration of our Directors and Senior Management to the Board. The RC may seek external advice from relevant experts relating to compensation and other work-related matters, as and when deemed necessary. The respective Board members shall abstain from all votings and discussions pertaining to their remuneration.
		The remuneration structure for the Executive Director does not include Directors' fees and meeting allowances from our Company and his remuneration package comprises salaries, other emoluments, bonuses and benefits-in-kind. The Executive Director is excluded from deliberations regarding his own remuneration, which is reviewed and approved by our Board, based on the RC's recommendations.
		Non-Executive Directors are compensated with Directors' fees and meeting allowances, which are not linked to our Group's financial results. The determination of Directors' fees shall be a matter for our Board as a whole, which subsequently recommends the payment of the Directors' fees and other benefits payable to Non-Executive Directors to our shareholders for approval at each Annual General Meeting of the Company in accordance with Section 230(1) of the Companies Act 2016. Directors who are also shareholders will abstain from voting on resolutions tabled at the Annual General Meeting to approve their own remuneration.

Explanation for departure	•••									
	Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.									
Measure	•									
Timeframe	•									

The level and composition of remuneration of directors and senior management take into account the company's desire to attract and retain the right talent in the board and senior management to drive the company's long-term objectives.

Remuneration policies and decisions are made through a transparent and independent process.

#### Practice 7.2

The board has a Remuneration Committee to implement its policies and procedures on remuneration including reviewing and recommending matters relating to the remuneration of board and senior management.

The Committee has written Terms of Reference which deals with its authority and duties and these Terms are disclosed on the company's website.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	The RC, which comprises of all Independent Non-Executive Directors, is responsible for setting the framework and making recommendations to our Board on matters concerning the general remuneration policy of our Directors and Senior Management.  The RC's TOR which deals with its authority and duties and the Remuneration Policy for Directors and Senior Management are available on our Company's website at www.mercurysecurities.com.my/corporate-governance/.
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are requ to complete the columns i	ired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged pelow.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

Stakeholders are able to assess whether the remuneration of directors and senior management is commensurate with their individual performance, taking into consideration the company's performance.

# **Practice 8.1**

There is detailed disclosure on named basis for the remuneration of individual directors. The remuneration breakdown of individual directors includes fees, salary, bonus, benefits in-kind and other emoluments.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	The remuneration of Directors, paid and payable by the Company and the Group for the FYE 2024, is disclosed on a named basis in the attached table and is also disclosed in the Corporate Governance Overview Statement included in our Company's Annual Report 2024.

	Name Directorate		Company ('000)							Group ('000)						
No		Directorate	Fee	Allowance	Salary	Bonus	Benefits-in- kind	Other emoluments	Total	Fee	Allowance	Salary	Bonus	Benefits-in- kind	Other emoluments	Total
1	Dato' Baharon Bin Talib	Independent Director	96.00	2.50	=	=	=	-	98.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	Chew Sing Guan	Executive Director	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	300.00	-	15.50	11.76	327.26
3	Dato' A. Rahman Bin Safar	Non-Executive Non- Independent Director	48.00	2.50	-	-	-	-	50.50	24.00	-	-	-	-	-	24.00
4	Chan Kim Hing	Independent Director	48.00	2.50	-	-		-	50.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	Datin Chua Suat Khim	Independent Director	48.00	2.50	=	-	-	-	50.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	Himahlini A/P M. Ramalingam @ Yalumallai	Independent Director	48.00	2.00	-	-	-	-	50.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Input info here	Choose an item.	Input info here	Input info here	Input info here	Input info here	Input info here	Input info here	Input info here	Input info here	Input info here	Input info here				
8	Input info here	Choose an item.	Input info here	Input info here	Input info here	Input info here	Input info here	Input info here	Input info here	Input info here	Input info here	Input info here				
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		input inio nere	ut info here Choose an item.	info here												

Stakeholders are able to assess whether the remuneration of directors and senior management is commensurate with their individual performance, taking into consideration the company's performance.

#### Practice 8.2

The board discloses on a named basis the top five senior management's remuneration component including salary, bonus, benefits in-kind and other emoluments in bands of RM50,000.

Application :	Departure						
Explanation on : application of the practice							
Explanation for : departure	in bands of RM50,000.00. Our Board has considered the and maintains the view that such disclosure is not in interest of our Company/Group due to the highly confidence sensitive nature of this information, and concerns over key talent poaching given the competitive nature of the interest of the interes	five (5) Senior Management's remuneration on a named basis and in bands of RM50,000.00. Our Board has considered the matter and maintains the view that such disclosure is not in the best interest of our Company/Group due to the highly confidential and sensitive nature of this information, and concerns over potential key talent poaching given the competitive nature of the industry.					
	Our Board will review the above situation annually.  Our Board assures that the remuneration of the Senior Management commensurates with their level of responsibilities, experience, expertise, skills, individual performance, and the overall performance of our Group. Our Board opines that the current remuneration package is competitive to attract, retain and motivate the Senior Management to effectively lead and operate our Group successfully, without excessive remuneration. Notwithstanding that, the remuneration of the Senior Management is disclosed on an unnamed basis and presented in bands of RM50,000.00 in the Corporate Governance Overview Statement as included in our Company's Annual Report 2024.						
Large companies are require to complete the columns b	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are en relow.	couraged					
Measure :	Please explain the measure(s) the company has taken or intend to take to adopt the practice.						
Timeframe :	Choose an item.						

			Company								
No	Name	Position	Salary	Allowance	Bonus	Benefits	Other emoluments	Total			
1	Input info here	Input info here	Choose an item.	Choose an item.							
2	Input info here	Input info here	Choose an item.	Choose an item.							
3	Input info here	Input info here	Choose an item.	Choose an item.							
4	Input info here	Input info here	Choose an item.	Choose an item.							
5	Input info here	Input info here	Choose an item.	Choose an item.							

Stakeholders are able to assess whether the remuneration of directors and senior management is commensurate with their individual performance, taking into consideration the company's performance.

# Practice 8.3 - Step Up

Companies are encouraged to fully disclose the detailed remuneration of each member of senior management on a named basis.

Application	:	Not Adopted
Explanation on adoption of the practice	:	

			Company ('000)					
No	Name	Position	Salary	Allowance	Bonus	Benefits	Other emoluments	Total
1	Input info here	Input info here						
2	Input info here	Input info here						
3	Input info here	Input info here						
4	Input info here	Input info here						
5	Input info here	Input info here						

There is an effective and independent Audit Committee.

The board is able to objectively review the Audit Committee's findings and recommendations. The company's financial statement is a reliable source of information.

# Practice 9.1

The Chairman of the Audit Committee is not the Chairman of the board.

Application :	Applied		
Explanation on : application of the practice	In line with Practice 1.4 of the Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance 2021, the Chairman of our Board, Dato' Baharon Bin Talib, an Independent Non-Executive Chairman, is not a member of any Board Committees.		
	The ARMC is chaired by Mr Chan Kim Hing, an Independent Non- Executive Director and a member of the Malaysian Institute of Accountants. The ARMC comprises of three (3) members, all of whom are Independent Non-Executive Directors.		
	Our Board acknowledges the critical role of the ARMC being an independent and objective body that acts as the Company's watchdog, ensuring the integrity of financial controls, robust combined assurance processes and effective risk management and internal controls within our Group.		
	With the segregation of the position of the Chairman of our Board and Chairman of the ARMC being held by different individuals, our Board is able to objectively deliberate and review the findings and recommendations of the ARMC.		
Explanation for : departure			
	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged		
to complete the columns b	eiow.		
Measure :			
Timeframe :			

There is an effective and independent Audit Committee.

The board is able to objectively review the Audit Committee's findings and recommendations. The company's financial statement is a reliable source of information.

#### Practice 9.2

The Audit Committee has a policy that requires a former partner of the external audit firm of the listed company to observe a cooling-off period of at least three years before being appointed as a member of the Audit Committee.

Application	Applied		
Explanation on application of the practice	In line with the recommendations of the Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance 2021, none of the members of our Board and ARMC are former audit partners of the current external audit firm of the Group.		
	Our Board is committed to ensuring the effectiveness and independence of the ARMC. Thus, our Company requires that a former partner of the Company's external audit firm and/or affiliate firm (including those providing advisory services, tax consulting, etc.) must observe a cooling-off period of at least three (3) years prior to being eligible for appointment as a member of our Board. This requirement ensures compliance for any appointments to the ARMC and other Board Committees.		
	The TOR of the ARMC, including the observation of a cooling-off period of at least three (3) years by a former partner of the Company's external audit firm and/or affiliate firm, is available on our Company's website at www.mercurysecurities.com.my/corporate-governance/.		
Explanation for departure			
Large companies are requ to complete the columns	ired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged below.		
Measure			
Timeframe			

There is an effective and independent Audit Committee.

The board is able to objectively review the Audit Committee's findings and recommendations. The company's financial statement is a reliable source of information.

#### Practice 9.3

The Audit Committee has policies and procedures to assess the suitability, objectivity and independence of the external auditor to safeguard the quality and reliability of audited financial statements.

Application	: Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	: The ARMC has been delegated by our Board to assess the suitability, objectivity, and independence of Messrs Grant Thornton Malaysia PLT, the Company's External Auditors, in accordance with the External Auditors Assessment Policy. This assessment encompasses the following key areas:
	<ul> <li>competence, audit quality and resource capacity of the External Auditors in relation to the audit;</li> <li>independence, objectivity and professional scepticism; and</li> <li>nature and extent of the non-audit fees rendered and the appropriateness of the level of fees.</li> </ul>
	Before the commencement of the current financial year audit, the ARMC reviewed and deliberated with the External Auditors on their Audit Planning Memorandum, which covers the key audit risk areas, approach, emphasis, and timeline. The ARMC has also monitored and assessed the performance of and independence of the External Auditors and is satisfied that the External Auditors have remained objective and independent throughout their engagement.
	The ARMC also noted the External Auditors' independence checks and confirmation procedures carried out within their firm, including the absence of any conflict of interest in rendering non-audit services to our Group presently. In line with the relevant professional standards, the ARMC has obtained written assurance from the External Auditors affirming their independence throughout the audit engagement.
	Being satisfied with the External Auditors' performance, timeliness, technical competency, objectivity, and independence relating to their conduct of the audit, the ARMC has recommended to the Board for the reappointment of Messrs Grant Thornton Malaysia PLT as the Company's External Auditors at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.
	Our Company's External Auditors Assessment Policy, is available on our Company's website at www.mercurysecurities.com.my/corporate-governance/.

Explanation for :		
departure		
Large companies are requir	red to complete the columns below.	Non-large companies are encouraged
to complete the columns be	elow.	
Measure :		
Timeframe :		

There is an effective and independent Audit Committee.

The board is able to objectively review the Audit Committee's findings and recommendations. The company's financial statement is a reliable source of information.

# Practice 9.4 - Step Up

The Audit Committee should comprise solely of Independent Directors.

Application	:	Adopted
Explanation on adoption of the practice		Our ARMC comprises of three (3) members, all of whom are Independent Non-Executive Directors who satisfy the "independence" requirements set out in the ACE Market Listing Requirements of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad.

There is an effective and independent Audit Committee.

The board is able to objectively review the Audit Committee's findings and recommendations. The company's financial statement is a reliable source of information.

#### Practice 9.5

Collectively, the Audit Committee should possess a wide range of necessary skills to discharge its duties. All members should be financially literate, competent and are able to understand matters under the purview of the Audit Committee including the financial reporting process.

All members of the Audit Committee should undertake continuous professional development to keep themselves abreast of relevant developments in accounting and auditing standards, practices and rules.

Application	:	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	:	The ARMC comprises of members with diverse professional experience in finance, taxation, general management, strategic planning, law, business environments as well as corporate governance. This diversity in expertise coupled with financial literacy of the members enables them to effectively discharge their responsibilities as outlined in the ARMC's TOR, including oversight of the financial reporting process.
		The Chairman of the ARMC, Mr Chan Kim Hing, graduated with a Bachelor of Science (Hons) from Monash University, Australia and has been a member of the Malaysian Institute of Accountants ("MIA") since December 1994 and a fellow member of CPA Australia since June 2015.
		Datin Chua Suat Khim, a member of the ARMC, has been a member of the MIA since September 1989, a fellow member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants and ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountants since August 2001 and October 2017 respectively. She also holds a Master of Business from The University of Newcastle, Australia.
		Ms. Himahlini A/P M. Ramalingam @ Yalumallai, a member of the ARMC graduated with a Bachelor of Law (Hons) from University of Malaya. In May 2005, she was admitted as an advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya. She specialises in corporate and commercial litigation, corporate restructuring, corporate insolvency and defamation.
		Members of the ARMC actively attend trainings and talks to remain updated on developments on financial reporting and accounting standards. Updates and developments in the Companies Act 2016 and the ACE Market Listing Requirements are presented by the Company Secretaries, whilst new

	Accounting Standards and Interpretations pronounced by the Malaysian Accounting Standards Board (MASB) are presented by the External Auditors during the annual Audit Planning Memorandum meeting and from time to time.
Explanation for :	
departure	
Large companies are requir	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged
to complete the columns be	elow.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

Companies make informed decisions about the level of risk they want to take and implement necessary controls to pursue their objectives.

The board is provided with reasonable assurance that adverse impact arising from a foreseeable future event or situation on the company's objectives is mitigated and managed.

#### Practice 10.1

The board should establish an effective risk management and internal control framework.

Application	: Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	: Our Board acknowledges its overall responsibility for the Group's risk management and internal control system, including reviewing its adequacy and effectiveness in line with our Group's strategies and business objectives. Our Board has established a sound risk management and internal control system, including ongoing processes to identify, evaluate, monitor, and manage significant risks faced by our Group in the achievement of our Group's strategies and business.
	Our Board is assisted by the ARMC in reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of these systems, encompassing internal audit and compliance functions undertaken by our in-house teams. Our Board has formalised its commitment to internal audit governance through the adoption of the Internal Audit Charter. This Internal Audit Charter defines the mission, objectives, scope of work, status, authority, accountability, and responsibilities of the internal audit function and is accessible on our Company's website at www.mercurysecurities.com.my/corporate-governance/.
	Management is responsible for implementing the processes of identifying, evaluating, monitoring, managing, and reporting of significant risks and internal controls, taking appropriate and timely corrective actions as needed to mitigate and control significant risks.
	Continuous reviews are carried out by the Group's internal audit and compliance functions and management to identify, evaluate, monitor, and manage significant risks affecting the business and ensure that adequate and effective processes and controls are in place. Significant findings and recommendations for improvements, by the internal audit and compliance functions are reported to the ARMC on a quarterly basis or as and when necessary.
	Details on our Group's risk management and internal control system are set out in the Statement on Risk Management and Internal Control included in our Company's Annual Report 2024, which is accessible at our Company's website, www.mercurysecurities.com.my/annual-reports/.

Explanation for departure	•		
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.			
Measure	•		
Timeframe	:		

Companies make informed decisions about the level of risk they want to take and implement necessary controls to pursue their objectives.

The board is provided with reasonable assurance that adverse impact arising from a foreseeable future event or situation on the company's objectives is mitigated and managed.

#### Practice 10.2

The board should disclose the features of its risk management and internal control framework, and the adequacy and effectiveness of this framework.

Application	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	The features of our Company's risk management and internal control framework, as well as the adequacy and effectiveness of this framework are as disclosed in the Statement on Risk Management and Internal Control of our Company's Annual Report 2024 which is accessible at our Company's website: www.mercurysecurities.com.my/annual-reports/.
Explanation for departure	
Large companies are requ	ired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged
to complete the columns	
Measure	
Timeframe	

Companies make informed decisions about the level of risk they want to take and implement necessary controls to pursue their objectives.

The board is provided with reasonable assurance that adverse impact arising from a foreseeable future event or situation on the company's objectives is mitigated and managed.

#### Practice 10.3 - Step Up

The board establishes a Risk Management Committee, which comprises a majority of independent directors, to oversee the company's risk management framework and policies.

Application :	Adopted
Explanation on : adoption of the practice	Our Board has formed the ARMC to assist our Board in overseeing the risk management and internal control framework of our Group. The ARMC supports our Board in risk governance by identifying, evaluating, monitoring, and managing key business risks to safeguard the shareholders' interests and assets of our Group.
	The ARMC comprises of fully Independent Non-Executive Directors and the composition is tabulated as follows:  Chairman:  Mr Chan Kim Hing
	<ul> <li>Members:</li> <li>Datin Chua Suat Khim</li> <li>Ms Himahlini A/P M. Ramalingam @ Yalumallai</li> </ul>
	The TOR of the ARMC is available for reference on our Company's website at www.mercurysecurities.com.my/corporate-governance/. Details of our Group's Enterprise Risk Management Framework are outlined in the Statement on Risk Management and Internal Control included in our Company's Annual Report 2024.

Companies have an effective governance, risk management and internal control framework and stakeholders are able to assess the effectiveness of such a framework.

# Practice 11.1

The Audit Committee should ensure that the internal audit function is effective and able to function independently.

Application	:	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	:	Our Board has delegated the responsibility of monitoring and reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of our Group's internal audit function to the ARMC.
		The internal audit function is handled independently by an inhouse Internal Audit Department, which operates separately from the Group's operational and trading activities.
		The Internal Audit Department adopts a risk-based approach and carries out scheduled audits based on an Internal Audit Plan approved by the ARMC, prior to each financial year or on ad-hoc basis. These audits cover a comprehensive scope in the areas of operations, finance/accounts, and investigation.
		The internal audit function reports directly to the ARMC, with the Head of Internal Audit having unfettered access to the ARMC and Board.
		The principal role of the internal audit function is to undertake independent, regular, and systematic reviews by applying standards of internal auditing promulgated by the Institute of Internal Auditors to provide reasonable assurance on the adequacy, effectiveness and integrity of the risk management, internal control, and governance systems. The Head of Internal Audit also reports to the ARMC on the extent of compliance with our Group's established policies and procedures and compliance with applicable laws, regulations and directives.
		The Board has adopted the Internal Audit Charter that defines and establishes the mission, objectives, scope of work, status, authority, accountability, and responsibilities of the Internal Audit function of the Group, accessible at our Company's website at: www.mercurysecurities.com.my/corporate-governance/.
		The activities of the Internal Audit Department during and after the FYE 2024 are set out in the Audit and Risk Management Committee Report as included in our Company's Annual Report 2024.
Explanation for departure	:	

Large companies are requir	red to complete the columns below.	Non-large companies are encouraged
to complete the columns be	elow.	
Measure :		
Timeframe :		

Companies have an effective governance, risk management and internal control framework and stakeholders are able to assess the effectiveness of such a framework.

#### Practice 11.2

The board should disclose-

- whether internal audit personnel are free from any relationships or conflicts of interest,
   which could impair their objectivity and independence;
- the number of resources in the internal audit department;
- name and qualification of the person responsible for internal audit; and
- whether the internal audit function is carried out in accordance with a recognised framework.

Application	:	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice		The internal audit function is performed in-house by the Internal Audit Department. The internal audit personnel are free from any relationships or conflicts of interest, which could impair their objectivity and independence. The internal audit function reports directly to the ARMC and the Head of Internal Audit has unfettered access to the ARMC and our Board.  The Internal Audit Department is headed by Mr. Alex Yong Ann Peng, who holds a Bachelor's degree with honours in Mathematics with Economics. He has more than 10 years of experience in internal auditing.  The primary role of the Internal Audit Department is to provide the ARMC with independent and objective reports on the adequacy and effectiveness of the risk management and internal control systems, as well as the extent of compliance with established policies, procedures, and relevant statutory and regulatory requirements within our Group. In carrying out its functions, the Head of Internal Audit adheres to the standards promulgated by The Institute of Internal Auditors Malaysia.  In accordance with the TOR, the ARMC conducted an annual assessment of the Head of Internal Audit's performance in the FYE 2024. The ARMC was satisfied with the competency and experience of the Head of Internal Audit in discharging his role and responsibilities.
		FYE 2024 are set out in the Audit and Risk Management Committee Report as included in our Company's Annual Report 2024.
Explanation for departure	:	

Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.		
Measure :		
Timeframe :		

There is continuous communication between the company and stakeholders to facilitate mutual understanding of each other's objectives and expectations.

Stakeholders are able to make informed decisions with respect to the business of the company, its policies on governance, the environment and social responsibility.

#### Practice 12.1

The board ensures there is effective, transparent and regular communication with its stakeholders.

Application	:	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	:	Our Board recognises the importance of being transparent and accountable to our shareholders and other stakeholders and has used various communication channels to ensure our Board and Senior Management continuously provide comprehensive, timely and relevant information to our shareholders, investors, and the general public.
		The primary channels through which our Company mainly communicates with our shareholders and other stakeholders include the following:
		<ul> <li>quarterly announcements on financial results and other periodical or relevant announcements to Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad;</li> </ul>
		(ii) circulars and annual reports;
		(iii) general meetings of shareholders;
		(iv) periodic meetings and briefings with investors, analysts, and fund managers, where appropriate; and
		(v) Company's website at www.mercurysecurities.com.my where stakeholders can access corporate information such as Board Charter, TORs of the Board Committees, Board's policies, press releases, financial information, Company's announcements, and other information.
		The above channels of communication will facilitate to enhance stakeholders' understanding of the business and operations of our Group and to enable them to make informed investment decisions.
		To maintain transparency and effectively address concerns, stakeholders can direct their queries and concerns to our Company's electronic mail: mercurykl@mersec.com.my.
		Whilst our Company endeavours to provide as much information as possible to our shareholders and investors, the Company is

	also mindful of the legal and regulatory framework governing the dissemination and/or release of unpublished material and pricesensitive information.
Explanation for :	
departure	
	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged
to complete the columns be	elow.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

There is continuous communication between the company and stakeholders to facilitate mutual understanding of each other's objectives and expectations.

Stakeholders are able to make informed decisions with respect to the business of the company, its policies on governance, the environment and social responsibility.

#### Practice 12.2

Large companies are encouraged to adopt integrated reporting based on a globally recognised framework.

Application	:	Not applicable – Not a Large Company
Explanation on application of the	:	
practice		
Explanation for	:	
departure		
•		
Large companies are rea	uir	ed to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged
to complete the columns		
·		
Measure	:	
Timeframe	:	

Shareholders are able to participate, engage the board and senior management effectively and make informed voting decisions at General Meetings.

# Practice 13.1

Notice for an Annual General Meeting should be given to the shareholders at least 28 days prior to the meeting.

Application :	Applied	
Explanation on : application of the practice	The notice period given for the Company's Third (3 <sup>rd</sup> ) Annual General Meeting in 2024 was more than 28 days, where the notice was circulated to the shareholders on 28 February 2024 and the Third (3 <sup>rd</sup> ) Annual General Meeting was held on 29 March 2024.  The notice for the forthcoming Fourth (4 <sup>th</sup> ) Annual General Meeting to shareholders is dated 27 February 2025, which provides more than 28 days' notice to shareholders, for the holding of our Company's Fourth (4 <sup>th</sup> ) Annual General Meeting, scheduled to be held on 30 April 2025.  The Notice of Fourth (4 <sup>th</sup> ) Annual General Meeting, Proxy Form and the Administrative Guide are available at the Company's website at <a href="https://www.mercurysecurities.com.my/annual-reports/">https://www.mercurysecurities.com.my/annual-reports/</a>	
Explanation for : departure		
Large companies are requi to complete the columns b	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged elow.	
Measure :		
Timeframe :		

Shareholders are able to participate, engage the board and senior management effectively and make informed voting decisions at General Meetings.

# Practice 13.2

All directors attend General Meetings. The Chair of the Audit, Nominating, Risk Management and other committees provide meaningful response to questions addressed to them.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	All the Directors of our Company, including the Chairman of the ARMC, NC and RC, had attended the Third (3 <sup>rd</sup> ) Annual General Meeting held on 29 March 2024 to engage directly with shareholders and respond to any questions addressed to them.  The forthcoming Fourth (4 <sup>th</sup> ) Annual General Meeting is scheduled to be held on 30 April 2025.  All Directors are committed to comply with Practice 13.2 of the Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance 2021 at the forthcoming Fourth (4 <sup>th</sup> ) Annual General Meeting to be on 30 April 2025 whereby all Directors shall endeavour to attend the Fourth (4 <sup>th</sup> ) Annual General Meeting.  Shareholders are also given direct access to our Board and are encouraged to participate in the questions-and-answers session. Our Board is committed to provide meaningful responses to questions addressed to them by all the shareholders.  In addition, the Chief Financial Officer and certain other members of the Senior Management team, representative(s) of our External Auditors (Messrs Grant Thornton Malaysia PLT), sponsor, solicitors, as appropriate will be present at Fourth (4 <sup>th</sup> ) Annual General Meeting to supplement discussions and provide greater
	clarity and context where necessary.
Explanation for : departure	
	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged
to complete the columns b	elow.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

Shareholders are able to participate, engage the board and senior management effectively and make informed voting decisions at General Meetings.

#### Practice 13.3

Listed companies should leverage technology to facilitate-

- voting including voting in absentia; and
- remote shareholders' participation at general meetings.

Listed companies should also take the necessary steps to ensure good cyber hygiene practices are in place including data privacy and security to prevent cyber threats.

Application :	Departure
Application .	Departure
Explanation on :	
application of the	
practice	
Explanation for :	The forthcoming Fourth (4th) Annual General Meeting will be held
departure	physically. Our Company believes that physical meetings provide a more effective and interactive platform for communicating and engaging with shareholders and to facilitate the participation of shareholders and/or proxy holders who may be less familiar with, or lack access to technology.
	General Meetings will be held at accessible locations within the Klang Valley to facilitate shareholders' participation. Shareholders who are unable to attend General Meetings of our Company may, in accordance with the Company's Constitution, appoint their respective proxies or the Chairman of the meeting to vote on their behalf.
	In line with best practices, our Company has adopted electronic voting for the conduct of polls for all resolutions at the General Meeting and has also provided an electronic lodgement channel for shareholders to submit proxy forms electronically.
	Please provide an alternative practice and explain how the alternative practice meets the intended outcome.
Large companies are require to complete the columns b	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged elow.
Measure :	Please explain the measure(s) the company has taken or intend to take to adopt the practice.
Timeframe :	Choose an item.

Shareholders are able to participate, engage the board and senior management effectively and make informed voting decisions at General Meetings.

#### Practice 13.4

The Chairman of the board should ensure that general meetings support meaningful engagement between the board, senior management and shareholders. The engagement should be interactive and include robust discussion on among others the company's financial and non-financial performance as well as the company's long-term strategies. Shareholders should also be provided with sufficient opportunity to pose questions during the general meeting and all the questions should receive a meaningful response.

	f adoption of this practice should include a discussion on measures	
undertaken to ensure the general meeting is interactive, shareholders are provided with sufficient		
	ons and the questions are responded to.	
Application :	Applied	
Explanation on : application of the practice	Our Board recognises that effective, transparent, and continuous communication with the shareholders is essential in managing their expectations and delivering long-term value-creation for them.  During the Third (3 <sup>rd</sup> ) Annual General Meeting held on 29 March 2024, all the Directors, the Chairman of our Board and Board	
	Committees were present to provide responses to the questions posed by shareholders. Throughout the Third (3 <sup>rd</sup> ) Annual General Meeting, shareholders were given ample opportunity to pose their queries and our Board ensured that all the questions were answered.	
	All our Directors, the Chairman of the Board, and the Board Committees, will be present at the forthcoming Fourth (4th) Annual General Meeting to be held on 30 April 2025, to address any questions from the shareholders.	
Explanation for : departure		
Large companies are requi to complete the columns b	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged elow.	
Measure :		
Timeframe :		

Shareholders are able to participate, engage the board and senior management effectively and make informed voting decisions at General Meetings.

#### Practice 13.5

The board must ensure that the conduct of a virtual general meeting (fully virtual or hybrid) support meaningful engagement between the board, senior management and shareholders. This includes having in place the required infrastructure and tools to support among others, a smooth broadcast of the general meeting and interactive participation by shareholders. Questions posed by shareholders should be made visible to all meeting participants during the meeting itself.

•	-	adoption of this practice should include a discussion on measures general meeting is interactive, shareholders are provided with sufficient	
opportunity to pose questions and the questions are responded to. Further, a listed issuer should also			
provide brief reasons on the choice of the meeting platform.			
Application	:	Not applicable – only physical general meetings were conducted in the	
		financial year	
Explanation on	:		
application of the			
practice			
practice			
Explanation for	:		
departure	-		
acparture			
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged			
to complete the colur	nns be	Plow.	
Measure	:		
Timeframe	:		

Shareholders are able to participate, engage the board and senior management effectively and make informed voting decisions at General Meetings.

# Practice 13.6

Minutes of the general meeting should be circulated to shareholders no later than 30 business days after the general meeting.

Note: The publication of Key Matters Discussed is not a substitute for the circulation of minutes of general meeting.		
Application	Applied	
Explanation on application of the practice	Our Company is mindful of the requirement to circulate the minutes of the general meeting to shareholders no later than 30 business days after the date appointed for the general meeting.  The minutes of the Third (3 <sup>rd</sup> ) Annual General Meeting along with the summary of key matters discussed were uploaded on our Company's website at www.mercurysecurities.com.my/company-announcements/, within 30 business days from the date of Third (3 <sup>rd</sup> ) Annual General Meeting.	
Explanation for departure		
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.		
Measure		
Timeframe		

# SECTION B – DISCLOSURES ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES PERSUANT CORPORATE GOVERNANCE GUIDELINES ISSUED BY BANK NEGARA MALAYSIA

Disclosures in this section are pursuant to Appendix 4 (Corporate Governance Disclosures) of the Corporate Governance Guidelines issued by Bank Negara Malaysia. This section is only applicable for financial institutions or any other institutions that are listed on the Exchange that are required to comply with the above Guidelines.

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