

**PRESS RELEASE**

**21 August 2015**

**EKUINAS SUCCESSFULLY DIVESTS BURGER KING® MALAYSIA & SINGAPORE TO COMPLETE ITS F&B PORTFOLIO RESTRUCTURING EXERCISE**

**Key highlights: -**

- Ekuinas announced that it has completed the restructuring of its food and beverage (F&B) portfolio through the successful sale of its investment in Burger King Malaysia and Singapore (BK Group/Rancak Selera Sdn Bhd) for a total consideration of RM74.6 million.
- The divestment of Rancak Selera to Newscape Capital Sdn Bhd (Newscap) was completed recently following a sale process, conducted together with BK Asiapac Pte. Ltd. Newscape was selected after submitting the best offer in terms of pricing, and demonstrating that it has the necessary financial resources and operating capabilities to bring the BK Group to the next level of growth.
- This exercise substantially completes the restructuring of Ekuinas' F&B portfolio to focus and expand on its core Casual Dining and Beverage segments with brands such as Tony Roma's, Manhattan Fish Market, New York Steak Shack, Coolblog and San Francisco Coffee. These F&B brands under Integrated Food Group (IFG) are growing well with combined revenue of RM338.0 million and EBITDA of RM36.5 million operating through more than 400 outlets across several regions.

**KUALA LUMPUR, 21 August 2015:** Ekuiti Nasional Berhad (Ekuinas), the government-linked private equity fund management company, today announced that it has completed the restructuring of its food and beverage (F&B) portfolio through the successful sale of its investment in Burger King Malaysia and Singapore (BK Group/Rancak Selera Sdn Bhd (RSB)).

The sale of RSB by Ekuinas to Newscape Capital Sdn Bhd (Newscap) was completed recently following a sale process conducted together with BK Asiapac Pte. Ltd. (BKAP), the master franchisor for the BURGER KING® brand in the Asia Pacific region, after it submitted the best offer in terms of pricing, and having demonstrated that it has the necessary financial resources and operating capabilities to bring the BK Group to the next level of growth.

Newscap is an investment company led by Dato' Chua Tia Guan and Mr Lee Thiam Wah who have longstanding experience in managing and operating retail chain stores with an extensive outlet network across the country.

EkuiNAS' Chief Executive Officer, Dato' Abdul Rahman Ahmad said, "The divestment of the BURGER KING® restaurant portfolio will enable the brand to be under a long term partner that possesses the financial strength and the requisite operational expertise that will best benefit this iconic brand."

"This exercise has also enabled Ekuinas to successfully complete the restructuring of its F&B portfolio involving our exit from the Quick Service Restaurant (QSR) segment to fully focus and expand on the core Casual Dining and Beverage segments with brands such as Tony Roma's, Manhattan Fish Market, New York Steak Shack, Coolblog and San Francisco Coffee. These F&B brands under Integrated Food Group (IFG) are growing well with combined revenue of RM338.0 million and EBITDA of RM36.5 million operating through more than 400 outlets across several regions," added Dato' Abdul Rahman.

"We are pleased with the commitment and effort that Ekuinas has put into its BURGER KING® restaurants in Singapore and Malaysia over the last four years to bring the business to where it is now," said David Shear, President, BKAP. We are excited about the opportunity ahead in both markets and look forward to working with Newscape to further expand and grow the BURGER KING® brand in Singapore and Malaysia over the coming years."

EkuiNAS had acquired a 95% equity interest in the BURGER KING® restaurant business in Malaysia and a 100% equity interest in the BURGER KING® restaurant business in Singapore progressively in 2011 and 2012.

The BK divestment generated gross proceeds of RM74.6 million with a negative Internal Rate of Return (IRR) of 28.1% and investment recovery of 0.45 times of capital invested across two funds. Despite accounting for this, Ekuinas continued to post a strong financial performance with gross portfolio return of RM677.1 million for the financial year ended 31 December 2014, which translates to a gross IRR of 19.6% and a net IRR of 15.3% per annum. Further, the exit from BK group brings the total realisation proceeds generated by Ekuinas from its divestment activities to RM1.0 billion across five investments after nearly six years in operations.

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**About Ekuinas**

Ekuinas (Ekuiti Nasional Berhad) is a government-linked private equity fund management company established on 1 September 2009. With the government endowment of RM5 billion, Ekuinas aims to create Malaysia's next generation of leading companies whilst promoting equitable, effective and sustainable Bumiputera economic participation. To date, Ekuinas has undertaken investments in high potential Malaysian companies involved in the business of fast moving consumer goods, oil and gas, logistics, education and retail.

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