



Pic by Ismail Che Rus

LOCAL EQUITY FIRMS SELECTED: (From left) Ekuiti Nasional Bhd (Ekuinas) chairman Raja Tan Sri Arshad Raja Tun Uda, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Abdul Wahid Omar and Ekuinas CEO Datuk Abdul Rahman Ahmad at the launch of Outsourced Programme Tranche II in Kuala Lumpur. Five local private equity firms have been selected by Ekuinas to manage and undertake investments on its behalf. SEE P6

Ekuinas selects 5 firms for new tranche

by SIM WIE BOON

FIVE local private equity firms have been selected by Ekuiti Nasional Bhd (Ekuinas) to manage and undertake investments on its behalf.

CEO Datuk Abdul Rahman Ahmad said: "The five companies we've selected are CMS Opus Private Equity Sdn Bhd, RM Capital Partners, TAEI Partners, Tuas Capital Partners and Asiasons Capital Group."

Under the outsourced programme, Ekuinas allocates capital to selected third party private equity firms — who then raise additional funds from private investors which creates an expanded pool of capital to be invested in high potential local companies.

"The selection criteria covers the strength of the investment team, the historical investment track record, proven and robust investment processes, their ability to raise external capital and alignment to Ekuinas' investment requirements and guidelines," he said.



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(From left) Asiasons chairman Datuk Mohammed Azlan Hashim, Abdul Rahman, Abdul Wahid and Ekuinas chairman Raja Tan Sri Arshad Raja Tun Uda at the launch of the Ekuinas Outsourced Programme Tranche II yesterday

The first tranche of the programme commenced in 2010 and managed to raise total investments of RM552 million as of July 2013, with three outsourced fund managers (OFM) — Navis Management Sdn

Bhd, CIMB Investment Bank Bhd and Asiasons.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Senator Datuk Seri Abdul Wahid Omar said: "Under the newly-launched Tranche II, Ekuinas

has committed a total of RM240 million, which will be allocated among the selected OFMs.

On their part, the OFMs managed to successfully attract an additional capital of RM133 million from private

investors — bringing the total amount available for investments to RM373 million, which will be used to invest mainly within the oil and gas and consumer products sector.

Together with the amount accumulated from Tranche I, the total sum allocated by Ekuinas under its outsourced programme amounted to RM460 million with the overall sum made available for investments now amounting to RM925 million.

The outsourced firms will use the funds to undertake predominantly growth capital minority investments ranging between RM10 million and RM30 million in high potential Malaysian companies of which 70% of Ekuinas capital commitment will be dedicated to Bumiputera companies.

The programme currently has an investment portfolio of seven companies at a total investment of RM177.3 million for the RM400 million committed by Ekuinas. — *The Malay Mail*