



Perbadanan Insurans Deposit Malaysia
Protecting Your Insurance And Deposits In Malaysia

CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE FOR DIRECTORS

Ref No	BOD/COSEC/2006/04	Version No	8.0
Initial Approved Date	26 September 2006	Last Reviewed Date	10 September 2024
TITLE	CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE FOR DIRECTORS		

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	INTRODUCTION	1
2.0	DEFINITIONS	2
3.0	PRINCIPLES.....	4
4.0	INTERESTS IN MEMBER INSTITUTIONS AND AFFILIATES	8
5.0	FACILITIES, DEPOSITS AND OTHER BENEFITS	10
6.0	GIFTS, HOSPITALITY AND OTHER BENEFITS	11
7.0	ANTI-BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION	11
8.0	POST-DIRECTORSHIP ACTIVITIES.....	12
9.0	DIRECTORSHIPS, KEY MANAGEMENT POSITIONS OR INTERESTS IN PIDM’S CONTRACTORS	12
10.0	BOARD PROCEEDINGS	13
11.0	CERTIFICATION	13
12.0	REVIEW	13
	SCHEDULE	14
	APPENDIX	16

Approved by the Board of Directors at the Board Meeting No. 100 on 10 September
2024

Ref No	BOD/COSEC/2006/04	Version No	8.0
Initial Approved Date	26 September 2006	Last Reviewed Date	10 September 2024
TITLE	CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE FOR DIRECTORS		

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Conflict of Interest Code for Directors (“Code”) is made pursuant to subsection 12(1)(b) of the Malaysia Deposit Insurance Corporation Act 2011 (the “Act”) in respect of the Directors and former Directors of PIDM.
- 1.2 The objective of this Code is to maintain and enhance public confidence and trust in the integrity, objectivity and impartiality of PIDM and its Directors.
- 1.3 This Code seeks to:
 - (a) minimise the possibility of conflicts of interest arising in the performance of a Director’s duties to PIDM, including the perception of such conflicts; and
 - (b) ensure that if any conflict does arise, it will be identified, declared, managed and resolved appropriately.
- 1.4 Conforming to this Code does not absolve a Director from the responsibility to take such additional actions as may be necessary to avoid or, if need be, resolve any conflict of interest or, from any requirement to comply with a statutory, common law or contractual obligation or prohibition.¹
- 1.5 All Directors should review this Code on a regular basis and satisfy themselves that they have taken or are taking such actions as may be required for compliance with it. A breach of this Code is an offence under subsection 12(3) of the Act.

[Note: The commentary in this Code is for explanatory purposes only and does not form part of the Code.]

¹ E.g. the insider dealing provisions under the Capital Markets and Services Act 2007, offences under the Penal Code and the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission Act 2009

Ref No	BOD/COSEC/2006/04	Version No	8.0
Initial Approved Date	26 September 2006	Last Reviewed Date	10 September 2024
TITLE	CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE FOR DIRECTORS		

2.0 DEFINITIONS

2.1 In this Code, words have the meaning given to them under the Act (unless otherwise defined in this Code). The following words and expressions have the following meaning:

“Act” means the Malaysia Deposit Insurance Corporation Act 2011;

“affiliate” means an entity that is affiliated with another entity within the meaning of the Schedule to this Code;

“Board” means the Board of Directors of PIDM;

“Connected Person” means a Director’s spouse, children, including adopted and step children, parents or any person over whom a Director exercises or is able to exercise significant influence in relation to that person’s financial affairs, for any reason whatsoever;

“Designated Person”:

- (a) in the case of the Chairman of the Board, his/her Designated Person shall be the Chairman of the Audit Committee; and
- (b) in the case of all other Directors, his/her Designated Person shall be the Chairman of the Board;

“Director” means any director of PIDM;

“hospitality” includes invitations to attend an event (including sporting and cultural events), meals or other similar occasion with someone who works for or represents a member institution, or an actual or potential supplier or service provider of PIDM, where it can be reasonably perceived that a Director who attends such an event is representing PIDM;

“interest in a share” means beneficial ownership, direct or indirect, of a share or any part thereof, provided that:

- (a) beneficial ownership does not include ownership of a unit or right in a collective investment scheme such as a unit trust fund, a right under a pension,

Ref No	BOD/COSEC/2006/04	Version No	8.0
Initial Approved Date	26 September 2006	Last Reviewed Date	10 September 2024
TITLE	CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE FOR DIRECTORS		

retirement savings or life insurance plan where investment decisions for the fund or plan are made without direction from or control by the owner or any beneficiary of the unit or right; and

- (b) a Director will be considered to have an interest in a share beneficially owned, directly or indirectly, by a Connected Person if:
- (i) that Connected Person acquired that ownership using money or moneys worth directly or indirectly supplied by the Director and the Director is aware of the Connected Person's ownership of the share; or
 - (ii) the Director exercises or is able to exercise significant influence over that Connected Person's affairs, for any reason whatsoever and the Director is aware of the Connected Person's ownership of the share;

"key management position" means any position having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of an entity, directly or indirectly;

"PIDM" or the **"Corporation"** means Malaysia Deposit Insurance Corporation;

"person" includes a body of persons, corporate or unincorporated; and

"share" includes an accepted subscription for a share, a warrant for a share, a right to acquire or require the issuance of a share or a warrant by the conversion of or in exchange for other property and an option right to acquire or require the issuance of any of the foregoing.

2.2 Conflict of Interest and Private Interests

A **"conflict of interest"** involves a conflict between:

- (a) the official duties of a Director to PIDM and his or her private interest, in which the Director has private-capacity interest which could improperly influence the performance of his or her official duties and responsibilities. When a private interest has in fact compromised the proper performance of a Director's official duties, this could constitute misconduct or even amount to an offence depending on the circumstances; or

Ref No	BOD/COSEC/2006/04	Version No	8.0
Initial Approved Date	26 September 2006	Last Reviewed Date	10 September 2024
TITLE	CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE FOR DIRECTORS		

- (b) the official duties of a Director to PIDM and his or her duties to another organisation, whether public or private, due to the Director's role with the other organisation. Such a conflict could arise, for example, as a result of a Director's membership on multiple boards.

Conflicts of interest that this Code seeks to minimise and address may be real, apparent or potential. A *real* conflict means the conflict actually exists. An *apparent* conflict may be said to exist where it appears that a Director's private interest or his or her duties to another organisation could improperly influence the performance of his or her official duties to PIDM but this is not in fact the case. A *potential* conflict arises where a Director has private interests or duties to another organisation which are such that a conflict of interest would arise if the Director were to become involved in conflicting official responsibilities in the future.

[Commentary: Section 14(1) of the Act seeks to minimise a conflict between a Director's duties to PIDM and his or her duties to another organisation by prohibiting a member of the Dewan Negara, Dewan Rakyat or any Legislative Assembly, an officer of a member institution or an office bearer in a political party, from being a Director.]

2.3 "Private interest" includes but is not limited to:

- (a) financial or pecuniary interest;
- (b) an interest which generates a direct personal benefit to a Director; or
- (c) an otherwise legitimate private-capacity activities, personal affiliations and associations and family interests, if the interest could reasonably be considered likely to improperly influence a Director's performance of his or her official duties to PIDM.

[Commentary: Drawn from OECD's Recommendation on Guidelines for Managing Conflict of Interest in the Public Service.]

3.0 PRINCIPLES

- 3.1 Directors are required to observe the following principles in the performance of their duties and responsibilities to PIDM:

Ref No	BOD/COSEC/2006/04	Version No	8.0
Initial Approved Date	26 September 2006	Last Reviewed Date	10 September 2024
TITLE	CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE FOR DIRECTORS		

Principle 1: Promoting individual responsibility and personal example

- (a) A Director must uphold the highest ethical standards so that public confidence and trust in the integrity, objectivity and impartiality of the Corporation are maintained and enhanced. In this connection a Director is expected to demonstrate his or her commitment to integrity and professionalism through his or her application of conflict of interest policies and practices.

[Commentary: **Promoting individual responsibility and personal example.** “Public officials are expected to act at all times so that their integrity serves an example to other officials and the public”. OECD’s Recommendation for Core Principles for Managing Conflict of Interest].

- (b) A Director is responsible for, and must manage his or her private affairs or any other duties he or she may have in a manner designed to prevent real, potential or apparent conflicts of interest from arising, but if a conflict does arise it must be resolved in a manner satisfactory to the Board.

[Commentary: **Promoting individual responsibility and personal example.** “Public officials should accept responsibility for arranging their private-capacity affairs, as far as reasonably possible, so as to prevent conflicts of interest arising on appointment to public office and thereafter.” “Public officials should accept responsibility for identifying and resolving conflicts in favour of the public interest when a conflict does arise”. OECD’s Recommendation for Core Principles for Managing Conflict of Interest.]

Principle 2: Serving the public interest

- (c) A Director should dispose of, or restrict the operation of his or her private interests or any other duties he or she may have that could compromise official decisions in which he or she participates. Where this is not feasible, a Director should abstain from involvement in official decisions which could be compromised by his or her private interests and affiliations, or duties to another organisation.

[Commentary: **Serving the public interest.** “Public officials should dispose of, or restrict the operation of, private interests that could compromise official

Ref No	BOD/COSEC/2006/04	Version No	8.0
Initial Approved Date	26 September 2006	Last Reviewed Date	10 September 2024
TITLE	CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE FOR DIRECTORS		

decisions in which they participate. Where this is not feasible, an official should abstain from involvement in official decisions which could be compromised by their private-capacity interests and affiliations”. OECD’s Recommendation for Core Principles for Managing Conflict of Interest.

Section 17(1) of the Act provides that a Director shall at all times, act honestly and in the best interest of the Corporation and use reasonable diligence in the discharge of the duties of his office.]

- (d) A Director must not knowingly take advantage of, or benefit from, any information obtained by reason of his or her position as a Director and which is not generally available to the public.

[Commentary: Section 17(2)(a) of the Act provides that a Director or any person who has been a Director shall not make improper use of any information acquired by virtue of his position as a Director to gain, directly or indirectly, an advantage for himself or any other person.]

- (e) A Director must not use his or her position or PIDM’s resources for private gain.
- (f) A Director must not directly or indirectly use, or allow the use of, PIDM’s property or facilities for anything other than officially approved activities.

[Commentary: **Serving the public interest.** “Public officials should avoid private-capacity action which could derive an improper advantage from “inside information” obtained in the course of official duties, where the information is not generally available to the public and are required not to misuse their position and government resources for private gain.” OECD’s Recommendation for Core Principles for Managing Conflict of Interest.]

- (g) A Director must not, directly or indirectly, solicit or accept economic benefits, other than incidental gifts, customary hospitality or other benefits of nominal value, except pursuant to enforceable contractual or property rights of the Director.

[Commentary: **Serving the public interest.** “Public officials should not seek or accept any form of improper benefit in expectation of influencing the

Ref No	BOD/COSEC/2006/04	Version No	8.0
Initial Approved Date	26 September 2006	Last Reviewed Date	10 September 2024
TITLE	CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE FOR DIRECTORS		

performance or non-performance of official duties or functions.” OECD’s Recommendation for Core Principles for Managing Conflict of Interest.]

- (h) A Director must not, after ceasing to be a member of the Board, act in such manner as to take improper advantage of his or her former position as a Director.

[Commentary: **Serving the public interest.** “Public officials are expected not to take improper advantage of a public office or official position which they held previously, including privileged information obtained in that position, especially when seeking employment or appointment after leaving public office.” OECD’s Recommendation for Core Principles for Managing Conflict of Interest.]

Principle 3: Supporting Transparency and Scrutiny

- (i) A Director has an obligation to carry out his or her duties to PIDM and exercise his or her powers as a Director, and to manage his or her private affairs or any other duties he or she may have in a manner that will withstand the closest public scrutiny, an obligation that is not fully discharged simply by acting within the law.

[Commentary: **Supporting transparency and scrutiny.** “Officials and public organisations are expected to act in a manner that will bear the closest public scrutiny. This obligation is not fully discharged simply by acting within the letter of the law; it also entails respecting broader public services values such as disinterestedness, impartiality and integrity.” OECD’s Recommendation for Core Principles for Managing Conflict of Interest.]

- (j) A Director’s private interests and affiliations or duties to another organisation that could compromise the objective performance of his or her official duties to PIDM should be disclosed appropriately, to ensure transparency and enable adequate control and management of a resolution.

[Commentary: **Supporting transparency and scrutiny.** Public officials’ private interests and affiliations that could compromise the disinterested performance of public duties should be disclosed appropriately, to enable

Ref No	BOD/COSEC/2006/04	Version No	8.0
Initial Approved Date	26 September 2006	Last Reviewed Date	10 September 2024
TITLE	CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE FOR DIRECTORS		

adequate control and management of a resolution.” OECD’s Recommendation for Core Principles for Managing Conflict of Interest.]

Principle 4: Confidentiality

- (k) Except as permitted by law, a Director must, both while serving as and after ceasing to be a member of the Board, treat as confidential all information regarding the business or affairs of PIDM, Bank Negara Malaysia, any member institution, a customer of Bank Negara Malaysia, a customer of a member institution, or any person dealing therewith which is obtained by reason of his or her serving as a member of the Board and which are not generally available to the public.

[Commentary: Section 24 of the Act provides that a director, officer or employee who for any reason has by any means access to any record, book, register, correspondence or other document whatsoever, material or information relating to the business and affairs of the Corporation, Bank Negara Malaysia, a member institution, a customer of Bank Negara Malaysia, or a customer of a member institution, which he has acquired in the performance of his duties or exercise of his functions, shall not give, divulge, reveal, publish or otherwise disclose, to any person such record, book, register, correspondence, document, material or information unless the disclosure is required under any law, for the performance of his duties or the exercise of his functions under the Act, or lawfully by any court. Information should be used only for the purposes for which the information is obtained.]

- 3.2 The other provisions of this Code are not to be interpreted to derogate from, or to be exhaustive of the actions which may be necessary to observe the principles in paragraph 3.1.

4.0 INTERESTS IN MEMBER INSTITUTIONS AND AFFILIATES

- 4.1 A Director is subject to the following limitations in respect of any interest in shares of any member institution or any affiliate of a member institution:
- (a) a Director may only have an interest in the shares of a member institution which is the lower of -

Ref No	BOD/COSEC/2006/04	Version No	8.0
Initial Approved Date	26 September 2006	Last Reviewed Date	10 September 2024
TITLE	CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE FOR DIRECTORS		

- (i) the aggregate fair market value which does not exceed (and upon the exercise of any right attaching to some or all of them would not produce an interest in shares of which the aggregate fair market value exceeds) 10% of his or her net worth at the time of his or her declaration under paragraph 4.2; or
 - (ii) a number not exceeding (and upon the exercise of any right attaching to some or all of them would not result in the number of shares exceeding) 5% of the relevant class of shares of the member institution outstanding at the time of his or her declaration under paragraph 4.2.
 - (b) a Director may only have an interest in the shares of an affiliate of a member institution where the affiliate is directly or indirectly controlled by, or under common control with, the member (e.g. a subsidiary or a sister company), and the shares are publicly distributed and listed on a securities exchange, without any limitation, but subject to disclosures being made in accordance with paragraph 4.2.
- 4.2 A Director holding or acquiring any interest in shares in accordance with paragraph 4.1 above must declare such interests in writing to the Designated Person upon taking up office as a Director and thereafter, upon acquisition of such an interest in shares and annually. Where the Director disposes of any such interest or any part thereof, he or she must also make a declaration to the Designated Person upon such disposal.
- 4.3 Notwithstanding paragraph 4.1, the Designated Person may request that a Director dispose of or otherwise cease to have an interest in shares of a particular member institution or any affiliate of a member institution if, in the opinion of the Designated Person, the interest creates a real, potential or apparent conflict of interest. A Director receiving such a request must comply with it or may apply in writing to the Board for a reconsideration of the matter, and if the Board concurs with the Designated Person's request, the Director must thereupon comply.
- 4.4 For the purposes of paragraph 4.3, a sale or transfer of an interest in shares will not suffice for the purposes of complying with this Code unless it is an arm's length transaction.

Ref No	BOD/COSEC/2006/04	Version No	8.0
Initial Approved Date	26 September 2006	Last Reviewed Date	10 September 2024
TITLE	CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE FOR DIRECTORS		

- 4.5 A Director who, upon taking up office, has more than the prescribed level of interests in shares stated in paragraph 4.1 may, with the approval of the Designated Person, be granted a grace period to comply with the provisions of paragraph 4.1.

5.0 FACILITIES, DEPOSITS AND OTHER BENEFITS

- 5.1 Each Director must declare to the Designated Person, on a confidential basis (but subject to the other provisions of this Code):

- (a) all loans/financing, lines of credit, guarantees, any financial undertakings and any facilities whatsoever (“credit facilities”) provided by any member institution; and
- (b) any deposits held amounting to RM250,000 or more with any member institution.

- 5.2 Such a declaration must be made:

- (a) upon first taking office as a Director, and thereafter on a yearly basis; and
- (b) upon:
 - securing any credit facility (other than credit cards and charge cards) from a member institution;
 - opening an account with any deposits of RM250,000 or more with any member institution; and
 - any deposit reaching RM250,000 or more, in any member institution.

- 5.3 The deposit limit wherever mentioned in this Code refers to the principal amount of such deposit.

- 5.4 A Director must not use or exploit his or her position in PIDM to solicit or obtain any facility or benefit from any member institution or any affiliate of a member institution on terms that are more favourable than he or she would otherwise obtain in an arm’s length dealing with the member institution or affiliate.

Ref No	BOD/COSEC/2006/04	Version No	8.0
Initial Approved Date	26 September 2006	Last Reviewed Date	10 September 2024
TITLE	CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE FOR DIRECTORS		

6.0 GIFTS, HOSPITALITY AND OTHER BENEFITS

6.1 A Director must not, whether for himself or herself or any Connected Person, solicit or accept, directly or indirectly, any gift (whether in cash or in kind), hospitality or other benefit arising out of any activity associated with his or her responsibilities with PIDM unless:

- (a) it is within the bounds of propriety, a normal expression of courtesy or within the normal standards of hospitality, and the acceptance is not such as to cast suspicion on the Director's objectivity and impartiality, and will not compromise PIDM; or
- (b) it is provided by PIDM itself.

6.2 Where a gift, hospitality or other benefit that is prohibited under paragraph 6.1 is provided unexpectedly and it is not practicable or offensive to decline the gift, hospitality or other benefit, the Director must disclose the matter to the Designated Person. On receiving such a disclosure, the Designated Person may require that the gift, hospitality or benefit, or its reasonable equivalent, be returned to the giver, if practicable, or turned over to PIDM, or be disposed of for charitable purposes.

7.0 ANTI-BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION

7.1 Bribery is the offering, promising, giving, accepting or soliciting of an undue advantage of any value (financial or non-financial), directly or indirectly, in violation of applicable law, as an inducement or reward for a person acting or refraining from acting in relation to the performance of that person's duties. Corruption is the abuse of entrusted power or position for private gain, and can include bribery.²

7.2 The Corporation has zero tolerance for any form of bribery or corruption and will uphold all laws relevant to countering bribery and corruption. If a Director suspects that any bribery or corruption has occurred or may occur, the Director must notify his or her Designated Person and the Corporate Secretary immediately.

² The definitions of bribery and corruption are based on Transparency International Malaysia's definitions.

Ref No	BOD/COSEC/2006/04	Version No	8.0
Initial Approved Date	26 September 2006	Last Reviewed Date	10 September 2024
TITLE	CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE FOR DIRECTORS		

8.0 POST-DIRECTORSHIP ACTIVITIES

A former Director must not, either personally or through or in the name of any other person, act for or on behalf of any person in any proposed or ongoing proceeding, transaction, negotiation, arrangement or case to which PIDM is a party if:

- (a) the former Director was involved at any time during his tenure as a Director in that matter; or
- (b) the former Director has or may have an advantage, benefit or special knowledge by virtue of his or her former tenure as a Director.

[Commentary: Similar to Canadian Conflict of Interest and Post-Employment Code for Public Office Holders (2006), paragraph 27(1).]

9.0 DIRECTORSHIPS, KEY MANAGEMENT POSITIONS OR INTERESTS IN PIDM'S CONTRACTORS

- 9.1 Every Director will be advised by Management about the types of entities with which PIDM conducts business, has contractual relationships, or with which PIDM is likely to conduct business or have contractual relationships ("PIDM's Contractor(s)").
- 9.2 Every Director must, on a confidential basis, upon being appointed as a member of the Board or as soon as practicable and annually thereafter, advise the Corporate Secretary in writing if he or she holds any directorship, key management position or interest in any of PIDM's Contractors or any entity undertaking a similar business as PIDM's Contractors. If there are none, the Director shall confirm with the Corporate Secretary in writing, on a confidential basis, that he or she holds no such position or interest.
- 9.3 A Director, on assuming any directorship or key management position or acquiring any interest in any of PIDM's Contractor, must additionally and on a confidential basis disclose this information in writing to the Corporate Secretary within thirty (30) days from the date of appointment or acquisition (whichever the case may be).

Ref No	BOD/COSEC/2006/04	Version No	8.0
Initial Approved Date	26 September 2006	Last Reviewed Date	10 September 2024
TITLE	CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE FOR DIRECTORS		

10.0 BOARD PROCEEDINGS

If a conflict of interest arises during a Board or Board Committee meeting, it shall be dealt with in accordance with Part 6 of the Corporate By-Law.

11.0 CERTIFICATION

Every Director must, upon taking up office as such and annually thereafter (or at such other times as required under the Act or by PIDM), sign and provide to the Designated Person a document, substantially in the form set out in the Appendix, certifying that he or she has read and understands and is abiding by the applicable provisions of this Code.

12.0 REVIEW

The Board shall review and reassess the adequacy of this Code periodically and make such amendments to this Code as the Board may deem appropriate.

Perbadanan Insurans Deposit Malaysia
10 September 2024

Ref No	BOD/COSEC/2006/04	Version No	8.0
Initial Approved Date	26 September 2006	Last Reviewed Date	10 September 2024
TITLE	CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE FOR DIRECTORS		

Schedule

For the purpose of determining whether or not an entity is an affiliate of another:

- (a) “beneficial ownership” includes ownership through one or more trustees, legal representatives, agents or other intermediaries;
- (b) “body corporate” means an incorporated body wherever or however incorporated;
- (c) “entity” means a body corporate, a trust, a partnership, a fund, an unincorporated association or organisation, the Government or the government of a foreign country or any political subdivision and any agency thereof;
- (d) “influence” in respect of an entity means the power, alone or in combination with one or more persons, directly or indirectly, to exercise influence over the management and policies of the entity, whether through the beneficial ownership of voting securities, or otherwise;
- (e) a person controls a body corporate if securities of the body corporate to which are attached more than 50% of the votes that may be cast to elect directors of the body corporate are beneficially owned by the person and the votes attached to those securities are sufficient, if exercised, to elect a majority of the directors of the body corporate;
- (f) a person controls an unincorporated entity, other than a limited partnership, if more than 50% of the ownership interests, however designated, into which the entity is divided are beneficially owned by the person and the person is able to direct the business and affairs of the entity;
- (g) a general partner of a limited partnership controls the limited partnership;
- (h) a person controls an entity if the person has any direct or indirect influence that, if exercised, would result in control in fact of the entity;
- (i) a person who controls an entity is considered to control any other entity that is controlled, or is considered to be controlled, by the first-mentioned entity;

Ref No	BOD/COSEC/2006/04	Version No	8.0
Initial Approved Date	26 September 2006	Last Reviewed Date	10 September 2024
TITLE	CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE FOR DIRECTORS		

- (j) a person is considered to control an entity where the aggregate of any securities of the entity that are beneficially owned by any entity controlled by that person is such that, if that person and all of the entities that beneficially own securities of the entity were one person, that person would control the entity; and
- (k) an entity is affiliated with another entity if one of those entities is controlled by the other or both are controlled by the same person.

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Ref No	BOD/COSEC/2006/04	Version No	8.0
Initial Approved Date	26 September 2006	Last Reviewed Date	10 September 2024
TITLE	CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE FOR DIRECTORS		

Appendix

Note: Breach of this Code is an offence under the Malaysia Deposit Insurance Corporation Act 2011.

Certification

To the Designated Person³

I hereby certify that:-

- (1) I have reviewed and understand the Conflict of Interest Code for Directors of Perbadanan Insurans Deposit Malaysia;
- (2) I understand that I am required to comply with the principles and other provisions of the Code applicable to me;
- (3) I have considered my personal and family affairs in sufficient detail to be able to be satisfied in this regard; and
- (4) I am and will remain in compliance.

Director's signature

Director's name
(type or print)

Date: _____

³ The Chairman of the Board, for all Directors except the Chairman. In the latter's case, the Designated Person is the Audit Committee Chairman