

MINORITY SHAREHOLDER WATCHDOG GROUP

BADAN PENGAWAS PEMEGANG SAHAM MINORITI BERHAD
(Incorporated in Malaysia – Company No. 524989-M)

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NEWS

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Who is next MSWG chairman?

Company may be looking at another ex-EPF chief to succeed Halim

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PETALING JAYA: As long-standing Minority Shareholder Watchdog Group (MSWG) chairman Tan Sri Abdul Halim Ali steps down, the attention has turned to who might succeed him.

One name that is being bandied about is Tan Sri Azlan Zainol. However, this could not be confirmed at press time.

Since being established in 2000, MSWG has had two former Employees Provident Fund (EPF) chiefs in its chairman position. Halim was EPF chairman when he assumed the post at MSWG.

Before him, Tan Sri Sallehuddin Mohamed was also EPF chairman. Sallehuddin served as MSWG chairman for about a year. EPF was a prime mover of MSWG in the early days.

This suggests that the company

could be looking at a candidate of similar stature to fill in the big shoes. Note that outgoing EPF chief executive Azlan would remain an ex-officio of the national pension fund board.

A source close to the matter said the board would be deciding on the incoming chairman within a month.

"The person has to be knowledgeable about governance issues," the source said, adding that "he needs to have integrity, that is a given."

The source pointed out that while the board would have the ultimate say in who would be appointed, MSWG's substantial funder, the Capital Market Development Fund, had the opportunity to voice its opinion on the candidate.

Another source close to the company said MSWG was likely to get a candidate from outside because its long-serving director, Tan Sri Lodin Wok Kamaruddin, was already involved in several public-listed

companies via his position as chief executive in the Armed Forces Fund Board or LTAT (Lembaga Tabung Angkatan Tentera).

The source said Lodin, who has been with the MSWG board since 2001, would be busy with corporate work, and that his position could create a conflict of interest if he became MSWG chairman.

Outgoing chairman Halim was the founding member of MSWG. He retired from his position of 12 years at MSWG's 12th annual general meeting on Thursday, in line with the company's policy.

Prior to MSWG, he was the chief secretary to the Government from 1996 to 2001 and was involved in improving the efficiency of the Malaysian civil service.

He also played a part in ensuring government decisions and directives were properly implemented by all government agencies, in line with creating an electronic Government.



Halim retires after 12 years at MSWG.