

KWAP to allocate RM100m for fund manager

MSWG – BERNAMA - Saturday, July 04, 2015

Kuala Lumpur: The Retirement Fund Inc (KWAP) plans to allocate RM100 million to be managed by a fund manager, adding to the RM1.2 billion currently being managed by existing fund managers.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Wan Kamaruzaman Wan Ahmad, said KWAP has identified a fund manager and both parties were already in the discussion stage.

"We are, more or less, already in agreement. It is just that there are a few operational gaps the need to be rectified.

"Once that are done and if the board approves, we will inject the RM100 million, adding on to the RM1.2 billion," he told a press conference here Friday, after announcing the establishment of the Institutional Investor Council Malaysia.

On its overseas assets, Wan Kamaruzaman said KWAP would take advantage of the weak ringgit by increasing its hedging activities to lock up its foreign exchange gains and bring back returns to the fund.

The fund's overseas assets include the Intu Uxbridge Shopping Centre, as well as, the 18-storey 88 Wood Street and 10 Gresham Street offices in London.

"We are getting good recurring income from these assets as all of our properties in the UK have a rental yield of above six per cent and we will bring the rental income back to Malaysia on a yearly basis," he said.

Meanwhile, the newly-established council would play an important role in representing the common interests of institutional investors in Malaysia and serve as a platform to influence a wider sphere of corporate governance.

Wan Kamaruzaman was today appointed the council's chairman, while Minority Shareholder Watchdog Group CEO, Rita Benoy Bushon, would be the Head of Secretariat and council member. – Bernama

Other council members include Employees Provident Fund Deputy CEO (Investment) Mohamad Nasir Ab Latif, Permodalan Nasional Bhd Chief Strategy Officer Datin Paduka Kartini Abdul Manaf and Lembaga Tabung Haji Group Deputy Managing Director/CEO Datuk Johan Abdullah. – Bernama