



CIMB-Principle's new equity fund kicks off with fund size of 600 million units

By **Arveena M**

KUALA LUMPUR: CIMB-Principle Asset Management Bhd (CIMB-Principle) launched its third equity fund for this year with an approved fund size of 600 million units called CIMB-Principle Australian Equity Fund (Australian Equity Fund) here yesterday

The Australian Equity Fund will invest at least 95 per cent of its net asset value (NAV) into the Schroder Australian Equity Fund, an Australian-domiciled fund, with an aim to achieve medium-to-long term capital appreciation through the investment of mainly Australian securities.

It will also place emphasis on investments in companies with sustainable competitive advantage in the long-term and at the same time maintaining up to a maximum of five per cent of its NAV in liquid assets.

Speaking at the launch, CIMB-Principle's chief executive officer, Campbell Tupling explained that, "This Australian Equity Fund will not only complement our product offerings but it also will be providing better opportunities in an efficient way as well as effective diversification for investors' portfolios."

He added that with RM1,000 as the minimum



UNIQUE EQUITY FUND: CIMB-Principal Asset Management Bhd's senior management, (from left) Campbell Tupling, Raymond Tang and Munirah Khairuddin at their third equity launch in West Inn, KL yesterday.

investment in this fund, investors would have the exposure to distinguished Australian companies such as BHP Billiton Ltd, National Australian Bank, Telstra Corp Ltd and Commonwealth Bank, to name a few

"The Australian market offers vast opportunities as it is the only major economy that has been able to avoid a technical recession in 2009 and record only one quarter of contraction in gross domestic product (GDP),"

related Tupling and added that their Australian Equity Fund strived to outperform the S&P/ASX 200 Accumulation Index over the medium-to-long term as it was an effective avenue to partake in the upside potential of the Australian markets.

Australia's economy strived on the fact that its banks emerged from the financial crisis comparatively untouched as its government took crucial steps to strengthen the country's financial

system, which encompassed guaranteeing the deposits and wholesale funding of Australia's financial institutions.

CIMB-Principle Australian Equity Fund, with an initial offer price of RM0.25 per unit, will be distributed by CIMB Bank Bhd, CIMB Private Banking, CIMB Investment Bank, CWA (formerly known as CIMB Wealth Advisors), Citibank and Standard Chartered Bank.