



EYEING opportunities in Australia, CIMB-Principal Asset Management Berhad recently launched the CIMB-Principal Australian Equity Fund.

The fund aims to achieve medium to long term capital appreciation through investment in a portfolio of predominantly Australian securities.

Speaking at the launch, CIMB-Principal CEO Campbell Tupling said Australia was chosen due to its strong, stable and developed economy.

This coupled with its ability to efficiently manage capital funds within the country has allowed Australia to escape the full effects of the global recession, he said.

Tupling said 95% of the fund will be directly fed into the Schroder Australian Equity Fund – an Australian-domiciled fund – while the rest will be turned into liquid assets.

“The Schroder Australian Equity Fund is one of the best performing Australian funds dating back to 1964. It has for the past few years performed exceptionally well with an annual return of up to 10%

above the S&P/ASX 200 Accumulation Index.”

“Australia has the 14th largest economy in the world, and along with its high population growth rate – whether organic or through immigration – creates great opportunities for investors,” CIMB-Principal chief investment officer Raymond Tang Chee Kin said.

With a minimum investment of only RM1,000 at RM0.25 per unit during the initial offer period (21 days from the official launch date), the CIMB-Principal Australian Equity Fund provides investors with better opportunities and effective diversification for their portfolio.

The five main sectors in which more than half of the fund will be invested are banking, materials and mining, industrials, consumer staples and insurance.

The fund is the third equity fund launched by CIMB-Principal this year and has an approved fund size of 600 million units. It is distributed by CIMB Bank, CIMB Private Banking, CIMB Investment Bank, CWA (formerly CIMB Wealth Advisers), Citibank and Standard Chartered Bank.