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CARI Inks Symbolic Cooperation Agreement with Universitas Indonesia

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for immediate release

Depok, Indonesia: CIMB ASEAN Research Institute (CARI) and Universitas Indonesia (UI) today inked a Cooperation Agreement which will see both parties developing and undertaking collaborative educational and research programmes to promote ASEAN integration.

Fully funded and owned by CIMB Group, CARI is a transnational research institute dedicated to the advancement and acceleration of the ASEAN agenda.

“CARI was established to champion the private sector’s participation in supplementing the ASEAN secretariat and governments’ efforts on ASEAN integration. Therefore, one of our key agendas is to seek collaboration and strategic partnership with existing centres of excellence, such as UI, while pursuing a pragmatic and problem-solving approach to challenges and opportunities in ASEAN economic integration,” said Glenn Muhammad Surya Yusuf, Commissioner of CARI at the signing ceremony held at UI’s Depok Campus in Indonesia.

Glenn added, “CARI and UI share the view that the ASEAN region is increasingly important to the global economy and that the ASEAN Economic Community needs to be supported by a coming together of different sectors such as education and business. Out of this shared notion, we agreed to collaborate on research and public advocacy, and we are indeed very excited with the synergy that will be created from combining our networks and resources.”

“This Cooperation Agreement is especially symbolic as it is our first public event since we announced our intention to set up last year,” Glenn shared.

Besides promoting basic and applied research on issues pertinent to ASEAN economic integration, the strategic Cooperation Agreement will also see both parties exchanging

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information, opinions, or findings in the field of ASEAN economic integration for the purpose of promoting higher economic dynamism, sustained prosperity, inclusive growth and integrated development.

“UI’s Faculty of Economics and Business’ (FEUI) collaboration with CARI in research and education reflects our commitment to going global and our participation in global and regional issues. Facing the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) 2015, FEUI is committed to contribute ideas and resources for the issue of ASEAN economic integration. Dealing with CARI as a regional strategic partner will stimulate and strengthen a readiness to welcome the 2015 ASEAN economic integration. Collaboration with CARI is also expected in the form of mutual cooperation in knowledge dissemination and network development,” said Professor Firmanzah Ph.D, Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Business, Universitas Indonesia.

Signing on behalf of CARI was Glenn Yusuf, while UI was represented by Professor Firmanzah. Dato’ Sri Nazir Razak, Group Chief Executive, CIMB Group, and Professor Dr. der Soz. Gumilar Rusliwa Somantri, President of Universitas Indonesia witnessed the momentous event.

About CIMB ASEAN Research Institute (CARI)

CIMB ASEAN Research Institute (CARI) is the first independent, transnational research institute dedicated solely to the advancement and acceleration of the ASEAN integration agenda. It provides thought leadership and independent research on ASEAN’s key issues and action plans, as well as investigates actual and potential barriers to ASEAN economic integration and monitor the progress of harmonisation of ASEAN policies and institutions. CARI also builds “ownership” of ASEAN across borders across different sectors of Southeast Asian society by fostering business, social and cultural links across the region. With CARI’s intraregional network and expertise, its aim is to be a regional and international resource on the ASEAN Economic Community.

Headquartered in Jakarta, CARI is funded and incorporated as a wholly-owned subsidiary of CIMB Group, Malaysia’s second largest financial services provider and one of Southeast Asia’s leading universal banking groups.

About FEUI - Universitas Indonesia’s School of Economics

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Universitas Indonesia's School of Economics (FEUI) is part of the university's long line of history which dates back to the day when the Javanese School of Medicine was set up in January 1849. It was not until 1950, however, that the familiar name 'Universitas Indonesia' (UI) we know today, was first used. In 1987, UI built a new 320-hectare campus, and with all campuses combined, the university has a total property asset of 350 hectares of lands and premises. Along with other national higher-education institutions, in 2000 UI was granted the status of State-Owned Legal Entity (BHMN).

FEUI currently has 3 Departments – Economics, Management and Accounting – running a number of undergraduate (S1), graduate (S2) and post-graduate (S3) programs. It also manages over 10 agencies and units. With more than 6,000 students, FEUI is undoubtedly one of the largest faculties in Universitas Indonesia. In terms of recognition of the quality of its courses, FEUI is one of Indonesia's schools of economics to be nationally accredited with grade A for both its graduate/post-graduate programs in Management Science and Economics, and is a member of AACSB, a world-class prestigious agency accrediting business schools worldwide. FEUI has more than 190 members on its teaching staff -- many of whom holding master's and doctoral degrees from leading foreign universities – as well as an active team of over 20 full professors.

For more information, journalists can contact:

Effendy Shahul Hamid
Head of Group Marketing & Communications
CIMB Group
Tel: +603 2087 3030
Fax: +603 2093 1008
Email: effendy.hamid@cimb.com