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**1,000 Trees Planted To Foster Environmental Conservation:
A Joint Initiative by Public Bank Group and Yayasan Hijau Malaysia**

Public Bank Group, in collaboration with Yayasan Hijau Malaysia, is set to make a significant contribution to environmental conservation with the planting of 1,000 trees. The launching of the collaboration took place on 20 January 2024 at Bukit Cherakah Forest Reserve with the commencing of 100 trees planted, observing the importance of preserving nature and aligns with the Bank's ongoing commitment to Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) initiatives.

To ensure the success and sustainability of the initiative, Public Bank collaborates with Yayasan Hijau Malaysia which has been actively promoting the importance of green technology with programme like Greening Malaysia through the National 100 Million Tree Planting Campaign 2021-2025.

Public Bank's Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Tan Sri Dato' Sri Dr. Tay Ah Lek said in his speech, "This programme is not just about planting trees; it is about sowing the seeds of positive change and nurturing a greener, more sustainable world. We recognise the critical role that businesses play in addressing environmental and social challenges. With this in mind, we are initiating a tree planting project that involves planting 1,000 trees.

Tan Sri Tay continued, "Preserving nature and fostering environmental consciousness are integral parts of our ESG initiatives. This programme also aligns seamlessly with one of the four sustainability themes that guide our Group's sustainability agenda, namely "Protecting the Environment."

Dr. Nurul Muiz bin Murad, the Chief Executive Officer of Yayasan Hijau Malaysia in his speech said, "I believe that Public Bank Group is dedicated to fulfilling its social responsibilities by harnessing innovation for the betterment of society, the environment, and the world. This involves efforts towards conserving Malaysia's biodiversity, enhancing the natural environment, and addressing climate change. Continuous initiatives, such as tree planting, play a vital role in preserving the environment for the benefit of future generations."

Tuan Azhar bin Ahmad, Director, Selangor State Forestry Department emphasised, "The execution of this programme demonstrates Public Bank Group's high priority and commitment in ensuring that the national forest heritage continue to be preserved and sustainable. The Department has taken several initiatives to preserve and conserve the forest heritage in Selangor. Among them are replanting programmes in impoverished and degraded forest areas, awareness campaigns on the importance of forests and working with local community in the Malaysia's Greening Programme."

During the event, Tan Sri Tay together with Encik Syamsul Azuan bin Ahmad Fauzi, Chief Executive Officer of Public Islamic Bank Berhad, Mr. Lee Yo-Hunn, Chief Executive Officer of Public Investment Bank Berhad and Mr. Chung Yee Wah, Chief Investment Officer, Public Mutual Berhad presented the mock cheque amounting RM109,450.00 to Dr. Nurul Muiz bin Murad being the group's contribution towards the tree planting programme.

The programme which saw 100 volunteers from Public Bank Group coming together serves as a crucial component of Public Bank Group's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities, contributing to environmental preservation and conservation. The planting of the remaining 900 trees will be oversee and planted by Yayasan Hijau Malaysia and the Forestry Department together with Public Bank Group volunteers in mangrove forests across Selangor and Perak.



Tan Sri Dato' Sri Dr. Tay Ah Lek (centre) with our partners from Yayasan Hijau Malaysia, Selangor State Forestry and Public Bank Group's Management team



Attendees from Public Bank Group, Yayasan Hijau Malaysia and Selangor State Forestry cheering before the tree planting session