



Dr. Zeti Akhtar Aziz

Governor of Bank Negara Malaysia and Chairman, MIFC Executive Committee

Dr. Zeti Akhtar Aziz was appointed Governor of Bank Negara Malaysia in May 2000. She has been with the central bank since 1985, in a career spanning several senior positions in monetary and financial policies, and reserve management. Dr. Zeti presided over the formulation of the

Financial Sector Masterplan, a 10-year road map for the development of the Malaysian financial system and oversaw the transformation of the financial system, involving wide-ranging financial reforms, the establishment of new financial institutions, strengthening of the financial markets and the transition to a managed float of the Ringgit exchange rate. She is also actively involved in regional financial co-operation and in the development of Islamic finance.

In promoting regional integration initiatives, Dr. Zeti chaired the Executives' Meeting of East Asia-Pacific Central Banks (EMEAP) Taskforce on "Regional Cooperation among Central Banks in Asia" to draw up the blueprint for future financial cooperation in the region. Dr. Zeti is a member of the South East Asian Central Banks (SEACEN) Board of Governors and the Chairman of the SEACEN Board of Directors. She is also a member of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) Central Bank Governance Group since 2001. Dr. Zeti is also one of the founding members of the Asian Consultative Council for the BIS.

In the area of Islamic finance, she has been actively involved in its development both in the domestic and international arena. Dr. Zeti chaired the Steering Committee for the establishment of the Islamic Financial Services Board (IFSB) and served as the IFSB Council Chairman for the 2007 term. She was also the Chairman of the international taskforce on 'Islamic Finance and Global Financial Stability' and the taskforce on Liquidity Management to develop a mechanism to facilitate cross border liquidity management. Dr. Zeti played a leading role to develop Malaysia as a centre for the origination, distribution and trading of Sukuks under the Malaysia International Islamic Financial Centre (MIFC) initiative. In 2002, Dr. Zeti led a team that launched the Malaysian global Islamic Sukuk, the world's first Islamic Sukuk to be issued by a sovereign country. She was also instrumental in the establishment of the International Centre for Education in Islamic Finance (INCEIF), an initiative undertaken to fast track the development of human capital talent for Islamic finance.

Dr. Zeti has been actively involved in enhancing leadership and strategic direction for the financial sector. In 2003, she was instrumental in setting up of the International Centre for Leadership in Finance (ICLIF), an institution which provides a focused approach towards the leadership development in the financial services sector in Malaysia and the region.

Dr. Zeti had also served as a member of the United Nations General Assembly Commission of Experts on Reform of the International Monetary and Financial System, a high-level task force established to examine possible reform of the global financial system. Dr. Zeti received her Bachelor of Economics (Honors) from the University of Malaya and her PhD from the University of Pennsylvania.