



**PRESS STATEMENT
MINISTRY OF ECONOMY**

**DRIVING SUSTAINABLE GROWTH: IRDA AND MIZUHO BANK
(MALAYSIA) BERHAD FORM STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP TO
ENHANCE INVESTMENTS IN JS-SEZ**

The Johor-Singapore Special Economic Zone (JS-SEZ) marked another significant milestone today with the Exchange of Letter of Intent (LOI) between the Iskandar Regional Development Authority (IRDA) and Mizuho Bank (Malaysia) Berhad.

This strategic collaboration is set to accelerate investment realization, facilitate investor requirements, and create mutually beneficial opportunities for sustainable economic growth and prosperity in the region.

YB Senator Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan, Minister of Economy highlighted that the partnership will strengthen JS-SEZ's position as a driver of inclusive growth.

"Strategic partnerships such as this open new channel of investment, particularly from Japan, and reinforce JS-SEZ's role in driving sustainable and inclusive development. The collaboration is aligned with the Government's broader policy of strengthening regional economic integration and creating high-value opportunities for Malaysians," said YB Senator Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah during the Exchange of LOI ceremony.

Strengthening Regional Investment Ties

The partnership between IRDA and Mizuho Bank (Malaysia) Berhad will focus on four key areas such as **financing support, promotion, events and market intelligence**. Mizuho Bank (Malaysia) Berhad is committed to supporting the development of JS-SEZ, providing **nearly USD600**

million in financing to clients investing in the area since the JS-SEZ agreement. The bank noted investment interests in **food and beverage manufacturing, data centres, power generation, and chemical-related manufacturing**.

Commitment to Growth and Collaboration

The formalization of this cooperation is anticipated to attract more investors to engage with IRDA and Mizuho Bank (Malaysia) Berhad in advancing catalytic projects that uplift Johor's economy and the wider JS-SEZ region.

"Financial institutions continue to play a key role in the growth of JS-SEZ by enhancing visibility, strengthening investor confidence, and providing the necessary financial backbone to the region. This LOI is a clear signal to the world that Malaysia is serious, Johor is ready, and together with Singapore, we will make JS-SEZ a success." added YB Senator Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah.

About JS-SEZ

IRDA serves as the facilitation agency for investments into the JS-SEZ, while Mizuho Bank is one of Japan's largest and most established financial services institutions. The JS-SEZ is a landmark initiative under Malaysia's economic cooperation agenda with Singapore, designed to enhance cross-border collaboration and regional competitiveness.

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