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Founder and Chief Strategist (since 1994)

Veteran investment guru with over 43 years' investment experience. Named 'Warren Buffett of Asia' (2017); 'Second Board King of Malaysia' (1998); 'Southeast Asia's Small-Cap King' (2006).

“Which sectors do you see performing positively? And, why?”

In the long term, we are bullish on the technology sector, in particular 5G, IOT, electric car, AI and their related businesses, and we could see that it will continue to outperform the other sectors. We also like rubber glove manufacturing at a reasonable price, logistics and renewable energy sectors.

What is your advice for investors? What should they be looking out for given the current economic outlook?”

Investors should only invest if they have long term funds. Given the current economic outlook, investors should look for companies with experience management, low gearing, strong balance sheet, whose revenue with has been temporarily affected by Covid-19 outbreak but whose long term revenue trajectory is expected to remain intact, and which is selling at discounted prices.

“What are the biggest opportunities and challenges in the local unit trust industry moving forward? How do you think industry players should address it?”

We see growing interest in Shariah-compliant products in the ASEAN region. KL is becoming a key centre for Islamic finance in the region. There will be opportunities to grow Malaysia's Shariah-compliant unit trust industry by promoting and attracting participation from investors in the region.

However, there are regulatory hinderances that will need to be sorted out. Differences in regulatory requirements in the different countries in the region have limited the extent of cross border investments. Discussions and initial steps have been taken among certain ASEAN countries to facilitate multi-jurisdictional offering of securities, more work is needed to be taken by ASEAN governments to agree on a framework for mutual recognition of fund products with the view of facilitating cross-border investment in each other's registered funds.

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