

CapAsia Invests in Kazakhstan Electricity Utility

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for immediate release

Singapore: CapAsia, a joint venture private equity fund manager between CIMB Group and Standard Bank Group specialising in mid-cap infrastructure investments in Southeast Asia and Central Asia, today entered into a participation agreement to provide US\$50 million in equity capital to Central-Asian Electric Power Corporation (CAEPCO) in Kazakhstan.

CapAsia, a Singapore based, leading private equity fund manager specialising in mid-cap infrastructure investment in Non-BRIC Emerging Asia, entered into the agreement via its Islamic Infrastructure Fund (IIF). The IIF, managed by CapAsia, is a US\$262 million private equity infrastructure fund that is jointly sponsored by the Islamic Development Bank and the Asian Development Bank.

Dr Johan Bastin, Chief Executive Officer of CapAsia, said: "This is our first investment in Central Asia. We are delighted to be partnering with one of the largest private electric utilities in Central Asia and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development who is an anchor investor in it. We are attracted to CAEPCO by the strength of its management, corporate culture and track record."

"We are pleased to support an ambitious investment programme that is aimed at improving operational performance, enhancing energy efficiency and reducing harmful emissions. We see Kazakhstan as a primary market for IIF because of the Government's commitment to furthering private sector involvement in the provision and financing of infrastructure," Johan added.

Meanwhile, Alexander Klebanov, Chairman of the Board of Directors of CAEPCO, said: "IIF's equity investment in our company is important for the development of CAEPCO and has great significance for the electricity sector in Kazakhstan. CapAsia's participation as a private equity investor in CAEPCO will solidify the standing and

stability of the company, improve its business prospects and further strengthen its corporate governance culture. It will also give a positive signal about the attractiveness of the power and energy sector for private investors be they domestic or international."

The proceeds of IIF's equity investment will be used to support CAEPCO's multi-year capital improvement programme aimed at improving the company's heat and power generation and distribution facilities.

Since its inception in 2006, CapAsia's AUM (assets under management) has grown to approximately US\$485 million. It currently manages three main funds – namely the South East Asian Strategic Assets Fund (SEASAF), Islamic Infrastructure Fund (IIF) and the Asia Infrastructure Fund (AIF).

CapAsia currently employs 18 investment professionals, with over 90 years of private equity experience between them. The firm has offices in the four core markets in the region, namely in Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta and Bangkok.

About CapAsia:

CapAsia is a private equity firm investing in the infrastructure sectors in the emerging economies of Asia outside of China and India. Founded in 2006, the firm has over 20 investment professionals and offices in Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta, and Bangkok. CapAsia currently manages US\$460 million across three funds. The firm is a joint venture between Malaysia's CIMB Group and South Africa's Standard Bank. CapAsia believes that its track record, singular geographic coverage, on the ground presence in key markets and mid-market focus provide unique advantages to the investors in the funds it manages.

About the Islamic Infrastructure Fund:

The Islamic Infrastructure Fund (IIF) was established at the initiative of the Islamic Development bank (IDB) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB). CapAsia was selected as fund manager following a process of competitive bidding and qualification.

The Fund had its initial closing in 2009 at US\$262 million and is expected to achieve around US\$300 million at final closing. It makes Shari'ah-compliant investments in the economic and social infrastructure sectors in the Islamic countries of Asia that are countries of operation of both the IDB and ADB.

About CAEPCO:

The company operates in northern and central Kazakhstan and its main region of business is Pavlodar and the oblasts of north Kazakhstan, where it operates four combined heat and power plants and heat and power distribution networks. It is the largest private, vertically integrated power and energy company in Kazakhstan generating more than 7 percent of the country's electricity output. Shareholders of the company are the Central-Asian Power Energy Company and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

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