



## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Axiata's Appointment of New Director Further Strengthens Board Diversity and Group Focus on Senior Leadership Development**

**Kuala Lumpur, 23 November 2018** – Axiata Group Berhad (Axiata or the Group) announced the appointment of Khoo Gaik Bee as the Group's newest Director, further enhancing its Board's capacity and diversity in line with its commitment to the highest standards in corporate governance. She will join the Axiata Board as Independent Non-Executive Director (INED) effective 1 January 2019.

Gaik Bee brings a wealth of experience from a progressive 37-year career spanning the entire spectrum of Human Resource Management. She served at several international and Malaysian corporates including Digital Equipment Malaysia, ICI Paints (M) Sdn Bhd, Sunway Group of Companies, and Arthur Young & Co, among others, before retiring as Executive Director/Human Resource Director of Guinness Anchor Berhad in 2006.

Some of her key achievements include successful merger and acquisition integration initiatives and negotiations with in-house unions. During her tenure in employment, she was a member of the Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) Council and a panel member of the Malaysian Industrial Court. She was also a Member of the Accreditation Board of the Women Institute of Management (WIM) Professional Manager Certification Program. Post retirement, she engages in executive coaching and strategic leadership for organisations, having also served Axiata in this capacity.

Gaik Bee holds a Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration majoring in Organisational Behaviour & Development from University of DeMonfort, Leicester, UK and a Certificate in Human Resource Management in Asia from Insead.

In welcoming the new Board member, Axiata's Chairman, Tan Sri Ghazzali Sheikh Abdul Khalid said, "Gaik Bee's understanding of the Axiata business and vision, complemented with her vast human resource development and senior leadership coaching experience will be invaluable in aligning the Group's human capital strategy and talent initiatives as we embrace the realities of transforming into a new generation digital company. As Axiata closes the gap with 30 percent of its Board comprising of women directors, thereby, meeting its Women-on-Board commitment, I take this opportunity to welcome Gaik Bee and look forward to her ideas and perspectives to take Axiata into its next phase of growth."



Tan Sri Jamaludin Ibrahim, President & Group Chief Executive Officer of Axiata added, "I am excited to welcome Gaik Bee to our Board as Axiata faces the challenge of Group-wide digital transformation across our regional footprint. Given her background, she will complement the Board with her rich and vast experience in human capital, which is one of the most important aspects of Axiata's vision."

"I am also heartened that Gaik Bee's appointment to the Board is reflective of Axiata's promise to uphold the gold standard in governance," he added.

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#### **About Axiata**

Axiata is one of the leading telecommunications groups in Asia with approximately 350 million customers and with a presence in 11 countries. In pursuit of its vision to be the New Generation Digital Champion by 2021, the Group has transformed itself from a holding entity with a portfolio of pure-play mobile assets into a Triple Core Strategy driven business with the focus on Digital Telco, Digital Businesses and Infrastructure.

Within ASEAN and South Asia, Axiata has controlling stakes in market-leading mobile and fixed operators in the region including 'Celcom' in Malaysia, 'XL' in Indonesia, 'Dialog' in Sri Lanka, 'Robi' in Bangladesh, 'Smart' in Cambodia and 'Ncell' in Nepal. The Group also holds strategic interests in 'Idea' in India and 'M1' in Singapore. Axiata is in the cusp of transforming its mobile operations into Digital Telcos through digitisation and convergence.

'edotco', the Group's infrastructure company, operates in six countries to deliver telecommunications infrastructure services, amassing approximately 27,500 towers. Presently the 12th largest independent tower companies globally, it aims to be one of the top regional telecommunications tower companies and is committed to responsible and sustainable business operations.

Axiata Digital and Axiata Business Services are the digital businesses arms of the Group. Together, these businesses are focused on capturing the rapid growth in digital financial services ('Boost'), digital advertising ('ada'), enterprise solutions/IoT ('Xpand') and platform services ('APIgate') with user access to global markets.

As a committed and long-term investor, Axiata provides employment to 25,000 people within its operations. In line with its sustainability goals, the Group actively supports and drives young talent development; disaster response and recovery; as well as green initiatives. Axiata's broader goal Advancing Asia pieces together the best in the region in terms of innovation, connectivity and talent.

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