CALENDAR OF EVENTS
January – March 2003

30 January 2003

Bank Negara Malaysia launched the "BankingInfo" Consumer Education Programme for the banking sector. The programme represents an important step forward in the modernisation of Malaysia's financial system and is one of the strategies of the Financial Sector Master Plan to enhance the consumer protection infrastructure.

6 February 2003

Bank Negara Malaysia issued commemorative coins in conjunction with the XIII Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) that was held on 20-25 February 2003 in Kuala Lumpur.

26 March 2003

Bank Negara Malaysia released the 2002 Annual Report, which provides an analysis of the economic and monetary developments in 2002 and forecast for the Malaysian economy for the year 2003. It also contains the Bank's Annual Accounts as at the end of 2002.

26 March 2003

As part of the continuous effort to ensure availability of adequate funds at reasonable cost to the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), Bank Negara Malaysia announced the provision of additional allocation of RM600 million for the Fund for Small and Medium Industries 2 (FSMI2) and RM400 million for the New Entrepreneurs Fund 2 (NEF2). Besides the Special Funds, several other initiatives have also been undertaken to enhance SMEs' access to financing, including injecting RM1 billion into the Credit Guarantee Corporation (CGC) to enhance its capacity to provide guarantees, and transforming ERF Sdn. Bhd. into a special purpose vehicle to provide financing and advisory services to Bumiputera SMEs.

26 March 2003

Bank Negara Malaysia announced further liberalisation of several exchange control rules, aimed at further improving the business environment in Malaysia by according greater flexibility to residents and non-residents in sourcing ringgit funds, in managing their foreign exchange exposure and improving overall operational efficiency.

26 March 2003

Bank Negara Malaysia announced the establishment of the International Centre for Leadership in Finance to provide a focused and coordinated approach towards human resource development for senior management in the financial sector. The Bank will allocate RM500 million as an endowment fund to establish the Centre.