Calendar of Events
February - March 2004

19 February 2004
The Bank together with the Institute of Banks Malaysia, the Malaysian Bar Council and the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, organised the fourth Banking and Financial Law School 2004. This year, the Law School provided the forum for participants to discuss the legal issues relating to derivative products and effective documentation for derivative transactions, under the topic "The Use and Documentation of OTC Derivatives."

25 February 2004
The Bank announced that the Malaysian economy expanded at a more rapid pace of 6.4% in the fourth quarter of 2003. The growth was broad-based, with positive contributions across all industries and demand components. For the year as a whole, the combination of stronger domestic demand and rising exports resulted in a stronger-than-expected GDP growth of 5.2% for 2003.

The Monetary Policy Statement stated that the stronger economic performance took place in an environment of low inflation. Hence, monetary policy remained accommodative to continue to support growth.

26 February 2004
The Bank announced the second issuance of Bon Simpanan Merdeka amounting to RM300 million which was issued on 1 April 2004. The bond provides an additional savings instrument to senior citizens as well as Malaysian Armed Forces personnel who are on retirement. Due to overwhelming response, the bond size was increased to RM500 million.

26 March 2004
The Bank released the 2003 Annual Report, which provided an analysis of the economic and monetary developments in 2003 and forecast for the Malaysian economy for the year 2004. It also contains the Bank's Annual Accounts as at the end of 2003.

26 March 2004
The Bank announced further liberalisation of the foreign exchange administration rules, effective 1 April 2004. It forms part of the Bank's continuous effort to enhance the business environment and increase efficiency of the regulatory delivery system. The modifications to the existing rules also contribute towards the deepening of the capital market as well as promote wider risk management options for residents in managing their investments.