

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**5 May 2023**

**FINANCIAL RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT**

**WESTPORTS HANDLED A CONTAINER VOLUME OF 2.55 MILLION  
TWENTY-FOOT EQUIVALENT UNITS (“TEUS”) IN 1Q 2023**

**Kuala Lumpur, 5 May 2023**

Westports Holdings Berhad (“Westports” or the “Company”) has announced its financial results for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2023. At the top line, the Company reported a total revenue achievement of RM513 million, and the container segment contributed 86% to total revenue by handling a throughput volume of 2.55 million TEUs. As the global supply chain normalises and container shipping schedule reliability improves, the requirement for container storage eases, reducing the accompanying container storage revenue.

At the cost level, even without a higher headcount, manpower costs increased to incorporate higher salaries and allowances paid to all staff. There was also a notable increase in electricity cost as the national utility company implemented the current Imbalance Cost Pass-Through (ICPT) effective from 1 January 2023, which increased from 3.7 sen to 20.0 sen per kWh. These key factors contributed to a lower Profit Before Tax of RM237 million for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2023.

Datuk Ruben Emir Gnanalingam bin Abdullah (“Datuk Ruben”), the Group Managing Director of Westports, reviewed, “Despite inflationary pressures and slowing economic momentum in many economies, Westports handled more transshipment and gateway containers – the latter amounted to 1.03 million TEUs, and it was the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest ever on a quarterly basis. The domestic economy exhibited resilience as export-oriented sectors benefited from increased competitiveness while certain segments have benefited from regionalisation and Foreign Direct Investments”.

Datuk Ruben added, “Intra-Asia has continued to underpin the Company’s throughput volume as it constituted 63% of the total container volume handled. We also see more services being added as we berthed more regional and relatively smaller vessels that service this region. Meanwhile, our Conventional segment saw improved throughput as the Company caters to growth in non-bunker-fuel and liquid storage requirements. The completed Liquid Bulk Terminal 5 recorded active utilisation, so we have embarked on building Liquid Bulk Terminal 4A, scheduled to be completed by the end of 2023”.



“The one-year prosperity tax in 2022 provided a lower base in the previous corresponding period, and as such, Westports is able to report an improved Profit After Tax of RM184 million for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2023 despite lower Profit Before Tax”.

“Moving forward, the Company expects an overall uptrend in decarbonisation cost as Westports implement more initiatives to achieve its commitment to net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. Westports took delivery of the country’s first Kalmar Eco Reachstacker last year and has commissioned six new electric-powered Super Post-Panamax Quay Cranes into service in the last few months – the latter replaced ageing and less efficient units. Westports is also evaluating the operational suitability and commercial feasibility of using electric terminal operating equipment at the port”.

Datuk Ruben concluded, “The proposed Westports container terminal expansion from CT10 to CT17 is being designed to incorporate the imperative of supporting the Company’s net-zero carbon emissions aspirations by 2050 and also fulfilling the potential climate change adaptation requirements. The proposed new terminals reflect Westports’ financial and strategic commitment toward maintaining Port Klang's overall competitiveness in South East Asia as a transshipment hub”.

### **About Westports Holdings Berhad**

Westports Holdings Berhad was listed on the Main Market of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2013 and is the largest listed port operator in Malaysia. The Company is involved in container and conventional cargo handling as well as providing a wide range of port services, including marine, rental and other ancillary services. The Company is strategically located in Port Klang along the Straits of Malacca.

### **Important notice**

Kindly read this media release and the announcement released to Bursa Malaysia dated 5 May 2023 for a comprehensive understanding of Westports’ financial results.

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