

## **RAHMATAN LIL ALAMIN FOUNDATION LTD**

### **Annual Report for Year Ended 31 December 2016**

The Rahmatan Lil Alamin Foundation Ltd. (“the Foundation”) was incorporated on 11 June 2009 as a company limited by guarantee. It was registered as a charity on 10 July 2009 and has been conferred IPC (Institution of Public Character) status for the period from 23 November 2015 to 22 November 2017.

Unique Entity Number (UEN) : 200910530Z

Registered Address : 273 Braddell Road  
Singapore 579706

Management Committee:

The Management Committee comprises the following:-

Chairman : Mr Po’ad bin Shaik Abu Bakar Mattar  
Director : Mr Sithawalla Haider Mohamedally @ Sithawalla Hayder Mohamedally  
Mr Paiman bin Supangat  
Mr Mohamed Abdul Jaleel s/o Muthumaricar Shaik Mohamed  
Mrs Arfat Beebee Binte Noor Mohamed Abdul Latiff (Mrs Arfat Selvam)  
Mr Syed Hassan bin Syed Mohamed bin Salim Al-Attas  
Mr Zainul Abidin bin Ibrahim  
Ms Suryahti bte Abdul Latiff  
Mr Herman bin Cher Ma’in  
Mr Naseer bin Ghani  
Mr Mohamad Helmy bin Mohd Isa

Internal Auditor : NA

Banker : OCBC Bank

External Auditor : Messrs PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Public Accountants and Chartered Accountants

### **Corporate Objective**

The Rahmatan Lil Alamin Foundation is a registered charity and has been conferred an Institution of Public Character (IPC) status. It was incorporated with the following objectives:

1. To promote and support activities & programmes that project the Rahmatan Lil’ Alamin (RLA) spirit;
2. To support capacity building of community leaders, youth leaders and volunteers through skills upgrading and training to undertake the above mentioned RLA projects; and

3. To promote better understanding and cultivate stronger bonds amongst people of various faiths in Singapore so as to strengthen inter-faith understanding and race relations in Singapore through humanitarian & community development works.

## **POLICIES**

### **Finance & Funding**

The Foundation is financially supported by donations from individuals, corporations and organisations.

During the year, the Foundation embarked on several projects to raise donations, principally from the Muslim community for specific humanitarian disaster relief and rebuilding assistance. The funds received are subsequently disbursed through the partnering relief organisations for specific relief causes in the public appeal.

### **Staffing**

As at 31 December 2016, there is no full-time staff employed by the Foundation. The Foundation is staffed by three officers seconded from Muis. They are:

- Norhayati Haron (GM, Corporate Affairs)
- Asri Aziz (Manager, Communication and Public Affairs)
- Mohd Izhar Roslan (Manager, Programme and Capabilities Development)

### **Activities and Programmes**

The main activities of the Foundation is to provide funding support or grants to youth organisations or groups that support activities and programmes that project the Rahmatan Lil'alamin (Blessings for All) spirit.

The Foundation seeks to bring together youths of all faiths to foster strong bonds through acts of volunteerism, develop sustainable capabilities and a culture of being blessings to all especially in the areas of humanitarian causes and commitment, development and service.

It will offer funding support to innovative efforts and initiatives of individuals, groups and institutions, Muslims and non-Muslims who are interested in conceptualising and undertaking projects that will make a real difference in the lives of challenged communities, radiate the blessings-to-all spirit and promote community bonding and humanitarian values.

The Foundation places special emphasis on funding programmes which:

- Promote the Blessings to All ethos and spirit of volunteering
- Help develop local capacity in humanitarian activities, particularly in the areas of
  - Leadership and skills development
  - Teamwork
  - Fund raising
  - Working with other faiths

Projects should also employ proven developmental frameworks e.g. experiential learning, and where possible also involve working to benefit local stakeholders, e.g. orphanages and homes.

## **Calendar of Events**

### **i) Community Project Funding Grants**

A total of \$275,000 in funding grants was approved in 2016 to 13 project teams who carried out humanitarian and developmental projects for needy communities' overseas as well as local orphanages and needy families.

Through the grants, the Foundation helps our youth acquire key skill sets as they plan and carry out their projects. These include event management, leadership and planning, and fundraising skills. With these skills, the Foundation hopes our youth will be better able to come together and serve. Our volunteers have touched the lives of the less privileged in our local orphanages as well as communities in China, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Turkey.

Our volunteers come from various sectors and all walks of life – from the mosques, the madrasahs, the universities and from schools. Working together in the projects, they develop bonds and help each other learn how to have impact the lives of others.

True to the RLA Foundation's ethos of Blessings to All, our volunteers come from all faiths. At least 20% of our project teams are made up of our non-Muslim. Our projects help our volunteers bond and learn together. Most importantly, many of our volunteers express how their eyes have been opened to cherish what they have, and to share this with those who are less fortunate.

Our projects help build sustainable change for the communities we help. These expeditions are only the first step in empowering our youths in a lifelong journey of volunteering.

### **ii) Humanitarian Relief Efforts**

A total of \$411,495 was raised in 2016 in aid of humanitarian relief efforts to the following countries:

| <b><u>Cause/Country</u></b> | <b><u>Amount collected</u></b> | <b><u>Partnering agencies</u></b> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Ecuador & Japan Earthquake  | \$ 50,873                      | Red Cross/Mercy Relief            |
| Aceh & Rakhine Victims      | \$ 360,622                     | Mercy Relief                      |

The total amount collected was channelled and disbursed through the partnering relief organisations for specific relief causes specified in the public appeal.

### **iii) RLA Day**

The annual RLA Day, funded by the Foundation, is one key initiative that spreads awareness and showcases manifestations of the "Rahmatan Lil Alamin" (RLA) spirit – a core Islamic tenet to the

wider community beyond the mosque. Over the years, RLA Day have taken different themes which seek to emphasize diverse manifestations of the RLA ethos such as Food for the Needy, Healthy Lifestyle and Family, adoption of homes, Greening and building community cohesion.

In addition to our focus on lending a hand, RLA also champions the protection of the natural environment, another ethos consistent with being a good Muslim. The Foundation realizes that it is the people who make up a community who are most able to create future change, and set in motion a culture of blessing that will benefit all.

For the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Rahmatan Lil Alamin Signature Event, the RLA Day, the six mosque clusters will hold their RLA programmes throughout the year from 1 October 2016 to 31 August 2017 with a special kick-off event held on **Sunday 2 October 2016**. The theme for the launch event was **“Empowering a Caring Community -Together”**. The RLA Committee hopes to create a sustained impact on the efforts to spread the RLA ethos to the wider community through a year long list of activities that will involve all segments of the community (mosques, madrasahs, Muslim organisations, institutions of higher learning) and benefitting the community and larger Singapore society.

The Central North and Northeast Mosque Clusters organised the RLA Day launch event on Sunday, 2 October 2016 at Punggol Waterways. They worked together with organisations such as 4PM and the Indian Muslim Social Service Association (IMSSA) together with Youth from NUS, NTU and SMU who were RLA grant recipients. The Guest-of-Honour for the event was Acting Minister for Education, Mr Ng Chee Meng.

The programme included new initiative, such as a “Spirit of Caring” Walk segment around Punggol Waterways Park preceded by a Mass Exercise. The participants for the programme involved mosque staff, activists and volunteers, and partnering organizations who will be paired with special guests from welfare homes adopted by the mosque clusters as well as Muis Zakat recipients. The walk approximately 3.5 km. Participants distributed leaflets on water conservation from the PUB to the members of the public at the park.

Other programmes include the continuity on the adoption of the Ren Ci Nursing Home and Ain Society for another one year period commencing from 1 October 2016 to 30 September 2017. Positive impact of the programme on the dwellers of the home and their family members was observed.

Other RLA efforts at the cluster level include visits to welfare homes, home makeover for poor and needy families, beach cleaning, on-going greening project under the “Community in Bloom” initiative by NParks, distribution of foodstuff and porridge during Ramadan to families neighbouring the mosques.”

## **REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATE AND EXPLANATION OF MAJOR FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS**

No major financial transactions done during the period under review.

## **REVIEW AND CHANGES IN THE POLICY**

No changes to the policy during the period under review.

### Policy on Conflict of Interest

The Board of Trustees have established a Conflict of Interest Policy to assist in identifying and managing potential conflicts. Trustees make their declaration of interest as necessary at each Board meeting conducted during the financial year for any situations of conflict that may arise and these trustees will abstain from decision-making in such instances so as to allow a fair and transparent decision-making process. Management carry out their daily duties independently from the trustees.

### Policy on Reserves

The Board of Trustees of the Foundation have considered the level of operating activity and its annual operating expenses and is of the view that there are sufficient funds to ensure that the Foundation's operational activities could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty.

There were no changes in the Foundation's approach to reserves management during the year.

The Foundation is not subject to externally imposed reserves requirement.

## **EXPLANATION OF THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE CHARITY'S ASSETS ARE HELD**

No Charity assets are held during the period under review.

## **FUTURE PLANS AND COMMITMENTS**

Muis has allocated a space in the newly constructed Masjid Yusof Ishak to establish an office for the RLAF. As part of this planning, a gallery chronicling the works of RLAF in the past decade is also in the works. The new office will be run by two full time officers of Muis that will be seconded to RLAF.

The Foundation will continue to actively reaching out to tertiary institutions such as the universities and polytechnics as well as madrasahs, mosques and youths organisation to create a greater awareness of its objectives and grants for humanitarian and community development project both locally and overseas.

At the same time, the Foundation would like to support capacity building of community and youth leaders as well volunteers through training for RLA projects that promote and support activities & programmes that project the Rahmatan Lil' Alamin (RLA) spirit.

The Foundation hopes to increase its base of volunteers by increasing the pool of young activists in the Friends of RLAF Group as well as via social media. Gradually, it hopes to attract more applicants for its grants, both for overseas expeditions and local projects. Over time, it is hoped that a critical mass of volunteers would be touched by the Foundation and will strengthen the RLAF Alumni.

It is also hoped that through strategic alliances with local partners, RLAF Alumni will become a self-sustaining ecology continuing to project the ethos of Blessings to All; in addition to promoting better understanding and cultivate stronger bonds amongst people of various faiths in Singapore so as to strengthen inter-faith understanding and race relations in Singapore through humanitarian & community dev. works.

## **STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

Statement of accounts for the financial year ended 31 December 2016 is attached.