

# KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF YEAR IN REVIEW

## Launch of Muslim Expatriates Network



The Muslim Expatriates Network (MEX) was formed as an outcome of the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Convention of Singapore Muslim Professionals on 30 June 2012, which was graced by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong. The Convention, which was organised by AMP, presented 18 strategies aimed at catalysing the progress of the Muslim community in Singapore. MEX was one of the 18 strategies presented at the Convention.

MEX, which is also the latest member of the AMP Group, provides a platform to integrate new Muslim citizens and permanent residents into the Singaporean society. MEX also seeks to create bridges between the Muslim expatriate community and the local Muslim community as a way to build a larger and stronger Muslim community in Singapore and catalyse its progress. For the year in review, 290 individuals benefited from the various programmes and events organised by MEX.

### MISSION

To harness foreign Muslim talent and Singaporean Muslims overseas as a new engine of growth for a more dynamic community

### KEY OBJECTIVES

- o Outreach to Muslim expatriates in Singapore to contribute to the Singaporean Muslim community
- o Integrate Muslim expatriates into the Singaporean Muslim community and Singaporean society
- o Foster greater inflow of high-calibre foreign Muslim professionals into Singapore
- o Harness foreign Muslim talent to benefit the Singaporean Muslim community
- o Become a social enterprise to benefit the Singaporean Muslim community



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## Launch of Debt Advisory Centre

On 1 April 2013, AMP launched the Debt Advisory Centre (DAC) to tackle the debt problem within the Malay/Muslim community in Singapore. As one of the 18 strategies proposed during the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Convention of Singapore Muslim Professionals organised by AMP, the DAC was set up with the broader objective of strengthening the community's overall financial standing.

The DAC has three main aims:

Advice	Educate	Research
To be a one-stop centre where individuals with debt problems can come for advice	To provide clients with the necessary education on debt management and other related subject matters	To research into the extent of the debt problem within the community



The DAC represents a unique collaboration between AMP as a social service provider and expert volunteers from the financial, legal and real estate professions, in adopting a multi-pronged approach to tackle debt issues within the community. Debtors, who approach DAC for assistance, will be provided with a roadmap containing recommended solutions that are available to them, either administered by AMP or other relevant external agencies.

The DAC also provides a first-of-its-kind support group for the Malay/Muslim community, where debtors can share their experience with those facing the same problem. Apart from the support group, the debtors are also required to attend other components

of its programme which include counselling sessions, introductory seminars on debt and finances, targeted seminars on debt-related issues, and ad-hoc activities which raise awareness of the centre. The DAC also partners with relevant agencies to ensure its clients and their families receive the assistance that they need.

Since its launch, the DAC has assisted 153 clients with multiple debt issues. The DAC is currently focused on serving clients from the Malay/Muslim community, with plans to expand its operations and extend its services to the larger Singaporean community in the long-term.

## Relaunch of Centre for Research on Islamic and Malay Affairs



Four months after the move to its new premises, AMP's research subsidiary, the Centre for Research on Islamic and Malay Affairs (RIMA), held its official relaunch ceremony on 13 April 2013. RIMA's new logo, which signified its renewed fervour in achieving its aspirations within the Malay/Muslim community, was unveiled during the ceremony. Mr Azmoon Ahmad, Chairman of AMP Group, articulated his aspirations for RIMA to be the preferred organisation for research and data on the community.

The event marked RIMA's strategic revamp to be a one-stop research centre and think tank for the Malay/Muslim community. Following a restructuring exercise, RIMA expanded its research team – from a two-person unit to a team of seven researchers and one executive – and a wider research focus. RIMA hopes to expand its role beyond the community and Singaporean society and over time, become a credible and trusted research organisation on Malay and Muslim issues in the region.