

## **CapBridge and UOB sign agreement to provide companies across Asia with access to private capital**

**Singapore, 23 June 2019** – Global private capital platform CapBridge has signed an agreement with United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB) to offer a range of private capital solutions to private, high-growth<sup>1</sup> companies in Singapore and in the Bank's key markets including China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam.

This is CapBridge's first collaboration with a Singapore bank to provide companies with such alternative financing solutions and draws upon the combined market expertise of two Singapore-headquartered financial institutions and the country's strength as a global financial centre.

Through its investment syndication platform, CapBridge will match UOB's clients with anchor investors and accredited<sup>2</sup> co-investors, catalysing private capital as a source of funding and helping these companies to broaden their investor base further.

UOB's clients can also choose to list a portion of their equity on CapBridge's affiliate 1exchange (1X)<sup>3</sup>, Singapore's first and only regulated private securities exchange platform, of which Singapore Exchange Limited is a shareholder and strategic partner. In doing so, the Bank's clients can create a new asset class of tradeable private equities to provide their shareholders with access to flexible financing and liquidity. This is because the buying and selling of the listed private equities can be done any time and easily, compared with the typical lock-up period of more than five years for private equity as an asset class.

Mr Edmund Leong, Head of Group Investment Banking, UOB, said, "Companies typically require different types of funding and capital structures that provide financial flexibility and liquidity to meet their needs at various growth stages. At UOB, we have been providing our corporate clients with a comprehensive suite

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<sup>1</sup> The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) defines high-growth companies as enterprises with average annualised growth greater than 20 per cent per annum over a three-year period, and with 10 or more employees at the beginning of the observation period. Source: Eurostat – OECD Manual on Business Demography Statistics (2007)

<sup>2</sup> An accredited investor refers to an individual whose net personal assets exceed S\$2 million, whose financial assets (net of any related liabilities) exceed S\$1 million or whose income in the preceding 12 months is not less than S\$300,000; or a corporation with net assets exceeding S\$10 million.

<sup>3</sup> 1X is regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore with a Recognised Market Operator licence. It enables companies to create and professional investors to access tradeable private equities.

of fundraising solutions. These include loans and bonds in the debt capital markets, initial public offerings in the equity capital markets and alternative private financing<sup>4</sup> through our ecosystem partners. With our capital market expertise and through our collaboration with CapBridge and the 1X platform, we can offer our clients an even wider range of alternative private financing solutions to provide them with sustainable growth capital.”

Mr Johnson Chen, Founder and CEO of CapBridge, said, “The private capital market is a fast-growing source of primary and secondary capital for many companies. It offers stable capital and a value-adding stakeholder network in the form of sophisticated investors from the CapBridge platform, as well as higher liquidity and exit potential from the tradeable private equities pioneered by the 1X private securities exchange. We are pleased to have the support of UOB as we continue to help private companies in Singapore and the region access the private market for valuable growth capital.”

CapBridge recently completed a fundraising campaign for a leading fund management company in Singapore for a listing on 1exchange. The offer was oversubscribed and the company is set to become the first private company to list its shares on a private exchange in Singapore in July 2019.

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#### **About CapBridge Pte Ltd**

CapBridge operates a global investment syndication platform for private opportunities. The CapBridge co-investment syndication platform serves mid-to-late stage growth companies and the funds that focus on them. Our co-investment model is built with investors in mind. We first bring opportunities to lead investors, who leverage their specific industry knowledge to conduct due diligence, negotiate value adding investment structures, and manage their portfolio positions to the desired exit.

We then open up the same opportunities to co-investors as they leverage on the lead investors’ expertise in specific industry fields and diligence work. Co-investors sign with the same terms as the lead investors and realize better risk-adjusted returns and a more likely exit. Companies benefit from working with lead investors who understand their sector well and can directly value-add, as well as broadening the shareholder base with co-investors who can add network connectivity and assist towards a more successful listing further down the road.

The co-investment process is conducted electronically on our intelligent platform, which works ceaselessly to match deals with investors and facilitate the deal process.

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<sup>4</sup> UOB offers end-to-end financing solutions including equity crowdfunding and venture debt through OurCrowd and InnoVen Capital respectively.

CapBridge has a Capital Markets Services License and is regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Singapore Exchange (SGX) is a strategic partner and shareholder. For more information on the CapBridge co-investment platform, visit [www.capbridge.sg](http://www.capbridge.sg).

CapBridge's associate entity 1exchange ("1X") is a regulated private securities exchange that provides investors with a unique trading platform to buy and sell private securities in a regulated, centralized and transparent manner. 1X has a Recognised Market Operator License and is regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore, with SGX as a strategic partner and shareholder. For more information on 1X, visit [www.1x.exchange](http://www.1x.exchange).

### **About United Overseas Bank**

United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB) is a leading bank in Asia with a global network of more than 500 offices in 19 countries and territories in Asia Pacific, Europe and North America. Since its incorporation in 1935, UOB has grown organically and through a series of strategic acquisitions. UOB is rated among the world's top banks: Aa1 by Moody's and AA- by both Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings. In Asia, UOB operates through its head office in Singapore and banking subsidiaries in China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam, as well as branches and representative offices across the region.

Over more than eight decades, generations of UOB employees have carried through the entrepreneurial spirit, the focus on long-term value creation and an unwavering commitment to do what is right for our customers and our colleagues.

We believe in being a responsible financial services provider and we are committed to making a difference in the lives of our stakeholders and in the communities in which we operate. Just as we are dedicated to helping our customers manage their finances wisely and to grow their businesses, UOB is steadfast in our support of social development, particularly in the areas of art, children and education.

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