

IGB REIT's 1Q net property income down 36%, to distribute 1.33 sen per unit

KUALA LUMPUR (April 26): IGB Real Estate Investment Trust's (IGB REIT) net property income fell 36% to RM43.72 million in the first quarter ended March 31, 2021, from RM68.36 million a year earlier, largely due to lower car park income and higher allowance for impairment of trade receivables as a result of Covid-19. IGB REIT's quarterly revenue fell 20.5% to RM99.44 million from RM125.01 million previously, underpinned by lower rental income from tenants. The owner of the Mid Valley Megamall and The Gardens Mall said in a bourse filing its manager has approved a distribution of 97.5% of its quarterly distributable income, amounting to RM47.4 million or 1.33 sen per unit, to be paid on May 31. IGB REIT said the prolonged Covid-19 pandemic is expected to cause sluggish economic and business situations. "The number of Covid-19 cases impacted the footfall and vehicle traffic volume to the retail malls. The directors of the manager are monitoring the current volatility and uncertainty closely and take appropriate and timely actions to mitigate the impact on IGB REIT's operations and financial performance," it added. — *by Sulhi Khalid/theedgemarkets.com*