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Ismee's status at Tabung Haji unconfirmed

by AZREEN HANI

THERE is no confirmation or denial from Lembaga Tabung Haji (TH) at press time on reports that its group MD/CEO Tan Sri Ismee Ismail is resigning from his posts.

As reported by a daily yesterday, Ismee, who has been holding the post since 2006, is tipped to be joining another government-linked company (GLC), Sime Darby Bhd.

However, when *The Malaysian Reserve* contacted TH, the pilgrimage fund board said there has been no confirmation or update on the matter.

"Currently, there is no official statement yet," communications and public affairs division GM Anis Zuhani

Ahmad said.

"I have not received any direction on this, but if there is any announcement, we will inform accordingly."

As it is, there are two vacant posts at a couple of GLCs. At Sime Darby, the COO post is still not filled following the resignation of Tan Sri Dr Abd Wahab Maskan earlier this year due to health reasons.

The other vacancy is at Malaysia Airlines Bhd (MAB) after its CEO Christoph Mueller announced his resignation last week, citing personal reasons.

Mueller, who was appointed to the position after a global search by MAB sole owner, Khazanah Nasional Bhd, will serve a six-month notice until

September 2016.

Meanwhile, Ismee has been a director of TH Plantations Bhd since Jan 1, 2006, as well as its non-independent and non-executive deputy chairman since then. His contract as CEO and group MD will expire at the end of this year.

Apart from holding the top post at the national pilgrimage fund board, Ismee is also on the board of directors at 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB).

He also holds directorships in a number of public and private companies, including Bank Islam Malaysia Bhd, Johor Corp, Syarikat Takaful Malaysia Bhd and KFC Holdings Malaysia Bhd.

In the past months, Ismee

has been a central figure in refuting allegations that TH does not have enough funds for its depositors and that it is suffering from losses.

He had assured over nine million depositors that their savings were safe despite Bank Negara Malaysia's advice that the pilgrimage fund's reserve levels were hovering in negative territory.

TH also reiterated that its accumulated profit remains positive at RM609 million compared to the RM293 million recorded at end-2014.

In a statement, the pilgrimage fund also stressed that the recently announced bonus distribution for 2015 was from its current year's profit and not from its reserves.