

17 NOV 1998

FINANCIAL ADVISOR

SALOMON SMITH BARNEY STILL GOVT'S FINANCIAL ADVISOR

By: Mohd Fisol Jaafar

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 17 (Bernama) -- Salomon Smith Barney is still the government's financial advisor on the restructuring and recapitalisation of the Malaysian banking sector, its chief representative here, Yeo Kar Peng, said today.

"There is no truth in that," she said when asked by Bernama to clarify market talk that the firm had withdrawn as consultant to the government.

Yeo said the company was still committed over its responsibility to the government and was working hard on the mandates given to it.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad announced about two months ago the appointment of Salomon Smith Barney as the government's financial advisor.

The international financial consultancy company is also undertaking the task of designing and implementing a substantial financing programme over the next two years.

Salomon Smith Barney was founded by Charles D. Barney, a stockbroker, and Edward B. Smith, an investment banker, in the 19th century.

On Dec 31, 1993, Smith Barney became a wholly-owned subsidiary of Travelers Group Inc, a leading diversified financial services company listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

Salomon and Travelers Group announced in September 1997 that they agreed to combine Salomon Inc with Smith Barney Holdings, a subsidiary of Travelers Group, into a company known as Salomon Smith Barney Holdings Inc.

-- BERNAMA

MFJ SHY