

AIMS TO LAUNCH THE LARGEST MUTUAL FUND
AIMS LAUNCHING Tk1.2 BILLION MUTUAL FUND OF GRAMEEN BANK
GRAMEEN BANK TO SPONSOR LARGEST LISTED MUTUAL FUND

Up on authorization from the sponsor Grameen Bank, AIMS of Bangladesh Limited as the Asset Manager submitted to the Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC) on Wednesday, January 16, 2008 a draft prospectus seeking consent on the floatation of the proposed Tk1.2 billion (taka one hundred twenty crore) 'Grameen Two', the second scheme of 'Grameen Mutual Fund One'.

With a paid-up capital of Tk1.2 billion (i.e. taka one hundred twenty crore) and free float of Tk350 million (i.e. taka thirty five crore), 'Grameen Two' is poised to be by far the single largest listed mutual fund undertaking in the country. It is also for the first time a growth scheme is being launched in the local capital market. With a 15 year initial tenure it is also for the first time that any mutual fund in Bangladesh is venturing in to floating of multiple schemes with differentiated characteristics.

It being another new Scheme of the existing 'Grameen Mutual Fund One', provision has been proposed on the draft prospectus for entitlement to 17,000,000 units of Tk10 each at par totaling Tk170 million in 'Grameen Two' for the existing unitholders of the Fund appearing on the register of 'Grameen One', the first scheme now traded on the stock exchanges, subject to consent of the Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC) on the prospectus.

The 'Grameen Mutual Fund One' was established under the Trust Act 1882, and registered under the Registration Act 1908, on May 09, 2001. The Fund received SEC Registration on August 27, 2001. 'Grameen One', the Tk170 million first scheme of the Fund published Prospectus for Public Offer on June 26, 2005. The public offer of 5,000,000 units of total Tk50 million was massively oversubscribed. The Scheme was listed at a record pace with the stock exchanges on September 04, 2005 within thirteen days of conducting lottery and has since been trading at a premium price to its' net asset value. At the close of its first full accounting year after listing as at June 30, 2007, 'Grameen One' declared 29% cash dividend for all unit holders.

Grameen Bank intends to utilize income and proceeds from the portion of its' contribution to the Scheme for augmenting the 'Central Emergency Fund' and the 'Rehabilitation Fund'maintained by the Bank. The Emergency Fund is designed to provide immediate and outright grant to the family of any deceased borrower to perform last rites and provide support. The Rehabilitation Fund provides grants as well as interest free loans to borrowers in natural disaster affected areas, in the aftermath of flooding or cyclones etc. Over the years and with the increase of borrowers now standing at about 7.4 million, these funds has been overstretched and are in need of replenishment.

'Grameen Mutual Fund One' was sponsored by the Nobel Prize winning Grameen Bank, founded by the globally acclaimed micro-credit pioneer and himself a Nobel Laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus, with the principal objective of facilitating micro-savers to invest in the country's high yielding capital market instruments. AIMS of Bangladesh Limited, the only private asset manage company in the country with Tk1 billion already under management, has been appointed as the Investment Manager of the new mutual fund scheme.

(Price Sensitive Information Declaration, Dhaka & Chittagong Stock Exchanges : January 16, 2008)