

## December 2023

# MONTHLY FUND PERFORMANCE UPDATE AIA EQUITY PLUS FUND

### **Investment Objective**

The Fund seeks to maximize medium to long term growth of capital income through investment in a diversified portfolio of well managed large capital companies that are believed to offer above average growth potential. The Fund is suitable for growth-oriented investors who are willing to take moderate to high risk in order to achieve attractive capital gains.

# <u>Notice</u>: Please refer to the Fund Fact Sheet for more information about the Fund.

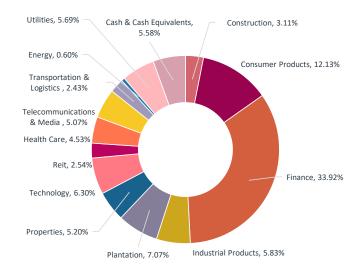
#### **Fund Details**

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Unit NAV (31 Dec 2023)	:	RM 4.47359	
Fund Size (31 Dec 2023)	:	RM 3,335.942 million	
Fund Currency		Ringgit Malaysia	
Fund Inception	:	15 March 2000	
Offer Price at Inception	:	RM1.00	
Fund Management Charge	:	1.50% p.a.	
Investment Manager	:	AIA Bhd.	
Basis of Unit Valuation	:	Net Asset Value	
Frequency of Unit Valuation	:	Daily	

#### **Top Holdings**

1	MALAYAN BANKING BHD	8.78%
2	CIMB GROUP HOLDINGS BHD	8.07%
3	PUBLIC BANK BHD	7.47%
4	TENAGA NASIONAL BHD	5.24%
5	GENTING MALAYSIA BHD	4.65%

# **Sector Allocation**



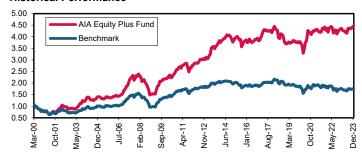


# Lipper Leader Fund for:

- 1. Consistent Return
- 2. Preservation

Lipper uses a ranking system of 1 to 5. A ranking of 5 means the fund is in the top 20% of funds in that category while a ranking of 1 means the fund is in the bottom 20%. Source: www.lipperleaders.com

# **Historical Performance**



Cumulative Performance	1-Mth	6-Mth	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	Since Inception
Fund <sup>^</sup>	1.14%	7.66%	3.23%	5.10%	21.16%	347.36%
Benchmark*	0.86%	6.52%	0.63%	-8.84%	-7.67%	76.60%
Excess	0.28%	1.14%	2.60%	13.94%	28.82%	270.76%

<sup>^</sup> Calculation of past performance is based on NAV-to-NAV. This is strictly the performance of the investment fund, and not the returns earned on the actual premiums/contributions paid of the investment-linked product.

# $\underline{\underline{\text{Notice}}}\textsc{:}$ Past performance of the Fund is not an indication of its future performance.

## **Market Review**

The FBMKLCI ("Index") rose 0.13% Month-on-Month ("MoM") to close at 1,454.66 pts in December 2023. The Index underperformed the MSCI Asia Ex Japan Index, which rose 1.73% MoM in Malaysian Ringgit ("MYR") terms over the same period. Foreign investors stayed net buyers of Malaysian equities amounting to MYR0.3 billion in December 2023 while local institutions stayed net sellers with net sell flow of MYR56.2 million. Bursa Malaysia's average daily transaction value ("ADTV") rose 7.5% MoM to MYR2.3 billion in December 2023. During the month, YTL Corp (+21.9%), YTL Power (+7.2%) and Telekom Malaysia (+5.3%) were the key gainers while key detractors were Nestle (Malaysia) (-6.2%), Celcom Digi (-6.0%) and MR DIY (-5.2%). Sector wise, Utilities (+7.3%), Healthcare (+6.9%) and Construction (+3.3%) were they key performers while Energy (-1.4%), Consumer (-1.3%) and Plantation (-0.5%) were the key detractors. Major news during the month included Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's reshuffling of his cabinet and YTL Power confirming the company's collaboration with Nvidia on data centre for AI infrastructure. Malaysia's Gross Domestic Product ("GDP) grew 3.9% Year-on-Year ("YoY") in 9M23.

# Market Outlook

We are cautiously optimistic of the equity market in the near term. We believe that US interest rates may have peaked but developed markets equity valuation has yet to fully reflect the soft landing or mild recession (if any) in the US and Euro land. Investors are now watching the macro data closely to gauge the timing of a possible rate cut going forward. Over in Asia, China's policy easing is gaining momentum given the earlier-than-expected policy rate cut, less restrictions on house ownership policy, and efforts to revitalize the capital market and stabilize foreign trade and investment. Domestically in Malaysia, we expect a brighter outlook given the lower political risk premium amidst a more stable unity government coupled with stronger corporate earnings upside arising from the implementation of the government's pump priming initiatives as well as launching of mega energy renewal and infrastructure projects. Downside risks to the market could stem from a hard landing US recession, worsening geopolitical tension, and weak China economy.

<sup>\* 100%</sup> FBM100 Index (Source: Bursa Malaysia)