

#### January 2024

# 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.

### Notice: Please refer to the Fund Fact Sheet for more information about the

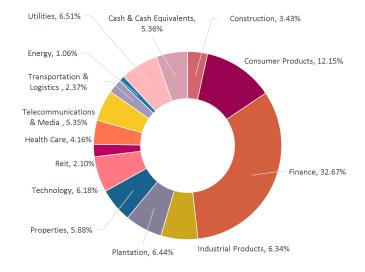
#### **Fund Details**

Unit NAV (31 Jan 2024)	: RM 4.65592
Fund Size (31 Jan 2024)	: RM 3,480.660 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	: AlA Bhd.
Basis of Unit Valuation	: Net Asset Value
Frequency of Unit Valuation	: Daily

#### **Top Holdings**

1	MALAYAN BANKING BHD	8.56%
2	CIMB GROUP HOLDINGS BHD	7.88%
3	PUBLIC BANK BHD	7.12%
4	TENAGA NASIONAL BHD	6.07%
5	GENTING MALAYSIA BHD	4.52%

#### Sector Allocation



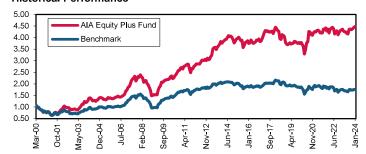


#### Lipper Leader Fund for:

1. 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^	4.08%	6.94%	6.63%	9.81%	24.80%	365.59%
Benchmark*	3.99%	4.92%	3.99%	-1.81%	-4.80%	83.64%
Excess	0.09%	2.02%	2.64%	11.62%	29.60%	281.95%

<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.

## <u>Notice</u>: Past performance of the Fund is not an indication of its future performance.

#### **Market Review**

The FBMKLCI ("Index") rose 4.01% Month-on-Month ("MoM") to close at 1,512.98 pts in January 2024. The Index outperformed the MSCI Asia Ex Japan Index, which corrected 2.61% MoM in Malaysian Ringgit ("MYR") terms over the same period. Foreign investors stayed net buyers of Malaysian equities amounting to MYR679 million while local institutions reversed their trend, becoming net buyers of MYR112 million during the month. Bursa Malaysia's average daily transaction value ("ADTV") rose 19% MoM to MYR3.4 billion in January 2024. During the month, YTL Power (+61.8%), YTL Corp (+23.8%) and Axiata Group (+14.7%) were the key gainers while key detractors were Petronas Chemicals (-5.4%), MrDIY (-4.8%) and Petronas Dagangan (-2.3%). Sector wise, Utilities (+17.3%), Energy (+9.5%) and Construction (+9.4%) were the key performers while Technology (-2.2%), Industrial Production (0.1%) and Consumer (0.7%) were the key detractors. Major news during the month included the launch of the Central Database Hub (PADU initiative), the MOU signing with Singapore for the Johor-Singapore Special Economic Zone (SEZ), and the Ministry of Finance ("MOF")'s decision to exempt capital gains tax and foreign-sourced income tax on unit trusts. It also saw the National Water Services Commission (SPAN) announcing a 22sen per cubic metre increase in water tariff rates for domestic users in Peninsular Malaysia and Labuan starting 1 February 2024. Malaysia's Gross Domestic Product ("GDP") growth stalled at 3.4% Year-on-Year ("YoY") in 4Q23. Bank Negara Malaysia ("BNM") opted to maintain the Overnight Policy Rate ("OPR") rate at 3%, and the Johor ruler Sultan Ibrahim was installed as Malaysia's 17th king on 31 January 2024.

#### **Market Outlook**

Moving into 2024, all eyes will be on the US Federal Reserve ("Fed")'s potential pivot to interest rate cuts amid sign of a slower economic growth and easing inflation. Locally, the execution of the already announced economic initiatives such as the National Energy Transformation Roadmap (NETR), SEZ, Malaysia My Second Home (MM2H) and the much-anticipated petrol and diesel subsidies rationalization will be watched. Coupled with a stable political environment, we expect more investment activities be generated by both foreign and local parties. With interest rates in the US expected to fall and higher inflow of foreign investment, the MYR is expected to strengthen further improving investor sentiment. At the time of writing, China has expressed concerns over the falling property and stock prices. It appears that serious proposals are in the work to resolve these lingering issues. Should these issues be resolved, investor's confidence will be boosted further. Downside risks to the market could stem from a U.S. recession, China slowdown, worsening geopolitical tension and government policy risk.

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