



August 2024

## MONTHLY FUND PERFORMANCE UPDATE AIA ASIA OPPORTUNITY FUND

### Investment Objective

AIA Asia Opportunity Fund aims to provide capital appreciation over the medium to long term by investing primarily in equities and equity related instruments in companies with significant business operations in the Asian excluding Japan region.

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

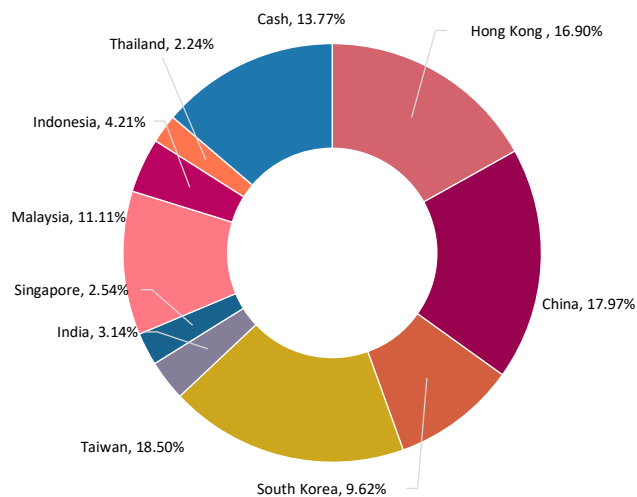
### Fund Details

Unit NAV (31 August 2024)	: RM 0.92447
Fund Size (31 August 2024)	: RM 252.900 million
Fund Currency	: Ringgit Malaysia
Fund Inception	: 30 April 2009
Offer Price at Inception	: RM 0.50
Fund Management Charge	: 1.50% p.a.
Investment Manager	: AIA Bhd.
Basis of Unit Valuation	: Net Asset Value
Frequency of Unit Valuation	: Daily

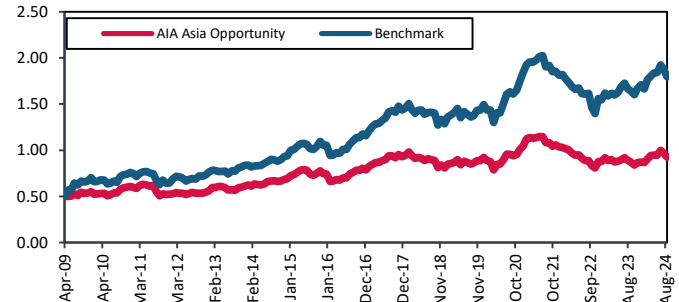
### Top Holdings

1	Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing	9.29%
2	Tencent Holdings Ltd	6.89%
3	iShares Core Sensex India ETF	5.70%
4	Samsung Electronics Co Ltd	4.27%
5	Alibaba Group Holding Ltd	3.99%

### Geographical Allocation



### Historical Performance



Cumulative Performance	1-Mth	6-Mth	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	Since Inception
Fund~	-4.63%	2.26%	3.48%	-14.71%	8.81%	84.89%
Benchmark*	-4.09%	1.94%	7.81%	-6.39%	32.03%	259.21%
Excess	-0.55%	0.32%	-4.33%	-8.33%	-23.22%	-174.31%

~ 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.

\* 100% MSCI AC Asia ex Japan DTR Net Index (Source: Bloomberg)

**Notice:** Past performance of the Fund is not an indication of its future performance.

### Market Review

The United States ("US") equity market closed higher in August 2024 despite heightened volatility. The unwinding of Japanese Yen ("JPY") carries trade and US recession fears rattled investors in early August 2024. However, the US equity market rebounded and recovered the losses post Bank of Japan ("BoJ")'s commentary to maintain interest rate and the US Federal Reserve ("Fed") pivot at the Jackson Hole address. MSCI Asia ex Japan rose 1.75% Month-of-Month ("MoM") in USD terms in August 2024. The Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia were the best-performing markets while South Korea, India and China were the worst-performing markets in the index. ASEAN market rallied as expectations of a US interest rate cut grow. South Korea was the only market to end the month in negative territory as foreigners sold off technology stocks on concerns about Artificial Intelligence ("AI") peak-out. Shares in Taiwan achieved modest gains but remains the best-performing index market in the year-to-date period. China market was lackluster as July 2024 activity data generally came in on the weak side. Indian market underperformed the index on mixed macro data.

### Market Outlook

We are cautiously optimistic of the equity market in the near term. Volatility likely a recurring theme in the near term given the uncertainty over macro conditions, geopolitics, and investors' positioning. Investors are now watching the macro data closely to gauge the extend of the US economic slowdown, recession risks and the quantum of interest rate cut going forward. Over in Asia, rate cut cycle in a non-recessionary environment is typically positive for equity markets and most currencies. In China, its outlook remains challenging structurally. However, China's policy easing is gaining momentum given more room for monetary easing, 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 growth initiatives and a rising foreign direct investment. The execution of the already announced economic initiatives such as the National Energy Transformation Roadmap ("NETR"), Malaysia My Second Home ("MM2H"), Special Economic Zone ("SEZ"), National Semiconductor Strategy ("NSS"), infrastructure projects rollout and the much-anticipated petrol and diesel subsidies rationalization will be watched closely. Downside risks to the market could stem from a hard landing US recession, worsening geopolitical tension, and weaker than expected China's economy.