

## August 2024

# MONTHLY FUND PERFORMANCE UPDATE AIA ASIAN EQUITY FUND

## Investment Objective

The Fund invests in a diversified portfolio of shares issued by companies incorporated in Asia excluding Japan and Australia. It is suitable for very aggressive investors who are willing to take high risk in order to achieve higher potential returns.

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

#### Fund Details

:	RM 0.29550
:	RM 96.987 million
:	Ringgit Malaysia
:	31 July 2006
:	RM 1.00
:	1.50% p.a.
:	AIA Bhd.
:	Feeder Fund
:	Net Asset Value
:	Daily
	: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :

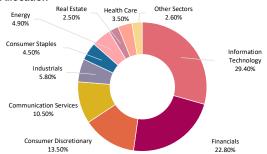
#### **Underlying Fund Details**

Name	:	AIA Asia Ex Japan Equity Fund			
Investment Manager	:	AIA Investment Management Private Ltd.			

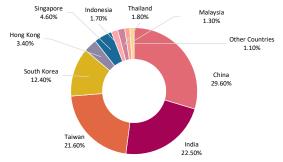
#### Top Holdings\*

1	Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co Ltd	9.60%
2	Tencent Holdings Ltd	5.60%
3	Samsung Electronics Co Ltd	5.10%
4	Alibaba Group Holding Ltd	2.80%
5	Reliance Industries Ltd	2.40%

## Sector Allocation<sup>3</sup>

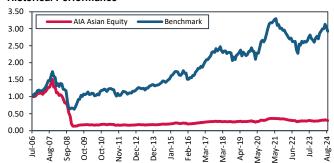


## Geographical Allocation\*



<sup>\*</sup>Underlying fund data

#### **Historical Performance**



Cumulative Performance	1-Mth	6-Mth	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	Since Inception
Fund~	-4.57%	-0.22%	1.84%	-17.87%	10.46%	-70.45%
Benchmark*	-4.09%	1.94%	7.81%	-6.39%	32.36%	192.15%
Excess	-0.48%	-2.16%	-5.97%	-11.49%	-21.90%	-262.60%
Underlying (^)	1.33%	10.73%	11.39%	N/A	N/A	-11.60%

<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.
\* 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

MSCI Asia ex-Japan (MXASJ) rose by 1.98% in August 2024 and recovered steep losses in the first week of August 2024 triggered by a Japanese Yen ("JPY") carry trade unwind plus U.S recession fears (post weaker-than-expected unemployment data). During the same period, US Dollar Index ("DXY") weakened from 104.1 to 101.7, on anticipated rate cuts and growth concerns. US Federal Reserve ("Fed") chairman Powell at Jackson Hole indicated to adjust policy soon. Emerging markets benefitted, especially ASEAN within Asian ex Japan. ASEAN markets significantly outperformed North Asia and India, with Philippines/Malaysia/ Indonesia/Thailand posting returns of +10.2%/+9.8%/+9.5%/+8.4%, well ahead of Korea/India/China at -2.8%/+1.0%/+1.1% month-on-month ("MoM"). Although tech stocks rebounded after the plunge in the first week, they ended the month well below end July 2024 levels, as investors re-assessed outlook of artificial intelligence capex monetization. Healthcare was the best performing sector, boosted by upbeat earnings (eg: Beigene) and news of new cancer drug approval from The United States Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") for Yuhan Corp. Notably, the three markets posting negative/flattish returns year-to-date ("YTD"), Hong Kong, Korea, and Thailand are where household debt to gross domestic product was elevated vs rest of the region coming into 2024.

#### **Market Outlook**

All Asian markets saw consensus upgrades for forward twelve months earnings per share ("FTM EPS") estimates, led by Korea (+7.2%) and Thailand (+6.8%). Current consensus 2024 EPS growth estimates for MSCI China/India/Taiwan/ Korea are +15.1%/9.9%/32.2%/119.9% year-on-year ("YoY"). In terms of valuations, India/ Taiwan closed at 24.1/17.2x forward twelve months price to earnings ("FTM P/E") (for 2.1/1.5 standard deviation above respective 10-year means). China/Indonesia/ Philippines closed at 8.8/14.0/11.6 FTM P/E.

<sup>^</sup> Fund underwent the restructuring exercise in the month of January 2022. Calculation of the Underlying Fund's since inception performance is based on the date the fund restructuring exercise was completed which is 31 January 2022. Meanwhile, calculation of the Fund's since inception performance is based on the Fund's inception date of 31 July 2006. Underlying fund performance is in USD Term.