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## **FUND OBJECTIVE**

Aims to achieve consistent capital appreciation over a medium to long-term by investing in equities and other approved investments, which harmonise with Islamic philosophy and laws.

FUND DETAILS							
Launch Date	01 December 2009	Domicile	Malaysia				
Currency	Ringgit Malaysia	Launch Price	RM1.0000				
Units in Circulation	23.19 million units (28 April 2023)	Fund Size	RM42.73 million (28 April 2023)				
Unit NAV	RM1.8422 (28 April 2023)	Dealing	Daily (as per Bursa Malaysia trading day)				
Investment Manager of the Target Fund	AHAM Asset Management Berhad (FKA Affin Hwang Asset Management Berhad)	Target Fund	AHAM Aiiman Growth Fund (FKA Affin Hwang Aiiman Growth Fund)				
Benchmark	FBM Emas Shariah Index (FBMS)	Taxation	8% of annual investment income				
Risk Profile	<ul> <li>Suitable for investors:</li> <li>Have a medium to long term investment horizon</li> <li>Are risk tolerant</li> <li>Seek higher returns on the investment that comply with Shariah requirements</li> </ul>	Fees	<ul> <li>Sun Life Malaysia does not impose any fund management charge on Sun Life Malaysia Islamic Equity Fund.</li> <li>Up to 1.5% p.a. fund management charge is applied on the Target Fund's NAV by AHAM Asset Management Berhad.</li> </ul>				

ASSET ALLOCATION OF THE TARGET FUND				
Equity	Cash			
Min 70%; Max 100%	Max 30%			

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SECTOR ALLOCATION OF THE TARGET FUND				
Industrials	23.20%			
Financials	18.40%			
Consumer Staples	13.10%			
Telecommunications	10.60%			
Health Care	8.80%			
Basic Materials	3.40%			
Utilities	2.90%			
Technology	2.50%			
Energy	1.90%			
Cash & Cash Equivalents	15.10%			
Total	100.00%			

TOP HOLDINGS OF THE TARGET FUND				
Axis Real Estate Investment Trust	5.60%			
TIME dotCom Bhd	5.00%			
Genetec Technology Bhd	4.10%			
Press Metal Aluminium Holdings Bhd	3.40%			
MISC Bhd	3.20%			
TradePlus Shariah Gold Tracker	3.20%			
Kuala Lumpur Kepong Bhd	3.10%			
Axiata Group Bhd	3.00%			
IHH Healthcare Bhd	3.00%			
Tenaga Nasional Bhd	2.90%			
Total	36.50%			

#### **PERFORMANCE RECORD**

This fund feeds into AHAM Aiiman Growth Fund ("target fund") with the objective to achieve consistent capital appreciation over a medium to long-term by investing in equities and other approved investments, which harmonize with Islamic philosophy and laws.

Table below shows the investment returns of Sun Life Malaysia Islamic Equity Fund versus its benchmark as at 28 April 2023

%	YTD	1M	1-Year	3-Years	5-Years	10-Years	Since Inception
Fund*	0.95	0.60	-6.24	30.22	15.60	39.03	84.22
Benchmark	-1.84	0.19	-10.69	-1.41	-18.47	-7.94	27.47

<sup>\*</sup> Calculation of past performance is based on NAV-to-NAV

Notice: Past performance of the fund is not an indication of its future performance which may differ. The fund performance is not guaranteed.

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#### **FUND MANAGER'S COMMENTS**

- US equities advanced cautiously in April amidst fractures in the banking sector and concerns over the US government's debt ceiling. The S&P 500 rose 1.50% as investors heaved a sigh of relief over the emergency rescue of First Republic Bank. In an emergency government-led intervention, JPMorgan will take over First Republic's assets to stave off a broader banking crisis in the financial system.
- On the domestic front, the local market treaded lightly with the benchmark KLCI barely unchanged at -0.50%. During the month, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim returned from a work trip in China having secured RM 170 billion worth of potential foreign direct investments.
- These included an agreement by China's Rongsheng Petrochemical Co Ltd which plans to commit up to RM 80 billion for a refining facility in Pengerang, Johor. Zhejiang Geely Holding Group also committed an initial investment of RM 2 billion coupled with future investments totalling up to RM 32 billion to firm up the next phase of its collaboration with Proton for the Automotive High Tech Valley in Tanjong Malim, Perak.
- While the planned investments are still at the preliminary phase, the oil gas sector as well as companies in the country's auto supply chain stands to benefit should it materialise.
- With state elections slated to be held in coming months, we expect a ratcheting up of political noise that could lead dissuade any significant increase in foreign inflows.

#### STRATEGY:

- The fund's invested levels were maintained to approximately 85%, as we trimmed the Fund's exposure to cyclical names. We have maintained our defensive approach on the back of continuous challenging macro conditions with reference to the troubled United Stated of America ("US") and European banking sector. The recent market weakness was mainly due to macro concerns, including the banking crisis and recessionary fears. However, we don't expect much contagion effect from the global banking crisis as domestic banks are well capitalized. We believe the impact of the recent events on the banking sector in Malaysia is rather limited.
- On local domain, we foresee a positive comeback for the equity market as the increased number of initial public
  offerings (IPOs) in the first half of this year indicates improved market sentiment and may perceived to embrace
  market's attractiveness and facilitate greater market access for more companies.
- We are positive on a few key themes such as reopening sectors and trade divergence where we anticipate an increase in Foreign Direct Investments ("FDI") in local market due to the ongoing United States of America ("US") and China tension which gave opportunities to regional sectors like Malaysian tech stocks to strive for better valuation. With our defensive tilt, we have also positioned our portfolio in the healthcare sector, which is less sensitive to an economic slowdown, supported by an expected rebound in earnings.
- Nevertheless, we remain cautious and will progressively monitor the global & local market events that are currently transpiring, for example the political uncertainty through the upcoming state elections, foreign selling and trades of local currency and macro sentiment (ongoing global banking crisis).

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#### **RISKS**

All investment carries some form of risks. The potential key risks include but are not limited to the following:

## Market risk

Market risk arises because of factors that affect the entire marketplace. Factors such as economic growth, political stability and social environment are some examples of conditions that have an impact on businesses, whether positive or negative. Market risk cannot be eliminated by diversification. It stems from the fact that there are economy-wide perils which threaten all businesses. Hence, investors will be exposed to market uncertainties and no matter how many Shariah-compliant securities are held, fluctuations in the economic, political and social environment will affect the market price of the Shariah-compliant investments either in a positive or negative way.

### Fund management risk

This risk refers to the day-to-day management of the target fund by Affin Hwang which will impact the performance of the target fund. For example, investment decisions undertaken by Affin Hwang as a result of an incorrect view of the market or any non-compliance with internal policies, investment mandate, the deed, relevant law or guidelines due to factors such as human error, fraudulence, dishonesty or weaknesses in operational process and systems, may adversely affect the performance of the target fund.

#### Performance risk

There is no guarantee in relation to the investment returns.

#### Inflation risk

This is the risk that your investment in the target fund may not grow or generate income at a rate that keeps pace with inflation. This would reduce your purchasing power even though the value of the investment in monetary terms has increased.

## Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk arises in two scenarios. The first scenario is where the target fund's investment cannot be sold due to unavailability of a buyer for that investment. The second scenario exists where the target fund's investment, by its nature, is thinly traded. This will have the effect of causing the target fund's investment to be sold below its fair value which would adversely affect the NAV of the target fund.

#### Credit/Default risk

Credit risk relates to the creditworthiness of the issuers of the investment (Islamic money market instruments) and their expected ability to make timely payment of interest and/or principal. Any adverse situations faced by the issuers may impact the value as well as liquidity of the investment. In the case of rated investments, this may lead to a credit downgrade. Default risk relates to the risk of an issuer of the investment either defaulting on payments or failing to make payments in a timely manner which will in turn adversely affect the value of the investment. This could adversely affect the value of the target fund.

### **Equity investment risk**

This is the risk associated with investing in a particular equity. The value of individual equity is mainly determined by its potential growth in earnings, sound management, and treatment of minority shareholders, as well as a myriad of other factors. Failure to achieve these would result in declining investment value which in turn affects the performance of the target fund. This can be mitigated by diversifying the target fund's portfolios.

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### **RISKS (CONTINUED)**

This risk refers to the risk that the currently held Shariah-compliant securities by the target fund may be reclassified to be Shariah non-compliant in the periodic review of the equities by the Shariah Advisory Council of the Securities Commission Malaysia (SACSC), the Shariah Adviser for the target fund or the Shariah boards of the relevant Islamic indices.

Reclassification of Shariah status risk If this occurs, Affin Hwang will take the necessary steps to dispose of such equities. There may be opportunity loss to the target fund due to the target fund not being allowed to retain the excess capital gains derived from the disposal of the Shariah non-compliant equities. Affin Hwang will be required to dispose of these equities immediately if the prices are above the purchase price. Should the prices be below the purchase price, Affin Hwang may choose to hold on to these holdings until the prices meet the purchase price. Nevertheless, should Affin Hwang decide to dispose of these equities below the purchase price, the target fund will be faced with the risk of realising its losses, thus negatively impacting the NAV of the target fund.

Shariah-compliant warrants investment risk

The value of the Shariah-compliant warrants ("warrants") will depend on the pricing of the underlying security whereby the growth and performance prospect of the underlying security would consequentially affect the value of the warrants. In addition, the value of the warrants may decrease exponentially as the warrants approach its maturity date and the potential gains from a favourable price movement of the underlying security may be offset by aggressive time decay. Affin Hwang may consider unwinding these warrants if there are material adverse changes to its value with the aim to mitigate the risk.

Source: AHAM Asset Management Berhad

Date : 28 April 2023

#### Disclaimer:

The benchmark performance is not a guide to future performances which may differ. The performance of the fund is not guaranteed. The value of the fund will fluctuate and may fall below the amount of contributions paid and the fund value depends on the actual performance of the underlying investment. This material is for information purposes only and is subject to change at any time without notice. Sun Life Malaysia does not guarantee its accuracy, completeness, correctness or timeliness for any purpose or reason. This information should not be considered as advice or recommendation in relation to your account or particular investment objectives, financial situation or needs. You may not revise, transform, or build upon this material without prior written consent of Sun Life Malaysia. Before acting on any information you should seek independent financial advice. Sun Life Malaysia may suspend the unit pricing and defer the payment of benefits, other than death and total and permanent disability benefits, subscription or redemption of units, switching of funds, under this contract for a reasonable period in exceptional circumstances, such as and including intervening events resulting in temporary closure of any stock exchange.