

March 2024

# AIA PAM – Global Islamic Growth Fund

#### **Investment Objective**

The Fund seeks to provide returns through capital growth by investing in Shariah-compliant securities predominantly in the global markets.

#### **Investment Strategy**

The Fund will invest at least 60% to 90% of its NAV in Shariah-compliant equities including Islamic collective investment schemes. The Fund will also invest at least 10% of its NAV in Sukuk, Islamic deposit and/or Islamic money market instruments.

The Fund will invest in local and foreign markets.

#### **Fund Details**

Unit NAV (29 March 2024) : RM 0.5611 Fund Size (29 March 2024) : RM 60.8 million **Fund Currency** : Ringgit Malaysia Fund Launch : February 23, 2021 Fund Inception : March 16, 2021 Fund Management Charge : up to 1.50% p.a

Investment Manager : AIA Pension and Asset Management

Sdn. Bhd.

Basis of Unit Valuation : Net Asset Value (NAV)

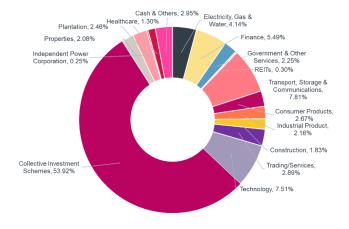
Frequency of Unit Valuation : Daily

Benchmark : Target return of 6% per annum

#### Top Five Holding

	TEMPLETON SHARIAH GLOBAL EQUITY	19.47%
1.	FUND	19.47 /0
2.	ISHARES MSCI EM ISLAMIC	19.43%
3.	ISHARES MSCI WORLD ISLAMIC	11.46%
4.	ISHARES MSCI USA ISLAMIC	3.56%
5.	MY E.G. SERVICE	1.95%

#### **Sector Allocation**



#### Risk

General investment risks involve market risk, fund manager risk, inflation risk and liquidity risk. Specific risks of the Fund involve credit/default risk, interest rate risk, particular security risk, country risk, currency risk and shariah status reclassification risk.

### **Risk Management**

Investment Manager aims to reduce investment risks through structured and disciplined investment process, rigorous and disciplined credit research and analysis, portfolio diversification and strict and frequent stock evaluation to minimize company specific risk.

#### **Historical Performance**



%	1 Mth	1-Year	^5-Year	^10-Year	Inception
Fund	2.75%	16.12%	-	=	12.22%
Index	0.49%	6.00%	-	=	19.41%
Excess	2.26%	10.12%		-	-7.19%

Source: AIA Pension and Asset Management Sdn. Bhd., Bloomberg at 29 March 2024.

Cumulative returns. The performance is calculated on NAV-to-NAV basis

#### **Market Review**

Government Investment Issues ("GII") traded mixed in March 2024 as Bank Negara Malaysia ("BNM") kept the Overnight Policy Rate ("OPR") unchanged at 3.00% for the fifth consecutive Monetary Policy Committee ("MPC") meeting. BNM's statement highlighted that the Malaysian economy is expected to improve in 2024, driven by the recovery in exports and resilient domestic expenditure. Export growth is turning positive after contracting since March 2023 and will continue to be supported by stronger global trade. Tourist arrivals and spending are poised to rise further. Inflation in 2024 is expected to remain moderate, broadly reflecting stable demand conditions and contained cost pressures.

Global market closed with a positive note in March 2024 with S&P500 Index and MSCI Europe grew by 3.10% and 3.53% respectively due to continued optimism over artificial intelligence ("Al") related stocks and expectations of potential Fed interest rate cut this year. Asian market also closed positively as the MSCI Asia Ex -Japan grew by 2.32%..US Manufacturing PMI grew by 50.3 in March, higher than consensus forecast of 48.4. US Consumer Price Index ("CPI") on the other hand, rose by 3.8% YoY, an uptick form the 3.2% YoY rise in February, boosted by shelter and energy.

The FBMS ("Index") rose 1.00% Month-on-Month ("MoM") to close at 11,643.52 pts in March 2024. The Index underperformed the MSCI Asia ex Japan Index, which rose 1.91% MoM in Malaysian Ringgit ("MYR") terms over the same period. Foreign investors turned net sellers of Malaysian equities amounting to MYR2.9 billion while local institutions became net buyers of MYR3.5 billion during the month. Sector wise, Property (+9.3%), Construction (+5.6%) and Transport (+3.6%) were the key performers, while Telecom (-2.6%), Consumer (-1.2%) and REIT (-0.5%) were the key detractors.

## **Market Outlook**

All eyes will be on the Fed's potential pivot to interest rate cuts amid signs of a slower economic growth and easing inflation. Although inflation continues to moderate, recent US economic data releases are suggestive of a resilient US economy and labour market. As such, we think the US Federal Reserve ("Fed") will likely proceed carefully to avoid any premature rate cuts which could fuel reflation risks. Domestically, BNM may keep its OPR unchanged in the coming meetings as it observes the domestic inflation trend. These factors are supportive of the domestic sukuk market while the market observes developments on global central banks' monetary policy decisions, geopolitical risks, and the US presidential elections. We are cautiously optimistic on the equity and fixed income market in the near



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#### Disclaimer

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