AIA PESO BALANCED FUND

September 30, 2024

Fund Description

The AIA Peso Balanced Fund (the "Fund") is a Philippine peso-denominated fund created for peso variable life insurance contracts issued by AIA Philippines Life and General Insurance Company Inc., (formerly The Philippine American Life and General Insurance Company). The Fund seeks to achieve long-term total return, which is a combination of income and capital growth with balanced risk and at the same time minimize capital risk by investing in a portfolio comprising primarily of bonds and equities. The Fund will invest in shares of Collective Investment Schemes established by AIA including Unit Investment Trust Funds (UITFs) that are managed by either AIA Investment Management and Trust Corporation Philippines (AIAIM PH) or reputable third-party investment managers.

Historical Performance¹ **Fund Allocation** Cash & Cash 8.33% 10.43% Equivalent ¹ Returns are net of fees. Past performance is not indicative of future returns 0.08% Net Asset Value Per Unit (NAVPU) Graph 1.13 1.03 0.93 0.83 0.73 0.63 UITF 99.92% 0.00% Key Figures and Statistics Top Five Common Stock 1.1043 NET ASSET VALUE PER UNIT (NAVPU) INCEPTION DATE 20 February, 2023 % of Fund **FUND CLASSIFICATION Equity Fund** AIA PESO LONG-TERM BOND FUND 50 45% **RISK PROFILE** Moderate AIA PESO EQUITY FUND 34.56% Philippine Peso **FUND CURRENCY** AIA PESO MONEY MARKET FUND 14.91% **DOMICILE** Philippines Philippine Peso 0.08%

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Opinions: Any opinions expressed in this document may be subject to change without notice. We are not soliciting or recommending any action based on this material.

Risk Warning: Past performance is not indicative of future results. Our investment management services relate to a variety of investments, each of which can fluctuate in value.

The value of portfolios we manage may fall as well as rise, and the investor may not get back the full amount originally invested. The investment risk vary between different types of instruments. For example, for portfolios denominated in foreign currencies, changes in the rate of exchange may cause the value of investments, and consequently the value of the portfolio, to increase or decrease. In the case of a higher portfolio volatility, the realized loss upon redemption may be high, as the investments value may decline substantially.

In making an investment decision, prospective investors must rely on their own examination of the merits and risks involved. Unless otherwise noted, all information contained herein is sourced from AIA Philippines Group internal data. The content included herein has been shared with various in-house departments within the member companies of AIA Group, in the ordinary course of completion. All AIA Philippines Group member companies comply with the confidentiality requirements of their respective jurisdictions. Parts of this presentation may be based on information received from sources we consider reliable.



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Commentary:

Market Review

Macro Update

As price pressures moderated, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) has pursued more policy adjustments to further prop up the economy. Inflation slowed in September to 1.9% year-on-year (y/y), slower than consensus median expectations of 2.5%, down from 3.3% in August. This is the first time it fell below BSP's long run target of 2%-4% since May 2020. The downtrend was due to the deceleration in food inflation, mainly rice inflation, and the decline in fuel prices. Core inflation, which excludes select volatile food and energy items, further declined to 2.4% y/y from 2.6%. Towards the end of the month, the BSP cut bank's reserve requirement ratio by 250 basis points (bps) to 7% effective October 25, 2024. BSP Governor Remolona further signaled his plans to cut another 200 bps by next year and to move it towards 0% by the end of his term.

Alleviating domestic bond supply pressures, the Bureau of Treasury (BTR) is looking to borrow only Php 310 billion, roughly half from previous quarter. The BTR will raise Php 220 billion from bonds and Php 90 billion from bills.

In overseas news, the US Federal Reserve (Fed) kicked off the rate cutting cycle with a hefty 50 bps cut as inflation and employment cooled. This lowered the Fed funds rate to 4.75%-5% from 5.25%-5.50%

Bond Market Update

Peso bond yields significantly decreased in September after central bank policy adjustments and inflation moderating towards target. Benchmark yields in the 2-year closed at 5.50% (down by 0.50%), 5-year at 5.57% (down by 0.47%), 10-year at 5.74% (down by 0.33%), and 20-year at 5.91% (down by 0.26%).

Equity Market Update

The PSEi rallied for the 3rd month in a row as foreign buying further accelerated following policy rate cuts from the US Fed and BSP's announcement of reserve requirement ratio (RRR) cuts. Gains for the month of 5.6% total returns (inclusive of dividends) brought YTD price total returns to 15.4%, respectively.

- US Fed cut policy rates by 50bps.
- BSP announced 250bps RRR cut effective October 25. The is estimated to inject P400b into the financial system.
- Foreign investors remained net buyers worth USD346m.

Positioning, Outlook, and Strategy

Performance: The AIA Peso Balanced Fund gained 3.15% gross of fees in September. It underperformed its benchmark by 0.15% due to the underperformance of its underlying funds.

Positioning, Outlook, and Strategy:

With a resilient economy and inflation on its descending path, settling within its long-run target of 2%-4%, BSP is expected to continue with its monetary policy easing. This provides a supportive environment for the fixed income and equity assets.

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