

## **Fund Description**

The AIA Peso COnservative 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 conservative risk and at the same time minimize capital risk by investing in a portfolio comprising primarily of bonds and money market instruments. 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 Performance<sup>1</sup> **Fund Allocation** 6MOS > 1YR > 3YRS Cash & Cash -2.96% 0.00% 5.67% Equivalent 0.22% Net Asset Value Per Unit (NAVPU) Graph 1.13 1.03 0.93 0.83 0.73 UITE 0.63 Mar.2016 Mar. 2016 Jul.2017 Mar.2018 Decaple M185019 **Top Holdings** Key Figures and Statistics 1.0567 NET ASSET VALUE PER UNIT (NAVPU) Name Investment Type % of Fund UITF INCEPTION DATE 20 February, 2023 AIA PESO LONG-TERM BOND FUND 66.83% FUND CLASSIFICATION Equity Fund AIA PESO MONEY MARKET FUND UITF 18.20% Conservative UITF RISK PROFILE AIA PESO EQUITY FUND 14.75% Philippine Peso CC FUND CURRENCY Philippine Peso Philippines DOMICII F

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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 valaitly, the realized loss upon redemption may be high, as the investment's value may decline substantially.

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# AIA PESO CONSERVATIVE FUND March 31, 2025

### Commentary:

### Macro Update

The persistent disinflation trend has strengthened confidence in the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) to reduce policy rates in its meeting in April.

Headline inflation slowed to 1.8% year-on-year in March, the lowest since May 2020 and below the BSP's 2%-4% target range. This brought the average inflation rate for the first quarter to 2.2%. Core inflation also eased to 2.2% from 2.4%, reflecting moderating domestic demand. The primary driver was the slower increase in food prices, which decreased from 2.6% in February to 2.2%, driven by a faster year-on-year decline in rice prices and slower price increases for meat and vegetables. Despite a series of trade policy announcements from US President Donald Trump, the Philippine Peso remained resilient against the US Dollar, and the softening of global oil prices mitigated imported inflation.

Following a pause in February, the BSP is anticipated to resume cutting policy rates, from 5.75% to 5.50%, in its upcoming Monetary Board meeting. This, coupled with the recent reserve requirement cut, could invigorate the nation's sluggish consumption-driven growth.

#### **Bond Market Update**

In March, peso bond yields were mixed as benchmark yields in the 2-year closed at 5.74% (down by 0.08%), 5-year at 5.89% (down by 0.03%), 10-year at 6.14% (up by 0.06%), and 20-year at 6.32% (down by 0.03%).

### **Equity Market Update**

The PSEi (+3% month-on-month) rose by as much as 6% driven by falling domestic inflation and the weaker US dollar. However, these gains were halved through the better half of March on global trade jitters gripping regional equity markets.

- February inflation fell to 2.1%, lower from 2.9% in January and against market's forecast of 2.6%. Consequently, the BSP guided for 50-75bps of policy rate cuts this year
- The PHP strengthened by 1.3% to 57.23/\$.
- Trump's pronouncements on trade tariffs led to a deterioration of global macro-outlook and kept investors on a risk-off mode through the latter half of the month.

# Positioning, Outlook, and Strategy

Performance: The AIA Peso Conservative Fund gained 0.66% gross of fees in March. It trailed its benchmark by 0.26% due to its higher exposure in the underlying equity fund which underperformed during the period. The underperformance was due to its underweight in Utilities and Industrial sectors.

Positioning, Outlook, and Strategy: Given that Philippine inflation is expected to remain within central bank's target range, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) is likely to continue reducing policy rates to stimulate economic growth. This scenario creates a favorable environment for fixed income investments. However, the rapid and aggressive escalation of the global trade war is anticipated to result in heightened market volatility. The uncertainty surrounding trade policies has dampened the outlook for economic growth, making equity investments more vulnerable.

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