



**ANNUAL REPORT**

31 January 2024

# **AHAM Select Asia (Ex Japan) Opportunity Fund**

MANAGER

AHAM Asset Management Berhad  
199701014290 (429786-T)

TRUSTEE

HSBC (Malaysia) Trustee Berhad  
193701000084 (1281-T)

**Built On Trust**

[aham.com.my](http://aham.com.my)

# AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

## Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements For The Financial Year Ended 31 January 2024

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## FUND INFORMATION

Fund Name	AHAM Select Asia (ex Japan) Opportunity Fund
Fund Type	Growth
Fund Category	Equity
Investment Objective	The Fund seeks to provide capital appreciation over the medium to long-term by investing in equities and Equity-linked instruments in Asian markets (ex Japan)
Benchmark	MSCI AC Asia Ex Japan Index
Distribution Policy	The Fund is not expected to make distribution. However, incidental distribution may be declared whenever appropriate.

## FUND PERFORMANCE DATA

Category	As at 31 Jan 2024 (%)	As at 31 Jan 2023 (%)	As at 31 Jan 2022 (%)
Portfolio composition			
<b>Quoted equities – local</b>			
- Financial Services	0.52	2.71	-
- Industrials	0.52	-	-
<b>Total quoted equities - local</b>	<b>1.04</b>	<b>2.71</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Quoted equities – foreign</b>			
- Basic materials	1.30	1.59	-
- Communications	1.30	-	-
- Consumer discretionary	7.74	13.96	18.57
- Consumer staples	2.54	8.64	5.84
- Energy	5.51	3.02	2.46
- Financial services	9.94	14.05	15.77
- Healthcare	5.34	7.63	5.96
- Industrials	2.07	1.95	-
- Real Estate	1.05	2.41	-
- Technology	49.06	35.33	34.51
- Telecommunications	1.65	2.74	1.34
<b>Total quoted equities - foreign</b>	<b>87.50</b>	<b>91.32</b>	<b>84.45</b>
<b>Exchange traded funds - foreign</b>	<b>4.93</b>	<b>0.63</b>	
<b>Cash and cash equivalent</b>	<b>6.53</b>	<b>5.34</b>	<b>15.55</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Category	As at 31 Jan 2024 (%)					As at 31 Jan 2023 (%)					As at 31 Jan 2022 (%)				
	MYR Class	AUD Class	GBP Class	SGD Class	USD Class	MYR Class	AUD Class	GBP Class	SGD Class	USD Class	MYR Class	AUD Class	GBP Class	SGD Class	USD Class
Total NAV (million)	768.860	1.829	0.761	2.500	1.647	977.271	2.078	0.777	2.991	1.918	1214.292	2.605	0.784	4.104	2.626
NAV per Unit (in respective currencies)	0.7101	0.4766	0.4386	0.4182	0.3657	0.7286	0.5091	0.5130	0.4677	0.4161	0.8607	0.6096	0.5668	0.5793	0.5011
Unit in Circulation (million)	1,082.781	3.838	1.736	5.979	4.504	1,341.258	4.082	1.514	6.396	4.610	1410.763	4.274	1.383	7.085	5.24
Highest NAV	0.7699	0.5248	0.5246	0.4737	0.4249	0.8836	0.6147	0.5770	0.5893	0.5146	1.085	0.7232	0.7162	0.742	0.6551
Lowest NAV	0.6871	0.4682	0.4287	0.4095	0.3507	0.6420	0.4429	0.4366	0.3993	0.3312	0.8511	0.5984	0.5591	0.5697	0.4947
Return of the Fund (%)	-2.54	-6.38	-14.50	-10.58	-12.11	-15.35	-16.49	-9.49	-19.26	-16.96	-13.52	-9.33	-14.89	-14.93	-16.53
- Capital Growth (%)	-2.54	-6.38	-14.50	-10.58	-12.11	-15.35	-16.49	-9.49	-19.26	-16.96	-13.52	-9.33	-14.89	-14.93	-16.53
- Income Distribution (%)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Gross Distribution per Unit (sen)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Net Distribution per Unit (sen)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total Expense Ratio (%) <sup>1</sup>			1.95					1.84					1.62		
Portfolio Turnover Ratio (times) <sup>2</sup>			1.90					1.54					1.97		

**Basis of calculation and assumption made in calculating the returns:-**

The performance figures are a comparison of the growth/decline in NAV for the stipulated period taking into account all the distribution payable (if any) during the stipulated period.

An illustration of the above would be as follow:-

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Capital return} &= \text{NAV per Unit end} / \text{NAV per Unit begin} - 1 \\ \text{Income return} &= \text{Income distribution per Unit} / \text{NAV per Unit ex-date} \\ \text{Total return} &= (1 + \text{Capital return}) \times (1 + \text{Income return}) - 1 \end{aligned}$$

<sup>1</sup>The TER of the Fund was higher than previous year due to the lower average NAV of the Fund during the financial year.

<sup>2</sup>The Fund recorded a higher PTR than previous year due to increased trading activities during the financial year.

### **Income Distribution / Unit Split**

No income distribution or unit split were declared for the financial year ended 31 January 2024.

### **Income Distribution Breakdown**

No income distribution were declared for the financial year ended 31 January 2024.

### **Fund Performance**

#### **MYR Class**

Table 1: Performance of the Fund

	1 Year (1/2/23 - 31/1/24)	3 Years (1/2/21 - 31/1/24)	5 Years (1/2/19 - 31/1/24)	Since Commencement (11/8/06 - 31/1/24)
Fund	(2.54%)	(28.65%)	6.38%	63.06%
Benchmark	0.45%	(19.01%)	9.40%	54.96%
Outperformance	(2.99%)	(9.64%)	(3.02%)	8.10%

Source of Benchmark: Bloomberg

Table 2: Average Total Return

	1 Year (1/2/23 - 31/1/24)	3 Years (1/2/21 - 31/1/24)	5 Years (1/2/19 - 31/1/24)	Since Commencement (11/8/06 - 31/1/24)
Fund	(2.54%)	(10.64%)	1.24%	2.84%
Benchmark	0.45%	(6.79%)	1.81%	2.54%
Outperformance	(2.99%)	(3.85%)	(0.57%)	0.30%

Source of Benchmark: Bloomberg

Table 3: Annual Total Return

	FYE 2024 (1/2/23 - 31/1/24)	FYE 2023 (1/2/22 - 31/1/23)	FYE 2022 (1/2/21 - 31/1/22)	FYE 2021 (1/2/20 - 31/1/21)	FYE 2020 (1/2/19 - 31/1/20)
Fund	(2.54%)	(15.35%)	(13.52%)	37.72%	8.27%
Benchmark	0.45%	(10.70%)	(9.71%)	31.47%	2.73%
Outperformance	(2.99%)	(4.65%)	(3.81%)	6.25%	5.54%

Source of Benchmark: Bloomberg

#### **AUD Class**

Table 1: Performance of the Fund

	1 Year (1/2/23 - 31/1/24)	3 Years (1/2/21 - 31/1/24)	5 Years (1/2/19 - 31/1/24)	Since Commencement (19/7/18 - 31/1/24)
Fund	(6.38%)	(29.11%)	1.66%	(4.68%)
Benchmark	(3.26%)	(19.83%)	4.46%	2.12%
Outperformance	(3.12%)	(9.28%)	(2.80%)	(6.80%)

Source of Benchmark: Bloomberg

Table 2: Average Total Return

	1 Year (1/2/23 - 31/1/24)	3 Years (1/2/21 - 31/1/24)	5 Years (1/2/19 - 31/1/24)	Since Commencement (19/7/18 - 31/1/24)
Fund	(6.38%)	(10.83%)	0.33%	(0.86%)
Benchmark	(3.26%)	(7.10%)	0.88%	0.38%
Outperformance	(3.12%)	(3.73%)	(0.55%)	(1.24%)

Source of Benchmark: Bloomberg

Table 3: Annual Total Return

	FYE 2024 (1/2/23 - 31/1/24)	FYE 2023 (1/2/22 - 31/1/23)	FYE 2022 (1/2/21 - 31/1/22)	FYE 2021 (1/2/20 - 31/1/21)	FYE 2020 (1/2/19 - 31/1/20)
Fund	(6.38%)	(16.49%)	(9.33%)	22.08%	17.47%
Benchmark	(3.26%)	(12.23%)	(5.58%)	16.80%	11.55%
Outperformance	(3.12%)	(4.26%)	(3.75%)	5.28%	5.92%

Source of Benchmark: Bloomberg

**GBP Class**

Table 1: Performance of the Fund

	1 Year (1/2/23 - 31/1/24)	3 Years (1/2/21 - 31/1/24)	5 Years (1/2/19 - 31/1/24)	Since Commencement (19/7/18 - 31/1/24)
Fund	(14.50%)	(34.14%)	(4.03%)	(12.28%)
Benchmark	(12.28%)	(25.45%)	(2.26%)	(6.52%)
Outperformance	(2.22%)	(8.69%)	(1.77%)	(5.76%)

Source of Benchmark: Bloomberg

Table 2: Average Total Return

	1 Year (1/2/23 - 31/1/24)	3 Years (1/2/21 - 31/1/24)	5 Years (1/2/19 - 31/1/24)	Since Commencement (19/7/18 - 31/1/24)
Fund	(14.50%)	(13.00%)	(0.82%)	(2.34%)
Benchmark	(12.28%)	(9.33%)	(0.46%)	(1.21%)
Outperformance	(2.22%)	(3.67%)	(0.36%)	(1.13%)

Source of Benchmark: Bloomberg

Table 3: Annual Total Return

	FYE 2024 (1/2/23 - 31/1/24)	FYE 2023 (1/2/22 - 31/1/23)	FYE 2022 (1/2/21 - 31/1/22)	FYE 2021 (1/2/20 - 31/1/21)	FYE 2020 (1/2/19 - 31/1/20)
Fund	(14.50%)	(9.49%)	(14.89%)	33.90%	8.84%
Benchmark	(12.28%)	(4.49%)	(11.01%)	28.34%	2.16%
Outperformance	(2.22%)	(5.00%)	(3.88%)	5.56%	6.68%

Source of Benchmark: Bloomberg

## **SGD Class**

Table 1: Performance of the Fund

	1 Year (1/2/23 - 31/1/24)	3 Years (1/2/21 - 31/1/24)	5 Years (1/2/19 - 31/1/24)	Since Commencement (19/7/18 - 31/1/24)
Fund	(10.58%)	(38.59%)	(8.49%)	(16.36%)
Benchmark	(7.86%)	(30.37%)	(5.85%)	(10.78%)
Outperformance	(2.72%)	(8.22%)	(2.64%)	(5.58%)

Source of Benchmark: Bloomberg

Table 2: Average Total Return

	1 Year (1/2/23 - 31/1/24)	3 Years (1/2/21 - 31/1/24)	5 Years (1/2/19 - 31/1/24)	Since Commencement (19/7/18 - 31/1/24)
Fund	(10.58%)	(15.00%)	(1.76%)	(3.17%)
Benchmark	(7.86%)	(11.37%)	(1.20%)	(2.04%)
Outperformance	(2.72%)	(3.63%)	(0.56%)	(1.13%)

Source of Benchmark: Bloomberg

Table 3: Annual Total Return

	FYE 2024 (1/2/23 - 31/1/24)	FYE 2023 (1/2/22 - 31/1/23)	FYE 2022 (1/2/21 - 31/1/22)	FYE 2021 (1/2/20 - 31/1/21)	FYE 2020 (1/2/19 - 31/1/20)
Fund	(10.58%)	(19.26%)	(14.93%)	36.04%	9.54%
Benchmark	(7.86%)	(14.80%)	(11.30%)	29.82%	4.16%
Outperformance	(2.72%)	(4.46%)	(3.63%)	6.22%	5.38%

Source of Benchmark: Bloomberg

## **USD Class**

Table 1: Performance of the Fund

	1 Year (1/2/23 - 31/1/24)	3 Years (1/2/21 - 31/1/24)	5 Years (1/2/19 - 31/1/24)	Since Commencement (19/7/18 - 31/1/24)
Fund	(12.11%)	(39.08%)	(21.05%)	(26.86%)
Benchmark	(9.49%)	(30.82%)	(5.27%)	(8.97%)
Outperformance	(2.62%)	(8.26%)	(15.78%)	(17.89%)

Source of Benchmark: Bloomberg

Table 2: Average Total Return

	1 Year (1/2/23 - 31/1/24)	3 Years (1/2/21 - 31/1/24)	5 Years (1/2/19 - 31/1/24)	Since Commencement (19/7/18 - 31/1/24)
Fund	(12.11%)	(15.23%)	(4.61%)	(5.49%)
Benchmark	(9.49%)	(11.56%)	(1.08%)	(1.68%)
Outperformance	(2.62%)	(3.67%)	(3.53%)	(3.81%)

Source of Benchmark: Bloomberg



Table 3: Annual Total Return

	FYE 2024 (1/2/23 - 31/1/24)	FYE 2023 (1/2/22 - 31/1/23)	FYE 2022 (1/2/21 - 31/1/22)	FYE 2021 (1/2/20 - 31/1/21)	FYE 2020 (1/2/19 - 31/1/20)
Fund	(12.11%)	(16.96%)	(16.53%)	39.67%	(7.21%)
Benchmark	(9.49%)	(12.39%)	(12.76%)	33.30%	2.73%
Outperformance	(2.62%)	(4.57%)	(3.77%)	6.37%	(9.94%)

Source of Benchmark: Bloomberg

***Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future performance and that Unit prices and investment returns may go down, as well as up.***

## MANAGER'S REPORT

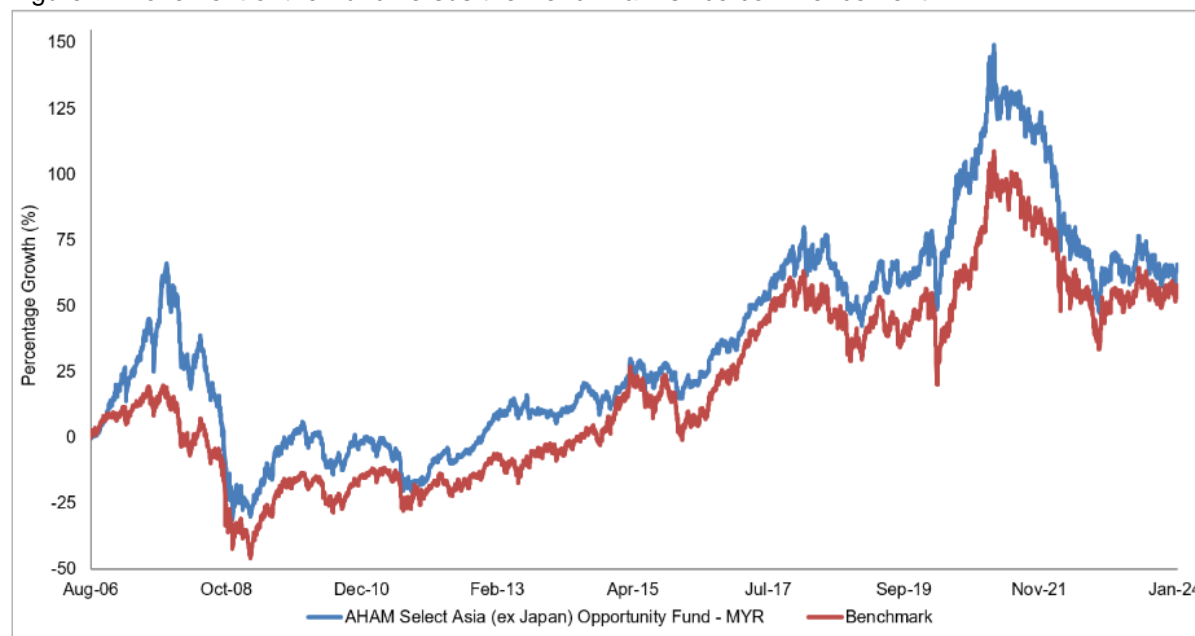
### Performance Review (1 February 2023 to 31 January 2024)

#### MYR Class

For the period 1 February 2023 to 31 January 2024, the Fund registered a -2.54% return compared to the benchmark return of 0.45%. The Fund thus underperformed the Benchmark by 2.99%. The Net Asset Value per unit ("NAV") of the Fund as at 31 January 2024 was RM0.7101 while the NAV as at 31 January 2023 was RM0.7286.

Since commencement, the Fund has registered a return of 63.06% compared to the benchmark return of 54.96%, outperforming by 8.10%.

Figure 1: Movement of the Fund versus the Benchmark since commencement.

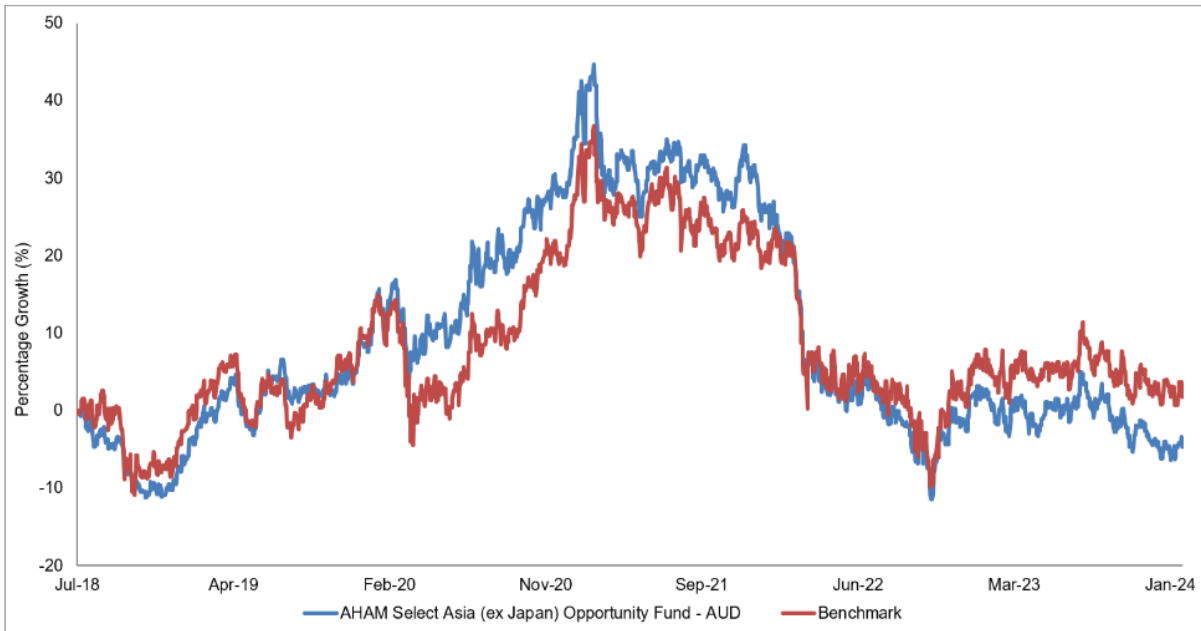


#### AUD Class

For the period 1 February 2023 to 31 January 2024, the Fund registered a -6.38% return compared to the benchmark return of -3.26%. The Fund thus underperformed the Benchmark by 3.12%. The Net Asset Value per unit ("NAV") of the Fund as at 31 January 2024 was AUD0.4766 while the NAV as at 31 January 2023 was AUD0.5091.

Since commencement, the Fund has registered a return of -4.68% compared to the benchmark return of 2.12%, underperforming by 6.80%.

Figure 1: Movement of the Fund versus the Benchmark since commencement.

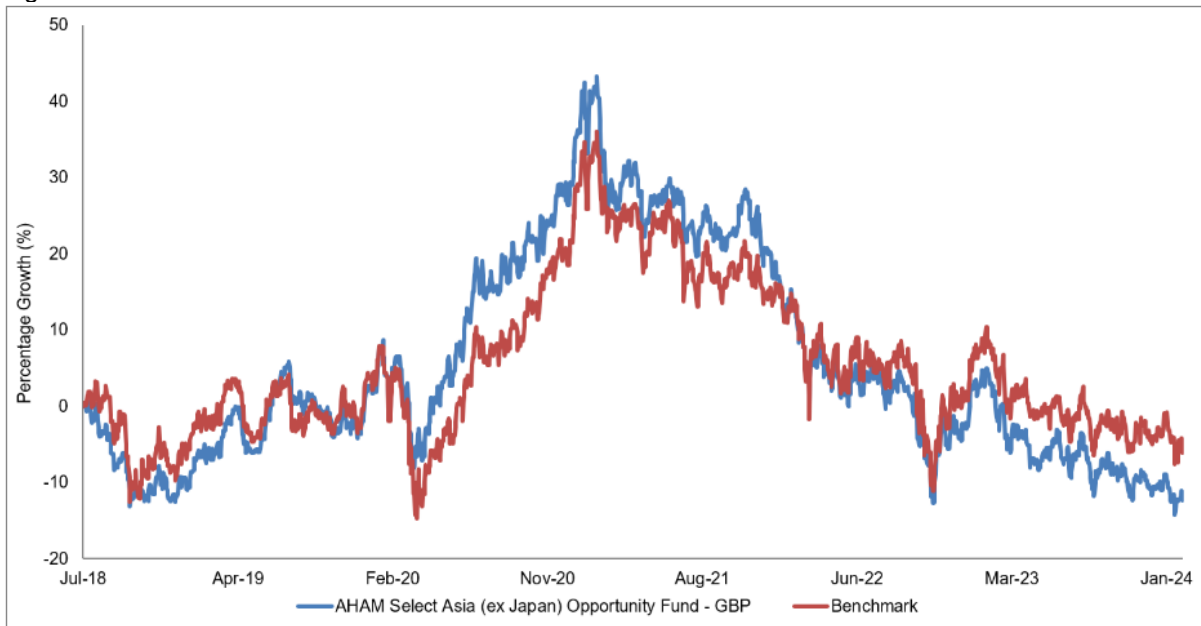


**GBP Class**

For the period 1 February 2023 to 31 January 2024, the Fund registered a -14.50% return compared to the benchmark return of -12.28%. The Fund thus underperformed the Benchmark by 2.22%. The Net Asset Value per unit (“NAV”) of the Fund as at 31 January 2024 was GBP0.4386 while the NAV as at 31 January 2023 was GBP0.5130.

Since commencement, the Fund has registered a return of -12.28% compared to the benchmark return of -6.52%, underperforming by 5.76%.

Figure 1: Movement of the Fund versus the Benchmark since commencement.



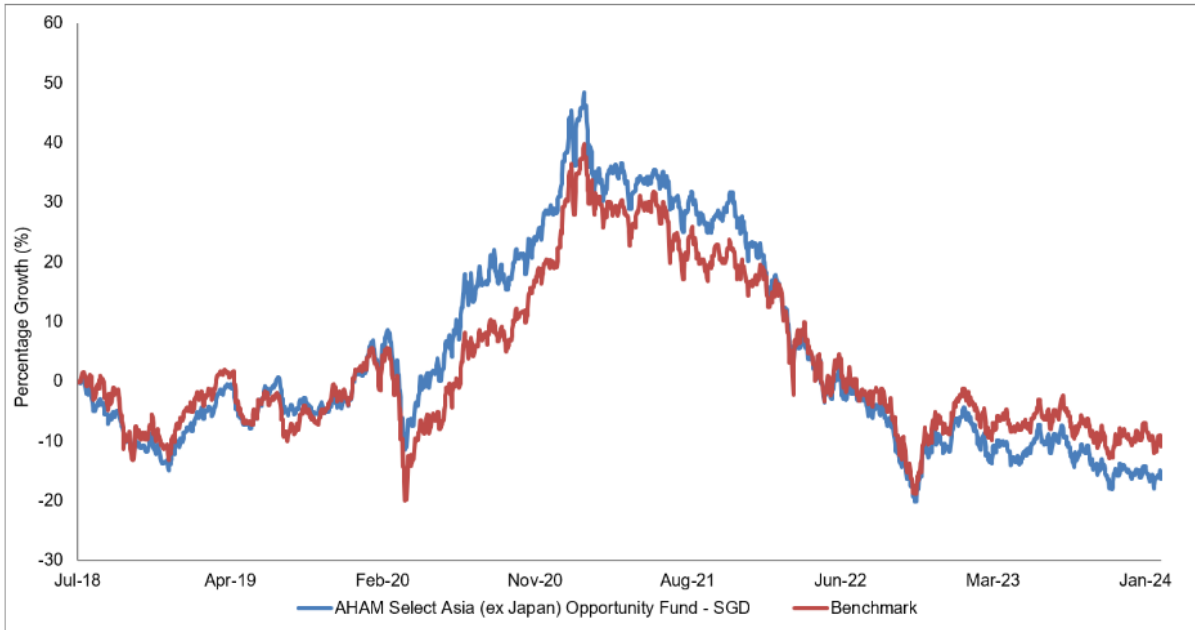
**SGD Class**

For the period 1 February 2023 to 31 January 2024, the Fund registered a -10.58% return compared to the benchmark return of -7.86%. The Fund thus underperformed the Benchmark by 2.72%. The Net Asset Value

per unit (“NAV”) of the Fund as at 31 January 2024 was SGD0.4182 while the NAV as at 31 January 2023 was SGD0.4677.

Since commencement, the Fund has registered a return of -16.36% compared to the benchmark return of -10.78%, underperforming by 5.58%.

Figure 1: Movement of the Fund versus the Benchmark since commencement.

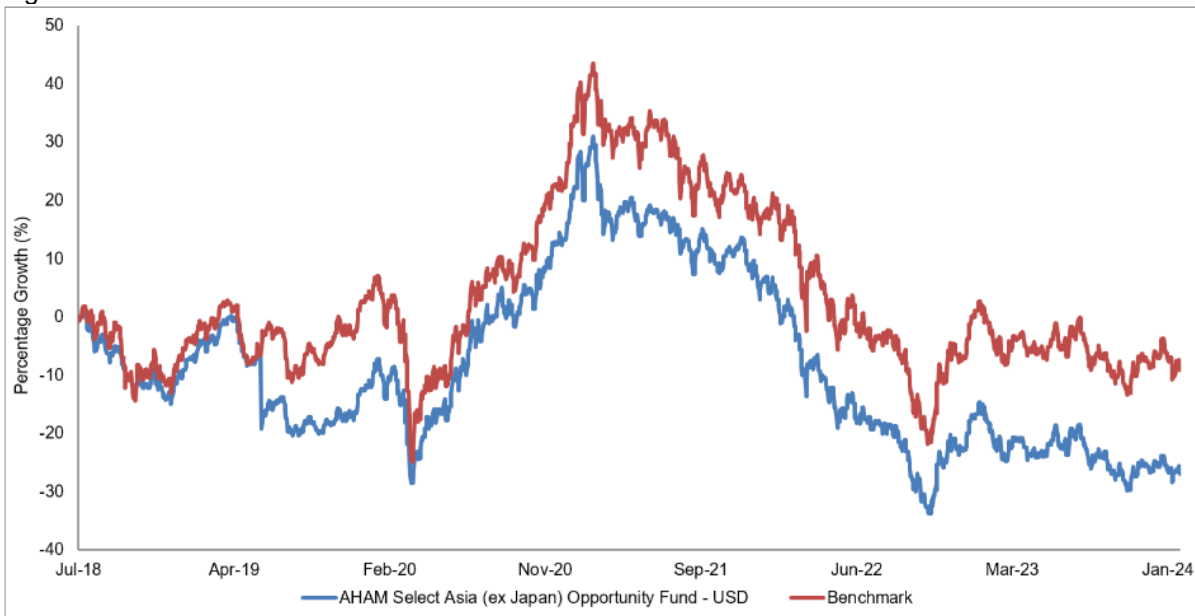


**USD Class**

For the period 1 February 2023 to 31 January 2024, the Fund registered a -12.11% return compared to the benchmark return of -9.49%. The Fund thus underperformed the Benchmark by 2.62%. The Net Asset Value per unit (“NAV”) of the Fund as at 31 January 2024 was USD0.3657 while the NAV as at 31 January 2023 was USD0.4161.

Since commencement, the Fund has registered a return of -26.86% compared to the benchmark return of -8.97%, underperforming by 17.89%.

Figure 1: Movement of the Fund versus the Benchmark since commencement.



*“This information is prepared by AHAM Asset Management Berhad for information purposes only. Past earnings or the fund’s distribution record is not a guarantee or reflection of the fund’s future earnings/future distributions. Investors are advised that unit prices, distributions payable and investment returns may go down as well as up. Source of Benchmark is from Bloomberg.”*  
 Benchmark: MSCI AC Asia Ex Japan Index

## **Asset Allocation**

For a snapshot of the Fund's asset mix during the year under review, please refer to Fund Performance Data.

As at 31 January 2024, the Manager decreased its equity exposure from 91.95% to 87.50% from a year ago. During the year under review, the Fund added holdings in the industrial sector. In terms of foreign equities, the Manager decreased allocation towards most of the sectors, except the industrial sector and technology sector which saw a relatively significant increase over the year. The Manager also initiated holdings in the communications sector.

Overall, cash level of the Fund stood at 6.53 %, higher than the year before as the Manager decreased invested levels.

## **Strategy Employed**

Throughout the year under review, the Fund remained highly invested with a focus on foreign equities mainly within the Asian region.

## **Market Review**

Over the financial year under review, the Standard and Poor's ("S&P") 500 Index returned 18.42% with the Morgan Stanley Capital International ("MSCI") World index slightly behind at 14.66%. Specific to the Asian region, MSCI AC Asia ex Japan Index saw a return of -5.71% while locally, the Financial Times Stock Exchange ("FTSE") Bursa Malaysia Kuala Lumpur Composite Index ("KLCI") fared better returning 5.45% in Ringgit terms. Within bond markets, Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate Index gained 0.75% while domestically, the bond markets' benchmark 10-year Malaysian Government Securities ("MGS") yield closed at 3.79%.

Over the year, market volatility continued to affect economies globally as macro events and policy rate hikes at the start of the financial year influenced both stock and bond markets. The U.S. Federal Reserve ("Fed") have been engaging in a tightening monetary policy stance to address inflationary pressures driven by the economic fallout from the pandemic alongside the various conflicts in 2023 such as geopolitical instability arising from strained ties between U.S. and China, Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the more recent conflict between Israel and Hamas which weighed heavily on global economic growth. In a notable shift in tone towards the end of 2023, however, Fed Chair Jerome Powell struck a dovish chord and acknowledged that tighter U.S. monetary policy was slowing down the economy with market consensus expecting a rate cut in 2024. At its January Federal Open Market Committee ("FOMC") meeting, the Fed opted to keep benchmark rates unchanged, but pushed back the timing of potential rate cuts until more concrete evidence of easing inflation.

While the sharp pace of policy tightening by the Fed during the earlier part of 2023 has not caused the economic downturn market participants anticipated, it inadvertently played a role in destabilising the banking sector. Signs of tension in the banking sector from the accelerated increase in policy rates were visible in March 2023 through the fallout of Silicon Valley Bank ("SVB") and several other regional U.S. banks. With an abundant of deposits over loans, SVB had placed them into available-for-sale and held-to-maturity securities like Treasuries and mortgage-backed securities when yields were at all-time lows. However, as interest rates began to rise rapidly, it recorded massive outflows in deposits alongside the rest of the banking sector. SVB sold substantially all of its available-for-sale securities to accommodate the outflows, incurring a massive loss which eventually led to a bank run. Smaller U.S. banks were caught also caught in the turmoil as concerns spread.

Looking back on 2023, many predicted at the start of the year that 2023 would be lackluster for U.S. stocks on the back of expectations of economic weakening but to the surprise of investors, the S&P 500 gained 26.3% on a total-return basis over the year. U.S. equities started 2024 on a strong note underpinned by robust economic indicators that fortified the case for a soft landing, surging by 1.60% and reaching a new all-time high in January over the financial year under review. Despite smaller U.S. stocks lagging relative to their larger counterparts, the mid-cap S&P 400 and small-cap Russell 2000 recorded solid gains of 16.4% and 16.9% respectively. Growth stocks also performed, in contrast to 2022 where value stocks outperformed. Notably, U.S. Gross Domestic Product ("GDP") surpassed expectations, expanding by 3.30% in the last quarter of 2023, exceeding the forecast of 2.00%.

Chinese equities started 2023 strong as markets anticipated the release of pent-up demand from the lockdown but this was short lived as the market trended downwards with weak consumer confidence, growing local debts and slowing global growth which weighed on jobs and investment activities and China equities remained subdued at the end of 2023 as economic data presented mixed signals in terms of recovery. Data released showed industrial output grew but retail sales missed estimates as analysts had expected a more robust recovery following a low base in 2022 when the economy was still hampered by COVID lockdowns. There was a slight uptick in July 2023, however. The MSCI China Index vaulted 9.30% during the month, driven by stimulus optimism before eventually trending downwards and ending 2023 down by 31.56%. The brief bright spot in July came as top party leaders unveiled measures at its Politburo meeting to reinvigorate growth in the country. Among the measures include a pledge by Beijing to provide stimulus support for its beleaguered property sector. In November, additional stimulus measures were announced to support its property sector. Regulators have drafted whitelist of 50 developers that would be eligible for a range of financing. Shenzhen also lowered the minimum downpayment requirement for second homes as well as loosened the definition of luxury homes. These adjustments are anticipated to lower transaction costs in the sector. Markets however are still apprehensive that the introduced measures are sufficient to stem the sector's decline.

Within the broader Asian regions, the Japan market reached its highest level in 33 years in June 2023, which was partly driven by continuous foreign inflows and finished the year with a 29.15% gain. The gains also come amid expectations of corporate governance reforms, structural shifts and optimism that the Fed has reached peak rates towards the end of the year. South Korea and Taiwan also achieved strong gains over the year due to sentiments over global economic growth. The waning U.S. dollar coupled with improvement in risk appetite also helped the economy. Despite a weak start to the year, India achieved strong gains over the year. Optimism about the nation's growth prospect, greater domestic participation and increased liquidity have all contributed to the strong performance.

Domestically, the benchmark KLCI saw a muted start to the year. With several policy announcements made by the government in July 2023 catching the attention of investors, markets started to gain. These positive sentiments lifted foreign investors' confidence as they poured into local equities. They include the Ekonomi Madani Plan which outlined several key economic targets, Part 1 of the National Energy Transition Roadmap which intends to achieve 70% renewable energy capacity mix by 2050 and Part 2 of the National Energy Transition Roadmap as well as the New Industrial Masterplan. The unveiling of Budget 2024 in October 2023 also helped shed light on the government's policies and laid down the groundwork for the government's path to fiscal consolidation. According to the Budget, the government aims to narrow the fiscal deficit from 5.0% to 4.3% in 2024 in line with its broader policy objective to bring it down to 3.10% by 2026. Key measures announced to broaden the government's revenue include the increase of Sales and Service tax ("SST") from 6% to 8% as well as the introduction of a 10% capital gains tax for unlisted shares. To further bolster revenue, a luxury goods tax will also be applied to high-value items including jewellery and watches based on predefined thresholds.

U.S. headline Consumer Price Index ("CPI") rose by 3.4% year-on-year (November: 3.1%) in December while core CPI eased to 3.9% (November: 4.0%), signifying a long road for the Fed to achieve its price stability target of 2.0%, especially with geopolitical tension elevating commodity prices. Unemployment rate was held low at 3.7% (November: 3.7%), pointing towards a robust U.S. economy. Nonetheless, market participants drew comfort that most developed economies have approached their terminal rates, and monetary policies should ease as we enter 2024.

Domestically, Bank Negara Malaysia ("BNM") kept Overnight Policy Rate ("OPR") unchanged at 3.00% with a neutral statement during the January 2024 Monetary Policy Meeting ("MPC"). Malaysian Government Securities ("MGS") yield curve shifted lower at the start of 2024 on the back of ample domestic liquidity. Principal dealers were seen building positions at the 3 to 5-year space, while real money continued to cap any rise in long-term bond yields. One notable exception was the 10-year MGS which was re-priced higher (in yield terms) to trade in line with the curve, following its aggressive auction in December 2023. For the month of January 3-year, 10-year, and 30-year MGS yield closed at 3.45% (-8 basis points ("bps")), 3.81% (+8 bps), and 4.22% (-4 bps) respectively.

## **Investment Outlook**

Within equities, we anticipate overweighting Taiwan and Korea tech sectors due to their strong earnings growth potential, driven by the cyclical rebound and their significant exposure to the AI theme. Both countries have established themselves as key players in the global technology supply chain, and could be well-positioned to capitalize on the increasing demand for advanced technological solutions. In India and Indonesia, the focus will be on banks, industrials, and consumer sectors, recognizing their growth potential within the respective economies. These sectors are poised to benefit from favorable demographic trends, rising consumer spending, and infrastructure development initiatives. Additionally, we see opportunities for value creation and market outperformance in these areas. Conversely, we are adopting an underweight stance on China and Hong Kong until there is clarity on policies aimed at stabilizing the property sector, which is currently experiencing a decline. Uncertainty surrounding regulatory measures and the potential impact on property developers and related industries necessitates a cautious approach in these markets.

## **State of Affairs of the Fund**

There is neither any significant change to the state affairs of the Fund nor any circumstances that materially affect any interests of the unit holders during the year under review.

## **Soft Commissions received from Brokers**

Soft commissions received from brokers/dealers may be retained by the management company only if the :-

- (i) goods and services provided are of demonstrable benefit to Unit-holders of the Fund; and
- (ii) goods and services are in the form of research and advisory services that assists in the decision making process.

During the financial year under review, the Fund has received soft commissions from brokers/dealers who have also executed trades for other funds managed by AHAM Asset Management Berhad. The soft commissions were utilised for goods and services in the form of research materials, data and quotation services, investment-related publications, market data feed, industry benchmarking agencies and investment-related publications to assist the Manager in the investment decision-making process. The soft commission received were for the benefit of the fund and there were no churning of trades.

## **Cross Trade**

No cross trade transactions have been carried out during the reported year.

## **Securities Financing Transactions**

The Fund has not undertaken any securities lending or repurchase transactions during the financial year under review.

## **Changes Made To the Fund's Prospectus**

No changes were made to the Fund's Prospectus during the financial year under review.

## **TRUSTEE'S REPORT**

### **TO THE UNIT HOLDERS OF AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND ("Fund")**

We have acted as Trustee of the Fund for the financial year ended 31 January 2024 and we hereby confirm to the best of our knowledge, after having made all reasonable enquiries, AHAM Asset Management Berhad has operated and managed the Fund during the year covered by these financial statements in accordance with the following:

1. Limitations imposed on the investment powers of the Management Company under the Deeds, securities laws and the the Guidelines on Unit Trust Funds;
2. Valuation and pricing are carried out in accordance with the Deeds; and
3. Any creation and cancellation of units are carried out in accordance with the Deeds and any regulatory requirement.

For HSBC (Malaysia) Trustee Berhad

Yap Lay Guat  
Manager, Investment Compliance Monitoring

Kuala Lumpur  
Date: 27 March 2024

**AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024**



# **AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND**

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024**

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## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

	<u>Note</u>	<u>2024</u> RM	<u>2023</u> RM
<b>INVESTMENT INCOME/(LOSS)</b>			
Dividend income		20,884,762	18,035,686
Interest income from financial assets at amortised cost		739,325	239,494
Net (loss)/gain on foreign currency exchange		(365,487)	4,812,413
Net loss on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	8	(8,356,485)	(182,365,172)
		<u>12,902,115</u>	<u>(159,277,579)</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Management fee	4	(13,972,232)	(15,530,271)
Trustee fee	5	(652,434)	(724,995)
Fund accounting fee	6	(21,667)	-
Auditors' remuneration		(9,545)	(7,000)
Tax agent's fee		(84,730)	(145,262)
Transaction costs		(11,093,405)	(8,842,745)
Other expenses		(3,078,385)	(2,638,890)
		<u>(28,912,398)</u>	<u>(27,889,163)</u>
<b>NET LOSS BEFORE TAXATION</b>		(16,010,283)	(187,166,742)
Taxation	7	(7,452,349)	(3,059,575)
<b>DECREASE IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNITHOLDERS</b>		<u>(23,462,632)</u>	<u>(190,226,317)</u>
Decrease in net asset attributable to unitholders comprise the following:			
Realised amount		(23,930,133)	(148,434,045)
Unrealised amount		467,501	(41,792,272)
		<u>(23,462,632)</u>	<u>(190,226,317)</u>

The accompanying material accounting policy information and notes to the financial statements form an integral part of these financial statements.

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 JANUARY 2024

	<u>Note</u>	<u>2024</u> RM	<u>2023</u> RM
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	9	78,337,702	47,430,232
Amount due from brokers		11,672,054	15,594,054
Amount due from dealers		19,935,877	3,263,326
Amount due from Manager			
- creation of units		-	1,456,410
Dividend receivables		422,928	564,512
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	8	743,731,256	951,737,815
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>854,099,817</u>	<u>1,020,046,349</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Amount due to brokers		18,354,726	7,618,658
Amount due to dealers		19,953,410	3,263,122
Amount due to Manager			
- management fee		1,054,238	1,278,364
- cancellation of units		18,681,938	-
Amount due to Trustee		49,198	59,657
Fund accounting fee		1,667	-
Auditors' remuneration		10,000	10,455
Tax agent's fee		7,700	7,600
Tax provision		238,302	2,196,076
Other payables and accruals		11,752	170,949
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES (EXCLUDING NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNITHOLDERS)</b>		<u>58,362,931</u>	<u>14,604,881</u>
<b>NET ASSET VALUE OF THE FUND</b>		<u>795,736,886</u>	<u>1,005,441,468</u>
<b>NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNITHOLDERS</b>		<u>795,736,886</u>	<u>1,005,441,468</u>

The accompanying material accounting policy information and notes to the financial statements form an integral part of these financial statements.

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

	<u>Note</u>	<u>2024</u> RM	<u>2023</u> RM
<b>REPRESENTED BY:</b>			
<b>FAIR VALUE OF OUTSTANDING UNITS</b>			
- MYR class		768,860,484	977,270,827
- AUD class		5,695,429	6,215,631
- GBP class		4,562,914	4,083,337
- SGD class		8,826,882	9,688,972
- USD class		7,791,177	8,182,701
		<u>795,736,886</u>	<u>1,005,441,468</u>
<b>NUMBER OF UNITS IN CIRCULATION</b>			
- MYR class	10 (a)	1,082,781,000	1,341,258,000
- AUD class	10 (b)	3,838,000	4,082,000
- GBP class	10 (c)	1,736,000	1,514,000
- SGD class	10 (d)	5,979,000	6,396,000
- USD class	10 (e)	4,504,000	4,610,000
		<u>1,098,838,000</u>	<u>1,357,860,000</u>
<b>NET ASSET VALUE PER UNIT (RM)</b>			
- MYR class		0.7101	0.7286
- AUD class		1.4840	1.5227
- GBP class		2.6284	2.6971
- SGD class		1.4763	1.5148
- USD class		1.7298	1.7750
		<u>0.7101</u>	<u>0.7286</u>
<b>NET ASSET VALUE PER UNIT IN RESPECTIVE CURRENCIES</b>			
- MYR class		RM0.7101	RM0.7286
- AUD class		AUD0.4766	AUD0.5091
- GBP class		GBP0.4386	GBP0.5130
- SGD class		SGD0.4182	SGD0.4677
- USD class		USD0.3657	USD0.4161
		<u>RM0.7101</u>	<u>RM0.7286</u>

The accompanying material accounting policy information and notes to the financial statements form an integral part of these financial statements.

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNITHOLDERS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

	<u>2024</u> RM	<u>2023</u> RM
<b>NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNITHOLDERS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	1,005,441,468	1,250,052,595
Movement due to units created and cancelled during the financial year:		
Creation of units arising from applications	7,645,994	62,069,572
- MYR class	5,819,900	59,868,761
- AUD class	317,686	325,270
- GBP class	618,930	867,025
- SGD class	585,172	459,343
- USD class	304,306	549,173
Cancellation of units	(193,887,944)	(116,454,382)
- MYR class	(191,469,441)	(112,249,903)
- AUD class	(684,610)	(586,831)
- GBP class	(39,023)	(492,045)
- SGD class	(1,208,000)	(1,459,649)
- USD class	(486,870)	(1,665,954)
Net decrease in net assets attributable to unitholders	(23,462,632)	(190,226,317)
- MYR class	(22,760,802)	(184,640,454)
- AUD class	(153,278)	(1,210,805)
- GBP class	(100,330)	(697,961)
- SGD class	(239,262)	(1,989,492)
- USD class	(208,960)	(1,687,605)
<b>NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNITHOLDERS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	<u>795,736,886</u>	<u>1,005,441,468</u>

The accompanying material accounting policy information and notes to the financial statements form an integral part of these financial statements.

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

	<u>Note</u>	<u>2024</u> RM	<u>2023</u> RM
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Proceeds from sale of investments		1,862,217,287	1,494,528,202
Purchase of investments		(1,658,747,535)	(1,601,475,390)
Dividend received		17,972,873	15,502,289
Interest received		739,325	239,494
Management fee paid		(14,196,358)	(15,906,967)
Trustee fee paid		(662,893)	(742,574)
Fund accounting fee paid		(20,000)	-
Payment for other fees and expenses		(1,195,578)	(585,592)
Refund of withholding tax		661,824	-
Realised loss on foreign currency exchange		(1,828,107)	(2,759,836)
Tax paid		(9,410,123)	(863,499)
		195,530,715	(112,063,873)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Proceeds from creation of units		9,102,404	60,613,162
Payments for cancellation of units		(175,206,006)	(117,298,714)
		(166,103,602)	(56,685,552)
<b>NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>			
		29,427,113	(168,749,425)
<b>EFFECTS OF FOREIGN CURRENCY EXCHANGE</b>			
		1,480,357	7,572,249
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>			
		47,430,232	208,607,408
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>			
	9	78,337,702	47,430,232

The accompanying material accounting policy information and notes to the financial statements form an integral part of these financial statements.

## **AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND**

### **MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024**

The following accounting policies have been used in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the financial statements.

#### **A BASIS OF PREPARATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards (“MFRS”) and International Financial Reporting Standards (“IFRS”). The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of financial assets and financial liabilities (including derivative financial instruments) at fair value through profit or loss.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with MFRS and IFRS requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reported financial year. It also requires the Manager to exercise their judgement in the process of applying the Fund’s accounting policies. Although these estimates and judgement are based on the Manager’s best knowledge of current events and actions, actual results may differ.

The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are disclosed in Note L.

- (a) Standards, amendments to published standards and interpretations that are applicable and effective:

There are no standards, amendments to standards or interpretations that are applicable and effective for annual periods beginning on 1 January 2023 that have a material effect on the financial statements of the Fund.

- (b) Standards and amendments that have been issued that are applicable to the Fund but not yet effective:

- Amendments to MFRS 101 ‘Classification of liabilities as current or non-current’ (effective 1 January 2024) clarify that liabilities are classified as either current or non-current, depending on the rights that exist at the end of the reporting period. Classification is unaffected by the entity’s expectations or events after the reporting date (e.g. the receipt of a waiver or a breach of covenant). In addition, the amendments clarify that when a liability could be settled by the transfer of an entity’s own equity instruments (e.g. a conversion option in a convertible bond), conversion option meeting the definition of an equity instrument in MFRS 132 ‘Financial Instruments: Presentation’ does not impact the current or non-current classification of the convertible instrument.

## **AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND**

### **MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)**

#### **A BASIS OF PREPARATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

- (b) Standards and amendments that have been issued that are applicable to the Fund but not yet effective: (continued)

The amendments also specify that covenants of loan arrangements which an entity must comply with only after the reporting date would not affect classification of a liability as current or non-current at the reporting date. However, those covenants that an entity is required to comply with on or before the reporting date would affect classification of a liability as current or non-current, even if the covenant is only assessed after the reporting date.

The adoption of the above standards, amendments to standards or interpretations is not expected to have a material effect on the financial statements of the Fund.

#### **B INCOME RECOGNITION**

##### Dividend income

Dividend income from financial assets at fair value through profit or loss is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income as part of gross dividend income on the ex-dividend date, when the right to receive the dividend has been established.

##### Interest income

Interest income from short-term deposits with licensed financial institutions and are recognised based on effective interest rate method on an accrual basis.

Interest income is calculated by applying the effective interest rate to the gross carrying amount of a financial asset, except for financial assets that subsequently become credit-impaired. For credit-impaired financial assets, the effective interest rate is applied to the net carrying amount of the financial asset (after deduction of the loss allowance).

##### Realised gains and losses on sale of investments

For quoted equities, realised gains and losses on sale of investments are accounted for as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of investments, determined on a weighted average cost basis.

#### **C TRANSACTION COSTS**

Transaction costs are costs incurred to acquire financial assets or liabilities at fair value through profit or loss. They include the bid-ask spread, fees and commissions paid to agents, advisors and brokers. Transaction costs, when incurred, are immediately recognised in the statement of comprehensive income as expenses.



## **AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND**

### **MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)**

#### **D TAXATION**

Current tax expense is determined according to the Malaysian tax laws at the current rate based upon the taxable profits earned during the financial year.

Tax on investment income from foreign investments is based on the tax regime of the respective countries that the Fund invests in.

Withholding taxes on investment income from foreign investment are based on tax regime of the respective countries that the Fund invests in. Such withholding taxes are not “income tax” in nature and are recognised, measured based on the requirements of MFRS 137. They are presented within other expenses line in the statement of comprehensive income.

#### **E FUNCTIONAL AND PRESENTATION CURRENCY**

Items included in the financial statements of the Fund are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Fund operates (the “functional currency”). The financial statements are presented in Ringgit Malaysia (“RM”), which is the Fund’s functional and presentation currency.

#### **F FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATION**

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions or valuation where items are re-measured. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation at year-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in statement of comprehensive income, except when deferred in other comprehensive income as qualifying cash flow hedges.

#### **G FINANCIAL ASSETS AND FINANCIAL LIABILITIES**

##### **(i) Classification**

The Fund classifies its financial assets in the following measurement categories:

- those to be measured at fair value through profit or loss, and
- those to be measured at amortised cost.

## **AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND**

### **MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)**

#### **G FINANCIAL ASSETS AND FINANCIAL LIABILITIES (CONTINUED)**

(i) Classification (continued)

The Fund classifies its investments based on both the Fund's business model for managing those financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets. The portfolio of financial assets is managed and performance is evaluated on a fair value basis. The Fund is primarily focused on fair value information and uses that information to assess the assets' performance and to make decisions. The Fund has not taken the option to irrevocably designate any equity securities as fair value through other comprehensive income.

The contractual cash flows of the Fund's debt securities are solely principal and interest ("SPPI"). However, these securities are neither held for the purpose of collecting contractual cash flows nor held both for collecting contractual cash flows and for sale. The collection of contractual cash flows is only incidental to achieving the Fund's business model's objective. Consequently, all investments and derivatives not designated as hedging instruments are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

The Fund classifies cash and cash equivalents, amount due from brokers, amount due from Manager, amount due from dealers and dividend receivables as financial assets at amortised cost as these financial assets are held to collect contractual cash flows that represent SPPI.

The Fund classifies amount due to brokers, amount due to Manager, amount due to dealers, amount due to Trustee, payables for fund accounting fee, auditors' remuneration, tax agent's fee and other payables and accruals as financial liabilities measured at amortised cost.

(ii) Recognition and measurement

Regular purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on the trade-date – the date on which the Fund commits to purchase or sell the asset. Investments are initially recognised at fair value. Transaction costs are expensed in the statement of comprehensive income.

Financial liabilities, within the scope of MFRS 9, are recognised in the statement of financial position when, and only when, the Fund becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument.

Financial assets are de-recognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the investments have expired or have been transferred and the Fund has transferred substantially all risks and rewards of ownership.

Financial liabilities are de-recognised when it is extinguished, i.e. when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged or cancelled or expired.

Gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of the 'financial assets at fair value through profit or loss' category including the effects of foreign transactions are presented in the statement of comprehensive income within 'net gain/(loss) on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss' in the financial year which they arise.

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### G FINANCIAL ASSETS AND FINANCIAL LIABILITIES (CONTINUED)

(ii) Recognition and measurement (continued)

The fair value of financial assets traded in active markets (such as trading securities) are based on quoted market prices at the close of trading on the financial year end date. The Fund utilises the last traded market price for financial assets where the last traded price falls within the bid-ask spread. In circumstances where the last traded price is not within the bid-ask spread, the Manager will determine the point within the bid-ask spread that is most representative of the fair value.

If a valuation based on the market price does not represent the fair value of the securities, for example during abnormal market conditions or when no market price is available, including in the event of a suspension in the quotation of the securities for a period exceeding 14 days, or such shorter period as agreed by the Trustee, then the securities are valued as determined in good faith by the Manager, based on the methods or basis approved by the Trustee after appropriate technical consultation.

Financial assets at amortised cost and other financial liabilities are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

(iii) Impairment

The Fund's financial assets measured at amortised cost are subject to expected credit losses. The Fund measures credit risk and expected credit losses using probability of default, exposure at default and loss given default. Management considers both historical analysis and forward-looking information in determining any expected credit loss. Management considers the probability of default to be close to zero as these instruments have a low risk of default and the counterparties have a strong capacity to meet their contractual obligations in the near term. As a result, no loss allowance has been recognised based on 12-month and lifetime expected credit losses as any such impairment would be wholly insignificant to the Fund.

Significant increase in credit risk

A significant increase in credit risk is defined by management as any contractual payment which is more than 30 days past due.

Definition of default and credit-impaired financial assets

The Fund defines a financial instrument as default, which is fully aligned with the definition of credit-impaired, when it meets one or more of the following criteria:

## **AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND**

### **MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)**

#### **G FINANCIAL ASSETS AND FINANCIAL LIABILITIES (CONTINUED)**

##### (iii) Impairment (continued)

###### Quantitative criteria:

Any contractual payment which is more than 90 days past due is considered credit-impaired.

###### Qualitative criteria:

The debtor meets unlikeliness to pay criteria, which indicates the debtor is in significant financial difficulty. The Fund considers the following instances:

- the debtor is in breach of financial covenants;
- concessions have been made by the lender relating to the debtor's financial difficulty;
- it is becoming probable that the debtor will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganization; and
- the debtor is insolvent.

Financial instruments that are credit-impaired are assessed on individual basis.

###### Write-off

The Fund writes off financial assets, in whole or in part, when it has exhausted all practical recovery efforts and has concluded there is no reasonable expectation of recovery. The assessment of no reasonable expectation of recovery is based on unavailability of debtor's sources of income or assets to generate sufficient future cash flows to repay the amount.

The Fund may write off financial assets that are still subject to enforcement activity. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off will result in bad debt recoveries. There are no write-offs/recoveries during the financial year.

#### **H CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

For the purpose of statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash and bank balances and deposits held in highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

## **AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND**

### **MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)**

#### **I CREATION AND CANCELLATION OF UNITS**

The unitholders' capital to the Fund meets the definition of puttable instruments classified as financial liability under MFRS 132 "Financial Instruments: Presentation".

The Fund issues cancellable units, in five classes of units, known respectively as the MYR class, AUD class, GBP class, SGD class and USD class, which are cancelled at the unitholder's option and do not have identical features. The units are classified as financial liabilities. Cancellable units can be put back to the Fund at any time for cash equal to a proportionate share of the Fund's net asset value ("NAV") of respective classes. The outstanding units are carried at the redemption amount that is payable at the statement of financial position if the unitholder exercises the right to put back the unit to the Fund.

Units are created and cancelled at the unitholders' option at prices based on the Fund's NAV per unit of respective classes at the close of business on the relevant dealing day. The Fund's NAV per unit of respective classes is calculated by dividing the net assets attributable to unitholders of respective classes with the total number of outstanding units of respective classes.

#### **J AMOUNT DUE FROM/(TO) BROKERS AND DEALERS**

Amounts due from and to brokers and dealers represent receivables for securities sold and payables for securities purchased that have been contracted for but not yet settled or delivered on the statement of financial position date respectively. The due from brokers and dealers balance is held for collection. Refer to Note G for accounting policy on recognition and measurement.

Any contractual payment which is more than 90 days past due is considered credit-impaired.

#### **K INCREASE/DECREASE IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNITHOLDERS**

Income not distributed is included in net assets attributable to unitholders.

#### **L CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS IN APPLYING ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The Fund makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, rarely equal the related actual results. To enhance the information contents of the estimates, certain key variables that are anticipated to have material impact to the Fund's results and financial position are tested for sensitivity to changes in the underlying parameters.

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated by the Manager and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

However, the Manager is of the opinion that there are no accounting policies which require significant judgement to be exercised.

## **AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND**

### **MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)**

#### **L CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS IN APPLYING ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

In undertaking any of the Fund's investment, the Manager will ensure that all assets of the Fund under management will be valued appropriately, that is at fair value and in compliance with the Securities Commission's ("SC") Guidelines on Unit Trust Funds.

#### **M REALISED AND UNREALISED PORTIONS OF INCREASE OR DECREASE IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNITHOLDERS**

The analysis of realised and unrealised increase or decrease in net assets attributable to unitholders as presented on the statement of comprehensive income is prepared in accordance with SC's Guidelines on Unit Trust Funds.

# AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

### 1 INFORMATION ON THE FUND

The Unit Trust Fund was constituted under the name HwangDBS Global Opportunities Fund (“Fund”) pursuant to the execution of a Master Deed dated 20 March 2006, as modified by First Supplemental Deed dated 13 December 2006, Second Supplemental Master Deed dated 18 June 2007, Third Supplemental Master Deed dated 28 August 2008, Fourth Supplemental Master Deed dated 27 September 2011, Fifth Supplemental Master Deed dated 18 January 2012, Sixth Supplemental Deed dated 2 May 2012, Seventh Supplemental Deed dated 27 June 2014, Eight Supplemental Deed dated 28 April 2017, Ninth Supplemental Deeds dated 15 January 2018 and Tenth Supplemental Deed dated 6 October 2022 (the “Deeds”) entered into between AHAM Asset Management Berhad (the “Manager”) and HSBC (Malaysia) Trustee Berhad (the “Trustee”). The Fund has changed its name from Hwang Global Opportunities Fund to Hwang Select Asia (ex Japan) Opportunity Fund as amended by the Sixth Supplemental Deed dated 2 May 2012, from Hwang Select Asia (ex Japan) Opportunity Fund to Affin Hwang Select Asia (Ex Japan) Opportunity Fund as amended by the Seventh Supplemental Deed dated 27 June 2014 and from Affin Hwang Select Asia (Ex Japan) Opportunity Fund to AHAM Select Asia (Ex Japan) Opportunity Fund as amended by the Tenth Supplemental Deeds dated 6 October 2022.

The Fund commenced operations on 19 July 2006 and will continue its operations until terminated by the Trustee as provided under Clause 12.2 of the Deeds.

The Fund has introduced other classes of units in accordance with the unitholders’ resolution passed on 8 December 2017.

The Fund may invest in any of the following investments:

- (i) Listed securities;
- (ii) Unlisted securities including, without limitation, securities that have been approved by the relevant regulatory authorities for the listing of and quotation for such securities;
- (iii) Debentures;
- (iv) Money market instruments;
- (v) Deposits;
- (vi) Derivatives, for the purpose of hedging only;
- (vii) Warrants;
- (viii) Embedded derivatives;
- (ix) Units or shares in collective investments schemes; and
- (x) Any other form of investments as may be permitted by the SC from time to time which are in line with the objective of the Fund.

All investments will be subjected to the SC’s Guidelines on Unit Trust Funds, the Deeds and the objective of the Fund.

The main objective of the Fund is to provide capital appreciation over the medium to long term by investing in equities and equity-linked investments in Asian markets (ex Japan).

The Manager is a company incorporated in Malaysia. The principal activities of the Manager are establishment and management of unit trust funds, exchange-traded funds and private retirement schemes as well as providing fund management services to private clients.

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the Manager on 27 March 2024.

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 2 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS, RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

Financial instruments are as follows:

	<u>Note</u>	At amortised <u>cost</u> RM	At fair value through <u>profit or loss</u> RM	<u>Total</u> RM
<u>2024</u>				
<u>Financial assets</u>				
Cash and cash equivalents	9	78,337,702	-	78,337,702
Amount due from brokers		11,672,054	-	11,672,054
Amount due from dealers		19,935,877	-	19,935,877
Dividend receivables		422,928	-	422,928
Quoted equities	8	-	704,492,992	704,492,992
Exchange-traded funds	8	-	39,238,264	39,238,264
Total		<u>110,368,561</u>	<u>743,731,256</u>	<u>854,099,817</u>
<u>Financial liabilities</u>				
Amount due to brokers		18,354,726	-	18,354,726
Amount due to dealers		19,953,410	-	19,953,410
Amount due to Manager				
- management fee		1,054,238	-	1,054,238
- cancellation of units		18,681,938	-	18,681,938
Amount due to Trustee		49,198	-	49,198
Fund accounting fee		1,667	-	1,667
Auditors' remuneration		10,000	-	10,000
Tax agent's fee		7,700	-	7,700
Other payables and accruals		11,752	-	11,752
Total		<u>58,124,629</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>58,124,629</u>
<u>2023</u>				
<u>Financial assets</u>				
Cash and cash equivalents	9	47,430,232	-	47,430,232
Amount due from brokers		15,594,054	-	15,594,054
Amount due from dealers		3,263,326	-	3,263,326
Amount due from Manager				
- creation of units		1,456,410	-	1,456,410
Dividend receivables		564,512	-	564,512
Quoted equities	8	-	945,437,494	945,437,494
Exchange-traded funds	8	-	6,300,321	6,300,321
Total		<u>68,308,534</u>	<u>951,737,815</u>	<u>1,020,046,349</u>



## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 2 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS, RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Financial instruments are as follows: (continued)

	<u>Note</u>	At amortised cost RM	At fair value through profit or loss RM	<u>Total</u> RM
<u>2023</u> (continued)				
<u>Financial liabilities</u>				
Amount due to brokers		7,618,658	-	7,618,658
Amount due to dealers		3,263,122	-	3,263,122
Amount due to Manager				
- management fee		1,278,364	-	1,278,364
Amount due to Trustee		59,657	-	59,657
Auditors' remuneration		10,455	-	10,455
Tax agent's fee		7,600	-	7,600
Other payables and accruals*		16,914	-	16,914
		<u>12,254,770</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,254,770</u>
Total		<u>12,254,770</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,254,770</u>

\* Excludes tax penalty provision of RM154,035.

The Fund is exposed to a variety of risks which include market risk (including price risk, interest rate risk and currency risk), credit risk, liquidity risk and capital risk.

Financial risk management is carried out through internal control processes adopted by the Manager and adherence to the investment restrictions as stipulated by the SC's Guidelines on Unit Trust Funds.

#### Market risk

##### (a) Price risk

Price risk arises mainly from the uncertainty about future prices of investments. It represents the potential loss the Fund might suffer through holding market positions in the face of price movements. The Manager manages the risk of unfavourable changes in prices by continuous monitoring of the performance and risk profile of the investment portfolio.

The Fund's overall exposure to price risk was as follows:

	<u>2024</u> RM	<u>2023</u> RM
<b>Quoted investments</b>		
Quoted equities	704,492,992	945,437,494
Exchange-traded funds	39,238,264	6,300,321
	<u>743,731,256</u>	<u>951,737,815</u>

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 2 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS, RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES (CONTINUED)

##### Market risk (continued)

##### (a) Price risk (continued)

The following table summarises the sensitivity of the Fund's loss after taxation and NAV to price risk movements. The analysis is based on the assumptions that the market price increased by 10% (2023: 15%) and decreased by 10% (2023: 15%) with all other variables held constant. This represents management's best estimate of a reasonable possible shift in the quoted securities having regard to the historical volatility of the prices.

<u>% Change in price</u>	<u>Market value</u> RM	Impact on loss after <u>tax/NAV</u> RM
<u>2024</u>		
-10%	669,358,130	(74,373,126)
0%	743,731,256	-
+10%	818,104,382	74,373,126
<u>2023</u>		
-15%	808,977,143	(142,760,672)
0%	951,737,815	-
+15%	1,094,498,487	142,760,672

##### (b) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk arises from the effects of fluctuations in the prevailing levels of market interest rates on the fair value of financial assets and liabilities and future cash flows.

The Fund's exposure to the interest rate risk is mainly confined to a short-term deposit placement with a financial institution. The Manager overcomes this exposure by way of maintaining deposits on a short-term basis.

The Fund's exposure to interest rate risk associated with a deposits with a licensed financial institution is not material as the carrying value of the deposits are held on a short-term basis.

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 2 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS, RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES (CONTINUED)

##### Market risk (continued)

##### (c) Currency risk

Currency risk is associated with investments denominated in foreign currencies. When the foreign currencies fluctuate in an unfavourable movement against Ringgit Malaysia, the investments will face currency losses in addition to the capital gain/(loss). The Manager will evaluate the likely directions of the foreign currency versus Ringgit Malaysia based on considerations of economic fundamentals such as interest rate differentials, balance of payments position, debt levels and technical chart considerations.

The following table sets out the foreign currency risk concentrations and counterparties of the Fund:

	<u>Quoted equities</u> RM	<u>Exchange- traded funds</u> RM	<u>Cash and cash equivalents</u> RM	<u>Other assets*</u> RM	<u>Total</u> RM
<u>2024</u>					
<u>Financial assets</u>					
Australian Dollar	-	-	46,120	-	46,120
China Renminbi	-	-	334	-	334
Hong Kong Dollar	104,459,104	39,238,264	6,096,914	-	149,794,282
Indonesian Rupiah	41,126,650	-	1	5,892,855	47,019,506
Indian Rupee	160,268,647	-	-	-	160,268,647
Korean Won	126,695,840	-	30	422,928	127,118,798
Pound Sterling	-	-	82,295	-	82,295
Singapore Dollar	30,840,600	-	6,957,110	5,779,199	43,576,909
Taiwan Dollar	213,129,554	-	12,530,706	-	225,660,260
United States Dollar	19,709,879	-	50,084,182	1,935,877	71,729,938
	<u>696,230,274</u>	<u>39,238,264</u>	<u>75,797,692</u>	<u>14,030,859</u>	<u>825,297,089</u>

\* Other assets consist of dividend receivables, amount due from brokers and amount due from dealers.

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 2 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS, RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES (CONTINUED)

##### Market risk (continued)

##### (c) Currency risk (continued)

The following table sets out the foreign currency risk concentrations and counterparties of the Fund:(continued)

	Amount due to <u>brokers</u> RM	Amount due to <u>dealers</u> RM	Amount due to <u>Manager</u> RM	Net asset attributable to <u>unitholders</u> RM	<u>Total</u> RM
<u>Financial liabilities</u>					
Australian Dollar	-	-	-	5,695,429	5,695,429
Indonesia Rupiah	4,100,993	1,943,892	-	-	6,044,885
Pound Sterling	-	-	-	4,562,914	4,562,914
Singapore Dollar	-	-	-	8,826,882	8,826,882
Taiwan Dollar	11,658,367	-	-	-	11,658,367
United States Dollar	-	18,009,518	1,749	7,791,177	25,802,444
	<u>15,759,360</u>	<u>19,953,410</u>	<u>1,749</u>	<u>26,876,402</u>	<u>62,590,921</u>

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 2 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS, RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES (CONTINUED)

##### Market risk (continued)

##### (c) Currency risk (continued)

The following table sets out the foreign currency risk concentrations and counterparties of the Fund: (continued)

	<u>Quoted Equities</u> RM	<u>Exchange- traded-funds</u> RM	<u>Cash and cash equivalents</u> RM	<u>Other assets*</u> RM	<u>Total</u> RM
<u>2023</u>					
<u>Financial assets</u>					
Australian Dollar	41,326,109	-	11,818,474	22,135	53,166,718
China Renminbi	32,573,960	-	1,595,863	-	34,169,823
Euro	15,535,966	-	1,049,079	-	16,585,045
Hong Kong Dollar	370,365,397	6,300,321	3,236,377	12,728,134	392,630,229
Indonesian Rupiah	22,036,140	-	1	2,865,920	24,902,061
Indian Rupee	55,829,116	-	8,727,314	-	64,556,430
Korean Won	139,874,039	-	30	542,377	140,416,446
Pound Sterling	-	-	625,012	13,619	638,631
Singapore Dollar	56,123,337	-	472	-	56,123,809
Taiwan Dollar	135,102,877	-	5,479,118	-	140,581,995
Thailand Baht	30,962,169	-	-	-	30,962,169
United States Dollar	18,430,269	-	3,139,990	3,263,326	24,833,585
	<u>918,159,379</u>	<u>6,300,321</u>	<u>35,671,730</u>	<u>19,435,511</u>	<u>979,566,941</u>

\* Other assets consist of dividend receivables, amount due from Manager, amount due from brokers and amount due from dealers.

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 2 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS, RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES (CONTINUED)

##### Market risk (continued)

##### (c) Currency risk (continued)

The following table sets out the foreign currency risk concentrations and counterparties of the Fund: (continued)

	Amount due to <u>brokers</u> RM	Amount due to <u>dealers</u> RM	Net asset attributable to <u>unitholders</u> RM	<u>Total</u> RM
<u>Financial liabilities</u>				
Australian Dollar	-	-	6,215,631	6,215,631
Indonesian Rupiah	-	1,130,239	-	1,130,239
Taiwan Dollar	7,618,658	-	-	7,618,658
Hong Kong Dollar	-	2,132,883	-	2,132,883
Pound Sterling	-	-	4,083,337	4,083,337
Singapore Dollar	-	-	9,688,972	9,688,972
United States Dollar	-	-	8,182,701	8,182,701
	<u>7,618,658</u>	<u>3,263,122</u>	<u>28,170,641</u>	<u>39,052,421</u>

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 2 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS, RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES (CONTINUED)

##### Market risk (continued)

##### (c) Currency risk (continued)

The table below summarises the sensitivity of the Fund's loss after tax and NAV to changes in foreign exchange movements. The analysis is based on the assumption that the foreign exchange rate changes by each currency's respective historical volatility, with all other variables held constant. This represents management's best estimate of a reasonable possible shift in the foreign exchange rate, having regard to historical volatility of this rate. Any increase/(decrease) in foreign exchange rate will result in a corresponding (decrease)/increase in the net assets attributable to unitholders by each currency's respective historical volatility. Disclosures below are shown in absolute terms, changes and impacts could be positive or negative.

	Change in <u>price</u> %	Impact on loss after <u>tax/NAV</u> RM
<u>2024</u>		
Australian Dollar	+/-8.00	+/- 451,945
China Renminbi	+/-4.73	+/- 16
Hong Kong Dollar	+/-6.07	+/- 9,092,513
Indonesian Rupiah	+/-5.56	+/- 2,278,189
Indian Rupee	+/-5.59	+/- 8,959,017
Korean Won	+/-7.49	+/- 9,521,198
Pound Sterling	+/-6.29	-/+ 281,831
Singapore Dollar	+/-3.68	+/- 1,278,801
Taiwan Dollar	+/-4.73	+/- 10,122,290
United States Dollar	+/-5.98	+/- 2,746,464

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 2 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS, RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES (CONTINUED)

##### Market risk (continued)

##### (c) Currency risk (continued)

	Change in <u>price</u> %	Impact on loss after <u>tax/NAV</u> RM
<u>2023</u>		
Australian Dollar	+/-12.24	+/- 5,746,813
China Renminbi	+/-5.49	+/- 1,875,923
Euro	+/-8.74	+/- 1,449,533
Hong Kong Dollar	+/-4.90	+/- 19,134,370
Indonesian Rupiah	+/-5.40	+/- 1,283,678
Indian Rupee	+/-5.46	+/- 3,524,781
Korean Won	+/-8.85	+/- 12,426,855
Pound Sterling	+/-11.05	-/+ 380,640
Singapore Dollar	+/-4.43	+/- 2,057,063
Taiwan Dollar	+/-4.71	+/- 6,262,573
Thailand Baht	+/-7.56	+/- 2,340,740
United States Dollar	+/-5.08	+/- 845,865

##### Credit risk

Credit risk refers to the ability of an issuer or counterparty to make timely payments of interest, principals and proceeds from realisation of investments. The Manager manages the credit risk by undertaking credit evaluation to minimise such risk.

Credit risk arising from cash and bank balances is managed by ensuring that they are held by parties with credit rating of AA or higher.

The settlement terms of amount due from brokers are governed by the relevant rules and regulations as prescribed by the respective stock exchanges.

Credit risk arising from placements of deposits in licensed financial institutions is managed by ensuring that the Fund will only place deposits in reputable licensed financial institutions.

The settlement terms of the proceeds from the creation of units receivable from the Manager are governed by the SC's Guidelines on Unit Trust Funds.



## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 2 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS, RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES (CONTINUED)

##### Credit risk (continued)

The following table sets out the credit risk concentrations and counterparties of the Fund:

	Cash and cash equivalents RM	Other assets* RM	Total RM
<u>2024</u>			
Consumer Staples			
- Non-rated ("NR")	-	5,892,855	5,892,855
Financial Services			
- AAA	78,337,702	-	78,337,702
Industrials			
- NR	-	5,779,199	5,779,199
Technology			
- NR	-	422,928	422,928
Others			
- NR	-	19,935,877	19,935,877
	<u>78,337,702</u>	<u>32,030,859</u>	<u>110,368,561</u>
<u>2023</u>			
Basic Materials			
- NR	-	126,097	126,097
Consumer Staples			
- NR	-	2,865,920	2,865,920
Financial Services			
- AAA	47,430,232	-	47,430,232
- NR	-	12,728,134	12,728,134
Real Estate			
- NR	-	22,135	22,135
Technology			
- NR	-	416,280	416,280
Others			
- NR	-	4,719,736	4,719,736
	<u>47,430,232</u>	<u>20,878,302</u>	<u>68,308,534</u>

\* Other assets consist of dividends receivable, amount due from Manager, amount due from dealers and amount due from brokers.

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 2 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS, RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES (CONTINUED)

##### Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Fund will encounter difficulty in meeting its financial obligations. The Manager manages this risk by maintaining sufficient level of liquid assets to meet anticipated payments and cancellations of units by unitholders. Liquid assets comprise cash, deposits with licensed financial institutions and other instruments, which are capable of being converted into cash within 7 days.

The table below analyses the Fund's financial liabilities into relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining period at the statement of financial position date to the contractual maturity date.

The amounts in the table below are the contractual undiscounted cash flows.

	<u>Within one month</u> RM	<u>Between one month to one year</u> RM	<u>Total</u> RM
<u>2024</u>			
Amount due to brokers	18,354,726	-	18,354,726
Amount due to dealers	19,953,410	-	19,953,410
Amount due to Manager			
- management fee	1,054,238	-	1,054,238
- creation of units	18,681,938	-	18,681,938
Amount due to Trustee	49,198	-	49,198
Fund accounting fee	1,667	-	1,667
Auditor's remuneration	-	10,000	10,000
Tax agent's fee	-	7,700	7,700
Other payables and accruals	-	11,752	11,752
Net assets attributable to unitholders*	795,736,886	-	795,736,886
	<u>853,832,063</u>	<u>29,452</u>	<u>853,861,515</u>
<u>2023</u>			
Amount due to brokers	7,618,658	-	7,618,658
Amount due to dealers	3,263,122	-	3,263,122
Amount due to Manager			
- management fee	1,278,364	-	1,278,364
Amount due to Trustee	59,657	-	59,657
Auditor's remuneration	-	10,455	10,455
Tax agent's fee	-	7,600	7,600
Other payables and accruals**	-	16,914	16,914
Net assets attributable to unitholders*	1,005,441,468	-	1,005,441,468
	<u>1,017,661,269</u>	<u>34,969</u>	<u>1,017,696,238</u>

\*\*Excludes tax penalty provision of RM154,035.

## **AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)**

#### **2 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS, RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

##### Liquidity risk (continued)

- \* Outstanding units are redeemed on demand at the unitholders' option (Note I). However, the Manager does not envisage that the contractual maturity disclosed in the table above will be representative of the actual cash outflows, as holders of the instruments typically retain them for the medium to long term.

##### Capital risk

The capital of the Fund is represented by net assets attributable to unitholders. The amount of net assets attributable to unitholders can change significantly on a daily basis as the Fund is subject to daily subscriptions and redemptions at the discretion of unitholders. The Fund's objective when managing capital is to safeguard the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern in order to provide returns for unitholders and benefits for other stakeholders and to maintain a strong capital base to support the development of the investment activities of the Fund.

#### **3 FAIR VALUE ESTIMATION**

Financial instruments comprise financial assets and financial liabilities. Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

The fair values of financial assets traded in active markets (such as trading securities) are based on quoted market prices at the close of trading on the financial year end date. The Fund utilises the bid price for financial assets which falls within the bid-ask spread.

An active market is a market in which transactions for the asset take place with sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis.

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 3 FAIR VALUE ESTIMATION (CONTINUED)

The fair value of financial assets that are not traded in an active market is determined by using valuation techniques.

(i) Fair value hierarchy

The table below analyses financial instruments carried at fair value. The different levels have been defined as follows:

- Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active market for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1).
- Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (that is, as prices) or indirectly (that is, derived from prices) (Level 2).
- Inputs for the asset and liability that are not based on observable market data (that is, unobservable inputs) (Level 3).

The level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement is categorised in its entirety is determined on the basis of the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety. For this purpose, the significance of an input is assessed against the fair value measurement in its entirety. If a fair value measurement uses observable inputs that require significant adjustment based on unobservable inputs, that measurement is a Level 3 measurement. Assessing the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgement, considering factors specific to the asset or liability.

The determination of what constitutes 'observable' requires significant judgement by the Fund. The Fund considers observable data to be that market data that is readily available, regularly distributed or updated, reliable and verifiable, not proprietary and provided by independent sources that are actively involved in the relevant market.

The following table analyses within the fair value hierarchy the Fund's financial assets (by class) measured at fair value:

	<u>Level 1</u> RM	<u>Level 2</u> RM	<u>Level 3</u> RM	<u>Total</u> RM
<u>2024</u>				
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss:				
- quoted equities	704,492,992	-	-	704,492,992
- exchange-traded funds	39,238,264	-	-	39,238,264
	<u>743,731,256</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>743,731,256</u>

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 3 FAIR VALUE ESTIMATION (CONTINUED)

(i) Fair value hierarchy (continued)

The following table analyses within the fair value hierarchy the Fund's financial assets (by class) measured at fair value: (continued)

	<u>Level 1</u> RM	<u>Level 2</u> RM	<u>Level 3</u> RM	<u>Total</u> RM
<u>2023</u>				
Financial assets at fair: value through profit or loss				
- quoted equities	945,437,494	-	-	945,437,494
- exchange-traded funds	6,300,321	-	-	6,300,321
	<u>951,737,815</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>951,737,815</u>

Investments whose values are based on quoted market prices in active markets, and are therefore classified within Level 1, include quoted equities. The Fund does not adjust the quoted prices for these instruments.

- (ii) The carrying value of cash and cash equivalents, amount due from brokers, amount due from dealers, amount due from Manager, dividend receivables and all current liabilities are a reasonable approximation of the fair values due to their short-term nature.

#### 4 MANAGEMENT FEE

In accordance with the Deeds, the Manager is entitled to a management fee at a rate not exceeding 3.00% per annum on the NAV of the Fund, calculated on a daily basis.

For the financial year ended 31 January 2024, the management fee is recognised at a rate of 1.50% (2023: 1.50%) per annum on the NAV of the Fund, calculated on a daily basis as stated in the Fund's Prospectus.

There will be no further liability to the Manager in respect of management fee other than the amounts recognised above.

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 5 TRUSTEE FEE

In accordance with the Deeds, the Trustee is entitled to an annual fee, inclusive of local custodian fees, at a rate not exceeding 0.30% per annum on the NAV of the Fund for local investments, excluding foreign sub-custodian fees, if the Fund invests in both local and foreign investments.

For the financial year ended 31 January 2024, the Trustee fee is recognised at a rate of 0.07% (2023: 0.07%) per annum on the NAV of the Fund, inclusive of local custodian fee, calculated on daily basis as stated in the Fund's Prospectus.

There will be no further liability to the Trustee in respect of Trustee fee other than the amount recognised above.

#### 6 FUND ACCOUNTING FEE

The fund valuation and accounting fee for the Fund is RM21,667 (2023: RM Nil) during the financial year.

#### 7 TAXATION

	<u>2024</u> RM	<u>2023</u> RM
Current taxation – local	4,238,302	2,196,076
Current taxation – foreign	3,133,919	863,499
Under provision of prior year tax	80,128	-
	<u>7,452,349</u>	<u>3,059,575</u>

The numerical reconciliation between net loss before taxation multiplied by the Malaysian statutory tax rate and tax expense of the Fund is as follows:

	<u>2024</u> RM	<u>2023</u> RM
Net loss before taxation	<u>(16,010,283)</u>	<u>(187,166,742)</u>
Tax at Malaysian statutory rate of 24% (2023: 24%)	(3,842,468)	(44,920,018)
Tax effects of:		
Investment loss not brought to tax	1,141,795	40,191,392
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	3,583,349	2,961,334
Restriction on tax deductible expenses for Unit Trust Funds	3,355,626	3,732,065
Under provision of prior year tax	80,128	-
Foreign income subject to different tax rate	3,133,919	1,094,802
Tax expense	<u>7,452,349</u>	<u>3,059,575</u>

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 8 FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS

	<u>2024</u> RM	<u>2023</u> RM
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss:		
- quoted equities - local	8,262,718	27,278,115
- quoted equities – foreign	696,230,274	918,159,379
- exchange-traded funds – foreign	39,238,264	6,300,321
	<u>743,731,256</u>	<u>951,737,815</u>
Net loss on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss:		
- realised loss on sale of investments	(7,343,629)	(133,000,650)
- Unrealised loss on changes in fair value	(1,012,856)	(49,364,522)
	<u>(8,356,485)</u>	<u>(182,365,172)</u>

(a) Quoted equities – local

(i) Quoted equities – local as at 31 January 2024 is as follows:

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Aggregate cost</u> RM	<u>Fair value</u> RM	<u>Percentage of NAV</u> %
<u>Financial Services</u>				
Public Bank Bhd	939,400	4,144,069	4,123,966	0.52
<u>Industrials</u>				
Malaysia Airports Holdings Bhd	538,900	4,134,927	4,138,752	0.52
Total quoted equities – local	<u>1,478,300</u>	<u>8,278,996</u>	<u>8,262,718</u>	<u>1.04</u>
Accumulated unrealised loss on quoted equities – local		(16,278)		
Total quoted equities – local		<u>8,262,718</u>		

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 8 FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS (CONTINUED)

(a) Quoted equities – local (continued)

(ii) Quoted equities – local as at 31 January 2023 is as follows:

	<u>Quantity</u>	Aggregate <u>cost</u> RM	Fair <u>value</u> RM	Percentage <u>of NAV</u> %
<u>Financial Services</u>				
CIMB Group Holdings Bhd	3,137,700	18,330,130	18,041,775	1.79
Malayan Banking Bhd	1,058,000	9,196,030	9,236,340	0.92
	<u>4,195,700</u>	<u>27,526,160</u>	<u>27,278,115</u>	<u>2.71</u>
Total quoted equities – local	<u>4,195,700</u>	<u>27,526,160</u>	<u>27,278,115</u>	<u>2.71</u>
Accumulated unrealised loss on quoted equities – local		<u>(248,045)</u>		
Total quoted equities – local		<u>27,278,115</u>		

(b) Quoted equities – foreign

(i) Quoted equities – foreign as at 31 January 2024 is as follows:

	<u>Quantity</u>	Aggregate <u>cost</u> RM	Fair <u>value</u> RM	Percentage <u>of NAV</u> %
<u>Hong Kong</u>				
<u>Consumer Discretionary</u>				
Alibaba Group Holding Ltd	507,700	29,536,067	21,362,874	2.68
NetEase Inc	68,000	6,028,553	6,228,596	0.78
Sands China Ltd	601,600	10,109,269	7,461,344	0.94
	<u>1,177,300</u>	<u>45,673,889</u>	<u>35,052,814</u>	<u>4.40</u>



## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 8 FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS (CONTINUED)

(b) Quoted equities – foreign (continued)

(i) Quoted equities – foreign as at 31 January 2024 is as follows: (continued)

	<u>Quantity</u>	Aggregate cost RM	Fair value RM	Percentage of NAV %
<u>Hong Kong</u> (continued)				
<u>Consumer Staples</u>				
China Resources Beer Holdings	342,000	9,132,108	5,814,171	0.74
China Mengniu Dairy Co Ltd	597,000	13,934,149	6,219,606	0.78
	<u>939,000</u>	<u>23,066,257</u>	<u>12,033,777</u>	<u>1.52</u>
<u>Financial Services</u>				
AIA Group Ltd	552,800	23,834,194	20,384,362	2.57
<u>Technology</u>				
Tencent Holdings Ltd	226,100	49,102,902	36,988,151	4.65
<u>India</u>				
<u>Consumer Discretionary</u>				
PVR INOX Limited	88,495	8,667,733	7,324,946	0.92
Sapphire Foods India Limited	115,233	9,209,178	9,441,731	1.19
	<u>203,728</u>	<u>17,876,911</u>	<u>16,766,677</u>	<u>2.11</u>
<u>Energy</u>				
Reliance Industries Ltd	213,344	31,122,892	34,561,726	4.34

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 8 FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS (CONTINUED)

(b) Quoted equities – foreign (continued)

(i) Quoted equities – foreign as at 31 January 2024 is as follows: (continued)

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Aggregate cost RM</u>	<u>Fair value RM</u>	<u>Percentage of NAV %</u>
<u>India (continued)</u>				
<u>Financial Services</u>				
Axis Bank Ltd	277,819	17,337,355	16,851,223	2.12
IndusInd Bank Ltd	182,105	16,226,858	15,926,047	2.00
	<u>459,924</u>	<u>33,564,213</u>	<u>32,777,270</u>	<u>4.12</u>
<u>Health Care</u>				
Apollo Hospitals Ent Ltd	85,291	26,732,169	30,675,451	3.85
Global Health Ltd	49,429	2,593,835	3,231,012	0.41
	<u>134,720</u>	<u>29,326,004</u>	<u>33,906,463</u>	<u>4.26</u>
<u>Industrials</u>				
ACC Ltd	36,151	4,394,734	5,220,645	0.66
<u>Real Estate</u>				
Phoenix Mills Ltd	61,011	8,083,804	8,373,320	1.05
<u>Technology</u>				
Coforge Limited	34,278	11,812,529	12,188,163	1.53
Infosys Ltd	174,417	16,263,781	16,474,383	2.07
	<u>208,695</u>	<u>28,076,310</u>	<u>28,662,546</u>	<u>3.60</u>

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 8 FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS (CONTINUED)

(b) Quoted equities – foreign (continued)

(i) Quoted equities – foreign as at 31 January 2024 is as follows: (continued)

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Aggregate cost RM</u>	<u>Fair value RM</u>	<u>Percentage of NAV %</u>
<u>Indonesia</u>				
<u>Consumer Discretionary</u>				
Mitra Adiperkasa Tbk PT	16,651,300	9,370,716	9,765,987	1.23
<u>Consumer Staples</u>				
Cisarua Mountain Dairy PT TBK	415,600	523,387	507,448	0.06
<u>Financial Services</u>				
Bank Central Asia Tbk PT	2,859,800	7,666,743	8,193,327	1.03
<u>Health Care</u>				
Mitra Keluarga Karyasehat Tbk	10,659,100	9,279,900	8,601,894	1.08
<u>Industrials</u>				
Jasa Marga Persero Tbk PT	3,813,900	5,751,367	5,720,850	0.72
<u>Telecommunications</u>				
Indosat Tbk PT	2,902,400	8,512,101	8,337,144	1.05

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 8 FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS (CONTINUED)

(b) Quoted equities – foreign (continued)

(i) Quoted equities – foreign as at 31 January 2024 is as follows: (continued)

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Aggregate cost RM</u>	<u>Fair value RM</u>	<u>Percentage of NAV %</u>
<u>South Korea</u>				
<u>Technology</u>				
NAVER Corp	11,819	10,117,304	8,400,620	1.06
Samsung Electro-Mechanics Co Ltd	24,898	12,878,983	12,312,746	1.55
Samsung Electronics Co Ltd	248,000	68,632,369	63,914,932	8.03
Samsung Electronics Co Ltd - Preference Shares	81,000	17,515,593	16,855,412	2.12
SK Hynix Inc	52,799	26,094,075	25,212,130	3.17
	<u>418,516</u>	<u>135,238,324</u>	<u>126,695,840</u>	<u>15.93</u>
<u>Singapore</u>				
<u>Consumer Staples</u>				
First Resources Ltd	1,465,800	7,860,989	7,658,793	0.96
<u>Financial Services</u>				
Novo Tellus Alpha Acquisition	1,000,000	15,547,500	17,652,000	2.22
Novo Tellus Alpha Acquisition - Warrant	500,000	-	1,765	0.00
	<u>1,500,000</u>	<u>15,547,500</u>	<u>17,653,765</u>	<u>2.22</u>
<u>Industrials</u>				
Seatrium Ltd	15,658,400	7,646,118	5,528,042	0.69
<u>Taiwan</u>				
<u>Basic Materials</u>				
King Slide Works Co Ltd	66,000	9,068,669	10,378,368	1.30

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 8 FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS (CONTINUED)

(b) Quoted equities – foreign (continued)

(i) Quoted equities – foreign as at 31 January 2024 is as follows: (continued)

	<u>Quantity</u>	Aggregate <u>cost</u> RM	Fair <u>value</u> RM	Percentage <u>of NAV</u> %
<u>Taiwan</u> (continued)				
<u>Technology</u>				
Alchip Technologies Ltd	15,000	8,120,669	8,833,860	1.11
ASE Technology Holding Co Ltd	480,000	9,053,587	9,834,048	1.24
Delta Electronics Inc	198,000	9,205,158	8,382,528	1.05
Elite Material Co Ltd	64,000	4,495,293	4,461,005	0.56
Largan Precision Co Ltd	23,000	8,833,178	8,659,224	1.09
MediaTek Inc	87,000	12,857,690	12,707,150	1.60
Quanta Computer Inc	500,000	16,927,020	18,635,400	2.34
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufac	697,000	60,164,990	66,182,659	8.32
Unimicron Technology Corp	680,000	17,936,074	18,095,616	2.27
Wistron Corporation	940,000	16,210,995	16,273,656	2.05
Wiwynn Corp	78,000	20,949,720	25,886,952	3.25
	<u>3,762,000</u>	<u>184,754,374</u>	<u>197,952,098</u>	<u>24.88</u>
<u>Telecommunications</u>				
Accton Technology Corp	60,000	4,638,900	4,799,088	0.60
<u>United States</u>				
<u>Energy</u>				
Valaris Limited	31,896	10,722,252	9,333,686	1.17
<u>Communications</u>				
Tencent Music Entertainment Group American Depositary Receipt	233,596	9,463,274	10,376,193	1.30
Total quoted equities – foreign	<u>64,711,081</u>	<u>720,166,724</u>	<u>696,230,274</u>	<u>87.50</u>
Accumulated unrealized loss on quoted equities – foreign		<u>(23,936,450)</u>		
Total quoted equities – foreign		<u>696,230,274</u>		

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 8 FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS (CONTINUED)

(iii) Quoted equities – foreign (continued)

(iv) Quoted equities – foreign as at 31 January 2023 is as follows:

	<u>Quantity</u>	Aggregate <u>cost</u> RM	Fair <u>value</u> RM	Percentage <u>of NAV</u> %
<u>Australia</u>				
<u>Energy</u>				
Santos Ltd	419,082	9,933,666	8,911,308	0.89
<u>Health Care</u>				
Sonic Healthcare Ltd	288,781	30,640,660	27,075,657	2.69
<u>Real Estate</u>				
Goodman Group	89,711	4,669,800	5,339,144	0.53
<u>China</u>				
<u>Consumer Discretionary</u>				
China Tourism Group Duty Free	40,000	5,308,439	5,361,000	0.53
<u>Health Care</u>				
Shenzhen Mindray Bio - Medical Electronics	50,000	10,077,597	10,499,782	1.04
<u>Industrials</u>				
Nari Technology Co Ltd	605,960	10,890,145	10,091,472	1.00
<u>Technology</u>				
Advanced Micro-Fabrication Eqp	100,000	6,955,395	6,621,706	0.66
<u>France</u>				
<u>Consumer Discretionary</u>				
LVMH Moet HennessyLouisVuitton	4,204	14,214,031	15,535,966	1.55

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 8 FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS (CONTINUED)

(v) Quoted equities – foreign (continued)

(vi) Quoted equities – foreign as at 31 January 2023 is as follows: (continued)

	<u>Quantity</u>	Aggregate <u>cost</u> RM	Fair <u>value</u> RM	Percentage <u>of NAV</u> %
<u>Hong Kong</u>				
<u>Consumer Discretionary</u>				
Alibaba Group Holding Ltd	587,800	35,002,877	34,387,182	3.42
JD.com Inc	225,483	40,257,077	28,394,596	2.83
Li Ning Company Limited	500,500	21,261,058	21,027,126	2.09
Shenzhou International Group Holdings	278,800	12,735,395	14,906,781	1.48
Samsonite International SA	585,300	6,818,291	7,373,744	0.73
	<u>2,177,883</u>	<u>116,074,698</u>	<u>106,089,429</u>	<u>10.55</u>
<u>Consumer Staples</u>				
China Mengniu Dairy Co Ltd	1,424,000	33,599,874	29,215,268	2.90
China Resources Beer Holdings	588,000	15,700,817	18,863,387	1.88
	<u>2,012,000</u>	<u>49,300,691</u>	<u>48,078,655</u>	<u>4.78</u>
<u>Financial Services</u>				
AIA Group Ltd	597,600	26,252,235	28,797,693	2.86
China Construction Bank Corp	3,476,000	9,595,208	9,609,527	0.96
Hong Kong Exchange & Clearing	132,600	25,382,339	25,415,076	2.53
	<u>4,206,200</u>	<u>61,229,782</u>	<u>63,822,296</u>	<u>6.35</u>
<u>Health Care</u>				
BeiGene Ltd	113,574	10,356,836	9,468,828	0.94
Wuxi Biologics Cayman Inc	552,500	20,533,514	19,618,750	1.95
	<u>666,074</u>	<u>30,890,350</u>	<u>29,087,578</u>	<u>2.89</u>
<u>Real Estate</u>				
Country Garden Holdings Co Ltd	8,505,000	14,393,402	13,561,274	1.35
Link REIT	154,591	5,762,173	5,274,852	0.53
	<u>8,659,591</u>	<u>20,155,575</u>	<u>18,836,126</u>	<u>1.88</u>

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 8 FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS (CONTINUED)

(b) Quoted equities – foreign (continued)

(ii) Quoted equities – foreign as at 31 January 2023 is as follows: (continued)

	<u>Quantity</u>	Aggregate <u>cost</u> RM	Fair <u>value</u> RM	Percentage <u>of NAV</u> %
<u>Hong Kong</u> (continued)				
<u>Technology</u>				
Baidu Inc	377,650	30,433,658	27,210,468	2.71
Meituan	217,410	21,923,610	20,645,884	2.05
Tencent Holdings Ltd	272,100	59,386,227	56,594,961	5.63
	<u>867,160</u>	<u>111,743,495</u>	<u>104,451,313</u>	<u>10.39</u>
<u>India</u>				
<u>Consumer Discretionary</u>				
Jubilant Foodworks Ltd	337,075	10,808,678	8,557,771	0.85
<u>Consumer Staples</u>				
Hindustan Unilever Ltd	71,817	9,998,849	9,640,215	0.96
Sapphire Foods India Limited	107,139	8,581,915	7,358,674	0.73
	<u>178,956</u>	<u>18,580,764</u>	<u>16,998,889</u>	<u>1.69</u>
<u>Financial Services</u>				
HDFC Bank Ltd	248,728	19,664,518	20,810,423	2.07
ICICI Bank Limited	109,537	5,087,959	4,764,101	0.47
SBI Cards & Payment Services	124,529	6,825,257	4,697,932	0.47
	<u>482,794</u>	<u>31,577,734</u>	<u>30,272,456</u>	<u>3.01</u>
<u>Indonesia</u>				
<u>Consumer Staples</u>				
Astra International Tbk PT	6,034,700	10,062,567	10,240,282	1.02
Mitra Adiperkasa Tbk PT	4,710,000	1,460,375	1,738,932	0.17
	<u>10,744,700</u>	<u>11,522,942</u>	<u>11,979,214</u>	<u>1.19</u>



## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 8 FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS (CONTINUED)

(b) Quoted equities – foreign (continued)

(ii) Quoted equities – foreign as at 31 January 2023 is as follows: (continued)

	<u>Quantity</u>	Aggregate <u>cost</u> RM	Fair <u>value</u> RM	Percentage <u>of NAV</u> %
<u>Indonesia</u>				
<u>Telecommunications</u>				
Telkom Indonesia Persero Tbk PT	9,221,800	10,375,746	10,056,926	1.00
<u>South Korea</u>				
<u>Basic Materials</u>				
LG Chem Ltd	4,671	8,887,196	11,138,602	1.11
<u>Consumer Discretionary</u>				
Hyundai Department Store Co Ltd	22,722	5,057,616	4,844,276	0.48
<u>Health Care</u>				
Hugel Inc	20,743	10,369,110	10,122,605	1.01
<u>Technology</u>				
NAVER Corp	5,619	5,178,602	3,938,090	0.39
Samsung Electro-Mechanics Co Ltd	14,626	7,145,078	7,223,558	0.72
Samsung Electronics Co Ltd	280,013	68,956,835	59,116,625	5.88
Samsung Electronics Co Ltd - Preference Shares	83,923	15,223,041	15,975,163	1.59
Samsung SDI Co Ltd	4,700	9,698,316	11,142,689	1.11
SK Hynix Inc	53,513	20,072,300	16,372,431	1.63
	<u>442,394</u>	<u>126,274,172</u>	<u>113,768,556</u>	<u>11.32</u>

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 8 FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS (CONTINUED)

(b) Quoted equities – foreign (continued)

(ii) Quoted equities – foreign as at 31 January 2023 is as follows: (continued)

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Aggregate cost RM</u>	<u>Fair value RM</u>	<u>Percentage of NAV %</u>
<u>Singapore</u>				
<u>Energy</u>				
Keppel Corporation Ltd	516,000	11,157,661	12,585,458	1.25
<u>Financial Services</u>				
Novo Tellus Alpha Acquisition	1,000,000	15,547,500	14,381,604	1.43
Novo Tellus Alpha Acquisition - Warrant	500,000	-	80,977	0.01
United Overseas Bank Ltd	120,000	10,621,947	11,594,682	1.15
	<u>1,620,000</u>	<u>26,169,447</u>	<u>26,057,263</u>	<u>2.59</u>
<u>Telecommunications</u>				
Singapore Telecom Ltd	2,150,100	18,551,797	17,480,616	1.74
<u>Taiwan</u>				
<u>Basic Materials</u>				
Eclat Textile Co Ltd	69,000	4,882,875	4,856,386	0.48
<u>Technology</u>				
ASE Technology Holding Co Ltd	396,000	5,646,688	5,619,240	0.56
Faraday Technology Corp	686,000	16,801,489	16,451,035	1.64
Hon Hai Precision Industry Co	796,000	12,593,441	11,261,354	1.12
MediaTek Inc	86,000	9,549,365	8,762,041	0.87
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacture	984,000	64,363,487	72,886,651	7.25
Unimicron Technology Corp	504,000	12,533,616	9,726,394	0.97
United Microelectronics Corp	800,000	5,384,570	5,539,776	0.55
	<u>4,252,000</u>	<u>126,872,656</u>	<u>130,246,491</u>	<u>12.96</u>
<u>Thailand</u>				
<u>Consumer Staples</u>				
CP ALL PCL	1,150,200	9,487,694	9,884,990	0.98

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 8 FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS (CONTINUED)

(b) Quoted equities – foreign (continued)

(ii) Quoted equities – foreign as at 31 January 2023 is as follows: (continued)

	<u>Quantity</u>	Aggregate <u>cost</u> RM	Fair <u>value</u> RM	Percentage <u>of NAV</u> %
<u>Thailand (continued)</u>				
<u>Financial Services</u>				
Bangkok Bank PCL	1,025,100	18,101,771	21,077,179	2.10
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>United States</u>				
<u>Energy</u>				
Schlumberger Ltd	36,510	8,888,580	8,873,689	0.88
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Industrials</u>				
Berry Global Group Inc	36,300	9,762,416	9,556,580	0.95
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total quoted equities – foreign	<u>52,497,711</u>	<u>949,413,179</u>	<u>918,159,379</u>	<u>91.32</u>
Accumulated unrealised loss on quoted equities – foreign		<u>(31,253,800)</u>		
Total quoted equities – foreign		<u>918,159,379</u>		

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 8 FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS (CONTINUED)

(c) Exchange-traded funds – foreign

(i) Exchange-traded funds – foreign as at 31 January 2024 is as follows:

	<u>Quantity</u>	Aggregate <u>cost</u> RM	Fair <u>value</u> RM	Percentage <u>of NAV</u> %
Hang Seng China Enterprises Index ETF	264,800	9,771,179	8,397,894	1.05
iShares Hang Seng TECH ETF	3,756,800	19,191,426	14,284,950	1.80
Tracker Fund of Hong Kong	1,753,000	19,553,229	16,555,420	2.08
	<u>5,774,600</u>	<u>48,515,834</u>	<u>39,238,264</u>	<u>4.93</u>
Total exchange-traded funds - foreign	<u>5,774,600</u>	<u>48,515,834</u>	<u>39,238,264</u>	<u>4.93</u>
Accumulated unrealised loss on Exchange-traded funds - foreign		<u>(9,277,570)</u>		
Total exchange-traded funds - foreign		<u>39,238,264</u>		

(ii) Exchange-traded funds – foreign as at 31 January 2023 is as follows:

	<u>Quantity</u>	Aggregate <u>cost</u> RM	Fair <u>value</u> RM	Percentage <u>of NAV</u> %
ChinaAMC ETF Series - ChinaAMC	233,600	7,015,918	6,300,321	0.63
Total exchange-traded fund - foreign	<u>233,600</u>	<u>7,015,918</u>	<u>6,300,321</u>	<u>0.63</u>
Accumulated unrealised loss on Exchange-traded fund - foreign		<u>(715,597)</u>		
Total exchange-traded fund - foreign		<u>6,300,321</u>		

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 9 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	<u>2024</u> RM	<u>2023</u> RM
Cash and bank balances	75,871,073	35,720,866
Deposit with a licensed financial institution	2,466,629	11,709,366
	<u>78,337,702</u>	<u>47,430,232</u>

Weighted average effective interest rates per annum for deposit with a licensed financial institution is as follows:

	<u>2024</u> %	<u>2023</u> %
Deposit with a licensed financial institution	<u>3.00</u>	<u>2.75</u>

Deposit with a licensed financial institution has an average remaining maturity period of 2 days (2023: 2 days).

#### 10 NUMBER OF UNITS IN CIRCULATION

(a) MYR class units in circulation

	<u>2024</u> No. of units	<u>2023</u> No. of units
At the beginning of the financial year	1,341,258,000	1,410,763,000
Creation of units arising from applications	8,080,000	81,257,000
Cancellation of units	(266,557,000)	(150,762,000)
At the end of the financial year	<u>1,082,781,000</u>	<u>1,341,258,000</u>

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 10 NUMBER OF UNITS IN CIRCULATION (CONTINUED)

##### (b) AUD class units in circulation

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	No. of units	No. of units
At the beginning of the financial year	4,082,000	4,274,000
Creation of units arising from applications	213,000	211,000
Cancellation of units	(457,000)	(403,000)
At the end of the financial year	<u>3,838,000</u>	<u>4,082,000</u>

##### (c) GBP class units in circulation

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	No. of units	No. of units
At the beginning of the financial year	1,514,000	1,383,000
Creation of units arising from applications	237,000	308,000
Cancellation of units	(15,000)	(177,000)
At the end of the financial year	<u>1,736,000</u>	<u>1,514,000</u>

##### (d) SGD class units in circulation

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	No. of units	No. of units
At the beginning of the financial year	6,396,000	7,085,000
Creation of units arising from applications	389,000	286,000
Cancellation of units	(806,000)	(975,000)
At the end of the financial year	<u>5,979,000</u>	<u>6,396,000</u>

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 10 NUMBER OF UNIT IN CIRCULATION (CONTINUED)

(e) USD class units in circulation

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	No. of units	No. of units
At the beginning of the financial year	4,610,000	5,240,000
Creation of units arising from applications	173,000	480,000
Cancellation of units	(279,000)	(1,110,000)
At the end of the financial year	<u>4,504,000</u>	<u>4,610,000</u>

#### 11 TRANSACTIONS WITH BROKERS

(i) Details of transactions with the top 10 brokers for the financial year ended 31 January 2024 is as follows:

<u>Name of brokers</u>	<u>Value of trade</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Brokerage</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
	RM	of	fees	of total
		total trade	RM	brokerage
		%		%
Macquarie Capital Securities (India) Private Limited	312,110,466	8.87	522,797	7.41
J.P. Morgan Securities (Asia Pacific) Ltd HK	211,302,949	6.01	504,417	7.16
Macquarie Capital Securities(M) Sdn Bhd	186,362,995	5.30	342,154	4.85
CLSA Ltd	178,724,341	5.08	325,488	4.62
CLSA India Ltd	172,594,995	4.91	431,487	6.12
CLSA Singapore Pte Ltd	164,670,285	4.68	160,946	2.28
Daiwa Securities SMBC	152,130,973	4.32	380,328	5.39
Macquarie Securities Ltd Seoul	134,532,797	3.82	324,028	4.60
Kotak Securities Ltd	133,623,922	3.80	267,248	3.79
Credit Lyonnais Securities Seoul	126,991,384	3.61	317,478	4.50
Others*	1,744,845,808	49.60	3,474,384	49.28
	<u>3,517,890,915</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>7,050,755</u>	<u>100.00</u>

\* Included in other transactions with brokers are trades with Affin Hwang Investment Bank Berhad, the former immediate holding company of the Manager amounting to RM5,012,167 (2023: RM Nil). The Manager is of the opinion that all transactions with the former immediate holding company have been entered into in the normal course of business at agreed terms between the related parties.

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 11 TRANSACTIONS WITH BROKERS (CONTINUED)

(ii) Details of transactions with the top 10 brokers for the financial year ended 31 January 2023 is as follows:

<u>Name of brokers</u>	<u>Value of trade</u> RM	Percentage of <u>total trade</u> %	<u>Brokerage</u> <u>fees</u> RM	Percentage of total <u>brokerage</u> %
Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated. NY	205,011,493	6.87	35,736	0.59
Instinet Pacific Ltd	164,862,271	5.52	410,321	6.81
CMB International Global Markets Ltd	156,057,606	5.23	305,469	5.07
Jefferies India Private Ltd	150,136,739	5.03	225,205	3.73
Merrill Lynch International Equities London	136,042,781	4.56	347,288	5.76
RBS Morgans Ltd	132,901,438	4.45	332,254	5.51
CLSA Ltd	126,222,287	4.23	314,248	5.21
Macquarie Capital Securities (India) Pvt Ltd	110,969,269	3.72	277,423	4.60
Fubon Securities Co Taipei	110,411,731	3.70	220,824	3.66
Macquarie (M) Sdn Bhd	108,898,412	3.65	230,274	3.82
Others	1,584,018,743	53.04	3,330,824	55.24
	<u>2,985,532,770</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>6,029,866</u>	<u>100.00</u>

#### 12 UNITS HELD BY THE MANAGER AND PARTIES RELATED TO THE MANAGER

The related parties of and their relationship with the Fund are as follows:

<u>Related parties</u>	<u>Relationships</u>
CVC Capital Partners Asia V L.P. ("CVC Asia V")	Ultimate holding company of the Manager
Lembaga Tabung Angkatan Tentera ("LTAT")	Former ultimate holding corporate body of the Manager and substantial shareholder of the Manager
Affin Bank Berhad ("ABB")	Former penultimate holding company of the Manager
Affin Hwang Investment Bank Berhad	Former immediate holding company of the Manager



## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 12 UNITS HELD BY THE MANAGER AND PARTIES RELATED TO THE MANAGER (CONTINUED)

The related parties of and their relationship with the Fund are as follows: (continued)

<u>Related parties</u>	<u>Relationships</u>
Starlight TopCo Limited	Penultimate holding company of the Manager
Starlight Universe Limited	Intermediate holding company of the Manager
Starlight Asset Sdn Bhd	Immediate holding company of the Manager
Nikko Asset Management International Limited ("NAMI")	Former substantial shareholder of the Manager
Nikko Asset Management Co. Ltd ("NAM")	Substantial shareholder of the Manager
AHAM Asset Management Berhad	The Manager
Subsidiaries and associated companies of CVC Asia V as disclosed in their financial statements	Subsidiaries and associated companies of the ultimate holding company of the Manager
Subsidiaries and associated companies of ABB as disclosed in its financial statements	Subsidiaries and associated companies of the former penultimate holding company of the Manager
Directors of AHAM Asset Management Berhad	Directors of the Manager

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 12 UNITS HELD BY THE MANAGER AND PARTIES RELATED TO THE MANAGER (CONTINUED)

The units held by the Manager and party related to the Manager as at the end of the financial year are as follows:

	2024		2023	
	No. of units	RM	No. of units	RM
<u>The Manager</u>				
AHAM Asset Management Berhad (The units are held legally for booking purposes)				
- MYR class	3,110	2,208	436,132	317,766
- AUD class	3,393	5,035	3,630	5,527
- GBP class	2,897	7,614	3,991	10,764
- SGD class	3,846	5,678	2,798	4,238
- USD class	3,019	5,222	2,519	4,471
	3,110	2,208	436,132	317,766
<u>Party related to the Manager</u>				
Director of AHAM Asset Management Berhad (The units are held legally for booking purposes)				
	-	-	1,408,113	1,025,951
	-	-	1,408,113	1,025,951

## AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)

#### 13 TOTAL EXPENSE RATIO (“TER”)

	<u>2024</u> %	<u>2023</u> %
TER	<u>1.95</u>	<u>1.84</u>

TER is derived from the following calculation:

$$\text{TER} = \frac{(A + B + C + D + E + F + G) \times 100}{H}$$

- A = Management fee, excluding management fee rebates
- B = Trustee fee
- C = Fund accounting fee
- D = Auditors' remuneration
- E = Tax agent's fee
- F = Other expenses, excluding sales and service tax on transaction costs and withholding tax
- G = Average NAV of the Fund calculated on a daily basis

The average NAV of the Fund for the financial year calculated on a daily basis is RM932,449,714 (2023: RM1,036,894,684).

#### 14 PORTFOLIO TURNOVER RATIO (“PTR”)

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
PTR (times)	<u>1.90</u>	<u>1.52</u>

PTR is derived from the following calculation:

$$\frac{(\text{Total acquisition for the financial year} + \text{total disposal for the financial year}) \div 2}{\text{Average NAV of the Fund for the financial year calculated on a daily basis}}$$

where: total acquisition for the financial year = RM1,665,312,558 (2023: RM1,550,504,359)  
total disposal for the financial year = RM1,872,306,261 (2023: RM1,605,102,491)

## **AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024 (CONTINUED)**

#### **15 SIGNIFICANT EVENT DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR**

##### Change in corporate shareholding of AHAM Asset Management Berhad

On 19 April 2023, Nikko Asset Management International Limited (“NAMI”) has divested all its equity interest of 27% in AHAM Asset Management Berhad to Nikko Asset Management Co. Ltd (“NAM”) for 20% and remaining 7% of the equity interest to Lembaga Tabung Angkatan Tentera (“LTAT”), resulting in both NAM and LTAT becoming substantial shareholders of the Manager.

## **AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY FUND**

### **STATEMENT BY THE MANAGER**

I, Dato' Teng Chee Wai, for and on behalf of the board of directors of the Manager, **AHAM Asset Management Berhad**, do hereby state that in the opinion of the Manager, the financial statements set out on pages 1 to 52 are drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Deeds and give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Fund as at 31 January 2024 and of its financial performance, changes in net assets attributable to unitholders and cash flows for the financial year ended 31 January 2024 in accordance with the Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards and International Financial Reporting Standards.

For and on behalf of the Manager,  
**AHAM ASSET MANAGEMENT BERHAD**

**DATO' TENG CHEE WAI**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/MANAGING DIRECTOR**

Kuala Lumpur  
27 March 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT  
TO THE UNITHOLDERS OF AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY  
FUND

REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements of AHAM Select Asia (Ex Japan) Opportunity Fund (“the Fund”) give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Fund as at 31 January 2024, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the financial year then ended in accordance with Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards and International Financial Reporting Standards.

What we have audited

We have audited the financial statements of the Fund, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 January 2024, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in net assets attributable to unitholders and statement of cash flows for the financial year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information, as set out on pages 1 to 51.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with approved standards on auditing in Malaysia and International Standards on Auditing. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the “Auditors’ responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements” section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

*Independence and other ethical responsibilities*

We are independent of the Fund in accordance with the By-Laws (on Professional Ethics, Conduct and Practice) of the Malaysian Institute of Accountants (“By-Laws”) and the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants’ International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards) (“IESBA Code”), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the By-Laws and the IESBA Code.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT  
TO THE UNITHOLDERS OF AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY  
FUND (CONTINUED)**

**REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

Information other than the financial statements and auditors' report thereon

The Manager of the Fund is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Manager's Report, but does not include the financial statements of the Fund and our auditors' report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements of the Fund does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements of the Fund, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements of the Fund or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Manager for the financial statements

The Manager of the Fund is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements of the Fund that give a true and fair view in accordance with Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards and International Financial Reporting Standards. The Manager is also responsible for such internal control as the Manager determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements of the Fund that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements of the Fund, the Manager is responsible for assessing the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Manager either intends to liquidate the Fund or to terminate the Fund, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements of the Fund as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with approved standards on auditing in Malaysia and International Standards on Auditing will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT  
TO THE UNITHOLDERS OF AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY  
FUND (CONTINUED)

REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

As part of an audit in accordance with approved standards on auditing in Malaysia and International Standards on Auditing, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- (a) Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements of the Fund, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- (b) Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal control.
- (c) Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Manager.
- (d) Conclude on the appropriateness of the Manager's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements of the Fund or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Fund to cease to continue as a going concern.
- (e) Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements of the Fund, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements of the Fund represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Manager regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT  
TO THE UNITHOLDERS OF AHAM SELECT ASIA (EX JAPAN) OPPORTUNITY  
FUND (CONTINUED)

OTHER MATTERS

This report is made solely to the unitholders of the Fund, and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility to any other person for the content of this report.

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS PLT  
LLP0014401-LCA & AF 1146  
Chartered Accountants

Kuala Lumpur  
27 March 2024

## **DIRECTORY OF SALES OFFICE**

### **HEAD OFFICE**

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Fax : 07 – 223 8998

## **DIRECTORY OF SALES OFFICE (CONTINUED)**

### **SABAH**

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**AHAM Asset Management Berhad**

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