



PRESS RELEASE

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Manulife Asset Management and Trust Corporation Launches Asia Equity Fund to Offer Investors Best-in-class Exposures to the Growing Asian Equity Markets

MANILA, Philippines – Manulife Asset Management and Trust Corporation (MAMTC) announced today the launch of the Manulife Asia Best Select Equity Fund (the ‘Fund’). The Fund seeks to achieve capital growth by investing in a diversified portfolio of best-in-class companies in Asia.

“We see a growing demand of investment solutions in the Philippines and the launch of the Manulife Asia Best Select Equity Fund underlines our commitment to offering investors with a wide range of solutions generating healthy returns. The launch of MAMTC’s first Asian equity fund draws on the strong capabilities and proven track record of our diverse on-the-ground investment teams in 10 markets in the region,” Aira Gaspar, President and Chief Executive Officer of MAMTC, said.

The Fund provides investors access to a wealth of equity opportunities in Australia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, People’s Republic of China, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam and Pakistan. Companies selected consist of high-quality industry leaders and emerging companies who are capable of capturing opportunities arising from economic and demographic changes in the region.

“Asia equities remain an attractive asset class in 2018 as earnings growth is expected to sustain through the year thanks to a more broad-based recovery in the global economy. Significant reforms have taken place in the past two years and most Asian economies stay resilient to an interest rate tightening cycle. We expect that economic growth in the region will be supported by a relatively benign interest rate environment as inflation stays at reasonable levels. Now is an opportune time to invest in Asia, as valuations remain undemanding,” Kenglin Tan, Managing Director and Senior Portfolio Manager, Asia Equities (ex-Japan).

The Manulife Asia Best Select Equity Fund adopts an in-depth, bottom up approach with a longer term investment focus. The portfolio was built through strong conviction and a rigorous selection process. It invests in a concentrated portfolio of 30-60 core holdings.

The Fund is available for investment in US Dollar (USD) and Philippine Peso-Unhedged¹ (PhP) Share Classes, with minimum initial investment of USD100 and PhP5,000, respectively.

For more information about the Manulife Asia Best Select Equity Fund, visit <https://assetmanagement.manulife.com.ph/> or call (02) 884-7000.

¹ Allows subscriptions in PhP but without any currency hedging between the PhP and the USD, which is the base currency of the Fund. Thus, participants in the PhP-Unhedged share class are fully exposed to fluctuation in the USD/PhP exchange rate.

About Manulife

Manulife Financial Corporation is a leading international financial services group that helps people make their decisions easier and lives better. We operate primarily as John Hancock in the United States and Manulife elsewhere. We provide financial advice, insurance, as well as wealth and asset management solutions for individuals, groups and institutions. At the end of 2017, we had about 35,000 employees, 73,000 agents, and thousands of distribution partners, serving more than 26 million customers. As of March 31, 2018, we had over \$1.1 trillion (US\$850 billion) in assets under management and administration, and in the previous 12 months we made \$26.9 billion in payments to our customers. Our principal operations are in Asia, Canada and the United States where we have served customers for more than 100 years. With our global headquarters in Toronto, Canada, we trade as 'MFC' on the Toronto, New York, and the Philippine stock exchanges and under '945' in Hong Kong.

About Manulife Asset Management

Manulife Asset Management is the global asset management arm of Manulife Financial Corporation ("Manulife"). We provide comprehensive asset management solutions for investors across a broad range of public and private asset classes, as well as asset allocation solutions. We also provide portfolio management for affiliated retail Manulife and John Hancock product offerings.

Our investment solutions include public and private equity and fixed income, real estate and infrastructure equity and debt, timberland and farmland, oil and gas, renewable energy, and mezzanine financing. We operate in the United States, Canada, Brazil, the United Kingdom, New Zealand, Australia, Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, the Philippines, as well as through a China joint venture, Manulife TEDA. We also serve investors in select European, Middle Eastern, and Latin American markets.

As of March 31, 2018, assets under management for Manulife Asset Management were approximately C\$508 billion (US\$394 billion, GBP£281 billion, EUR€320 billion). Additional information may be found at ManulifeAM.com.

About Manulife Asset Management and Trust Corporation

Manulife Asset Management and Trust Corporation (MAMTC) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Manufacturers Life Insurance Co. (Phils.) Inc. (Manulife Philippines). It provides investment solutions to both retail and institutional clients. MAMTC started its operations in September 2017. MAMTC is part of Manulife Asset Management, the global asset management arm of Manulife.

Disclaimer

The Manulife Asset Management and Trust Corporation's products and services are trust and/or investment solutions and NOT deposit accounts, obligations of, guaranteed or insured by the Trustee or its affiliates. The Fund/s are not insured or governed by the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation (PDIC). Due to the nature of the investment, yields and potential yields cannot be guaranteed. Any loss/income arising from market fluctuations and price volatility of the securities held by the Fund/s, even if invested in government securities, is for the account of the client/participant. As such, the units of participation of the investor in the Fund/s, when redeemed, may be worth more or be worth less than his/her initial investment contributions. Historical performance, when presented, is purely for reference purposes and is not a guarantee of similar future result. Manulife Asset Management and Trust Corporation is not liable for losses unless upon willful default, bad faith or gross negligence on its part.

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