# AIA PESO BALANCED FUND

July 31, 2024

0.07%

## **Fund Description**

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

#### Historical Performance<sup>1</sup> **Fund Allocation** Cash & Cash 2.84% 4.83% Equivalent 1 Returns are net of fees. Past performance is not indicative of future returns 0.07% Net Asset Value Per Unit (NAVPU) Graph 1.13 1.03 0.93 0.83 0.73 0.63 UITE 99 93% Key Figures and Statistics Top Five Common Stock 1.0483 NET ASSET VALUE PER UNIT (NAVPU) INCEPTION DATE 20 February, 2023 % of Fund Name **Equity Fund FUND CLASSIFICATION** AIA PESO LONG-TERM BOND FUND 50 26% **RISK PROFILE** Moderate AIA PESO EQUITY FUND 34.73% **FUND CURRENCY** Philippine Peso AIA PESO MONEY MARKET FUND 14.94%

Philippines

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

In making an investment decision, prospective investors must rely on their own examination of the merits and risks involved. Unless otherwise noted, an information contained herein is sourced from AIA Philippines.

Philippine Peso

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#### Commentary:

#### **Market Review**

#### **Macro Update**

With local price pressures likely to have peaked, a move towards monetary policy easing is imminent. As widely expected, headline inflation in July rose to 4.4% year-on-year in July from 3.7% in June largely due to unfavorable base effects for fuelsensitive goods in the previous year. Meanwhile, core inflation moderated to 2.9% from 3.1% in June. Inflation pressures are expected to ease with the passing of Executive Order 62 where it lowered rice tariffs from 35% to 15% effective July 1, 2024. The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) is anticipated to start cutting its policy rates as early as August. Meanwhile, the US Federal Reserve (Fed) has strengthened its case for a September rate cut due to lower than expected inflation prints and labor market data.

#### **Bond Market Update**

Peso bond yields fell in July following the BSP's stronger signals for a policy rate cut in the next few months. Benchmark yields in the 2-year closed at 6.00% (down by 0.25%), 5-year at 6.12% (down by 0.31%), 10-year at 6.17% (down by 0.48%), and 20year at 6.34% (down by 0.48%).

#### **Equity Market Update**

The PSEi recovered in July and posted its first monthly gain since February, +3.23% MoM to 6,619.09, as easing inflation figures led investors to price-in an imminent rate cut in both US and Philippines.

- Inflation rates for June in the Philippines and the US were reported at 3.7% and 3.0%, respectively. These figures are slightly lower than the market predictions of 3.9% for the Philippines and 3.1% for the US.
- BSP Governor Remolona signalled rate cut to commence in August.
- Meanwhile in the US, market is pricing in 3 potential rate cuts in 2024.
- Foreign investors turned net buyers of PH equities worth USD60m.

### Positioning, Outlook, and Strategy

Performance: The AIA Peso Balanced Fund gained 2.93%, gross of fees in July. It outperformed its benchmark by 0.38%. The fund's higher exposure to equities, which gave a positive return of 3.76% in the month, boosted returns.

#### Positioning, Outlook, and Strategy:

With BSP policy rate cuts in the horizon, local bond prices are expected to recover in the second half of 2024. Prospects of monetary policy accommodation and easing inflation pressures provide a favorable backdrop for both fixed income and equities.

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