# **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 & 2.72% 8.38% 5.14% 7.18% Cash 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 0.53 tog, Nog, Sog, Sog, Sog, Sog, Sog, Sog, Sog, Nog, Vog, Vog, Vog, Sog, Vog, Sog, Sog, Sog, Sog, Sog, Sog, Sog, 99.93% 0.00% Key Figures and Statistics Top Five Common Stock 1 0718 NET ASSET VALUE PER UNIT (NAVPU) INCEPTION DATE 20 February, 2023 % of Fund Name **Equity Fund FUND CLASSIFICATION** AIA PESO LONG-TERM BOND FUND 50.04% RISK PROFILE Moderate AIA PESO EQUITY FUND 35.24% Philippine Peso FUND CURRENCY AIA PESO MONEY MARKET FUND 14.65% DOMICILE Philippines Philippine Peso 0.07%

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

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

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

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



# AIA PESO BALANCED FUND August 30, 2024

#### Commentary:

#### Market Review

#### **Macro Update**

The nation's macroeconomic resiliency amid moderating inflation created a favorable backdrop for the BSP to comfortably start monetary policy easing. The Philippine economy expanded 6.3% y/y in 2Q, within analyst median predictions, which was higher from 5.8% in 1Q. The improvement is mostly driven by a catch up in government spending, while consumer spending and private investment remain subdued. Inflation eased in August to 3.3% y/y, slower than expectations of 3.6%, down from its peak in July at 4.4%. Main driver was the slowdown in rice prices, which make up 9% of the inflation basket, decreasing to 14% y/y after months of hovering at annualized increases of 20%. This is due to the passing of Executive Order 62, which lowered rice tariffs from 35% to 15% effective July 1, 2024. Core inflation also eased to 2.6% y/y from 2.9% the previous month. With these, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) marked the beginning of its monetary policy easing as they lowered its policy rate by 0.25% to 6.25%. Consequently, risk-adjusted inflation forecasts for 2024 and 2025 now stand at 3.3% and 2.9%, from their last meeting's forecasts 3.1% for both years.

#### **Bond Market Update**

Peso bond yields mostly fell in August after BSP cut its policy rates and inflation is on its downward trajectory. Benchmark yields in the 2-year closed at 6.00% (unchanged), 5-year at 6.04% (down by 0.08%), 10-year at 6.07% (down by 0.10%), and 20-year at 6.18% (down by 0.16%).

#### **Equity Market Update**

The PSEi continued to rally (+4.21% MoM) in August as investors welcomed the BSP's decision to commence the policy easing cycle. Global risk sentiment likewise improved on the back of Fed rate cut expectation in September, leading to strengthening of the Philippine Peso which sustained foreign interest.

- BSP cut PH policy rates by 25bps to 6.25%
- Market is pricing-in 25-50bps rate cut by the Fed in September.
- PHP strengthened by 3.82% (P56.14) vs the USD.
- Market conviction improved immediately after the BSP's rate cut as reflected in the significant uptick in average turnoverat P6.7b vs YTD average of P5.0b.
- Foreign investors remained net buyers of local equities worth USD143m

## Positioning, Outlook, and Strategy

Performance: The AIA Peso Balanced Fund gained 2.36% gross of fees in August. It outperformed its benchmark by 0.25%. The fund's higher exposure to equities, which gave a positive return of 5% during the month, boosted returns.

### Positioning, Outlook, and Strategy:

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

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