

# News Release

For Immediate Release

3 July 2024

## Manulife Investment Management (M) Berhad Launches Manulife Asia Technology Fund to Capitalise on Emerging Technology Leaders in Asia

Kuala Lumpur – Manulife Investment Management (M) Berhad ('Manulife IM') announced today the launch of [the Manulife Asia Technology Fund](#) (the 'Fund'). The Fund is a retail feeder fund that invests into the Wellington Asia Technology Fund (the "Target Fund"), an equity fund which invests in technology companies operating in Asia that are driving the technology evolution or are growing in importance on the global stage.

**Jason Chong, CEO, Manulife Investment Management (M) Berhad** said: "We are excited to introduce a new, innovative investment strategy to our range of fund offerings. As a leading provider of long-term investment solutions in Malaysia, our goal is to enable investors to leverage transformative global trends in pursuit of their financial objectives. We believe the Asia technology sector presents a multi-year investment opportunity, as new technologies are constantly emerging and revolutionising the way people live and work. Advanced adoption of such technologies will be essential for any company to stay relevant."

**Chong** added: "We believe Asia, with its burgeoning middle class, is the world's future growth engine. Asia is also the heart of the global semiconductor supply chain, leading in the design, manufacturing, and consumption of these critical components. Given the technology supply chain is increasingly becoming the supply chain of the future, the secular growth in demand for new technologies creates potential opportunities at each level of this ecosystem. As the epicenter of technology innovation, the Asia region offers compelling investment prospects across the technology landscape."

Although Western large-cap firms dominate the global technology market, the smaller and sometimes more agile Asia Pacific technology companies offer substantial growth potential. The Asia Tech sector, primarily composed of smaller-cap companies, is recognised for its early-stage innovation and is at the forefront of driving technological advancements<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Sources: FactSet, Wellington Management as of April 2024 | FactSet geographic universe, information technology, broadband retail, internet retail, consumer electronics, entertainment, interactive media & services, media, industrial machinery, professional services, and transactions & payment processing companies greater than USD 100 million in market capitalisation.

**Ng Chze How, Head of Retail Wealth Distribution, Manulife Investment Management (M)**

**Berhad** said: “Smaller and mid-cap Asia technology stocks with market capitalisations of USD\$10 billion or lower have historically played a significant role in driving the Target Fund's performance during positive market periods, such as from 2019 to 2021. These ‘under the radar gems’ remain largely underappreciated by the broader market, offering growth potential for investors interested in the Asia technology sector.”

**Ng** highlighted: “In the near term, the technology sector has responded well to improving expectations of accelerating demand for semis and technology hardware. As we look to the future, the focus of the Fund is on finding high-quality Asian technology companies trading at reasonable valuations, which are well-positioned to capitalise on the sector's structural tailwinds.”

The Fund will invest at least 85% of its net asset value (NAV) in Class S USD of the Wellington Asia Technology Fund, and the remaining NAV of the Fund will be in liquid assets such as money market instruments, placement of short-term deposits with financial institutions for liquidity purposes and/or derivative for hedging purposes.

The Fund is suitable for investors who seek capital appreciation, have a long-term investment horizon and wish to seek investment in technology-related companies in Asia.

Distribution of income, if any, is incidental. The classes that are offered for subscription by the Fund are A (USD) Class, A (RM) Class and A (RM-Hedged) Class. The Fund is now available for subscription through unit trust advisers of Manulife Investment Management (M) Berhad.

For more information about the Manulife Asia Technology Fund, visit [manulifeim.com.my](http://manulifeim.com.my).

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Manulife Investment Management (M) Berhad Registration No: 200801033087 (834424-U) (“Manulife IM (Malaysia)”) is a wholly owned subsidiary of Manulife Holdings Berhad (listed on Bursa Malaysia), which is majority owned by Canada-based Manulife Financial Corporation. Manulife IM (Malaysia) offers a comprehensive range of more than 60 unit trust and PRS funds in the asset classes of equity, fixed income and money market. Since 2010, Manulife IM (Malaysia) has received 92 awards in total; with the twelve most significant house awards being won in 2024, 2023, 2018 & 2017, 2012, namely the Best Equity Fund Family Group Over Three Years, Malaysia, Best Mixed Asset Fund Family Group Over Three Years, Malaysia Provident Funds and Best Equity Fund Family Group Over Three Years, Malaysia Islamic Funds, by The 2024 LSEG Lipper Fund Awards, Best Equity Fund Family Group Over Three Years, Malaysia, Best Bond Fund Family Group Over Three Years, Malaysia Provident Funds, Best Mixed Assets Fund Family Group Over Three Years, Malaysia Islamic Funds and Best Mixed Assets Fund Family Group Over Three Years, Global Islamic Funds by The 2023 Refinitiv Lipper Fund Awards, Best Group Over 3 Years - Mixed Assets by Thomson Reuters Lipper Global Islamic Fund Award 2018, Best Overall Award Malaysia Provident for EPF-Approved Funds by The Edge | Thomson Reuters Lipper Fund Awards 2017, the Most Outstanding Islamic Asset Management Company by KLIFF Islamic Finance Awards 2017, Top Investment House Malaysia - Rank 5 in Asian Local Currency Bonds by The Asset Benchmark Research Awards 2017, and Best Mixed Assets Fund Group by The Edge-Lipper Malaysia Fund Awards 2012. Visit us online at [manulifeim.com.my](http://manulifeim.com.my).

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The above information has not been reviewed by the Securities Commission Malaysia (SC) and is subject to the relevant warning, disclaimer, qualification or terms and conditions stated herein. Investors are advised to read and understand the contents of the Prospectus of Manulife Asia Technology Fund dated 19 June 2024 and all the respective Product Highlights Sheet(s) (collectively, the "Offering Documents"), obtainable at our offices or website, before investing. The Offering Documents have been registered with the SC, however the registration with the SC does not amount to nor indicate that the SC has recommended or endorsed the product. There are risks involved with investing in unit trust funds; wholesale funds and/or Private Retirement Schemes. Some of these risks associated with investments in unit trust funds; wholesale funds and/or Private Retirement Schemes are interest rate fluctuation risk, foreign exchange or currency risk, country risk, political risk, credit risk, non-compliance risk, counterparty risk, target fund manager risk, liquidity risk and interest rate risk. For further details on the risk profile of all the funds, please refer to the Risk Factors section in the Offering Documents. The price of units and income distribution may go down as well as up. Investors should compare and consider the fees, charges and costs involved. Investors are advised to conduct own risk assessment and consult the professional advisers if in doubt on the action to be taken.

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