

# Investment Linked Fund Performance Report May 2019

# **General Advice Warning**

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# Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance

The information in this presentation should not be considered a personal recommendation on any of the securities or stocks mentioned.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The FBMKLCI Index rose 0.5% m-o-m (or 8.5 points) to close at 1,651 points at the end of May 2019. The average daily value traded on the Malaysian stock exchange fell 5.5% m-o-m to RM2.25billion in May 2019, partly due to lower trading activities by local institution and retail investors.

For fixed income market, Malaysia Government Securities ("MGS") prices rallied across the curve, moving the yields lower in May following a 25bps cut in Overnight Policy Rate ("OPR") by BNM in addition to the worsening US-China trade war tension, weaker GDP figure as well as the lower US Treasury yields. Ringgit was seen weakening further against the green back to RM 4.1890/USD from RM 4.1330/USD a month earlier. Brent crude oil prices were last seen at USD64.49/barrel compared to USD72.80/barrel a month before.

On the local economic front, Malaysia's Industrial Production Index (IPI) growth accelerated in April to grow 4% y-o-y, from 3.1% in March. This was above Bloomberg's consensus and our estimate of 2.5% and 2.4% respectively and was mainly led by rebound in mining activity and a broad-based acceleration in manufacturing activity, buoyed by both export and domestic-oriented production. The better-than-expected IPI performance in April is evident of a resilient and diversified economy.

For equity, we are cautious on the equity market outlook. Corporate earnings were still weak and the global geopolitical tension on trade war will continue to dampen the sentiment. We will continue to position the portfolio accordance to the constituents, and weighting on the defensive stocks amid uncertainty.

For fixed income, following the 25bps OPR cut in May 2019, BNM is expected to maintain slight-dovish monetary stance for the remaining 2019, in line with the weaker economic prospect and the expectation of US Fed rate cuts. The external risk factors such as geopolitical tension in the Middle-East, US-China trade war and fluctuation in crude oil prices will continue to weigh on the local market, but we believe corporate bond space still provides attractive yields. As such, we will keep looking to buy on dips of corporate bonds if the opportunity arises.

Based on the performance table below, on monthly basis, all of the funds outperformed their benchmarks.

Policyholders are encouraged to focus into regular premium given the current risk and volatile period of the economic and market condition. Risk adverse investors should focus into income fund due to its less volatile as compared to equity related funds.

# Performance Table: Funds vs Benchmarks

	Asiapa	c Fund	Baland	ed Fund	Divider	nd Fund	Equity	Fund	Global Y	akin Fund	Incom	e Fund	Jati F	und
	Fund	Benchmark	Fund	Benchmark	Fund	Benchmark	Fund	Benchmark	Fund	Benchmark	Fund	Benchmark	Fund	Benchmark
Monthly (%)	-0.89%	-3.45%	0.88%	0.60%	1.33%	0.52%	0.81%	0.52%	-1.72%	-6.56%	0.81%	0.68%	0.99%	-0.35%
3 Months (%)	-0.66%	-5.00%	1.00%	-0.52%	-0.53%	-3.34%	-1.08%	-3.34%	1.16%	-4.74%	2.62%	2.32%	0.62%	0.54%
6 Months (%)	1.42%	0.90%	3.49%	1.44%	1.86%	-1.73%	1.32%	-1.73%	2.02%	-1.92%	4.32%	4.63%	3.37%	1.40%
12 Months (%)	1.78%	-6.01%	3.75%	1.17%	0.71%	-5.16%	0.76%	-5. <b>1</b> 6%	0.94%	-6.69%	7.49%	7.67%	0.20%	-3.12%

Source: MCIS Insurance Berhad

# AsiaPac Fund Monthly Report (May 2019)

# **Investment Objective**

To achieve steady income stream with potential growth in the Asia Pacific Region over medium to long term. The aim of the Fund is to outperform the S&P Ethical Pan Asia Select Dividend Opportunities Index over periods of five or more years.

### **Investment Strategy**

To invest in Asia Pacific Ethical Dividend Exchange Traded Fund (ETF), managed by CIMB Principal Asset Management where the ETF is listed on the Singapore Stock Exchange.

The ETF focuses on top 40 ethical and high yielding stocks in the Asia Pacific Region excluding India, Taiwan, Japan, New Zealand and Philippines. The fund provides country diversification across the industry that is traded in US Dollar.

#### Risks

The Fund is considered low risk given the exposure to only one underlying securities with no attempt to select stocks individually or to take defensive positions in declining markets. Risk is managed at the management level, where the asset allocation of the fund to be reviewed on regular basis, and adjusted to commensurate with the Investment Team view on the relative attractiveness of each asset class.

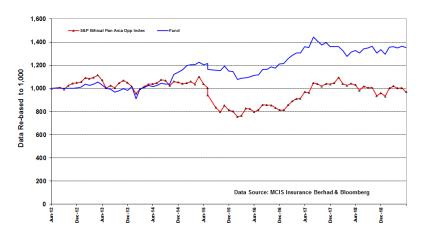
The following factors can potentially affect the value of the Fund; economic and political developments in related countries, foreign exchange fluctuation, illiquid and inefficient securities in the Emerging Markets, and the financial performance of the underlying companies.

The target market is for investors who are seeking regional exposure from investment and at the same time, seeking for medium to long term capital appreciation with moderate market risk.

# **Fund Performance**

For the month ended May 2019, the fund had outperformed the benchmark by 256bps MoM (month on month). The fund had also outperformed the benchmark since inception.

# AsiaPac Fund Performance Since Inception



# **Top Ten Holdings**

CIMB S&P Asia Pacific Ethical Dividend Exchange Traded Fund (ETF)

# **Fund Information**

NAV (31.05.19) RM0.6763
Fund Size RM50.68 million
Inception Date 15-July-2012
Fund Management 0.85% p.a.

Fee

Pricing Daily

Price Quote Major Newspaper, or http://www.mcis.my
Fund Manager MCIS Insurance Berhad

Exceptional Circumstances

Refer to your Policy Document

# **Asset Allocation Ranges**

Asset Class	Min	Max	Current Actual
ETF	80%	100%	82%
Cash	0%	20%	18%

#### **Performance Table**

Period	Fund	Index*
1 month (%)	-0.89%	-3.45%
3 months (%)	-0.66%	-5.00%
6 months (%)	1.42%	0.90%
12 months (%)	1.78%	-6.01%
2 years (% pa)	-0.27%	-0.08%
3 years (% pa)	6.67%	6.68%
5 years (% pa)	5.87%	-1.40%
Since Inception	4.46%	-0.46%

Notice: Past performance is not indicative of future performance, and the performance of the Fund is not guaranteed.

The Fund returns are calculated by MCIS and based on the value of the NAV, and for periods greater than 12-months are annualised numbers. Actual returns of the Fund are on a net basis (gross of tax and net of fees) and based on the performance of the Fund, and not the returns earned on the actual premiums/ contributions paid for the product.

<sup>\*</sup> Index is S&P Ethical Pan Asia Select Dividend Opportunities sourced from Bloomberg.

# Balanced Fund Monthly Report (May 2019)

# **Investment Objective**

The objective of the Balanced Fund is to provide security and income, while maintaining and potentially increasing the value of capital over the medium to long-term, through exposure across a range of asset classes. The Fund aims to outperform the performance benchmark over periods of three or more years.

#### **Investment Strategy**

To invest in Malaysian equities and fixed income securities, including government bonds and corporate debt securities. The asset allocation is reviewed on a regular basis, and is adjusted commensurate with our view on the relative attractiveness of each asset class.

#### **Risks**

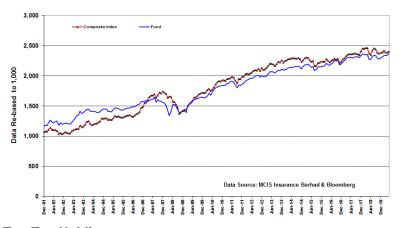
The Fund is considered medium risk given the mixed exposure of equity securities, fixed income and cash. The following factors can potentially affect the value of the Fund; consumer sentiment, financial performance of the underlying companies, industry and economy development, social and political factors, and the liquidity of the underlying assets. Additionally, levels of interest rates, and credit downgrades of defaults can affect the value of fixed income securities

The target market is clients wanting the surety of insurance protection, with an element of potential upside investment exposure.

#### **Fund Performance**

For the month ended May 2019, the fund had outperformed the benchmark by 28bps MoM (month on month). The outperformance was mainly driven by higher exposure of outperforming securities in the portfolio compared to benchmark.

#### **Balanced Fund Performance Since Inception**



# **Top Ten Holdings**

Malaysian Government Securities (Bond)
CIMB Bank Berhad (Bond)
Northern Gateway Infrastructure Sdn Bhd (Bond)
Sabah Development Bank Berhad (Bond)
Tenaga Nasional Berhad (Equity)
Sabah Credit Corporation (Bond)
Malayan Banking Berhad (Equity)
Projek Lebuhraya Utara-Selatan (Bond)
Malaysia Steel Works (KL) Berhad (Bond)
Bank Pembangunan Malaysia Berhad (Bond)

#### **Fund Information**

NAV (31.05.19) RM1.1808
Fund Size RM7.8 million
Inception Date 15-Oct-01
Fund Management 1.25% p.a.

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Price Quote Major Newspaper, or

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Fund Manager MCIS Insurance Berhad

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Circumstances

**Asset Allocation Ranges** 

Asset Class	Min	Max	Current Actual
Malaysian Equity	40%	60%	44%
Fixed Income	40%	60%	51%
Cash	0%	20%	5%

#### **Performance Table**

Period	Fund	Index*
1 month (%)	0.88%	0.60%
3 months (%)	1.00%	-0.52%
6 months (%)	3.49%	1.44%
12 months (%)	3.75%	1.17%
2 years (% pa)	1.20%	0.91%
3 years (% pa)	2.79%	2.61%
5 years (% pa)	2.03%	1.03%
Since Inception	4.98%	5.08%

Notice: Past performance is not indicative of future performance, and the performance of the Fund is not guaranteed.

The Fund returns are calculated by MCIS and based on the value of the NAV, and for periods greater than 12-months are annualised numbers. Actual returns of the Fund are on a net basis (gross of tax and net of fees) and based on the performance of the Fund, and not the returns earned on the actual premiums/ contributions paid for the product.

\* The benchmark index is a composite of 50% FBM KLCI Index and 50% of Markit iBoxx ALBI Malaysia TR Index (Since Dec '12). Prior to that, the index used was HSBC Malaysia All Bond Index for the fixed income portion. Benchmark return is calculated on re-based basis. The source is from the subscription of Markit Indices.

# Dividend Fund Monthly Report (May 2019)

# **Investment Objective**

To achieve steady income stream with potential for capital growth over medium to long term by focusing mostly on high dividend yielding stocks and money market instruments. The aim of the Fund is to outperform the FBM KLCI Index over periods of five or more years.

# **Investment Strategy**

To invest in a broad selection of companies listed on the Malaysian Stock Exchange. Using a relative value methodology, the fund focuses on undervalued stocks relative to fundamental value, with the aim of achieving an income stream, together with some degree of long-term capital gains.

#### **Risks**

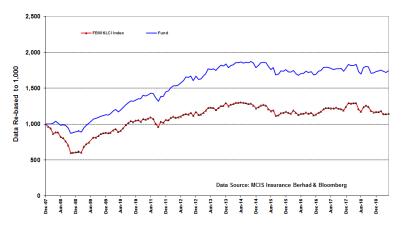
The Fund is considered high risk given the exposure to equity securities. The following factors can potentially affect the value of the Fund; consumer sentiment, financial performance of the underlying companies, the performance of the industry and economy, and the share market in general, social and political factors, and the liquidity of the underlying assets.

The target market is clients wanting the surety of insurance protection, with an element of potential upside investment exposure.

# **Fund Performance**

For the month ended May 2019, the fund had outperformed the benchmark by 81bps MoM (month on month). The outperformance was mainly driven by higher exposure of outperforming securities in the portfolio compared to benchmark.

# **Dividend Fund Performance Since Inception**



# **Top Ten Holdings**

Petronas Gas Berhad
Petronas Chemicals Group Berhad
Public Bank Berhad
Maxis Berhad
DiGi.Com Berhad
Malayan Banking Berhad
Tenaga Nasional Berhad
Axiata Group Berhad
IOI Corporation Berhad
Petronas Dagangan Berhad

#### **Fund Information**

NAV (31.05.19) RM0.8282
Fund Size RM31.41 million
Inception Date 21-Jan-08
Fund Management 1.5% p.a.

Fee

Pricing Daily

Price Quote Major Newspaper, or http://www.mcis.my

Fund Manager MCIS Insurance Berhad

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Circumstances

**Asset Allocation Ranges** 

Asset Class	Min	Max	Current Actual
Malaysian Equity	80%	100%	95%
Cash	0%	20%	5%

#### **Performance Table**

Period	Fund	Index*
1 month (%)	1.33%	0.52%
3 months (%)	-0.53%	-3.34%
6 months (%)	1.86%	-1.73%
12 months (%)	0.71%	-5.16%
2 years (% pa)	-1.21%	-3.31%
3 years (% pa)	1.28%	0.51%
5 years (% pa)	-1.25%	-2.50%
Since Inception	4.99%	1.17%
Yield #	3.40%	3.38%

Notice: Past performance is not indicative of future performance, and the performance of the Fund is not quaranteed.

The Fund returns are calculated by MCIS and based on the value of the NAV, and for periods greater than 12-months are annualised numbers. Actual returns of the Fund are on a net basis (gross of tax and net of fees) and based on the performance of the Fund, and not the returns earned on the actual premiums/ contributions paid for the product.

<sup>\*</sup> Index is FBM KLCI sourced from Bloomberg. # Yield data is sourced from Bloomberg, and MCIS.

# Equity Fund Monthly Report (May 2019)

# **Investment Objective**

The objective of the Equity Fund is to achieve capital growth over the medium to long term by focusing on high quality equities listed on the FBM KLCI Index. The aim of the Equity Fund is to outperform the Index over periods of five or more years.

#### **Investment Strategy**

To invest in a broad selection of companies listed on the Malaysian Stock Exchange. Using a relative value methodology, the fund focuses on the stocks whose shares appear undervalued relative to fundamental value, with the aim of achieving long term growth in capital value.

#### **Risks**

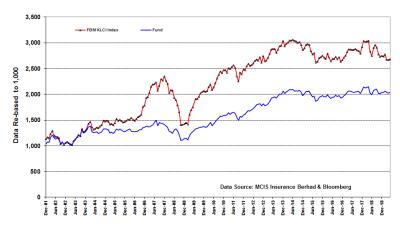
The Fund is considered high risk given the exposure to equity securities. The following factors can potentially affect the value of the Fund; consumer sentiment, financial performance of the underlying companies, the performance of the industry and economy, and the share market in general, social and political factors, and the liquidity of the underlying assets.

The target market is clients wanting the surety of insurance protection, with an element of potential upside investment exposure.

### **Fund Performance**

For the month ended May 2019, the fund had outperformed the benchmark by 29bps MoM (month on month). The outperformance was mainly driven by higher exposure of outperforming securities in the portfolio compared to benchmark.

# **Equity Fund Performance Since Inception**



#### **Top Ten Holdings**

Public Bank Berhad
Tenaga Nasional Berhad
Malayan Banking Berhad
IOI Corporation Berhad
Petronas Chemicals Group Berhad
Petronas Gas Berhad
Petronas Dagangan Berhad
Sime Darby Plantation Berhad
Maxis Berhad
CIMB Bank Berhad

### **Fund Information**

NAV (31.05.19) RM1.0199
Fund Size RM9.51 million
Inception Date 15-Oct-01
Fund Management 1.40% p.a.

Fee

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Fund Manager MCIS Insurance Berhad

Exceptional Circumstances

**Asset Allocation Ranges** 

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Asset Class	Min	Max	Current Actual		
Malaysian Equity	80%	100%	95%		
Cash	0%	20%	5%		

Refer to your Policy Document

# **Performance Table**

Period	Fund	Index*
1 month (%)	0.81%	0.52%
3 months (%)	-1.08%	-3.34%
6 months (%)	1.32%	-1.73%
12 months (%)	0.76%	-5.16%
2 years (% pa)	-0.47%	-3.31%
3 years (% pa)	2.08%	0.51%
5 years (% pa)	-0.42%	-2.50%
Since Inception	4.12%	5.74%
Yield #	3.32%	3.38%

Notice: Past performance is not indicative of future performance, and the performance of the Fund is not guaranteed.

The Fund returns are calculated by MCIS and based on the value of the NAV, and for periods greater than 12-months are annualised numbers. Actual returns of the Fund are on a net basis (gross of tax and net of fees) and based on the performance of the Fund, and not the returns earned on the actual premiums/ contributions paid for the product.

<sup>\*</sup> Index is FBM KLCI sourced from Bloomberg. # Yield data is sourced from Bloomberg, and MCIS.

# Global Yakin Fund Monthly Report (May 2019)

# **Investment Objective**

The fund aims for capital appreciation in the long term by investing in an international portfolio of Shariah-compliant equities and equity-related securities of companies with good growth potential.

# **Investment Strategy**

The Fund is to feed into Aberdeen Standard Islamic World Equity Fund (ASIWEF) which managed by Aberdeen Standard Islamic Investment (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd. The Fund invests in shariah approved securities across the globe.

The Fund seeks to achieve its objective by investing in an international portfolio of Shariah-compliant equities and equity-related securities of companies with good growth potential. The countries that the Fund will invest in will include, but not limited to Canada, United States of America, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, Japan, Australia, China, Hong Kong, Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Brazil and Mexico.

#### **Risks**

The Fund is considered low risk given the exposure to only one underlying securities with no attempt to select stocks individually or to take defensive positions in declining markets. Risk is managed at the management level, where the asset allocation of the fund to be reviewed on regular basis, and adjusted to commensurate with the Investment Team view on the relative attractiveness of each asset class.

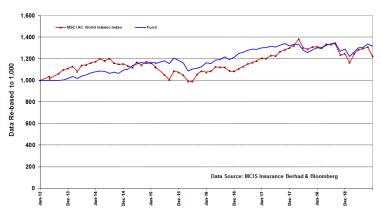
The following factors can potentially affect the value of the Fund; economic and political developments in related countries, foreign exchange fluctuation, illiquid and inefficient securities in the Emerging Markets, and the financial performance of the underlying companies.

The Fund is suitable for investors who seek capital appreciation over a long term investment horizon and who are willing to accept high level of risk.

# **Fund Performance**

For the month ended May 2019, the fund had outperformed the benchmark by 484bps MoM (month on month). The outperformance was mainly due to outperforming of the underlying securities compared to the benchmark index.

Global Yakin Fund Performance Since Inception



#### **Top Ten Holdings**

Aberdeen Standard Islamic World Equity Fund (ASIWEF)

#### **Fund Information**

NAV (31.05.19) RM0.6566
Fund Size RM40.5 million
Inception Date 8-July-2013
Fund Management 0.85% p.a.

Fee

Pricing Daily

Price Quote Major Newspaper, or

http://www.mcis.my

Fund Manager MCIS Insurance Berhad

Exceptional Circumstances

Refer to your Policy Document

**Asset Allocation Ranges** 

Asset Class	Min	Max	Current Actual
ASIWEF	80%	100%	82%
Cash	0%	20%	18%

#### **Performance Table**

Period	Fund	Index*
1 month (%)	-1.72%	-6.56%
3 months (%)	1.16%	-4.74%
6 months (%)	2.02%	-1.92%
12 months (%)	0.94%	-6.69%
2 years (% pa)	0.50%	0.68%
3 years (% pa)	4.21%	4.36%
5 years (% pa)	4.04%	1.02%
Since Inception	4.71%	3.44%

Notice: Past performance is not indicative of future performance, and the performance of the Fund is not guaranteed.

The Fund returns are calculated by MCIS and based on the value of the NAV, and for periods greater than 12-months are annualised numbers. Actual returns of the Fund are on a net basis (gross of tax and net of fees) and based on the performance of the Fund, and not the returns earned on the actual premiums/ contributions paid for the product.

<sup>\*</sup> Index is MSCI AC World Islamic sourced from Bloomberg.

# Income Fund Monthly Report (May 2019)

# **Investment Objective**

The objective of the Income Fund is to provide investors with security of income by investing in a mix of fixed income and fixed deposit securities. The aim of the Fund is to outperform the HSBC Malaysia Local Currency All Bond Total Return Index.

### **Investment Strategy**

To invest into underlying asset classes as per the Asset Allocation Ranges. The asset allocation is reviewed on a regular basis, and is adjusted commensurate with our view on the relative attractiveness of each asset class. The Fund invests in cash and fixed income securities including government bonds and corporate debt securities.

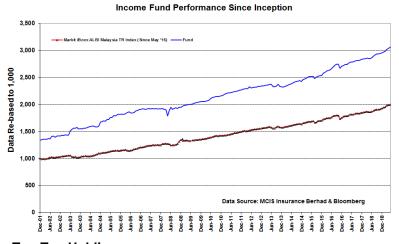
#### **Risks**

The Fund is considered lower risk given the exposure to cash and fixed income securities. The following factors can potentially affect the value of the Fund; consumer sentiment, financial performance of the underlying companies, the performance of the industry and economy, and the share market in general, social and political factors, and the liquidity of the underlying assets. Additionally, levels of interest rates, and credit downgrades or defaults can affect the value of fixed income securities.

The target market is clients wanting the surety of insurance protection, with an element of potential upside investment exposure.

#### **Fund Performance**

For the month ended May 2019, the fund had outperformed the benchmark by 13bps MoM (month on month). The outperformance was due to outperforming of the fixed income securities compared to the benchmark index.



# **Top Ten Holdings**

Northern Gateway Infrastructure Sdn Bhd UiTM Solar Power Sdn Berhad SAJ Capital Sdn Bhd YTL Corporation Berhad Malaysia Steel Works (KL) Berhad CIMB Bank Berhad Quantum Solar Park Malaysia Sdn Bhd Sabah Development Bank Berhad Asian Finance Bank Berhad Malaysian Government Securities

#### **Fund Information**

NAV (31.05.19) RM1.5348 Fund Size RM30.24 million Inception Date 15-Oct-01

Fund Management 0.5% p.a.

Fee

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Fund Manager MCIS Insurance Berhad

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Circumstances

# **Asset Allocation Ranges**

Asset Class	Min	Max	Current Actual
Fixed Income	75%	100%	85%
Cash	0%	25%	15%

### **Performance Table**

Period	Fund	Index*
1 month (%)	0.81%	0.68%
3 months (%)	2.62%	2.32%
6 months (%)	4.32%	4.63%
12 months (%)	7.49%	7.67%
2 years (% pa)	5.01%	5.08%
3 years (% pa)	5.13%	4.59%
5 years (% pa)	5.27%	4.53%
Since Inception	6.55%	4.01%

Notice: Past performance is not indicative of future performance, and the performance of the Fund is not guaranteed.

The Fund returns are calculated by MCIS and based on the value of the NAV, and for periods greater than 12-months are annualised numbers. Actual returns of the Fund are on a net basis (gross of tax and net of fees) and based on the performance of the Fund, and not the returns earned on the actual premiums/ contributions paid for the product.

\* The benchmark index is Markit iBoxx ALBI Malaysia TR Index (Since Dec '12). Prior to that, the index used was HSBC Malaysia All Bond Index. Benchmark return is calculated on rebased basis. The source is from the subscription of Markit Indices.

# Jati Fund Monthly Report (May 2019)

# **Investment Objective**

The Jati Fund is invested in accordance with Shariah principles in Shariah sanctioned equities, money market instruments, and fixed income investments. The aim is to provide security and income, while maintaining and potentially increasing the value of capital over the medium to long-term. The Jati Fund is not a takaful product.

# **Investment Strategy**

To invest in a broad selection of Shariah approved securities listed on the Malaysian Stock Exchange. Using a relative value methodology it looks to buy stocks whose shares appear undervalued relative to fundamental value, with the aim of achieving an income stream, together with some degree of long-term capital gains.

#### **Risks**

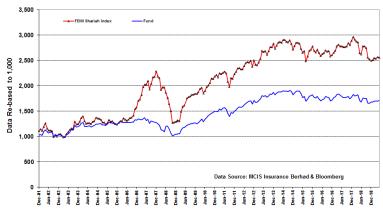
The Fund is considered high risk given the exposure to equity securities. The following factors can potentially affect the value of the Fund; consumer sentiment, financial performance of the underlying companies, the performance of the industry and economy, and the share market in general, social and political factors, and the liquidity of the underlying assets.

The target market is clients wanting the surety of insurance protection, with an element of potential upside investment exposure.

#### **Fund Performance**

For the month ended May 2019, the fund had outperformed the benchmark by 134bps MoM (month on month). The outperformance was mainly driven by higher exposure of outperforming securities in the portfolio compared to benchmark.

# Jati Fund Performance Since Inception



# **Top Ten Holdings**

Tenaga Nasional Berhad
Petronas Chemicals Group Berhad
Axiata Group Berhad
Perlis Plantation Berhad
Petronas Gas Berhad
Telekom Malaysia Berhad
Sime Darby Plantation Berhad
Maxis Berhad
Kuala Lumpur Kepong Berhad
Sime Darby Berhad

#### **Fund Information**

NAV (31.05.19) RM0.8560 Fund Size RM13.93 million

Inception Date 15-Oct-01 Fund Management 1.35% p.a.

Fee

Pricing Daily

Price Quote Major Newspaper, or

http://www.mcis.my MCIS Insurance Berhad

Exceptional F Circumstances

**Fund Manager** 

Refer to your Policy Document

# **Asset Allocation Ranges**

Asset Class	Min	Max	Current Actual
Malaysian Equity	80%	100%	86%
Cash	0%	20%	14%

#### **Performance Table**

Period	Fund	Index*	
1 month (%)	0.99%	-0.35%	
3 months (%)	0.62%	0.54%	
6 months (%)	3.37%	1.40%	
12 months (%)	0.20%	-3.12%	
2 years (% pa)	-2.85%	-4.02%	
3 years (% pa)	0.05%	-0.36%	
5 years (% pa)	-1.83%	-2.13%	
Since Inception	3.09%	5.47%	
Yield #	2.44 %	2.73%	

Notice: Past performance is not indicative of future performance, and the performance of the Fund is not quaranteed.

The Fund returns are calculated by MCIS and based on the value of the NAV, and for periods greater than 12-months are annualised numbers. Actual returns of the Fund are on a net basis (gross of tax and net of fees) and based on the performance of the Fund, and not the returns earned on the actual premiums/ contributions paid for the product.

<sup>\*</sup> Index is FBMS Index sourced from Bloomberg. # Yield data is sourced from Bloomberg, and MCIS.

# **Equity Market Review and Outlook**

#### **Market Review**

The FBMKLCI Index rose 0.5% m-o-m (or 8.5 points) to close at 1,651 points at the end of May 2019. We believe the rebound in the market was driven by net foreign buying in the later part of May, as investors bargain hunt because they see value emerging following recent underperformance of the index against its regional peers. The average daily value traded on the Malaysian stock exchange fell 5.5% m-o-m to RM2.25billion in May 2019, partly due to lower trading activities by local institution and retail investors.

In the first five months of 2019, Malaysia witnessed net foreign outflow of RM4.9billion. The earnings results season was not inspiring, but we are positive on the potential value creation from the recently proposed Telenor-Axiata merger and spate of M&As in the equity market. Total market capitalisation of all the stocks listed on the main board of Bursa Malaysia fell by 1.2% m-o-m to RM1,727billion in May, which is in contrast of the market gain.

On the local economic front, Malaysia's Industrial Production Index (IPI) growth accelerated in April to grow 4% yo-y, from 3.1% in March. This was above Bloomberg's consensus and our estimate of 2.5% and 2.4% respectively and was mainly led by rebound in mining activity and a broad-based acceleration in manufacturing activity, buoyed by both export and domestic-oriented production. The better-than-expected IPI performance in April is evident of a resilient and diversified economy.

Global stock markets fell in May across all major regions as trade negotiations between the US and China broke down. The US raised tariffs on USD200 billion worth of Chinese imports to 25%, from 10%, while China announced retaliatory tariffs on US goods. Tensions between the two countries escalated after the US put Chinese telecommunications group Huawei on a trade blacklist, citing security concerns. The Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped 6.69%, while the S&P's 500 Index lost 6.58%. Meanwhile China's Hang Seng Index fell 9.4% on monthly basis.



# Market Outlook & Strategy

Technically for short term, the index could potentially continue its upward trajectory after it broke out of the downtrend line from the 1,732 high on 28th May on the daily chart. However, the index is still consolidating in a major wedge pattern on the weekly chart. On the long run, the key index is likely to remain choppy and volatile in June unless the US and China are able to strike a trade deal.

Based on historical data, the FBMKLCI performance in June tends to be positive, registering an average monthly gain of 0.5% over the past 10 years and positive return of 0.5% as well over the past 40 years.

Moving forward, we are cautious on the equity market outlook. Corporate earnings were still weak and we expect the global geopolitical tension on trade war will continue to dampen the sentiment. We will continue to position the portfolio accordance to the constituents, and weighting on the defensive stocks amid uncertainty.

# **Fixed Income Review and Outlook**

#### **Market Review**

Malaysia Government Securities ("MGS") prices rallied across the curve, moving the yields lower in May following a 25bps cut in Overnight Policy Rate ("OPR") by BNM in addition to the worsening US-China trade war tension, weaker GDP figure as well as the lower US Treasury yields. MGS levels were last seen at: 3Y 3.396% (-1), 5Y 3.528% (-6), 7Y 3.685% (-8), 10Y 3.783% (0), 15Y 4.078% (-5), 20Y 4.267% (-9), 30Y 4.544% (-8). Ringgit was seen weakening further against the green back to RM 4.1890/USD from RM 4.1330/USD a month earlier. Brent crude oil prices were last seen at USD64.49/barrel compared to USD72.80/barrel a month before.

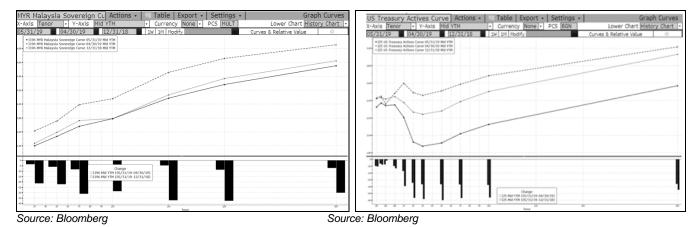
On local economic data, the inflation remains flattish in Apr'19 at +0.2% (Mar'19: +0.2% YoY). It is estimated that inflation will creep higher on the back of broadening SST base, new taxes (sugar tax, departure levy) and higher floating oil price in the second half of 2019. Malaysia's 1Q19 GDP growth slowed to +4.5% (4Q18: +4.7% YoY) on the back of slower private sector expenditure (1Q19: +5.9% YoY; 4Q18: +7.8% YoY) and decline in public sector spending (1Q19: -1.4% YoY; 4Q18: +0.0% YoY). Both Malaysia's export and import contracted in Mar'19 to -0.5% YoY (Feb'19: -5.3% YoY) and -0.1% YoY (Feb'19: -9.4% YoY) respectively, but the trade surplus was widened further to RM14.4bil (Feb'19: RM11.1bil).

External reserve decreased slightly to US\$102.8bil in mid-May'19 (end-Apr'19: US\$103.4bil), mainly driven by the foreign capital outflows from local equity market. The reserve is sufficient to cover 7.4 months of retained import and 1.0 times short term external debt, and is above the IMF's estimate of adequate reserve level of US\$96.9bil.

The auctions unveiled in May 2019 are as follows;

Government Auctions	Issue Date	Amount	Bid-cover	Avg Yield
Issue		(RM million)	(times)	(%)
30year New Issuance of GII(Mat 11/49)	15/5/2019	4,000.00	3.30	4.64
10year Re-Issuance of MGS(Mat 08/29)	24/5/2019	4,000.00	1.84	3.84
15year New Issuance of GII(Mat 11/34)	31/5/2019	4,000.00	3.38	4.12

Source: Bank Negara Malaysia



The 10-year US Treasury Yield collapsed to 2.12% by end-May'19 (end-Apr'19: 2.50%) after the dovish statement made by the FOMC officials. This was further intensified by the worry of a global economy recession from the unresolved US-China trade talks.

#### Market Outlook & Strategy

Following the 25bps OPR cut in May 2019, BNM is expected to maintain slight-dovish monetary stance for the remaining 2019, in line with the weaker economic prospect and the expectation of US Fed rate cuts. The external risk factors such as geopolitical tension in the Middle-East, US-China trade war and fluctuation in crude oil prices will continue to weigh on the local market, but we believe corporate bond space still provides attractive yields. As such, we will keep looking to buy on dips of corporate bonds if the opportunity arises.