

# Hong Leong Institutional Bond Fund

**Annual Report**

Financial Year Ended 31 October 2024

**2023/2024**

Audited



# HONG LEONG INSTITUTIONAL BOND FUND

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# Manager's Review and Report

## I. FUND INFORMATION

### Fund Name

Hong Leong Institutional Bond Fund ("HLIBF" or "the Fund")

### Fund Category

Bond

### Fund Type

Income

### Investment Objective

To offer a stable stream of income\* that is higher than the prevailing fixed deposit rate, and at the same time stability\*\* in capital. It also allows corporations that have excess liquidity for periods exceeding a year to have some current income that is tax exempted.

### Duration of the Fund and its termination date, where applicable

Not Applicable

### Benchmark

Maybank 12-Month Fixed Deposit Rate

### Distribution Policy

The Fund aims to provide monthly cash distributions on a best effort basis. The rate of the cash distribution will be determined at every month end in order to bring the NAV of the Fund to the proposed range of RM0.5000 per Unit. The distribution will be subject to availability of sufficient reserves for cash distribution.

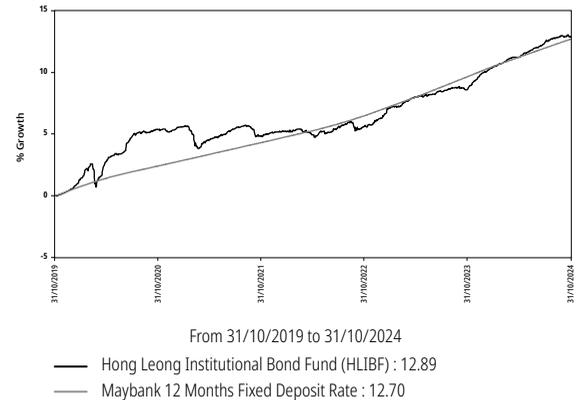
Notes:

\* Income may be distributed in the form of cash and/or Units.

\*\* Please take note that this Fund is not a capital guaranteed fund or a capital protected fund and the returns are not guaranteed.

## II. FUND PERFORMANCE

**Chart 1: Performance of the Fund versus the benchmark covering the last five financial years**



Source: Lipper for Investment Management, in Malaysian Ringgit terms, ex-distribution, NAV Per Unit-to-NAV Per Unit basis with gross income (if any) from HLIBF reinvested.

**Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future performance and unit prices and investment returns may go down, as well as up.**

### Performance Review

This Annual Report covers the twelve-month financial year from 1 November 2023 to 31 October 2024.

The Fund posted a return of 3.94% (based on NAV Per Unit-to-NAV Per Unit basis with gross income (if any) from the Fund reinvested) in the past twelve months while its benchmark the Maybank 12 Months Fixed Deposit (FD) Rate registered a return of 2.78%. During the financial year under review, the Fund has distributed 12 times of income distributions to its Unit holders. Unit holders should note that income distributions have the effect of reducing the Net Asset Value (NAV) of the Fund after distributions. For a full description of the income distributions, cum-distributions and ex-distributions NAV per unit of the Fund, kindly refer to section entitled 'Performance Data' at page 47-52.

For the five financial years ended 31 October 2024, the Fund posted a return of 12.89% compared to the benchmark's return of 12.70% while distributing a total gross income of 9.20 sen per unit (net income of 9.20 sen per unit).

**Table 1: Performance of the Fund for the following periods as at 31 October 2024 (Source: Lipper for Investment Management)**

	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	Since Launch
<b>HLIBF Return (%)</b>	0.43	1.49	3.94	7.65	12.89	38.41	85.36
<b>Benchmark (%)</b>	0.66	1.32	2.78	8.03	12.70	32.14	76.37

**Table 2: Return of the Fund based on NAV Per Unit-to-NAV Per Unit basis for the period 31 October 2023 to 31 October 2024 (Source: Lipper for Investment Management)**

	31-Oct-24	31-Oct-23	Return (%)
NAV Per Unit	RM0.5139	RM0.5089	3.94#
Benchmark	2.60%	3.10%	2.78
<b>vs Benchmark (%)</b>	-	-	1.16

# Return is calculated after adjusting for income distributions during the financial year under review.

**Table 3: Financial Highlights**

The Net Asset Value attributable to Unit holders is represented by:

	31-Oct-24 (RM)	31-Oct-23 (RM)	Change (%)
Unit Holders' Capital	<b>4,346,216</b>	5,764,846	(24.61)
Retained Earnings	<b>3,593,109</b>	3,476,669	3.35
<b>Net Asset Value</b>	<b>7,939,325</b>	9,241,515	(14.09)
<b>Units in Circulation</b>	<b>15,448,074</b>	18,159,330	(14.93)

**Table 4: The Highest and Lowest NAV Per Unit, Total Return of the Fund and the breakdown into Capital Growth and Income Distribution for the financial years ended 31 October**

	Financial Year 2024	Financial Year 2023	Financial Year 2022
Highest NAV Per Unit (RM)	0.5162	0.5187	0.5315
Lowest NAV Per Unit (RM)	0.5090	0.5087	0.5147
Capital Growth (%)	0.98	-1.17	-2.98
Income Distribution (%)	2.96	4.00	3.71
<b>Total Return (%)</b>	<b>3.94</b>	<b>2.83</b>	<b>0.73</b>

Source: Lipper for Investment Management, in Malaysian Ringgit terms, ex-distribution, NAV Per Unit-to-NAV Per Unit basis with gross income (if any) from HLIBF reinvested.

**Table 5: Average Total Return of the Fund for the financial year ended 31 October 2024**

	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years
Average Total Return (%)	3.94	2.55	2.58

Source: Lipper for Investment Management, in Malaysian Ringgit terms, ex-distribution, NAV Per Unit-to-NAV Per Unit basis with gross income (if any) from HLIBF reinvested.

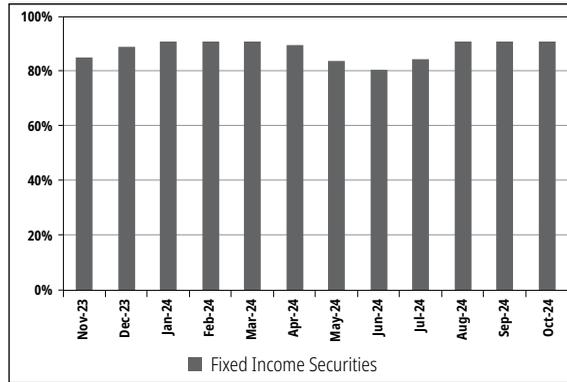
**Table 6: Annual Total Return of the Fund for the financial years ended 31 October**

Financial Year	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Annual Total Return (%)	3.94	2.83	0.73	-0.50	5.39

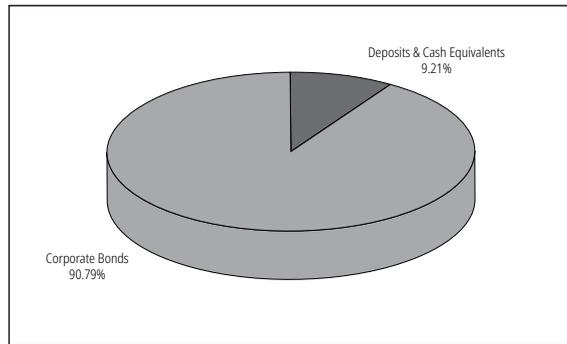
Source: Lipper for Investment Management, in Malaysian Ringgit terms, ex-distribution, NAV Per Unit-to-NAV Per Unit basis with gross income (if any) from HLIBF reinvested.

### III. INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

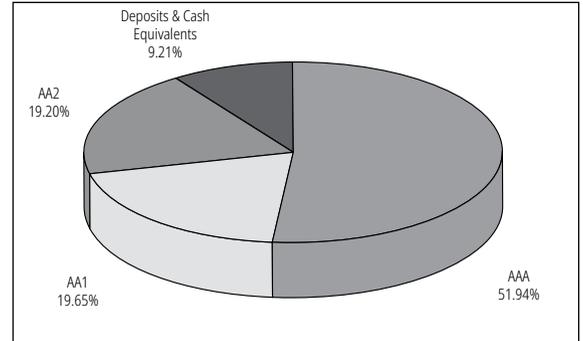
**Chart 2: Asset Allocation - November 2023 to October 2024**



**Chart 3: Sector Allocation as at 31 October 2024**



**Chart 4: Portfolio Composition by Ratings as at 31 October 2024**



**Strategies employed by the Fund during the period under review**

During the financial year under review, we continued to be fully invested in corporate bonds to improve portfolio yield.

**An explanation on the differences in portfolio composition**

The Fund decreased its holdings in government securities from 53.26% in the previous financial year to nil and invested more in corporate bonds from 32.49% in the previous financial year to 90.79% to enhance the portfolio yield.

**Operational review of the Fund**

The 2nd Supplemental Hong Leong Master Prospectus dated 5 January 2024 and 3rd Supplemental Hong Leong Master Prospectus dated 19 August 2024 were issued during the financial year under review to reflect various changes made to the Fund. Kindly refer to [www.hlam.com.my](http://www.hlam.com.my) for the full list of changes made to the Fund.

#### IV. MARKET REVIEW

At the start of 2024, the United States (US) bond market was volatile following stronger-than-expected consumer spending and Producer Price Index (PPI) in January amid sticky inflation numbers and strong job data. The Federal Reserve (Fed) remained concerned over the lack of progress on inflation and held the view to hold rates steady until there is greater confidence that US inflation was moving sustainably towards 2%.

In the September Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) meeting, the US Fed lowered the target range for the Fed Funds Rate (FFR) by 50 basis points (bps) to 4.75%-5.00%, marking the first rate cut since March 2020. Personal Consumption Expenditure (PCE) inflation for 2024 was revised down to 2.3% and 2.1% in 2025, slightly lower than previous June forecasts of 2.6% and 2.3% respectively. Projections for core inflation were also reduced to 2.6% and 2.2% for 2024 and 2025 respectively. Weak US economic data further strengthened expectations of a further 100 bps rate cuts in the next 2 FOMC meetings in November and December. 2-Year and 10-Year US Treasury (UST) yields rallied in the third quarter of 2024 and ended the quarter at 3.64% (end-December 2023: 4.28%) and 3.78% (end-December 2023: 3.88%) respectively. 2-Year and 10-Year UST yields further spiked up in October 2024 before the US elections following bond sell-off amidst market uncertainties and ended at 4.17% (end-October 2023: 5.09%) and 4.28% (end-October 2023: 4.93%) respectively at end-October 2024.

Meanwhile, on local shores, the Malaysian economy continued to expand at a robust pace of 5.3% year-on-year (YoY) in the advanced third quarter of 2024 Gross Domestic Product (GDP) report release, versus 5.9% in the second quarter of 2024. The GDP growth was mainly supported by increased manufacturing production, robust construction works and resilient service activities but dragged by slower numbers in agriculture and mining output. On average, the first 9 months of 2024 indicated an economic growth of 5.1%. Positive catalysts on growth include a salary hike for civil servants in December, which is expected to boost 2024 full year real GDP growth to meet Ministry of Finance's (MOF) forecast of 4.8%-5.3%. During the financial year under review, Malaysian Government Securities (MGS) yields generally tracked the UST movements. Bond yields were volatile during the financial year – 5-Year MGS yield ended at 3.67% (-19 bps) while 10-Year MGS decreased to 3.92% (-18 bps) at end-October 2024 (end-October 2023: 5-Year – 3.86%, 10-Year – 4.10%).

#### V. FUTURE PROSPECTS AND PROPOSED STRATEGIES

In the FOMC meeting in November, the Fed unanimously reduced the target range of its Fed Funds Target Rate (FFTR) by 25 bps to 4.50% to 4.75%, in line with market expectations. Trump's election win saw UST yields surge as bond investors resumed pricing in President-elect Donald Trump's policies of lower taxes and trade tariffs that are viewed as inflationary. Trump's plan for lower taxes and higher tariffs are expected to spur inflation and reduce the Fed's scope to ease interest rates.

On the local front, we expect Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) to keep the Overnight Policy Rate (OPR) unchanged at 3.0% throughout 2024 and 2025 on the back of strong economic fundamentals. Credit spreads for corporate bonds have tightened considerably since January 2024. However, in the longer run, with the anticipation of rate cuts in the developed markets, we remain positive on the medium-term outlook for the local bond market.

We continue to favour high investment grade corporate bonds with strong credit fundamentals to improve the fund yield.

### VI. SOFT COMMISSIONS

The Manager may receive soft commissions from brokers/dealers in the form of goods and services such as research materials, data and quotation services incidental to investment management of the Fund and investment related publications. Such soft commissions received are utilised in the investment management of the Fund and are of demonstrable benefit to the Fund and Unit holders and there was no churning of trades.

During the financial year under review, the Fund has not received goods or services by way of soft commissions.

### VII. SECURITIES LENDING OR REPURCHASE TRANSACTIONS

No securities lending or repurchase transactions have been carried out during the financial year under review.

### VIII. CROSS TRADE TRANSACTIONS

Cross trade transactions have been carried out during the financial year under review.

I, Chue Kwok Yan, as the Director of Hong Leong Asset Management Bhd, do hereby state that, in the opinion of the Manager, the financial statements set out on pages 16 to 46 are drawn up in accordance with the provision of the Deeds and give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Fund as at 31 October 2024 and of its financial performance, changes in equity and cash flows for the financial year ended 31 October 2024 in accordance with the Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards ("MFRS") and International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS").

For and on behalf of the Manager,  
**Hong Leong Asset Management Bhd**  
**(Company No.: 199401033034 (318717-M))**

**CHUE KWOK YAN**  
Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director

Kuala Lumpur  
13 December 2024

## TRUSTEE'S REPORT

### TO THE UNIT HOLDERS OF HONG LEONG INSTITUTIONAL BOND FUND ("Fund")

We have acted as Trustee of the Fund for the financial year ended 31 October 2024 and we hereby confirm to the best of our knowledge, after having made all reasonable enquiries, Hong Leong Asset Management Bhd has operated and managed the Fund during the year covered by these financial statements in accordance with the following:

1. Limitations imposed on the investment powers of the management company under the deed, securities laws and the Guidelines on Unit Trust Funds;
2. Valuation and pricing is carried out in accordance with the deed; and
3. Any creation and cancellation of units are carried out in accordance with the deed and any regulatory requirement.

We are of the opinion that the distribution of income by the Fund is appropriate and reflects the investment objective of the Fund.

For Deutsche Trustees Malaysia Berhad

**Ng Hon Leong**  
Head, Fund Operations

**Sylvia Beh**  
Chief Executive Officer

Kuala Lumpur  
13 December 2024

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

### TO THE UNIT HOLDERS OF HONG LEONG INSTITUTIONAL BOND FUND

REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### Our opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements of Hong Leong Institutional Bond Fund ("the Fund") give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Fund as at 31 October 2024, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the financial year then ended in accordance with Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards and International Financial Reporting Standards.

#### What we have audited

We have audited the financial statements of the Fund, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 October 2024, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the financial year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information, as set out on pages 16 to 46.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with approved standards on auditing in Malaysia and International Standards on Auditing. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements" section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Independence and other ethical responsibilities

We are independent of the Fund in accordance with the By-Laws (on Professional Ethics, Conduct and Practice) of the Malaysian Institute of Accountants ("By-Laws") and the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards) ("IESBA Code"), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the By-Laws and the IESBA Code.

### Information other than the financial statements and auditors' report thereon

The Manager of the Fund is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Manager's Review and Report, but does not include the financial statements of the Fund and our auditors' report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements of the Fund does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements of the Fund, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements of the Fund or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

### Responsibilities of the Manager for the financial statements

The Manager of the Fund is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements of the Fund that give a true and fair view in accordance with Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards and International Financial Reporting Standards. The Manager is also responsible for such internal control as the Manager determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements of the Fund that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements of the Fund, the Manager is responsible for assessing the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Manager either intends to liquidate the Fund or to terminate the Fund, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

### Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements of the Fund as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with approved standards on auditing in Malaysia and International Standards on Auditing will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with approved standards on auditing in Malaysia and International Standards on Auditing, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- (a) Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements of the Fund, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- (b) Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal control.
- (c) Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Manager.

## STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

- (d) Conclude on the appropriateness of the Manager's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements of the Fund or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Fund to cease to continue as a going concern.
- (e) Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements of the Fund, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements of the Fund represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Manager regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

### OTHER MATTERS

This report is made solely to the unit holders of the Fund, and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility to any other person for the content of this report.

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS PLT  
LLP0014401-LCA & AF 1146  
Chartered Accountants

Kuala Lumpur  
13 December 2024

	Note	2024 RM	2023 RM
<b>INVESTMENT INCOME</b>			
Interest income from financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss ("FVTPL")		370,206	250,915
Interest income from financial assets measured at amortised cost	4	44,356	42,810
Net gain on financial assets at FVTPL	10	109,974	50,920
		<u>524,536</u>	<u>344,645</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Management fee	5	(53,489)	(47,283)
Trustee's fee	6	(18,000)	(18,000)
Auditors' remuneration		(7,900)	(7,300)
Tax agent's fee		(3,410)	(4,100)
Other expenses		(11,764)	(6,776)
		<u>(94,563)</u>	<u>(83,459)</u>
<b>PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION</b>		429,973	261,186
Taxation	7	-	-
<b>PROFIT AFTER TAXATION AND TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>		<u>429,973</u>	<u>261,186</u>
Profit after taxation is made up as follows:			
Realised amount		323,553	132,307
Unrealised amount		106,420	128,879
		<u>429,973</u>	<u>261,186</u>
Distributions for the financial year:			
Net distributions	8	<u>313,533</u>	<u>374,816</u>
Net distributions per unit (sen)	8	<u>1.4800</u>	<u>2.0400</u>
Gross distributions per unit (sen)	8	<u>1.4800</u>	<u>2.0400</u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements form an integral part of these financial statements.

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2024

	Note	2024 RM	2023 RM
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	9	757,587	1,343,432
Financial assets at FVTPL	10	7,207,855	7,924,962
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>7,965,442</u>	<u>9,268,394</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Amount due to the Manager -management fee		3,363	4,018
Amount due to the Trustee		10,982	11,943
Other payables and accruals		11,772	10,918
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>26,117</u>	<u>26,879</u>
<b>NET ASSET VALUE OF THE FUND</b>		<u>7,939,325</u>	<u>9,241,515</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Unit holders' capital		4,346,216	5,764,846
Retained earnings		3,593,109	3,476,669
<b>NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNIT HOLDERS</b>		<u>7,939,325</u>	<u>9,241,515</u>
<b>UNITS IN CIRCULATION (UNITS)</b>	11	<u>15,448,074</u>	<u>18,159,330</u>
<b>NET ASSET VALUE PER UNIT (RM)</b>		<u>0.5139</u>	<u>0.5089</u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements form an integral part of these financial statements.

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

	Note	Unit holders' capital RM	Retained earnings RM	Total RM
Balance as at 1 November 2023		5,764,846	3,476,669	9,241,515
Movement in net asset value:				
Creation of units from applications		4,225,300	-	4,225,300
Creation of units from distributions		313,533	-	313,533
Cancellation of units		(5,957,463)	-	(5,957,463)
Total comprehensive income for the financial year		-	429,973	429,973
Distributions for the financial year	8	-	(313,533)	(313,533)
Balance as at 31 October 2024		<u>4,346,216</u>	<u>3,593,109</u>	<u>7,939,325</u>
Balance as at 1 November 2022		5,590,844	3,590,299	9,181,143
Movement in net asset value:				
Creation of units from applications		1,064,262	-	1,064,262
Creation of units from distributions		374,816	-	374,816
Cancellation of units		(1,265,076)	-	(1,265,076)
Total comprehensive income for the financial year		-	261,186	261,186
Distributions for the financial year	8	-	(374,816)	(374,816)
Balance as at 31 October 2023		<u>5,764,846</u>	<u>3,476,669</u>	<u>9,241,515</u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements form an integral part of these financial statements.

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

	Note	2024 RM	2023 RM
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Proceeds from sales of financial assets at FVTPL		4,407,087	3,045,259
Proceeds from redemptions of financial assets at FVTPL		2,800,000	333,333
Purchase of financial assets at FVTPL		(6,430,521)	(3,020,066)
Interest income received from financial asset measured at FVTPL and amortised cost		465,077	347,971
Management fee paid		(54,144)	(47,249)
Trustee's fee paid		(18,961)	(17,008)
Payment for other fees and expenses		(22,220)	(19,978)
Net cash generated from operating activities		1,146,318	622,262
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Proceeds from creation of units		4,225,300	1,064,262
Payments for cancellation of units		(5,957,463)	(1,480,165)
Net cash used in financing activities		(1,732,163)	(415,903)
<b>NET (DECREASE)/INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>		(585,845)	206,359
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>		1,343,432	1,137,073
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	9	757,587	1,343,432

The accompanying notes to the financial statements form an integral part of these financial statements.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

### 1. THE FUND, THE MANAGER AND THEIR PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

Hong Leong Institutional Bond Fund ("the Fund") was constituted pursuant to the execution of a Deed dated 15 September 2005 and Supplemental Deed dated 30 April 2010 between Hong Leong Asset Management Bhd ("the Manager") and HSBC (Malaysia) Trustee Berhad for the unit holders of the Fund. HSBC (Malaysia) Trustee Berhad has been replaced with Deutsche Trustees Malaysia Berhad ("the Trustee") effective 1 November 2012 and Supplemental Master Deeds were entered into between the Manager and the Trustee for the unit holders of the Fund on 21 September 2012, 25 March 2015, 27 July 2022 and 23 March 2023 to effect the change ("the Deeds").

The Fund's objective is to offer a stable stream of income that is higher than the prevailing fixed deposit rate, and at the same time stability in capital. It also allows corporations that have excess liquidity for periods exceeding a year to have some current income that is tax exempted.

The Fund intends to invest mainly in money market instruments and short to medium-term fixed income securities. The credit rating of fixed income securities must be at least "P2" or "A3" as rated by RAM Rating Services Berhad ("RAM"), or its equivalent ratings by Malaysian Rating Corporation Berhad ("MARC"). The Fund commenced operations on 10 October 2005 and will continue its operations until terminated as provided under Part 12 of the Deeds.

The Manager of the Fund is Hong Leong Asset Management Bhd, a company incorporated in Malaysia. The principal activity of the Manager is the management of unit trust funds, private retirement schemes and private investment mandates. Its holding company is Hong Leong Capital Berhad, a company incorporated in Malaysia and listed on the Main Market of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad.

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the Manager on 13 December 2024.

## 2. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the financial statements:

### (a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards (“MFRS”) and International Financial Reporting Standards (“IFRS”).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with MFRS and IFRS requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reported financial year. It also requires the Manager to exercise their judgement in the process of applying the Fund’s accounting policies. The Manager believes that the underlying assumptions are appropriate and the Fund’s financial statements therefore present the financial position results fairly. Although these estimates and judgement are based on the Manager’s best knowledge of current events and actions, actual results may differ.

The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are disclosed in Note 2(j).

- (i) Amendments to published standard and interpretations that are relevant and effective 1 November 2023.

There are no standards, amendments to standards or interpretations that are effective for annual periods beginning on 1 November 2023 that have a material effect on the financial statements of the Fund.

- (ii) New standards, amendment and interpretations effective after 1 November 2023 and have not been early adopted

A number of new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations are effective for annual periods beginning after 1 November 2023. None of these are expected to have a material effect on the financial statements of the Fund, except the following set out below:

- Amendments to MFRS 101 ‘Classification of liabilities as current or non-current’ clarify that liabilities are classified as either current or non-current, depending on the rights that exist at the end of the reporting period. Classification is unaffected by the entity’s expectations or events after the reporting date (e.g. the receipt of a waiver or a breach of covenant).

The amendment is effective for the annual financial reporting period beginning on or after 1 November 2024.

The amendment shall be applied retrospectively.

### (b) Financial assets and financial liabilities

#### Classification

The Fund classifies its financial assets in the following measurement categories:

- those to be measured subsequently at fair value (either through other comprehensive income (‘OCI’) or through profit or loss), and
- those to be measured at amortised cost.

The Fund classifies its investments based on both the Fund's business model for managing those financial assets and the contractual cash flows characteristics of the financial assets. The portfolio of financial assets is managed and performance is evaluated on a fair value basis. The Fund is primarily focused on fair value information and uses that information to assess the assets' performance and to make decisions. The Fund has not taken the option to irrevocably designate any equity securities as fair value through other comprehensive income. The contractual cash flows of the Fund's debt securities are solely principal and interest, however, these securities are neither held for the purpose of collecting contractual cash flows nor held both for collecting contractual cash flows and for sale. The collection of contractual cash flows is only incidental to achieving the Fund's business model's objective. Consequently, all investments are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

The Fund classifies cash and cash equivalents as financial assets measured at amortised cost as this financial assets are held to collect contractual cash flows consisting of the amount outstanding.

The Fund classifies amounts due to the Manager, amount due to the Trustee and other payables and accruals as financial liabilities measured at amortised cost.

#### Recognition and measurement

Regular purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on the trade-date – the date on which the Fund commits to purchase or sell the asset. Investments are initially recognised at fair value.

Financial liabilities, within the scope of MFRS 9, are recognised in the statement of financial position when, and only when, the Fund becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument.

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the investments have expired or have been transferred and the Fund has transferred substantially all risks and rewards of ownership.

Financial liabilities are derecognised when it is extinguished, i.e. when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged or cancelled or expired.

Unrealised gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of the financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are presented in the statement of comprehensive income within net gain or loss on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss in the year which they arise.

Unquoted fixed income securities are revalued on a daily basis based on fair value prices quoted by a bond pricing agency ("BPA") registered with the Securities Commission Malaysia as per the Securities Commission Malaysia's Guidelines on Unit Trust Funds. Where such quotation are not available or where the Manager is of the view that the price quoted by the BPA for a specific unquoted fixed income securities differs from the market price by more than 20 basis points, the Manager may use the market price, provided that the Manager:

- (i) records its basis for using non-BPA price;
- (ii) obtains necessary internal approvals to use the non-BPA price; and
- (iii) keeps an audit trail of all decisions and basis for adopting the market yield.

Deposits with licensed financial institutions are stated at cost plus accrued interest calculated on the effective interest rate method over the period from the date of placement to the date of maturity of the respective deposits, which is a close estimate of their fair value due to the short term nature of the deposits. Financial assets at amortised cost and other financial liabilities are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

### Impairment

The Fund measures credit risk and expected credit losses using probability of default, exposure at default and loss given default. Management considers both historical analysis and forward looking information in determining any expected credit loss. Management considers the probability of default to be closed to zero as these instruments have a low risk of default and the counterparties have a strong capacity to meet their contractual obligations in the near term. As a result, no loss allowance has been recognised based on 12-month expected credit losses as any such impairment would be wholly insignificant to the Fund.

### Significant increase in credit risk

A significant increase in credit risk is defined by management as any contractual payment which is more than 30 days past due.

### Definition of default and credit-impaired financial assets

Any contractual payment which is more than 90 days past due is considered credit impaired.

### Write-off

The Fund writes off financial assets, in whole or in part, when it has exhausted all practical recovery efforts and has concluded there is no reasonable expectation of recovery. The assessment of no reasonable expectation of recovery is based on unavailability of obligor's sources of income or assets to generate sufficient future cash flows to pay the amount. The Fund may write-off financial assets that are still subject to enforcement activity. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off will result in impairment gains. There are no write-offs/recoveries during the financial year.

## **(c) Functional and presentation currency**

Items included in the financial statements of the Fund are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Fund operates (the "functional currency"). The financial statements are presented in Ringgit Malaysia ("RM"), which is the Fund's functional and presentation currency.

## **(d) Income recognition**

Interest income from deposits with licensed financial institutions, unquoted fixed income securities and auto-sweep facility bank account are recognised on the effective interest rate method on an accrual basis.

Interest income is calculated by applying the effective interest rate to the gross carrying amount of a financial asset except for financial assets that subsequently become credit-impaired. For credit-impaired financial assets, the effective interest rate is applied to the net carrying amount of the financial asset (after deduction of the loss allowance).

Realised gain or loss on disposal of unquoted fixed income securities is accounted for as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of unquoted fixed income securities, determined on cost adjusted for accretion of discount or amortisation of premium.

## **(e) Cash and cash equivalents**

For the purpose of statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at banks and deposits held in highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with an original maturity of three months or lesser which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

**(f) Amount due from/to brokers/dealers**

Amount due from/to brokers/dealers represents receivables/payables for investments sold/purchased that have been contracted for but not yet settled or delivered on the statement of financial position date respectively.

These amounts are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method, less provision for impairment of amount due from brokers/dealers. A provision for impairment of amount due from a broker/dealer is established when there is objective evidence that the Fund will not be able to collect all amounts due from the relevant broker/dealer. Significant financial difficulties of the broker/dealer, probability that the broker/dealer will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, and default in payments are considered indicators that the amount due from brokers/dealers is impaired. Once a financial asset or a group of similar financial assets has been written down as a result of an impairment loss, interest income is recognised using the rate of interest used to discount the future cash flows for the purpose of measuring the impairment loss.

**(g) Taxation**

Current tax expense is determined according to Malaysian tax laws at the prevailing tax rate based on the taxable profit earned during the financial year.

**(h) Distributions**

A distribution to the Fund's unit holders is accounted for as a deduction from realised reserve. A proposed distribution is recognised as a liability in the financial year in which it is approved by the Board of Directors of the Manager.

**(i) Unit holders' capital**

The unit holders' contributions to the Fund meet the criteria to be classified as equity instruments under MFRS 132 "Financial Instruments: Presentation". Those criteria include:

- the units entitle the unit holder to a proportionate share of the Fund's net asset value;
- the units are the most subordinated class and class features are identical;
- there is no contractual obligations to deliver cash or another financial asset other than the obligation on the Fund to repurchase the units; and
- the total expected cash flows from the units over its life are based substantially on the profit or loss and change in the net asset value of the Fund.

The outstanding units are carried at the redemption amount that is payable at the date of the statement of financial position if unit holder exercises the right to put the unit back to the Fund.

Units are created and cancelled at prices based on the Fund's net asset value per unit at the time of creation and cancellation. The Fund's net asset value per unit is calculated by dividing the net assets attributable to unit holders with the total number of outstanding units.

**(j) Critical accounting estimates and judgements in applying accounting policies**

The Fund makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, rarely equal the related actual results. To enhance the information content of the estimates, certain key variables that are anticipated to have material impact to the Fund's results and financial position are tested for sensitivity to changes in the underlying parameters.

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated by the Manager and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

In undertaking any of the Fund's investment, the Manager will ensure that all assets of the Fund under management will be valued appropriately, that is at fair value and in compliance with the Securities Commission Malaysia's Guidelines on Unit Trust Funds.

However, the Manager is of the opinion that there are no accounting policies which require significant judgement to be exercised.

### 3. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS, RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

The Fund is exposed to a variety of risks which include market risk (inclusive of price risk and interest rate risk), credit risk, liquidity risk and capital risk.

Financial risk management is carried out through internal control process adopted by the Manager and adherence to the investment restrictions as stipulated in the prospectus.

The following table analyses the financial assets and financial liabilities of the Fund in the statement of financial position as at the reporting date:

	Financial assets at FVTPL RM	Financial assets/liabilities at amortised cost RM	Total RM
<b>2024</b>			
<u>Financial assets</u>			
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 9)	-	757,587	757,587
Financial assets at FVTPL (Note 10)	7,207,855	-	7,207,855
	<u>7,207,855</u>	<u>757,587</u>	<u>7,965,442</u>
<u>Financial liabilities</u>			
Amount due to the Manager			
-management fee	-	3,363	3,363
Amount due to the Trustee	-	10,982	10,982
Other payables and accruals	-	11,772	11,772
	<u>-</u>	<u>26,117</u>	<u>26,117</u>

	Financial assets at FVTPL RM	Financial assets/liabilities at amortised cost RM	Total RM
<b>2023</b>			
<u>Financial assets</u>			
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 9)	-	1,343,432	1,343,432
Financial assets at FVTPL (Note 10)	7,924,962	-	7,924,962
	<u>7,924,962</u>	<u>1,343,432</u>	<u>9,268,394</u>
<u>Financial liabilities</u>			
Amount due to the Manager			
-management fee	-	4,018	4,018
Amount due to the Trustee	-	11,943	11,943
Other payables and accruals	-	10,918	10,918
	<u>-</u>	<u>26,879</u>	<u>26,879</u>

All liabilities are financial liabilities which are carried at amortised cost.

#### (a) Market risk

##### (i) Price risk

Price risk arises mainly from the uncertainty about future prices of investments. It represents the potential loss the Fund might suffer through holding market positions in the face of price movements. The Manager manages the risk of unfavourable changes in prices by continuous monitoring of the performance and risk profile of the investment portfolio.

The price risk is managed through diversification and selection of securities and other financial instruments within specified limits according to the Deeds.

The Fund's overall exposure to price risk is as follows:

	2024 RM	2023 RM
Financial assets at FVTPL:		
- Unquoted fixed income securities*	<u>7,207,855</u>	<u>7,924,962</u>

\* Includes interest receivables of RM90,150 (2023: RM117,153).

The table below summarises the sensitivity of the Fund's net asset value and profit after taxation to movements in prices of unquoted fixed income securities at the end of each reporting year. The analysis is based on the assumptions that the price of the unquoted fixed income securities fluctuated by 5% with all other variables held constant. This represents management's best estimate of a reasonable possible shift in the unquoted fixed income securities having regard to the historical volatility of the prices.

<b>% Change in price of financial assets at FVTPL</b>	<b>Market value RM</b>	<b>Impact on profit after taxation/net asset value RM</b>
<b>2024</b>		
-5%	6,761,820	(355,885)
0%	7,117,705	-
5%	7,473,590	355,885
<b>2023</b>		
-5%	7,417,419	(390,390)
0%	7,807,809	-
5%	8,198,199	390,390

## (ii) Interest rate risk

In general, when interest rates rise, prices of fixed income securities will tend to fall and vice versa. Therefore, the net asset value of the Fund may also tend to fall when interest rates rise or are expected to rise. However, investors should be aware that should the Fund hold a fixed income securities till maturity, such price fluctuations would dissipate as it approaches maturity, and thus the growth of the net asset value shall not be affected at maturity. In order to mitigate interest rates exposure of the Fund, the Manager will manage the duration of the portfolio via shorter or longer tenured assets depending on the view of the future interest rate trend of the Manager, which is based on its continuous fundamental research and analysis.

This risk is crucial since unquoted fixed income securities portfolio management depends on forecasting interest rate movements. Prices of unquoted fixed income securities move inversely to interest rate movements, therefore as interest rates rise, the prices of unquoted fixed income securities decrease and vice versa. Furthermore, unquoted fixed income securities with longer maturity and lower yield coupon rates are more susceptible to interest rate movements.

Investors should note that unquoted fixed income securities are subject to interest rate fluctuations. Such investments may be subject to unanticipated rise in interest rates which may impair the ability of the issuers to make payments of interest income and principal, especially if the issuers are highly leveraged. An increase in interest rates may therefore increase the potential for default by an issuer.

The table below summarises the sensitivity of the Fund's net asset value and profit after taxation to movements in prices of unquoted fixed income securities held by the Fund at the end of the reporting year as a result of movement in interest rate. The analysis is based on the assumptions that the interest rate changed by 1% (100 basis points) with all other variables held constant. This represents management's best estimate of a reasonable possible shift in the interest rate, having regard to the historical volatility of the interest rate.

<b>% Change in interest rate</b>	<b>2024 RM</b>	<b>2023 RM</b>
+1%	(289,874)	(238,017)
-1%	289,873	238,018

The Fund's exposure to interest rate risk associated with deposits with licensed financial institutions is not material as the deposits with licensed financial institutions are placed on a short term basis.

## (b) Credit risk

Credit risk refers to the risk that an issuer or counterparty will default on its contractual obligation resulting in financial loss to the Fund.

Investment in unquoted fixed income securities may involve a certain degree of credit/default risk with regards to the issuers. Generally, credit risk or default risk is the risk of loss due to the issuer's non-payment or untimely payment of the investment amount as well as the returns on investment. This will cause a decline in value of the defaulted unquoted fixed income securities and subsequently depress the net asset value of the Fund. Usually credit risk is more apparent for an investment with a longer tenure, i.e. the longer the duration, the higher the credit risk. Credit risk can be managed by performing continuous fundamental credit research and analysis to ascertain the creditworthiness of its issuer. In addition, the Manager imposes a minimum rating requirement as rated by either local and/or foreign rating agencies and manages the duration of the investment in accordance with the objective of the Fund.

The credit risk arising from placements of deposits with licensed financial institutions is managed by ensuring that the Fund will only place deposits in reputable licensed financial institutions.

The settlement terms of the proceeds from the creation of units receivable from the Manager are governed by the Securities Commission Malaysia's Guidelines on Unit Trust Funds.

The credit/default risk is minimal as all transactions in unquoted investments are settled/paid upon delivery using approved brokers/dealers.

The following table sets out the credit risk concentration of the Fund at the end of each reporting year:

	Cash and cash equivalents RM	Unquoted fixed income securities RM	Total RM
<b>2024</b>			
- AAA	757,587	4,123,967	4,881,554
- AA1/AA+	-	1,559,865	1,559,865
- AA2/AA	-	1,524,023	1,524,023
<b>Total</b>	<b>757,587</b>	<b>7,207,855</b>	<b>7,965,442</b>
<b>2023</b>			
- AAA	1,323,621	1,501,227	2,824,848
- AA1/AA+	19,811	-	19,811
- AA2/AA	-	1,501,988	1,501,988
- NR*	-	4,921,747	4,921,747
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,343,432</b>	<b>7,924,962</b>	<b>9,268,394</b>

\* The unquoted fixed income securities are not rated as the unquoted fixed income securities are guaranteed and issued by the Government of Malaysia.

All financial assets of the Fund are neither past due nor impaired.

## (c) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that investments cannot be readily sold at or near its actual value without taking a significant discount. This will result in lower net asset value of the Fund.

The Manager manages this risk by maintaining sufficient level of liquid assets to meet anticipated payments and cancellations of the units by unit holders. Liquid assets comprise cash at banks, deposits with licensed financial institutions and other instruments.

The table below summarises the Fund's financial liabilities into relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining period as at the end of each reporting year to the contractual maturity date. The amounts in the table are the contractual undiscounted cash flows.

	Less than 1 month RM	1 month to 1 year RM	Total RM
<b>2024</b>			
<u>Financial liabilities</u>			
Amount due to the Manager			
-management fee	3,363	-	3,363
Amount due to the Trustee	10,982	-	10,982
Other payables and accruals	-	11,772	11,772
Contractual cash out flows	<u>14,345</u>	<u>11,772</u>	<u>26,117</u>
<b>2023</b>			
<u>Financial liabilities</u>			
Amount due to the Manager			
-management fee	4,018	-	4,018
Amount due to the Trustee	11,943	-	11,943
Other payables and accruals	-	10,918	10,918
Contractual cash out flows	<u>15,961</u>	<u>10,918</u>	<u>26,879</u>

#### (d) Capital risk

The capital of the Fund is represented by equity consisting of unit holders' capital and retained earnings. The amount of equity can change significantly on a daily basis as the Fund is subject to daily subscriptions and redemptions at the discretion of unit holders. The Fund's objective when managing capital is to safeguard the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern in order to provide returns for unit holders' and benefits for other stakeholders and to maintain a strong capital base to support the development of the investment activities of the Fund.

#### (e) Fair value estimation

Financial instruments comprise financial assets and financial liabilities. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The information presented herein represents the estimates of fair values as at the date of the statement of financial position.

The Fund's financial assets and financial liabilities are measured on an ongoing basis at either fair value or at amortised cost based on the respective classification.

The fair value of financial assets traded in active markets (such as trading securities) are based on quoted market prices at the close of trading on the reporting date. The Fund utilises the last traded market price for financial assets where the last traded price falls within the bid-ask spread. In circumstances where the last traded price is not within the bid-ask spread, the Manager will determine the point within the bid-ask spread that is most representative of the fair value.

A financial instrument is regarded as quoted in an active market if quoted prices are readily and regularly available from an exchange, dealer, broker, industry group, pricing service, or regulatory agency, and those prices represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis.

The fair value of financial assets that are not traded in an active market is determined by using valuation techniques. The Fund uses a variety of methods and makes assumptions that are based on market conditions existing at each year end date. Valuation techniques used for non-standardised financial instruments such as options, currency swaps and other over-the-counter derivatives, include the use of comparable recent arm's length transactions, reference to other instruments that are substantially the same, discounted cash flow analysis, option pricing models and other valuation techniques commonly used by market participants making the maximum use of market inputs and relying as little as possible on entity-specific inputs.

For instruments for which there is no active market, the Fund may use internally developed models, which are usually based on valuation methods and techniques generally recognised as standard within the industry. Valuation models are used primarily to value unlisted equity, debt securities and other debt instruments for which market were or have been inactive during the financial year. Some of the inputs to these models may not be market observable and are therefore estimated based on assumptions.

The output of a model is always an estimate or approximation of a value that cannot be determined with certainty and valuation techniques employed may not fully reflect all factors relevant to the positions the Fund holds. Valuations are therefore adjusted, where appropriate, to allow for additional factors including model risk, liquidity risk and counter party risk.

An active market is a market in which transactions for the asset or liability take place with sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an on-going basis.

(i) Fair value hierarchy

The table below analyses financial instruments carried at fair value. The different levels have been defined as follows:

- Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active market for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1);
- Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (that is, as prices) or indirectly (that is, derived from prices) (Level 2); and
- Inputs for the asset and liability that are not based on observable market data (that is, unobservable inputs) (Level 3).

The level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement is categorised in its entirety is determined on the basis of the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety. For this purpose, the significance of an input is assessed against the fair value measurement in its entirety. If a fair value measurement uses observable inputs that requires significant adjustment based on unobservable inputs, that measurement is a Level 3 measurement. Assessing the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgement, considering factors specific to the asset or liability.

The determination of what constitutes ‘observable’ requires significant judgement by the Fund. The Fund considers observable data to be that market data that is readily available, regularly distributed or updated, reliable and verifiable, not proprietary and provided by independent sources that are actively involved in the relevant market.

The following table analyses within the fair value hierarchy of the Fund’s financial assets (by class) measured at fair value:

	Level 1 RM	Level 2 RM	Level 3 RM	Total RM
<b>2024</b>				
<u>Financial assets at FVTPL:</u>				
- Unquoted fixed income securities	-	7,207,855	-	7,207,855
<b>2023</b>				
<u>Financial assets at FVTPL:</u>				
- Unquoted fixed income securities	-	7,924,962	-	7,924,962

Financial instruments that trade in markets that are not considered to be active but are valued based on quoted market prices, dealer quotations or alternative pricing sources supported by observable inputs are classified within Level 2. This include unquoted fixed income securities. As Level 2 instruments include positions that are not traded in active markets and/or are subject to transfer restrictions, valuations may be adjusted to reflect illiquidity and/or non-transferability, which are generally based on available market information. The Fund’s policies on valuation of these financial assets are stated in Note 2(b).

- (ii) The carrying values of financial assets (other than financial assets at FVTPL) and financial liabilities are a reasonable approximation of their fair values due to their short term nature.

#### 4. INTEREST INCOME FROM FINANCIAL ASSETS MEASURED AT AMORTISED COST

	2024 RM	2023 RM
Interest income from:		
- Deposits with licensed financial institutions	43,593	42,299
- Auto-sweep facility bank account	763	511
	<u>44,356</u>	<u>42,810</u>

#### 5. MANAGEMENT FEE

In accordance with Division 13.1 of the Deeds, the Manager is entitled to a management fee of up to 2.00% per annum calculated daily based on the net asset value of the Fund.

For the financial year ended 31 October 2024, the management fee is recognised at a rate of 0.50% (2023: 0.50%) per annum.

There is no further liability to the Manager in respect of management fee other than the amount recognised above.

#### 6. TRUSTEE'S FEE

In accordance with Division 13.2 of the Deeds, the Trustee is entitled to a fee not exceeding 0.20% per annum subject to a minimum of RM18,000 per annum calculated daily based on the net asset value of the Fund.

For the financial year ended 31 October 2024, the Trustee's fee is computed at a rate of 0.07% (2023: 0.07%) per annum but recognised at RM18,000 which is the minimum fee per annum based on terms agreed with the Trustee.

There is no further liability to the Trustee in respect of Trustee's fee other than the amount recognised above.

#### 7. TAXATION

	2024 RM	2023 RM
Tax charge for the financial year:		
Current taxation	-	-

The numerical reconciliation between profit before taxation multiplied by the Malaysian statutory income tax rate and tax expense of the Fund is as follows:

	2024 RM	2023 RM
Profit before taxation	429,973	261,186
Taxation at Malaysian statutory rate of 24% (2023: 24%)	103,194	62,685
Tax effects of:		
Investment income not subject to tax	(125,889)	(82,715)
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	5,281	5,469
Restriction on tax deductible expenses for unit trust fund	17,414	14,561
Taxation	-	-

#### 8. DISTRIBUTIONS

	2024 RM	2023 RM
Distributions to unit holders are derived from the following sources:		
Prior financial years' realised income	42,659	274,343
Interest income from financial assets measured at FVTPL and amortised cost	353,860	125,190
Less: Expenses	(82,986)	(24,717)
Net distributions amount	<u>313,533</u>	<u>374,816</u>
Gross/net distributions per unit (sen)	<u>1.4800</u>	<u>2.0400</u>
<b>Date of Declaration</b>		
<b>27 November 2023 / 25 November 2022</b>		
Gross/net distribution per unit (sen)	<u>0.1700</u>	<u>0.1700</u>

	2024 RM	2023 RM
<b>26 December 2023 / 27 December 2022</b>		
Gross/net distribution per unit (sen)	0.1700	0.1700
<b>26 January 2024 / 25 January 2023</b>		
Gross/net distribution per unit (sen)	0.1700	0.1700
<b>26 February 2024 / 25 February 2023</b>		
Gross/net distribution per unit (sen)	0.1700	0.1700
<b>25 March 2024 / 25 March 2023</b>		
Gross/net distribution per unit (sen)	0.1000	0.1700
<b>25 April 2024 / 25 April 2023</b>		
Gross/net distribution per unit (sen)	0.1000	0.1700
<b>27 May 2024 / 25 May 2023</b>		
Gross/net distribution per unit (sen)	0.1000	0.1700
<b>25 June 2024 / 26 June 2023</b>		
Gross/net distribution per unit (sen)	0.1000	0.1700
<b>25 July 2024 / 25 July 2023</b>		
Gross/net distribution per unit (sen)	0.1000	0.1700
<b>26 August 2024 / 25 August 2023</b>		
Gross/net distribution per unit (sen)	0.1000	0.1700
<b>25 September 2024 / 25 September 2023</b>		
Gross/net distribution per unit (sen)	0.1000	0.1700
<b>25 October 2024 / 25 October 2023</b>		
Gross/net distribution per unit (sen)	0.1000	0.1700

The composition of distribution payments sourced from income and capital are disclosed in below:

	Income RM	%	Capital RM	%
<b>2024</b>	313,533	100.00	-	-
<b>2023</b>	374,816	100.00	-	-

Net distributions above are sourced from prior and current financial years' realised income. Gross distributions are derived using total income less total expenses.

Gross distribution per unit is derived from net realised income less expenses divided by units in circulation, while net distribution per unit is derived from net realised income less expenses and taxation divided by units in circulation.

## 9. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2024 RM	2023 RM
Deposits with licensed financial institutions	738,125	1,323,621
Cash at bank	19,462	19,811
	757,587	1,343,432

The weighted average effective interest rates per annum are as follows:

	2024 %	2023 %
Deposit with licensed financial institutions	3.10	3.68

Deposits with licensed financial institutions have an average remaining maturity of 1 day (2023: 37 days).

## 10. FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS ("FVTPL")

	2024 RM	2023 RM
<u>Financial assets at FVTPL:</u>		
Unquoted fixed income securities	7,207,855	7,924,962
<u>Net gain on financial assets at FVTPL:</u>		
Realised gain/(loss) on disposals	3,554	(77,959)
Changes in unrealised fair values	106,420	128,879
	109,974	50,920

Financial assets at FVTPL as at 31 October 2024 are as detailed below:

	Nominal value RM	Aggregate cost RM	Fair value RM	Percentage of net asset value %
<b>UNQUOTED FIXED INCOME SECURITIES</b>				
<i>Corporate Bond</i>				
4.50% Cagamas Berhad (AAA) 13/12/2027 - MTN	1,000,000	1,038,457	1,039,104	13.09
<i>Corporate Sukuk</i>				
4.36% CIMB Group Holdings Berhad (AA2) 21/10/2033   23/10/2028 - T2 Sukuk Wakalah S5 T1	1,500,000	1,501,613	1,524,023	19.20
4.38% RHB Bank Berhad (AA1) 17/11/2028 - IMTN	1,500,000	1,530,240	1,559,865	19.65
4.27% Sarawak Energy Berhad (AAA) 04/07/2033 - IMTN Tranche No 21	1,500,000	1,525,390	1,550,532	19.53
5.14% TNB Western Energy Berhad (AAA) 30/07/2025 - Tranche 3	1,500,000	1,530,810	1,534,331	19.32
	6,000,000	6,088,053	6,168,751	77.70
<b>TOTAL UNQUOTED FIXED INCOME SECURITIES</b>	<b>7,000,000</b>	<b>7,126,510</b>	<b>7,207,855</b>	<b>90.79</b>
<b>UNREALISED GAIN ON FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FVTPL</b>		<b>81,345</b>		
<b>TOTAL FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FVTPL</b>		<b>7,207,855</b>		

Financial assets at FVTPL as at 31 October 2023 are as detailed below:

	Nominal value RM	Aggregate cost RM	Fair value RM	Percentage of net asset value %
<b>UNQUOTED FIXED INCOME SECURITIES</b>				
<i>Corporate Sukuk</i>				
4.36% CIMB Group Holdings Berhad (AA2) 21/10/2033 - T2 Sukuk Wakalah S5 T1	1,500,000	1,501,613	1,501,988	16.25
4.27% Sarawak Energy Berhad (AAA) 04/07/2033 - IMTN Tranche No 21	1,500,000	1,525,828	1,501,227	16.24
	3,000,000	3,027,441	3,003,215	32.49
<i>Government Investment Issues</i>				
4.444% Government of Malaysia 22/05/2024	4,800,000	4,922,596	4,921,747	53.26
<b>TOTAL UNQUOTED FIXED INCOME SECURITIES</b>	<b>7,800,000</b>	<b>7,950,037</b>	<b>7,924,962</b>	<b>85.75</b>
<b>UNREALISED LOSS ON FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FVTPL</b>		<b>(25,075)</b>		
<b>TOTAL FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FVTPL</b>		<b>7,924,962</b>		

## 11. UNITS IN CIRCULATION

	2024 No. of units	2023 No. of units
At the beginning of the financial year	18,159,330	17,829,967
Add: Creation of units during the financial year		
- Arising from applications	8,273,741	2,067,180
- Arising from distributions	611,708	729,158
Less: Cancellation of units during the financial year	(11,596,705)	(2,466,975)
At the end of the financial year	15,448,074	18,159,330

## 12. TOTAL EXPENSE RATIO ("TER")

	2024 %	2023 %
TER	0.88	0.88

Total expense ratio includes management fee, Trustee's fee, auditors' remuneration, tax agent's fee and other expenses for the financial year divided by the Fund's average net asset value calculated on a daily basis and is calculated as follows:

$$TER = \frac{(A+B+C+D+E)}{F} \times 100$$

Where;

- A = Management fee
- B = Trustee's fee
- C = Auditors' remuneration
- D = Tax agent's fee
- E = Other expenses
- F = Average net asset value of the Fund calculated on a daily basis

The average net asset value of the Fund for the financial year calculated on a daily basis is RM10,693,848 (2023: RM9,456,927).

### 13. PORTFOLIO TURNOVER RATIO (“PTR”)

	2024 Times	2023 Times
PTR	0.50	0.33

PTR is derived from the following calculation:

(Total acquisitions for the financial year + total disposals for the financial year) / 2

Average net asset value of the Fund for the financial year calculated on a daily basis

Where;

total acquisitions for the financial year  
= RM6,369,320 (2023: RM3,004,800)

total disposals for the financial year  
= RM4,359,070 (2023: RM3,168,282)

### 14. UNITS HELD BY THE MANAGER AND RELATED PARTIES TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES

The related parties and their relationships with the Fund are as follows:

Related parties	Relationships
Hong Leong Asset Management Bhd	The Manager
Hong Leong Islamic Asset Management Sdn Bhd	Subsidiary of the Manager
Hong Leong Capital Berhad	Holding company of the Manager
Hong Leong Financial Group Berhad (“HLFG”)	Ultimate holding company of the Manager
Subsidiaries and associates of HLFG as disclosed in its financial statements	Subsidiaries and associate companies of the ultimate holding company of the Manager

No units were held by the Manager and parties related to the Manager as at 31 October 2024 and 31 October 2023.

In addition to related party disclosures mentioned elsewhere in the financial statements, set out below are other related party transactions and balances. The Manager is of the opinion that all transactions with the related companies have been entered into at agreed terms between the related parties.

	2024 RM	2023 RM
<u>Related party balances</u>		
Cash at bank:		
- Hong Leong Bank Berhad	30	-
<u>Related party transactions</u>		
Interest income from deposits with licensed financial institutions:		
- Hong Leong Bank Berhad	14,577	-
- Hong Leong Investment Bank Berhad	3,613	19,547
	18,190	19,547
Purchase of unquoted fixed income securities:		
- Hong Leong Bank Berhad	-	1,520,067
- Hong Leong Investment Bank Berhad	3,381,929	-
	3,381,929	1,520,067
Disposal of unquoted fixed income securities:		
- Hong Leong Bank Berhad	2,020,420	-
- Hong Leong Investment Bank Berhad	310,315	-
	2,330,735	-

### 15. TRANSACTIONS WITH BROKERS/DEALERS

Detail of transactions with brokers/dealers are as follows:

	Values of trade RM	Percentage of total trade %
<b>2024</b>		
Hong Leong Investment Bank Berhad*	3,692,244	34.26
RHB Investment Bank Berhad	3,048,592	28.29
Hong Leong Bank Berhad*	2,020,420	18.75
CIMB Islamic Bank Berhad	2,015,062	18.70
	10,776,318	100.00
<b>2023</b>		
CIMB Bank Berhad	4,564,568	75.02
Hong Leong Bank Berhad*	1,520,067	24.98
	6,084,635	100.00

\* Transactions with brokers/dealers related to the Manager.

The Manager is of the opinion that all transactions with the related companies have been entered into at agreed terms between the related parties.

# Performance Data

for the Financial Years Ended 31 October

		Financial Year 2024 %	Financial Year 2023 %	Financial Year 2022 %
<b>A. (i) Portfolio Compositions:</b>				
Corporate Bonds		90.79	32.49	3.73
Government Securities		-	53.26	86.53
<b>Deposits &amp; Cash Equivalents</b>		<b>9.21</b>	<b>14.25</b>	<b>9.74</b>
<b>(ii) Total Net Asset Value</b>	(ex-distribution)	<b>RM7,939,325</b>	RM9,241,515	RM9,181,143
<b>(iii) Net Asset Value Per Unit Units in Circulation</b>	(ex-distribution) (ex-distribution)	<b>RM0.5139</b> <b>15,448,074</b>	RM0.5089 18,159,330	RM0.5149 17,829,967
<b>(iv) Highest/Lowest NAV Per Unit</b>	Highest NAV Per Unit	<b>RM0.5162</b>	RM0.5187	RM0.5315
(ex-distribution)	Lowest NAV Per Unit	<b>RM0.5090</b>	RM0.5087	RM0.5147
<b>(v) Total Return of the Fund*</b>		<b>3.94%</b>	2.83%	0.73%
- Capital Growth		<b>0.98%</b>	-1.17%	-2.98%
- Income Distribution		<b>2.96%</b>	4.00%	3.71%
<b>(vi) The distribution (gross) is made out of:-</b>				
- The Fund's Capital		<b>0.0000 sen/unit</b>	0.6000 sen/unit	1.5800 sen/unit
- The Fund's Income		<b>1.4800 sen/unit</b>	1.4400 sen/unit	0.3800 sen/unit
- Total Distribution Amount		<b>1.4800 sen/unit</b>	2.0400 sen/unit	1.9600 sen/unit
- The Fund's Capital (% of Total Distribution Amount)		<b>0%</b>	29%	81%
- The Fund's Income (% of Total Distribution Amount)		<b>100%</b>	71%	19%
<b>(vii) Distribution per unit</b>				
	Additional Units	-	-	-
	Distribution (Gross)	<b>0.1700 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1500 sen/unit
	Distribution (Net)	<b>0.1700 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1500 sen/unit
	Distribution Date	<b>27/11/2023</b>	25/11/2022	25/11/2021
	Cum-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5123</b>	RM0.5156	RM0.5314
	Ex-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5106</b>	RM0.5139	RM0.5299
	Additional Units	-	-	-
	Distribution (Gross)	<b>0.1700 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1500 sen/unit
	Distribution (Net)	<b>0.1700 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1500 sen/unit
	Distribution Date	<b>26/12/2023</b>	27/12/2022	24/12/2021
	Cum-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5136</b>	RM0.5164	RM0.5308
	Ex-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5119</b>	RM0.5147	RM0.5293
	Additional Units	-	-	-
	Distribution (Gross)	<b>0.1700 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1500 sen/unit
	Distribution (Net)	<b>0.1700 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1500 sen/unit
	Distribution Date	<b>26/01/2024</b>	25/01/2023	25/01/2022
	Cum-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5138</b>	RM0.5187	RM0.5296
	Ex-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5121</b>	RM0.5170	RM0.5281
	Additional Units	-	-	-
	Distribution (Gross)	<b>0.1700 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1500 sen/unit
	Distribution (Net)	<b>0.1700 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1500 sen/unit
	Distribution Date	<b>26/02/2024</b>	27/02/2023	25/02/2022
	Cum-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5135</b>	RM0.5176	RM0.5283
	Ex-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5118</b>	RM0.5159	RM0.5268

# Performance Data

for the Financial Years Ended 31 October

	Financial Year 2024 %	Financial Year 2023 %	Financial Year 2022 %
Additional Units	-	-	-
Distribution (Gross)	<b>0.1000 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1700 sen/unit
Distribution (Net)	<b>0.1000 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1700 sen/unit
Distribution Date	<b>25/03/2024</b>	27/03/2023	25/03/2022
Cum-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5136</b>	RM0.5179	RM0.5267
Ex-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5126</b>	RM0.5162	RM0.5250
Additional Units	-	-	-
Distribution (Gross)	<b>0.1000 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1700 sen/unit
Distribution (Net)	<b>0.1000 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1700 sen/unit
Distribution Date	<b>25/04/2024</b>	25/04/2023	25/04/2022
Cum-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5131</b>	RM0.5179	RM0.5239
Ex-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5121</b>	RM0.5162	RM0.5222
Additional Units	-	-	-
Distribution (Gross)	<b>0.1000 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1700 sen/unit
Distribution (Net)	<b>0.1000 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1700 sen/unit
Distribution Date	<b>27/05/2024</b>	25/05/2023	25/05/2022
Cum-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5139</b>	RM0.5163	RM0.5228
Ex-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5129</b>	RM0.5146	RM0.5211
Additional Units	-	-	-
Distribution (Gross)	<b>0.1000 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1700 sen/unit
Distribution (Net)	<b>0.1000 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1700 sen/unit
Distribution Date	<b>25/06/2024</b>	26/06/2023	27/06/2022
Cum-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5146</b>	RM0.5154	RM0.5209
Ex-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5136</b>	RM0.5137	RM0.5192
Additional Units	-	-	-
Distribution (Gross)	<b>0.1000 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1700 sen/unit
Distribution (Net)	<b>0.1000 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1700 sen/unit
Distribution Date	<b>25/07/2024</b>	25/07/2023	25/07/2022
Cum-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5151</b>	RM0.5153	RM0.5209
Ex-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5141</b>	RM0.5136	RM0.5192
Additional Units	-	-	-
Distribution (Gross)	<b>0.1000 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1700 sen/unit
Distribution (Net)	<b>0.1000 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1700 sen/unit
Distribution Date	<b>26/08/2024</b>	25/08/2023	25/08/2022
Cum-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5162</b>	RM0.5142	RM0.5211
Ex-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5152</b>	RM0.5125	RM0.5194
Additional Units	-	-	-
Distribution (Gross)	<b>0.1000 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1700 sen/unit
Distribution (Net)	<b>0.1000 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1700 sen/unit
Distribution Date	<b>25/09/2024</b>	25/09/2023	26/09/2022
Cum-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5161</b>	RM0.5131	RM0.5177
Ex-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5151</b>	RM0.5114	RM0.5160

# Performance Data

## for the Financial Years Ended 31 October

	Financial Year 2024 %	Financial Year 2023 %	Financial Year 2022 %
Additional Units	-	-	-
Distribution (Gross)	<b>0.1000 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1700 sen/unit
Distribution (Net)	<b>0.1000 sen/unit</b>	0.1700 sen/unit	0.1700 sen/unit
Distribution Date	<b>25/10/2024</b>	25/10/2023	25/10/2022
Cum-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5148</b>	RM0.5105	RM0.5163
Ex-Distribution NAV/Unit	<b>RM0.5138</b>	RM0.5088	RM0.5146
<b>(viii) Total Expense Ratio (TER)</b>	<b>0.88%</b>	0.88%	0.83%
<b>(ix) Portfolio Turnover Ratio (PTR) (times)</b>	<b>0.50#</b>	0.33	0.80
<b>B. Average Total Return, NAV Per Unit-to-NAV Per Unit basis (as at 31/10/2024)*</b>			
(i) One year	<b>3.94%</b>		
(ii) Three years	<b>2.55%</b>		
(iii) Five years	<b>2.58%</b>		

\* Source: Lipper for Investment Management  
(Returns are calculated after adjusting for distributions and/or additional units, if any)

# The PTR increased by 0.17 times (51.52%) to 0.50 times for the financial year ended 31 October 2024 versus 0.33 times for the financial year ended 31 October 2023 mainly due to higher level of rebalancing activities undertaken by the Fund.

## Corporate Information

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### Manager

Hong Leong Asset Management Bhd [199401033034 (318717-M)]

### Registered Office

Level 30, Menara Hong Leong  
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50490 Kuala Lumpur

### Business Office

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50490 Kuala Lumpur

### Board of Directors

Ms. Lee Jim Leng  
Mr. Chue Kwok Yan  
YBhg Dato' Abdul Majit bin Ahmad Khan  
YM Tunku Dato' Mahmood Fawzy bin Tunku Muhiyiddin

### Executive Director/Chief Executive Officer

Mr. Chue Kwok Yan

### Trustee

Deutsche Trustees Malaysia Berhad

### Auditor

PricewaterhouseCoopers PLT (LLP0014401-LCA & AF 1146)

### Distributors

Hong Leong Bank Berhad  
Affin Bank Berhad  
Areca Capital Sdn Bhd  
United Overseas Bank (Malaysia) Berhad  
Registered Independent Tied Agents with FIMM

## Corporate Directory

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