

## **FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL PROSPECTUS FOR PRINCIPAL ISLAMIC GREATER CHINA GROWTH FUND**

**Manager** : **Principal Asset Management Berhad** (199401018399 (304078-K))

**Trustee** : **HSBC (Malaysia) Trustee Berhad** (193701000084 (1281-T))

This First Supplemental Prospectus is dated 10 April 2025 and is to be read in conjunction with the Prospectus Issue No. 1 for the Principal Islamic Greater China Growth Fund dated 3 August 2023 (“Prospectus”).

This Fund was constituted on 2 June 2023.

**INVESTORS ARE ADVISED TO READ AND UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS OF THE PROSPECTUS AND THIS FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL PROSPECTUS. IF IN DOUBT, PLEASE CONSULT A PROFESSIONAL ADVISER.**

**FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING CERTAIN RISK FACTORS WHICH SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BY PROSPECTIVE INVESTORS, SEE “RISK FACTORS” COMMENCING ON PAGE 7 OF THE PROSPECTUS.**

**THIS FUND IS A MULTI-CLASS FUND AND IS ALLOWED TO ESTABLISH NEW CLASS(ES) FROM TIME TO TIME AS MAY BE DETERMINED BY THE MANAGER.**

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**RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENTS**

This First Supplemental Prospectus has been reviewed and approved by the directors of Principal Malaysia and they collectively and individually accept full responsibility for the accuracy of the information. Having made all reasonable enquiries, they confirm to the best of their knowledge and belief, that there are no false or misleading statements, or omission of other facts which would make any statement in this First Supplemental Prospectus false or misleading.

**STATEMENTS OF DISCLAIMER**

The Securities Commission Malaysia has authorised the Fund and a copy of this First Supplemental Prospectus has been registered with the Securities Commission Malaysia.

The authorisation of the Fund, and registration of this First Supplemental Prospectus, should not be taken to indicate that the Securities Commission Malaysia recommends the Fund or assumes responsibility for the correctness of any statement made, opinion expressed or report contained in the Prospectus or this First Supplemental Prospectus.

The Securities Commission Malaysia is not liable for any non-disclosure on the part of Principal Malaysia who is responsible for the Fund and takes no responsibility for the contents in this First Supplemental Prospectus. The Securities Commission Malaysia makes no representation on the accuracy or completeness of this First Supplemental Prospectus, and expressly disclaims any liability whatsoever arising from, or in reliance upon, the whole or any part of its contents.

**YOU SHOULD RELY ON YOUR OWN EVALUATION TO ASSESS THE MERITS AND RISKS OF THE INVESTMENT. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO MAKE YOUR OWN EVALUATION, YOU ARE ADVISED TO CONSULT PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS.**

**ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS**

You should note that you may seek recourse under the *Capital Markets and Services Act 2007* for breaches of securities laws including any statement in this First Supplemental Prospectus that is false, misleading, or from which there is a material omission; or for any misleading or deceptive act in relation to this First Supplemental Prospectus or the conduct of any other person in relation to the Fund.

The Fund has been certified as being Shariah-compliant by the Shariah Adviser appointed for the Fund.

## THIS IS A FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL PROSPECTUS WHICH HAS TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PROSPECTUS

### 1.0. GENERAL

- 1.1. This First Supplemental Prospectus is issued to reflect the amendments made to the Prospectus as stated under paragraphs 1.4, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 below.
- 1.2. All terms used in this First Supplemental Prospectus shall have the same meanings as those defined in the Definitions Chapter of the Prospectus unless where the context otherwise requires.
- 1.3. All information provided herein is practicable as at 31 January 2025 and shall remain current and relevant as at such date.
- 1.4. All references to “service@principal.com.my” in the Prospectus shall be amended to “myservice@principal.com”.

### 2.0. DEFINITIONS

- 2.1. The definition of “FTSE” under the section of “Definitions” at page ii has been deleted.

### 3.0. CORPORATE DIRECTORY

- 3.1. The corporate information of “The Manager” under the section of “**Corporate Directory**” at page iv has been replaced and read as below:

#### **The Manager**

Principal Asset Management Berhad

#### **Business/Registered address**

Level 32, Exchange 106, Lingkaran TRX  
55188 Tun Razak Exchange  
Kuala Lumpur MALAYSIA  
Tel : (603) 8680 8000

#### **Customer Care Centre**

Level 31, Exchange 106, Lingkaran TRX  
55188 Tun Razak Exchange  
Kuala Lumpur MALAYSIA  
Tel : (603) 7723 7260  
Whatsapp : (6016) 299 9792

#### **Website**

www.principal.com.my

#### **E-mail**

myservice@principal.com

- 3.2. The e-mail address of the “Shariah Adviser of the Fund” under the section of “**Corporate Directory**” at page iv has been replaced and read as below:

E-mail : contact@amanieadvisors.com.

### 4.0. FUND INFORMATION

- 4.1. The information of “Benchmark” under the section of “**Fund Information**” at page 1 has been replaced and read as below:

Benchmark : MSCI Golden Dragon Islamic 10% Issuer Capped Index

**Note:** The benchmark is changed from “MSCI Islamic Golden Dragon Index” to “MSCI Golden Dragon Islamic 10% Issuer Capped Index” effective from 10 April 2025. The reason for the benchmark change is to reflect the performance of the large and midcap China securities and as well as securities classified in Hong Kong and Taiwan with 10% max weight allocated to each constituent. The Fund’s benchmark is for comparison purposes only.

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**5.0. TRANSACTION INFORMATION**

5.1. The textbox under the section of “**Who is distributing this Fund?**” at page 18 has been replaced and read as below:

**You should not make any payment directly or indirectly to any individual agent or employee of the Manager or issue a cheque in the name of an individual agent or employee of the Manager when purchasing this fund.**

5.2. The first paragraph under the section of “**Unclaimed Moneys**” at page 20 has been replaced and read as below:

Any moneys payable to you which remain unclaimed after two (2) years as prescribed by Unclaimed Moneys Act 1965 (“UMA”), will be surrendered to the Registrar of Unclaimed Moneys by us in accordance with the requirements of the UMA. Thereafter, all claims need to be made by you with the Registrar of Unclaimed Moneys.

**6.0. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

6.1. The textbox under the section of “**Information on Your Investment**” at page 21 has been replaced and read as below:

**The Fund’s annual report is available upon request.**

6.2. The last paragraph under the section of “**Information on your investment**” at page 21 has been replaced and read as below:

If you wish to write-in, please address your letter to:

**Principal Asset Management Berhad**  
**Customer Care Centre**  
Level 31, Exchange 106, Lingkaran TRX  
55188 Tun Razak Exchange  
Kuala Lumpur MALAYSIA

**7.0. THE MANAGER**

7.1. The information under the section of “**Designated Person Responsible for Fund Management Function**” at page 23 has been replaced and read as below:

<b>Name:</b>	Lee Chun Hong
<b>Designation:</b>	Chief Investment Officer, Equities – Malaysia
<b>Experience:</b>	Chun Hong has more than 19 years of experience in fund management and equity research. He joined Principal Malaysia in 2017 to manage unit trust funds and institutional mandates covering Malaysian and ASEAN markets. Before that, he was attached to Libra Invest Berhad, managing and supervising Unit Trust and Research divisions that covered ASEAN and China-Hong Kong markets. He commenced his career in fund management industry at Public Mutual Berhad. He had research responsibilities for regional plantation and consumer sectors, as well as research country coverage of ASEAN markets. Subsequently, he moved on to portfolio management, specialising in ASEAN markets. He started covering ASEAN markets in 2010. He was also previously with PricewaterhouseCoopers as an auditor.
<b>Qualifications:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting &amp; Finance) - Monash University, Clayton Campus.</li><li>▪ A CFA Charterholder.</li><li>▪ Ex-member of CPA Australia.</li></ul>

**Note:** For more information and/or updated information, please refer to our website at [www.principal.com.my](http://www.principal.com.my).

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**8.0. SHARIAH ADVISER OF THE FUND**

8.1. The information under the section of “**Designated Person Responsible for Shariah Adviser Function**” at pages 25 and 26 has been replaced and read as below:

<b>Name:</b>	Tan Sri Dr. Mohd Daud Bakar
<b>Designation:</b>	Executive Chairman, Amanie Advisors Sdn Bhd
<b>Experience:</b>	<p>Tan Sri Dr. Mohd Daud Bakar is the Founder and Executive Chairman of Amanie Group. One of its flagship companies namely Amanie Advisors, is operating in a few cities globally. He serves as the Chairman of Shariah Advisory Board of Habib Metropolitan Bank (Pakistan), Madina Takaful (Oman), and Salama Insurance (UAE). He was the former Chairman of the Shariah Advisory Council (SAC) at the Central Bank of Malaysia, and former Chairman of the SAC at the Securities Commission of Malaysia for more than 2 decades. He was also the former Chairman of Federal Territory Islamic Religious Department (MAIWP).</p> <p>Tan Sri Dr Daud is also a Shariah board member of various global financial institutions, including the Amundi Asset Management (France), BNP Paribas Najma (Bahrain), Credit Agricole Corporate &amp; Investment Bank (Dubai), and Dow Jones Islamic Market Index (New York) amongst many others. He was the Chairman of Shariah Board of First Abu Dhabi Bank (UAE) for 6 years and was a member of Shariah Board of a few Islamic financial institutions such as Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank (UAE), and National Bank of Oman (al-Muzn) in the Sultanate of Oman.</p> <p>In the corporate world, he was a member of the PNB Investment Committee. Previously, he served as a Board Director at Sime Darby Property Berhad and Chairman to Malaysia Islamic Economic Development Foundation (YaPEIM). In addition, he is the co-founder of Experts Analytics Centre Sdn Bhd and MyFinB Sdn. Bhd. He also serves as the Chairman of Berry Pay Sdn. Bhd. (digital remittance), Data Sukan Consulting Sdn. Bhd. (Sport Data), KAB Gold Dynamics Sdn. Bhd., and Tulus Digital Sdn. Bhd. (payment gateway). He was the former 8th President of the International Islamic University of Malaysia (IIUM).</p> <p>In July 2023, Tan Sri Dr Mohd Daud has received the conferment of the New Islamic Year (Maal Hijrah) Special Prominent Figure award by the State Government of Kedah, Malaysia in conjunction with the state-level Maal Hijrah celebration. Tan Sri has received the “Royal Award for Islamic Finance 2022” by His Majesty, the King of Malaysia. While in 2014, he received the “Most Outstanding Individual” award by His Majesty, the King of Malaysia, in conjunction with the national-level Prophet Muhammad’s birthday. Under his leadership, Amanie Advisors received the “Islamic Economy Knowledge Infrastructure Award” at the Global Islamic Economy Summit, Dubai 2015, by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, Oct 2015. On 13 November 2021, he was conferred the Commander of the Order of Loyalty to the Crown (Panglima Setia Mahkota P.S.M.) by His Majesty the King of Malaysia which carries the title of “Tan Sri”.</p>
<b>Qualifications:</b>	In the academic side, he was the 8th President of the International Islamic University of Malaysia (IIUM) due to his vast skill and experience serving the university. He received his first degree in Shariah from University of Kuwait in 1988 and obtained his PhD from University of St. Andrews, United Kingdom in 1993. In 2002, he completed his external Bachelor of Jurisprudence at University of Malaya.

*Note: For more and/or updated information, please refer to our website at [www.principal.com.my](http://www.principal.com.my) and/or Shariah Adviser’s website at [www.amanieadvisors.com](http://www.amanieadvisors.com).*

**9.0. TAXATION REPORT**

9.1. The information under the section of “**Taxation Report**” at pages 32 to 36 has been replaced and read as below:

Ernst & Young Tax Consultants Sdn Bhd  
 Level 23A Menara Milenium  
 Jalan Damanlela  
 Pusat Bandar Damansara  
 50490 Kuala Lumpur

16 December 2024

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The Board of Directors  
Principal Asset Management Berhad  
Level 32, Exchange 106,  
Lingkaran TRX,  
55188 Tun Razak Exchange  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Dear Sirs

**Taxation of the unit trust fund and unit holders**

This letter has been prepared for inclusion in this First Supplemental Prospectus in connection with the offer of units in the unit trust known as Principal Islamic Greater China Growth Fund (hereinafter referred to as “the Fund”).

The purpose of this letter is to provide prospective unit holders with an overview of the impact of taxation on the Fund and the unit holders.

**Taxation of the Fund**

The taxation of the Fund is subject to the provisions of the Malaysian Income Tax Act 1967 (MITA), particularly Sections 61 and 63B.

Subject to certain exemptions, the income of the Fund comprising profits and other investment income derived from or accruing in Malaysia after deducting tax allowable expenses, is subject to Malaysian income tax at the rate of 24% with effect from the year of assessment 2016.

Under Section 2(7) of the MITA, any reference to interest shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to gains or profits received and expenses incurred, in lieu of interest, in transactions conducted in accordance with the principles of *Syariah*.

The effect of this is that any gains or profits received (hereinafter referred to as “profits”) and expenses incurred, in lieu of interest, in transactions conducted in accordance with the principles of *Syariah*, will be accorded the same tax treatment as if they were interest.

Tax allowable expenses would comprise expenses falling under Section 33(1) and Section 63B of the MITA. Section 33(1) permits a deduction for expenses that are wholly and exclusively incurred in the production of gross income. In addition, Section 63B allows unit trusts a deduction for a portion of other expenses (referred to as “permitted expenses”) not directly related to the production of income, as explained below.

“Permitted expenses” refer to the following expenses incurred by the Fund which are not deductible under Section 33(1) of the MITA:

- the manager’s remuneration,
- maintenance of the register of unit holders,
- share registration expenses,
- secretarial, audit and accounting fees, telephone charges, printing and stationery costs and postage.

These expenses are given a partial deduction under Section 63B of the MITA, based on the following formula:

$$A \times \frac{B}{4C}$$

- where
- A is the total of the permitted expenses incurred for that basis period;
  - B is gross income consisting of dividend<sup>1</sup>, interest and rent chargeable to tax for that basis period; and
  - C is the aggregate of the gross income consisting of dividend<sup>1</sup> and interest (whether such dividend or interest is exempt or not) and rent, and gains made from the realisation of investments (whether chargeable to tax or not) for that basis period,

provided that the amount of deduction to be made shall not be less than 10% of the total permitted expenses incurred for that basis period.

<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to Section 15 of the Finance Act 2011, with effect from the year of assessment 2011, dividend income is deemed to include income distributed by a unit trust which includes distributions from Real Estate Investment Trusts.

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### Exempt income

The following income of the Fund is exempt from income tax:

- **Malaysian sourced dividends**

All Malaysian-sourced dividends should be exempt from income tax.

- **Malaysian sourced interest**

- (i) interest from securities or bonds issued or guaranteed by the Government of Malaysia;
- (ii) interest from debentures or sukuk, other than convertible loan stock, approved or authorized by, or lodged with, the Securities Commission;
- (iii) interest from Bon Simpanan Malaysia issued by Bank Negara Malaysia;
- (iv) interest derived from Malaysia and paid or credited by banks licensed under the Financial Services Act 2013 or the Islamic Financial Services Act 2013<sup>2</sup>;
- (v) interest derived from Malaysia and paid or credited by any development financial institution prescribed under the Development Financial Institutions Act 2002<sup>3</sup>;
- (vi) interest from sukuk originating from Malaysia, other than convertible loan stock, issued in any currency other than Ringgit and approved or authorized by, or lodged with, the Securities Commission or approved by the Labuan Financial Services Authority (LFSA)<sup>4</sup>; and
- (vii) interest which is specifically exempted by way of statutory orders or any other specific exemption provided by the Minister.

- **Discount**

Tax exemption is given on discount paid or credited to any unit trust in respect of investments as specified in items (i), (ii) and (iii) above.

### Foreign-sourced income (FSI)

Pursuant to the Finance Act 2021, income derived by a resident person from sources outside Malaysia and received in Malaysia from 1 January 2022 will no longer be exempt from tax.

Based on the Malaysian Inland Revenue Board's "Guidelines on Tax Treatment in Relation to Income Received from Abroad (Amendment)" updated on 20 June 2024, the term "received in Malaysia" means transferred or brought into Malaysia, either by way of cash<sup>5</sup> or electronic funds transfer<sup>6</sup>.

FSI received in Malaysia during the transitional period from 1 January 2022 to 30 June 2022 will be taxed at 3% of gross. From 1 July 2022 onwards, FSI received in Malaysia will be taxed at the prevailing tax rate(s) of the taxpayer and based on applicable tax rules. Bilateral or unilateral tax credits may be allowed if the same income has suffered foreign tax<sup>6</sup>, and where relevant conditions are met.

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<sup>2</sup> Effective from 1 January 2019, the income tax exemption for a unit trust fund, pursuant to Paragraph 35A, Schedule 6 of the Income Tax Act, 1967 shall not apply to a wholesale fund which is a money market fund.

<sup>3</sup> Effective from the year of assessment 2017, the exemption shall not apply to interest paid or credited to a company in the same group or interest paid or credited to a bank licensed under the Financial Services Act 2013 or the Islamic Financial Services Act 2013; or a development financial institution prescribed under the Development Financial Institutions Act 2002.

<sup>4</sup> "Cash" in this context is defined as banknotes, coins and cheques.

<sup>5</sup> "Electronic funds transfer" means bank transfers (e.g., credit or debit transfers), payment cards (debit card, credit card and charge card), electronic money, privately-issued digital assets (e.g., crypto-assets, stablecoins) and central bank digital currency.

<sup>6</sup> "Foreign tax" includes withholding tax

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The Income Tax (Unit Trust in relation to Income Received In Malaysia from Outside Malaysia) (Exemption) Order 2024 [P.U.(A) 250] has been issued to exempt a “qualifying unit trust”<sup>7</sup> from the payment of income tax in respect of gross income from all sources of income under Section 4 of the MITA (including capital gains classified under Section 4(aa)), which is received in Malaysia from outside Malaysia.

This exemption applies to FSI received in Malaysia from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2026, subject to the following conditions being complied with by the qualifying unit trust or the management company<sup>8</sup> of the qualifying unit trust:

- The income received in Malaysia has been subject to tax of a similar character to income tax under the laws of territory from which the income arose; and
- The highest rate of tax of a similar character to income tax under the law of that territory at that time is not less than 15%.

OR

The management company of the qualifying unit trust shall employ an adequate number of employees in Malaysia and incur an adequate amount of operating expenditure in Malaysia.

The exemption will not apply to a unit trust carrying on the business of banking, insurance or sea or air transport.

### Gains from the realisation of investments

Pursuant to the Finance (No. 2) Act 2023 (“Finance Act”), gains from the realisation of investments by a unit trust would no longer be exempt from tax. Pursuant to Section 61(1)(b) of the MITA, gains arising from the realisation of investments shall be treated as income of a unit trust under Section 4(aa) of MITA, provided that such gains are not related to real property as defined in the Real Property Gains Tax Act 1976. Section 4(aa) provides that gains or profits from the disposal of a capital asset are to be treated as a class of income. The tax imposed on such income under the MITA is commonly referred to as “capital gains tax” (CGT).

Based on the MITA, the following will be subject to Malaysian CGT:

#### Capital assets situated in Malaysia

- a) Gains or profits from the disposal of shares of a company incorporated in Malaysia not listed on the stock exchange (including any rights or interests thereof) owned by a company, limited liability partnership, trust body or co-operative society
- b) Gains or profits, accruing to a company, limited liability partnership, trust body or co-operative society, on the disposal of shares in foreign incorporated controlled companies deriving value from real property in Malaysia, as determined based on the relevant provisions of the MITA.

#### Capital assets situated outside Malaysia

- c) Gains or profits from the disposal of movable or immovable property situated outside Malaysia including any rights or interests thereof. Such gains will only be subject to tax when the gains are received in Malaysia.

#### Note:

Pursuant to the Income Tax (Exemption) (No.3) Order 2024 [P.U.(A) 75], a trust body is exempted from payment of income tax in respect of gains or profits from the disposal of capital asset arising from outside Malaysia which is received in Malaysia. This exemption applies for such disposals from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2026 subject to the following conditions being complied with by the trust body:

- employ an adequate number of employees in Malaysia with necessary qualifications to carry out the specified economic activities in Malaysia; and

<sup>7</sup> “Qualifying unit trust” in this context means a unit trust resident in Malaysia that is:

- (a) managed by a management company;
- (b) has income received in Malaysia from outside of Malaysia; and
- (c) does not include a unit trust which is approved by the Securities Commission as Real Estate Investment Trust or Property Trust Fund listed on Bursa Malaysia.

<sup>8</sup> “Management company” means a company licensed by the Securities Commission by which or on whose behalf a unit of a qualifying unit trust –

- a) has been or is proposed to be issued, or offered for subscription or purchase; and
  - b) in respect of which an invitation to subscribed or purchase has been made.
- and includes any person for the time being exercising the functions of the management company.



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- incur an adequate amount of operating expenditure for carrying out the specified economic activities in Malaysia.

Note that this exemption order applies to companies, limited liability partnerships, co-operative societies and trust bodies, whilst the (Income Tax (Unit Trust in relation to Income Received in Malaysia from Outside Malaysia) (Exemption) Order 2024 [P.U.(A) 250] (as referred above) applies specifically to qualifying unit trusts.

The Finance Act provides an effective date of 1 January 2024 for the above changes to the MITA. However, pursuant to the Income Tax (Exemption) (No. 7) Order 2023 [P.U.(A) 410] and the Income Tax (Exemption) (No. 2) Order 2024 [P.U.(A) 57], taxpayers, including a trust body, are exempted from the payment of income tax in respect of any gains or profits received from the disposal of capital assets situated in Malaysia (see Item (a) and (b) above) where such disposals occur between 1 January and 29 February 2024.

In addition to the above, the Income Tax (Unit Trust) (Exemption) Order 2024 [P.U.(A) 249] exempts a qualifying unit trust<sup>9</sup> resident in Malaysia from the payment of income tax in respect of any gains or profit received from the disposal of shares of a company incorporated in Malaysia which is not listed on the stock exchange and from the disposal of shares under section 15C of the MITA where such disposals occur between 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2028.

The exemption will not apply to gains or profits from the disposals of capital asset that fall under Section 4(a) of the MITA, as business income.

CGT rates

As noted above, various tax exemptions are available to a qualifying unit trust. For completeness, if exemptions did not apply, the relevant tax rates of the gains of the disposal of capital assets are as below:

		<b>Tax rates</b>
A.	Disposal of capital assets situated in Malaysia which was <b>acquired before 1 January 2024</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On chargeable income of the disposal</li> <li>• On gross disposal price</li> </ul>	10% 2%
B.	Disposal of capital assets situated in Malaysia which was <b>acquired after 1 January 2024</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On chargeable income of the disposal</li> </ul>	10%
C.	Disposal of capital assets situated outside Malaysia	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On chargeable income of the disposal</li> </ul>	24% (prevailing tax rate of a unit trust)

**Implementation of Sales and Service Tax (“SST”)**

Sales and Service Tax (“SST”) was re-introduced effective 1 September 2018. Sales Tax of 10% (most common rate) or 5% is charged by Malaysian manufacturers of taxable goods or upon importation into Malaysia of such taxable goods, unless specifically exempted under the Sales Tax (Goods Exempted From Tax) Order 2018. Service Tax is charged on certain prescribed taxable services performed by taxable persons as stipulated under Service Tax Regulations 2018. The input tax recovery mechanism under the previous GST regime does not apply to SST. Therefore, any SST incurred is not recoverable and will form a cost element for businesses.

Based on the Service Tax Regulations 2018, a unit trust fund is neither regarded as a taxable person nor as providing taxable services and is therefore not liable for SST registration. Where the Fund incurs expenses such as management fees, the management services provided by asset and fund managers who are licensed or registered with Securities Commission Malaysia for carrying out the regulated activity of fund management under the Capital Markets and Services Act 2007, are specifically excluded from the scope of Service Tax. As for other fees, such as trustee fees and other administrative charges, these may be subject to service tax<sup>10</sup> provided they fall within the

<sup>9</sup> “Qualifying unit trust” in this context does not include a unit trust which is approved by the Securities Commission as a Real Estate Investment Trust or Property Trust Fund listed on Bursa Malaysia.

<sup>10</sup> Pursuant to Service Tax (Rate of Tax) (Amendment) Order 2024 [P.U. (A) 64], the service tax rate is increased from 6% to 8% with effect from 1 March 2024 on generally all of the taxable services except for provision of food and beverage services, telecommunication services, parking space and logistics services.

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scope of service tax (i.e. are provided by a “taxable person”, who exceeds the required annual threshold (in most cases RM 500,000 per annum) and the services qualify as “taxable services”).

### Taxation of unit holders

For Malaysian income tax purposes, unit holders will be taxed on their share of the distributions received from the Fund.

The income of unit holders from their investment in the Fund broadly falls under the following categories:

1. taxable distributions; and
2. non-taxable and exempt distributions.

In addition, unit holders may also realise a gain from the sale of units.

The tax implications of each of the above categories are explained below:

#### 1. Taxable distributions

Distributions received from the Fund will have to be grossed up to take into account the underlying tax paid by the Fund and the unit holder will be taxed on the grossed up amount. See however item 2 below on certain distributions which are not taxable to unit holders.

Such taxable distributions carry a tax credit, which will be available for set-off against any Malaysian income tax payable by the unit holder. Should the tax deducted at source exceed the tax liability of the unit holder, the excess is refundable to the unit holders.

Please refer to the paragraph below for the income tax rates applicable to the grossed up distributions.

#### 2. Non-taxable and exempt distributions

Tax exempt distributions made out of gains from the realisation of investments and exempt income earned by the Fund will not be subject to Malaysian income tax in the hands of the unit holders.

A retail money market fund is exempted from tax on its interest income derived from Malaysia, pursuant to Paragraph 35A of Schedule 6 of the MITA. Pursuant to the Finance Act 2021, with effect from 1 January 2022, distributions by a retail money market fund from such tax exempt interest income, to a unit holder other than an individual, will no longer be exempt from tax. The distribution to unit holders other than individuals will be subject to withholding tax at 24%. This would be a final tax for non-residents. Malaysian residents are required to include the distributions in their tax returns and claim a credit in respect of the withholding tax suffered. Individuals will continue to be exempt from tax on such distributions.

As stated above, with effect from 1 January 2024 (1 March 2024 for disposals of shares of a company incorporated in Malaysia not listed on the stock exchange), gains arising from the realisation of investments shall be treated as income of the Fund under Section 4(aa), pursuant to the proviso of Section 61(1)(b) of MITA.<sup>12</sup> However, pursuant to Section 61(1A) of MITA, unit holders will still not be charged to tax on the gains referred to in the proviso to Section 61(1)(b).

### Rates of tax

The Malaysian income tax chargeable on the unit holders would depend on their tax residence status and whether they are individuals, corporations or trust bodies. The relevant income tax rates are as follows:

Unit holders	Malaysian income tax rates
Malaysian tax resident: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Individual and non-corporate unit holders (such as associations and societies)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Progressive tax rates ranging from 0% to 30%</li></ul>

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Unit holders	Malaysian income tax rates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-operatives<sup>11</sup></li> <li>• Trust bodies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progressive tax rates ranging from 0% to 24%</li> <li>• 24%</li> </ul>

Unit holders	Malaysian income tax rates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Corporate unit holders                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) A company with paid up capital in respect of ordinary shares of not more than RM2.5 million (at the beginning of the basis period for the year of assessment) and gross income from a source or sources consisting of a business not exceeding RM50 million for the basis period for the year of assessment<sup>12 13</sup></li> <li>(ii) Companies other than (i) above</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First RM150,000 of chargeable income @ 15%<sup>14</sup></li> <li>• Next RM450,000 of chargeable income @ 17%</li> <li>• Chargeable income in excess of RM600,000 @ 24%</li> <li>• 24%</li> </ul>
Non-Malaysian tax resident (Note 1): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual and non-corporate unit holders</li> <li>• Corporate unit holders and trust bodies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30%</li> <li>• 24%</li> </ul>

**Note 1:**

Non-resident unit holders may be subject to tax in their respective countries depending on the provisions of the tax legislation in the respective countries and any existing double taxation arrangements with Malaysia.

**Gains from sale of units**

Gains arising from the sale of units will generally not be subject to income tax in the hands of unit holders unless they are insurance companies, financial institutions or traders / dealers in securities.

<sup>11</sup> Pursuant to Paragraph 12(1), Schedule 6 of the MITA, the income of any co-operative society—

(a) in respect of a period of five years commencing from the date of registration of such co-operative society; and  
 (b) thereafter where the members' funds [as defined in Paragraph 12(2)] of such co-operative society as at the first day of the basis period for the year of assessment is less than seven hundred and fifty thousand ringgit, is exempt from tax.

<sup>12</sup> A company would not be eligible for the concessionary tax rate on the first RM600,000 of chargeable income if:-

(a) more than 50% of the paid-up capital in respect of the ordinary shares of the company is directly or indirectly owned by a related company which has paid-up capital in respect of ordinary shares of more than RM2.5 million at the beginning of a basis period for a year of assessment;  
 (b) the company owns directly or indirectly more than 50% of the paid-up capital in respect of the ordinary shares of a related company which has paid-up capital in respect of ordinary shares of more than RM2.5 million at the beginning of a basis period for a year of assessment;  
 (c) more than 50% of the paid-up capital in respect of the ordinary shares of the company and a related company which has a paid-up capital in respect of ordinary shares of more than RM2.5 million at the beginning of a basis period for a year of assessment is directly or indirectly owned by another company.  
 (d) Pursuant to the Finance Act 2023, effective from the year of assessment 2024, in order for a company to qualify for the concessionary tax rates not more than 20% of the paid-up capital in respect of the ordinary shares of the company at the beginning of a basis period for a year of assessment can be directly or indirectly owned by one or more companies incorporated outside Malaysia or by individuals who are not citizens of Malaysia.

<sup>13</sup> The above excludes a business trust and a company which is established for the issuance of asset-backed securities in a securitization transaction approved by the Securities Commission.

<sup>14</sup> Pursuant to the Finance Act 2023, effective from the year of assessment 2023, the concessionary tax rate is reduced from 17% to 15% for the first RM150,000 of chargeable income.

**THIS IS A FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL PROSPECTUS WHICH HAS TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PROSPECTUS**

**Unit splits and reinvestment of distributions**

Unit holders may also receive new units as a result of unit splits or may choose to reinvest their distributions. The income tax implications of these are as follows:

- Unit splits – new units issued by the Fund pursuant to a unit split will not be subject to income tax in the hands of the unit holders.
- Reinvestment of distributions – unit holders may choose to reinvest their income distribution in new units by informing the Manager. In this event, the unit holder will be deemed to have received the distribution and reinvested it with the Fund.

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We hereby confirm that, as at the date of this letter, the statements made in this letter correctly reflect our understanding of the tax position under current Malaysian tax legislation and the related interpretation and practice thereof, all of which are subject to change, possibly on a retrospective basis. We have not been retained (unless specifically instructed hereafter), nor are we obligated to monitor or update the statements for future conditions that may affect these statements.

The statements made in this letter are not intended to be a complete analysis of the tax consequences relating to an investor in the Fund. As the particular circumstances of each investor may differ, we recommend that investors obtain independent advice on the tax issues associated with an investment in the Fund.

Yours faithfully  
**Ernst & Young Tax Consultants Sdn Bhd**

Bernard Yap  
Partner

Ernst & Young Tax Consultants Sdn Bhd has given its consent to the inclusion of the Taxation Adviser's Letter in the form and context in which it appears in this First Supplemental Prospectus and has not withdrawn such consent before the date of issue of this First Supplemental Prospectus.

**10.0. CONSENT**

- 10.1. HSBC (Malaysia) Trustee Berhad and Amanie Advisors Sdn Bhd have given their consent for the inclusion of its name and statements in the form and context in which they appear in this First Supplemental Prospectus and have not withdrawn such consent.

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