

**UOB Asset Management Ltd** 

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## **News Release**

# UOB Asset Management's new fund helps retail investors diversify into alternative investments

The United Asia Pacific Diversified Strategies Fund is Singapore's first daily liquidity alternatives fund focused on Asia Pacific

**Singapore**, **20 June 2018** – UOB Asset Management (UOBAM) today announced the launch of the United Asia Pacific Diversified Strategies Fund (United Asia Pacific DSF), UOBAM's first fund to offer retail investors access to alternative investments. Sub-managed by UOBAM's subsidiary, UOB Alternative Investment Management (UOBAIM)<sup>1</sup>, the United Asia Pacific DSF is also the first daily liquidity alternative investment fund in Singapore with a focus on Asia Pacific.

Alternative investment, such as funds that invest in private equity and hedge funds, is an emerging asset class in Singapore that is typically held by institutional or accredited investors who may be more familiar with sophisticated investment strategies. These strategies are applied to help reduce risk and to enhance long-term risk-adjusted returns irrespective of general market conditions.

With the United Asia Pacific DSF, retail investors will be able to access and to diversify their portfolio with an asset class designed to provide better long-term risk-adjusted returns compared with Asian equities and Asian bonds. The asset class is also designed to provide capital appreciation through periods of market volatility. For example, the Fund invests in long-short equity strategy funds that buy stocks expected to increase in value and short-sell those expected to drop before buying them back at a lower price to make a profit. The daily liquidity feature also provides investors the flexibility to purchase the fund daily and to sell it back to the fund at any time.

Mr Low Han Seng, Chief Executive Officer of UOBAIM, said, "We have been helping high-net-worth individuals and institutional investors access alternative investment opportunities in Asia for many years. Alternative investment funds offer investors better long-term risk-adjusted returns when compared with traditional asset classes such as equities and bonds, due to their ability to capture opportunities in different market conditions."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> UOB Alternative Investment Management Pte. Ltd. (UOBAIM) is a subsidiary of UOB Asset Management Ltd. (UOBAM) since 2017.





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Asian alternative investment funds<sup>2</sup> had an annualised return<sup>3</sup> of 7.9 per cent from 1 January 2006 to 31 January 2018, according to Bloomberg data. In comparison, the annualised returns<sup>3</sup> of the region's equities<sup>4</sup> and bonds<sup>5</sup> were 5.8 per cent and 3.0 per cent respectively over the same period.

The Fund is measured against an absolute return benchmark of 6 per cent per annum. The majority of the United Asia Pacific DSF's underlying funds are alternative funds regulated under the Undertakings for Collective Investments in Transferable Securities (UCITS) <sup>6</sup> framework. As UCITS funds are deemed to be better regulated than conventional alternative funds, they tend to be more transparent to investors.

The minimum investment sum for the United Asia Pacific DSF is S\$1,000 or US\$1,000. The current distributor of the United Asia Pacific DSF is Professional Investment Advisory Services Pte. Ltd.

For more information on the United Asia Pacific DSF, please refer to the Fund Prospectus available on <a href="https://www.UOBAM.com.sg">www.UOBAM.com.sg</a>.

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#### **About UOB Asset Management**

UOB Asset Management Ltd (UOBAM) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of United Overseas Bank Limited. Established in 1986, UOBAM has been managing collective investment schemes and discretionary funds in Singapore for more than 30 years. We currently manage 57 unit trusts in Singapore and are one of the largest unit trust managers in terms of assets under management. As at 30 April 2018, UOBAM and our subsidiaries manage about \$\$32.9 billion (US\$24.9 billion) in clients' assets.

UOBAM has an extensive presence in Asia with regional business and investment offices in Malaysia, Thailand, Brunei, Taiwan and Japan. Our network includes UOB Alternative Investment Management Pte. Ltd. and UOB Islamic Asset Management Sdn Bhd in Malaysia. We have two joint ventures: Ping-An UOB Fund Management Company (China) and UOB-SM Asset Management Pte Ltd (Singapore). In addition, we forged strategic alliances with UTI International (India) and Wellington Management Singapore. UOBAM is one of the most awarded fund management companies, winning the 'Best Asset Management Firm Singapore' and 'Best Asia Fixed Income Fund House Singapore' from International Finance Awards 2018 and 'Best Fixed Income Fund House' award from Morningstar Awards 2017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The UCITS is a regulatory framework of the European Commission and a recognised structure by the Monetary Authority of Singapore. The UCITS has been widely adopted as the globally recognised industry standard for investor protection.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This is with reference to 70 per cent Eurekahedge UCITS Asian Hedge Fund Index and 30 per cent Eurekahedge UCITS Hedge Fund Index, which is in line with the intended investment strategy of the United Asia Pacific DSF to invest at least 70 per cent in the Asia Pacific while the remainder may be focused on any part of the world.

Annualised returns are in US dollar terms.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This is with reference to the MSCI AC Daily Total Return Net Asia Pacific Index.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> This is with reference to the Bloomberg Barclays Asia Pacific – Aggregate Total Return Index Value Unhedged USD.



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UOB Alternative Investment Management (UOBAIM), previously known as UOB Asia Investment Partners Pte. Ltd., specialises in delivering sustainable risk-adjusted returns to investors through alternative investment products and services focused on Asia. UOBAIM began as an alternative investment function within UOB and in 2013 became a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Bank. In 2017, UOBAIM joined UOBAM Group as its alternative investment platform. Since UOB made its first investment in an Asian venture capital fund in 1988, we have made and advised on commitments to more than 80 alternative investment vehicles totaling more than US\$1.0 billion, of which more than 80 per cent were invested in Asian strategies.

This document is for general information only. It does not constitute an offer or solicitation to deal in units in the Fund ("Units") or investment advice or recommendation and was prepared without regard to the specific objectives, financial situation or needs of any particular person who may receive it. The information is based on certain assumptions, information and conditions available as at the date of this document and may be subject to change at any time without notice. No representation or promise as to the performance of the Fund or the return on your investment is made. Past performance of the Fund or UOB Asset Management Ltd ("UOBAM") and any past performance, prediction, projection or forecast of the economic trends or securities market are not necessarily indicative of the future or likely performance of the Fund or UOBAM. The value of Units and the income from them, if any, may fall as well as rise. Investments in Units involve risks, including the possible loss of the principal amount invested, and are not obligations of, deposits in, or guaranteed or insured by United Overseas Bank Limited ("UOB"), UOBAM, or any of their subsidiary, associate or affiliate ("UOB Group") or distributors of the Fund. The Fund may use or invest in financial derivative instruments and you should be aware of the risks associated with investments in financial derivative instruments which are described in the Fund's prospectus. The UOB Group may have interests in the Units and may also perform or seek to perform brokering and other investment or securities-related services for the Fund. Investors should read the Fund's prospectus, which is available and may be obtained from UOBAM or any of its appointed agents or distributors, before investing. You may wish to seek advice from a financial adviser before making a commitment to invest in any Units, and in the event that you choose not to do so, you should consider carefully whether the Fund is suitable for you. Applications for Units must be made on the application forms accompanying the Fund's prospectus.

## For media queries, please contact:

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