

## 1. Description of the ILP Sub-Fund

HSBC Global Investment Funds – Global Equity Climate Change (the "**ILP Sub-Fund**") is an investment-linked policy sub-fund offered by HSBC Insurance (Singapore) Pte. Limited ("**HSBC Life**").

Investment risk rating is a guide to determine the ILP Sub-Fund that is suitable to the risk profile as indicated in the HSBC Bank (Singapore) Limited's (the "**Bank**") Risk Profile Questionnaire (RPQ). It is currently only applicable to customers of the Bank.

## 2. Structure of the ILP Sub-Fund

The ILP Sub-Fund is a single ILP sub-fund which invests 100% into HSBC Global Investment Funds – Global Equity Climate Change (the "**Sub-Fund**"). The Sub-Fund is incorporated in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and qualifying as an Undertaking for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities (UCITS) complying with the provisions of Part I of the 2010 Law.

ILP Sub-Fund	Currency	Share Class	Investment Risk Rating
HSBC Global Investment Funds – Global Equity Climate Change	SGD	HSBC Global Investment Funds – Global Equity Climate Change – AC SGD Hedged	4
HSBC Global Investment Funds – Global Equity Climate Change	USD	HSBC Global Investment Funds – Global Equity Climate Change – AC USD	4

The ILP Sub-Fund is not classified as an Excluded Investment Product (as defined within the MAS Notice 307 on Investment-Linked Policies (the "**MAS Notice 307**")).

## 3. Information on the Manager

The Management Company of the Sub-Fund is HSBC Investment Funds (Luxembourg) S.A (the "**Management Company**"). The Management Company is responsible on a day-to-day basis, under the supervision of the Directors, for providing administration, marketing, investment management and advice services in respect of all Sub-Funds.

HSBC Global Asset Management is the core global investment solutions platform of the HSBC Group. With a global network of dedicated offices, HSBC Global Asset Management is able to create and deliver solutions to clients worldwide. As at December 2020, HSBC Global Asset Management had USD 609 billion worth of assets under management.

HSBC Global Asset Management (UK) Limited is the investment adviser (the "**Investment Adviser**") of the Sub-Fund. Formally established in United Kingdom in 1994, HSBC Global Asset Management (UK) Limited has been involved in the management of client funds since 1973 and is wholly owned by the HSBC Group. As at December 2020, HSBC Global Asset Management (UK) Limited had USD 114 billion worth of assets under management. The regulatory authority is Financial Conduct Authority.

The monies and assets of the ILP Sub-Fund are not expected to be affected by the insolvency of the Investment Adviser as monies and assets belonging to the ILP Sub-Fund are segregated from the Investment Adviser's assets through the maintenance of separate bank and custodian accounts for the ILP Sub-Fund, and it is not permissible for monies and assets of the ILP Sub-Fund to be used for payment of the Investment Adviser's debts and liabilities under law.

### 3.1 Information on the Depositary of the Fund

The Depositary Bank is the Luxembourg branch of HSBC Continental Europe, a public limited company incorporated pursuant to the laws of France with company registration number 775 670 284 RCS Paris.

## 4. The Auditor

The auditor of the Sub-Fund is PricewaterhouseCoopers Société Coopérative.

## 5. Investment Objectives, Focus and Approach

### 5.1 Investment Objectives

The Sub-Fund aims to provide long term total return by investing in companies that may benefit from the transition to a low carbon economy, while promoting ESG characteristics within the meaning of Article 8 of SFDR. The Sub-Fund aims to do this with a lower carbon intensity and a higher environmental, social and governance (“ESG”) rating, calculated respectively as a weighted average of the carbon intensities and ESG ratings given to the issuers of the Sub-Fund’s investments, than the weighted average of the constituents of the MSCI AC World Net index.

### 5.2 Investment Focus and Approach

The Sub-Fund invests in normal market conditions a minimum of 70% of its net assets in equities and equity equivalent securities of companies with revenue exposure to climate transition themes (“Climate Transition Themes”) which are domiciled in, based in, or carry out business activities in, or are listed on a Regulated Market in, any country including both developed markets and Emerging Markets. The Sub-Fund may also invest in eligible closed-ended Real Estate Investment Trusts (“REITs”).

Climate Transition Themes may include, but are not limited to, renewable energy, energy efficiency, clean transportation and green buildings. Climate Transition Themes are proprietary to HSBC, determined with reference to the eligible activities of the Green Bond Principles of the International Capital Market Association and the Climate Bonds Taxonomy of the Climate Bonds Initiative, subject to ongoing research and may change over time as new themes are identified. The Investment Adviser may rely on its own research to identify suitable companies meeting a minimum revenue exposure threshold to Climate Transition Themes. The minimum revenue exposure threshold will depend on the specific Climate Transition Theme but will be at least 10% of the relevant company’s total revenue.

The Sub-Fund will not invest in equities and equity equivalent securities of companies or REITs considered non-compliant with the United Nations Global Compact Principles or have material exposure, exceeding a revenue exposure threshold, to specific excluded activities (“Excluded Activities”). These Excluded Activities are proprietary to HSBC and may include, but are not limited to, coal, unconventional oil & gas extraction and tobacco and may change over time. The revenue exposure threshold will depend on the specific Excluded Activity but will not be higher than 30% of the relevant company’s total revenue. The Investment Adviser may rely on expertise, research and information provided by well-established financial data providers to identify companies exposed to these Excluded Activities.

More information on HSBC Global Asset Management’s responsible investing policies is available at <https://www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.uk/en/intermediary/about-us/responsible-investing/policies>.

After identifying the eligible investment universe, the Investment Adviser aims to construct a portfolio with lower carbon intensity and higher ESG rating, calculated respectively as a weighted average of the carbon intensities and ESG ratings given to the issuers of the Sub-Fund’s investments, than the weighted average of the constituents of the MSCI AC World Net index. When assessing companies’ carbon intensity and ESG rating, the Investment Adviser may rely on expertise, research and information provided by well-established financial data providers.

Investments in Chinese equities include, but are not limited to, China Ashares and China B-shares (and such other securities as may be available) listed on stock exchanges in the People’s Republic of China (“PRC”). The Sub-Fund may directly invest in China A-shares through the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect and/or the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect, subject to applicable quota limitations. Furthermore, the Sub-Fund may gain exposure to China A-shares indirectly through China A-shares Access Products (“CAAP”) such as, but not limited to, participation notes linked to China A-shares.

The Sub-Fund may invest up to 10% of its net assets in China A-shares through the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect and/or the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect and up to 10% of its net assets in CAAPs. The Sub-Fund’s maximum exposure to China A-shares (through the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect, the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect or CAAP) and China B-shares is 20% of its net assets. The Sub-Fund will not invest more than 10% of its net assets in CAAPs issued by any single issuer of CAAPs.

The Sub-Fund normally invests across a range of market capitalisations without any capitalisation restriction.

The Sub-Fund will not invest more than 10% of its net assets in REITs.

The Sub-Fund may invest up to 10% of its net assets in units or shares of UCITS and/or other Eligible UCIs including other sub-funds of HSBC Global Investment Funds).

The Sub-Fund may use financial derivative instruments for hedging and cash flow management (for example, Equitisation). The Sub-Fund may also use, but not extensively, financial derivative instruments for investment

purposes. The financial derivative instruments the Sub-Fund is permitted to use include, but are not limited to, futures and foreign exchange forwards (including non-deliverable forwards). Financial derivative instruments may also be embedded in other instruments in which the Sub-Fund may invest. Financial derivative instruments may also be used for efficient portfolio management purposes.

The Sub-Fund may enter into Securities Lending transactions for up to 29% of its net assets, however this is not expected to exceed 25%.

The Sub-Fund is actively managed and does not track a benchmark. The reference benchmark for Sub-Fund market comparison purposes is MSCI AC World Net.

The Investment Adviser will use its discretion to invest in securities not included in the reference benchmark based on active investment management strategies and specific investment opportunities. It is foreseen that a significant percentage of the Sub-Fund's investments will be components of the reference benchmark. However, their weightings may deviate materially from those of the reference benchmark.

#### Risk Management

The commitment approach is used to measure and monitor the level of risk for this Sub-Fund. Please refer to Section 1.6 of the Sub-Fund's Luxembourg Prospectus on Risk Management Process for further information on the commitment approach.

### **5.3 Investor Profile**

The ILP Sub-Fund is only suitable for potential investors who:

- Seek total return over the long term.
- Are comfortable with the volatility and risks related to investing in equities around the world.
- Understand that the principal of the Sub-Fund will be at risk.

### **6. Central Provident Fund ("CPF") Investment Scheme**

The ILP Sub-Fund is currently not included under the CPF Investment Scheme.

### **7. Risks**

#### **7.1 General Risks**

Investment in the Sub-Fund carries with it a degree of risk, including, but not limited to those specifically referred to in Sections 1.4 and 3.3 of the Sub-Fund's Luxembourg Prospectus. Potential investors should review the Luxembourg Prospectus in its entirety prior to making a decision to invest. There can be no assurance that the Sub-Fund will achieve their investment objectives and past performance should not be seen as a guide to future returns. Investors should remember that the price of shares and any income from them may fall as well as rise and they may not get back the full amount invested. An investment may also be affected by any changes in exchange control regulations, tax laws, withholding taxes and economic or monetary policies.

Please refer to Section 1.5 of the Sub-Fund's Luxembourg Prospectus on General Risk Considerations for further details. You can download the Sub-Fund's Luxembourg Prospectus from website: [www.assetmanagement.hsbc.com/sg](http://www.assetmanagement.hsbc.com/sg).

#### **7.1.1 Market Risk**

There is no guarantee in respect of repayment of principal and the value of investments and the income derived therefrom may fall as well as rise and investors may not recoup the original amount invested in the Sub-Fund. In particular, the value of investments may be affected by uncertainties such as international, political and economic developments or changes in government policies.

#### **7.1.2 Emerging Markets**

Because of the special risks associated with investing in Emerging Markets, sub-funds which invest in such securities should be considered speculative. Investors in such sub-funds are advised to consider carefully the special risks of investing in Emerging Market securities. Economies in Emerging Markets generally are heavily dependent upon international trade and, accordingly, have been and may continue to be affected adversely by trade barriers,

exchange controls, managed adjustments in relative currency values and other protectionist measures imposed or negotiated by the countries with which they trade. These economies also have been and may continue to be affected adversely by economic conditions in the countries in which they trade.

Brokerage commissions, custodial services and other costs relating to investment in Emerging Markets generally are more expensive than those relating to investment in more developed markets. Lack of adequate custodial systems in some markets may prevent investment in a given country or may require a sub-fund to accept greater custodial risks in order to invest, although the Depository Bank will endeavour to minimise such risks through the appointment of correspondents that are international, reputable and creditworthy financial institutions. In addition, such markets have different settlement and clearance procedures. In certain markets there have been times when settlements have been unable to keep pace with the volume of securities transactions, making it difficult to conduct such transactions. The inability of a sub-fund to make intended securities purchases due to settlement problems could cause the sub-fund to miss attractive investment opportunities. Inability to dispose of a portfolio security caused by settlement problems could result either in losses to a sub-fund due to subsequent declines in value of the portfolio security or, if a sub-fund has entered into a contract to sell the security, could result in potential liability to the purchaser.

The risk also exists that an emergency situation may arise in one or more developing markets as a result of which trading of securities may cease or may be substantially curtailed and prices for a sub-fund's securities in such markets may not be readily available.

Investors should note that changes in the political climate in Emerging Markets may result in significant shifts in the attitude to the taxation of foreign investors. Such changes may result in changes to legislation, the interpretation of legislation, or the granting of foreign investors the benefit of tax exemptions or international tax treaties. The effect of such changes can be retrospective and can (if they occur) have an adverse impact on the investment return of shareholders in any sub-fund so affected.

Investors in Emerging Markets sub-funds should be aware of the risk associated with investment in Russian equity securities. Markets are not always regulated in Russia and, at the present time, there are a relatively small number of brokers and participants in these markets and when combined with political and economic uncertainties this may temporarily result in illiquid equity markets in which prices are highly volatile.

The sub-funds' investments are spread among a number of industries however the BRIC countries' markets are comprised of significant weightings in the natural resources sectors. This means that the sub-fund's investments may be relatively concentrated in these sectors and the performance of the sub-fund could be sensitive to movements in these sectors. Risks of sector concentration are outlined below. In selecting companies for investment, a company's financial strength, competitive position, profitability, growth prospects and quality of management will typically be evaluated.

### **7.1.3 Foreign Exchange Risk**

Because a sub-fund's assets and liabilities may be denominated in currencies different to the Base Currency, the sub-fund may be affected favourably or unfavourably by exchange control regulations or changes in the exchange rates between the Base Currency and other currencies. Changes in currency exchange rates may influence the value of a sub-fund's Shares, the dividends or interest earned and the gains and losses realised. Exchange rates between currencies are determined by supply and demand in the currency exchange markets, the international balance of payments, governmental intervention, speculation and other economic and political conditions.

If the currency in which a security is denominated appreciates against the Base Currency, the value of the security will increase. Conversely, a decline in the exchange rate of the currency would adversely affect the value of the security.

A sub-fund may engage in foreign currency transactions in order to hedge against currency exchange risk, however there is no guarantee that hedging or protection will be achieved. This strategy may also limit the sub-fund from benefiting from the performance of a sub-fund's securities if the currency in which the securities held by the sub-fund are denominated rises against the Base Currency. In case of a hedged class, (denominated in a currency different from the Base Currency), this risk applies systematically.

### **7.1.4 Counterparty Risk**

The Sub-Fund may enter into transactions in over-the-counter markets, which will expose the Sub-Fund to the credit of its counterparties and their ability to satisfy the terms of such contracts.

For example, the Sub-Fund may enter into repurchase agreements, Securities Lending, forward contracts, options and swap arrangements or other derivative techniques, each of which expose the Sub-Fund to the risk that the counterparty may default on its obligations to perform under the relevant contract. In addition, some fixed income structures such as asset backed securities can incorporate swap contracts that involve counterparty risk. In the event of a bankruptcy or insolvency of a counterparty, the Sub-Fund could experience delays in liquidating the position and significant losses, including declines in the value of its investment during the period in which the Sub-Fund seeks to enforce its rights, inability to realise any gains on its investment during such period and fees and expenses incurred in enforcing its rights.

There is also a possibility that the above agreements and derivative techniques are terminated due, for instance, to bankruptcy, supervening illegality or change in the tax or accounting laws relative to those at the time the agreement was originated. In such circumstances, investors may be unable to cover any losses incurred. Derivative contracts such as direct swap contracts or swap contracts embedded in other fixed income structures entered into by the Sub-Fund on behalf of a sub-fund on the advice of the Investment Adviser involve credit risk that could result in a loss of the sub-fund's entire investment as the sub-fund may be fully exposed to the credit worthiness of a single approved counterparty where such an exposure will be collateralised.

The Sub-Fund employs a variety of mechanisms to manage and mitigate counterparty risk including but not limited to the following:

1. Counterparty approval using external credit ratings and/or a credit review consisting of three years' worth of audited financial accounts;
2. Counterparties are also reviewed at least annually to ensure that they remain appropriate for the requirements of the business. Counterparties are monitored on a continual basis and any adverse information concerning the credit worthiness of approved counterparties is considered as a matter of urgency;
3. Counterparty exposures are monitored on a daily basis by a function independent of the front office; Exposures may also be managed through a collateral and margining arrangement supported by appropriate and legally enforceable trading agreements.

#### **7.1.5 Risks Associated with Government or Central Banks' Intervention**

Changes in regulation or government policy leading to intervention in the currency and interest rate markets (e.g. restrictions on capital movements or changes to the way in which a national currency is supported such as currency de-pegging) may adversely affect some financial instruments and the performance of the sub-funds.

#### **7.1.6 Volatility**

The price of a financial derivative instrument can be very volatile. This is because a small movement in the price of the underlying security, index, interest rate or currency may result in a substantial movement in the price of the financial derivative instrument. Investment in financial derivative instruments may result in losses in excess of the amount invested.

#### **7.1.7 Futures and Options**

Under certain conditions, the Sub-Fund may use options and futures on securities, indices and interest rates for the purpose of investment, hedging and efficient portfolio management. In addition, where appropriate, the Sub-Fund may hedge market and currency risks using futures, options or forward foreign exchange contracts.

Transactions in futures carry a high degree of risk. The amount of the initial margin is small relative to the value of the futures contract so that transactions are "leveraged" or "geared". A relatively small market movement will have a proportionately larger impact which may work for or against the investor. The placing of certain orders which are intended to limit losses to certain amounts may not be effective because market conditions may make it impossible to execute such orders.

Transactions in options also carry a high degree of risk. Selling ("writing" or "granting") an option generally entails

considerably greater risk than purchasing options. Although the premium received by the seller is fixed, the seller may sustain a loss well in excess of that amount. The seller will also be exposed to the risk of the purchaser exercising the option and the seller will be obliged either to settle the option in cash or to acquire or deliver the underlying investment. If the option is “covered” by the seller holding a corresponding position in the underlying investment or a future on another option, the risk may be reduced.

#### **7.1.8 Credit Default Swaps**

Credit default swaps may trade differently from the funded securities of the reference entity. In adverse market conditions, the basis (difference between the spread on bonds and the spread on credit default swaps) can be significantly more volatile.

#### **7.1.9 Total Return Swaps**

A sub-fund may utilise Total Return Swaps to, inter alia, replicate the exposure of an index or to swap the performance of one or more instruments into a stream of fixed or variable rate cash-flows. In such cases, the counterparty to the transaction will be a counterparty approved and monitored by the Management Company or the Investment Adviser. At no time will a counterparty in a transaction have discretion over the composition or the management of the sub-fund's investment portfolio or over the underlying asset of the Total Return Swap.

#### **7.1.10 OTC Financial Derivative Transactions**

In general, there is less governmental regulation and supervision of transactions in the OTC markets (in which currencies, forward, spot and option contracts, credit default swaps, Total Return Swaps and certain options on currencies are generally traded) than of transactions entered into on organized exchanges. In addition, many of the protections afforded to participants on some organized exchanges, such as the performance guarantee of an exchange clearing house, may not be available in connection with OTC financial derivative transactions. Therefore, a sub fund entering into OTC transactions will be subject to the risk that its direct counterparty will not perform its obligations under the transactions and that a sub fund will sustain losses. The Sub-Fund will only enter into transactions with counterparties which it believes to be creditworthy, and may reduce the exposure incurred in connection with such transactions through the receipt of letters of credit or collateral from certain counterparties. Regardless of these measures, the Sub-Fund may seek to implement to reduce counterparty credit risk, however, there can be no assurance that a counterparty will not default or that a sub-fund will not sustain losses as a result.

From time to time, the counterparties with which the Sub-Fund effects transactions might cease making markets or quoting prices in certain of the instruments. In such instances, the Sub-Fund might be unable to enter into a desired transaction in currencies, credit default swaps or Total Return Swaps or to enter into an offsetting transaction with respect to an open position, which might adversely affect its performance. Further, in contrast to exchange traded instruments, forward, spot and option contracts on currencies do not provide the Investment Adviser with the possibility to offset the Sub-Fund's obligations through an equal and opposite transaction. For this reason, in entering into forward, spot or options contracts, the Sub-Fund may be required, and must be able, to perform its obligations under the contracts.

#### **7.1.11 Securities Lending and Repurchase Transactions**

To the extent that the Sub-Fund uses any of the techniques and instruments set out in the Luxembourg Prospectus Appendix 2. “Restrictions on the Use of Techniques and Instruments”, their use may involve certain risks and there can be no assurance that the objective sought to be obtained from such use will be achieved.

In relation to reverse repurchase transactions, investors must notably be aware that (a) in the event of the failure of the counterparty with which cash of a sub-fund has been placed there is the risk that collateral received may yield less than the cash placed out, whether because of inaccurate pricing of the collateral, adverse market movements, a deterioration in the credit rating of issuers of the collateral, or the illiquidity of the market in which the collateral is traded; that (b) (i) locking cash in transactions of excessive size or duration, (ii) delays in recovering cash placed out, or (iii) difficulty in realising collateral may restrict the ability of the sub-fund to meet redemption requests, security purchases or, more generally, reinvestment; and that (c) reverse repurchase transactions will, as the case may be, further expose a sub-fund to risks similar to those associated with optional or forward derivative financial instruments, which risks are further described in other sections of this Prospectus.

In relation to repurchase transactions and Securities Lending transactions, investors must notably be aware that (a) if the borrower of securities lent by a sub-fund fail to return these there is a risk that the collateral received may realise less than the value of the securities lent out, whether due to inaccurate pricing, adverse market movements, a deterioration in the credit rating of issuers of the collateral, or the illiquidity of the market in which the collateral is traded; that (b) in case of reinvestment of cash collateral such reinvestment may yield a sum less than the amount of collateral to be returned; and that (c) delays in the return of securities on loans may restrict the ability of a sub-fund to meet delivery obligations under security sales or payment obligations arising from redemptions requests.

#### **7.1.12 Liquidity Risk**

Liquidity risk exists within most financial products including the investments held by the sub-funds. This means that a delay may occur in receiving sales proceeds from the investments held by a sub-fund, and those proceeds may be less than recent valuations used to determine the Net Asset Value per Share. This risk is greater in exceptional market conditions or when large numbers of investors are trying to sell their investments at the same time. In such circumstances, the receipt of sale proceeds may be delayed and/or take place at lower prices.

This may impact the ability of the sub-funds to immediately meet the redemption requests received from the shareholders.

#### **7.1.13 Prohibited Securities**

In accordance with the Luxembourg law of 4 June 2009 ratifying the Oslo Convention of 3 December 2008 relating to cluster munition and HSBC Global Asset Management policy, the Sub-Fund will not invest in securities of certain companies (please refer to Luxembourg Prospectus Appendix 3. “Additional Restrictions” for further details). As this policy aims to prohibit investment in certain securities, investors should be aware that this reduces the investment universe and prevents the sub-funds from benefitting from any potential returns from these companies.

#### **7.1.14 Corporate Actions**

Investors should note that as a result of corporate actions relating to a company in which a sub-fund is invested, a sub-fund may be required or have the option to accept cash, underlying or newly issued securities which may not be part of its core investment universe as described in its investment objective (such as, but not limited to, equities for a bond sub-fund). Those securities may have a value less than the original investment made by the sub-fund. Under such circumstances, the relevant security may not be expressly covered by the relevant sub-fund’s investment policy and the returns generated from the investment may not adequately compensate the sub-fund for the risks assumed.

#### **7.1.15 Taxation**

Investors should note in particular that (i) the proceeds from the sale of securities in some markets or the receipt of any dividends or other income may be or may become subject to tax, levies, duties or other fees or charges imposed by the authorities in that market including taxation levied by withholding at source and/or (ii) the Sub-Fund’s investments may be subject to specific taxes or charges imposed by authorities in some markets. Tax law and practice in certain countries into which a sub-fund invests or may invest in the future is not clearly established. It is possible therefore that the current interpretation of the law or understanding of practice might change, or that the law might be changed with retrospective effect. It is therefore possible that the sub-fund could become subject to additional taxation in such countries that is not anticipated either at the date of this Prospectus or when investments are made, valued or disposed of.

#### **7.1.16 Cyber Security Risk**

Security breaches of computer systems used by the Sub-Fund’s service providers in respect of the Sub-Fund’s activities (such as the Management Company, the Investment Advisers, the Administration Agent, the Depositary Bank and sub-custodians) have the potential to cause financial losses and costs for the Sub-Fund, for example by disrupting or preventing trading or interfering with the administrative systems used in relation to the Sub-Fund. While the Sub-Fund’s service providers have established business continuity and disaster recovery plans and other systems and procedures organising technical security to minimise the impact of attempted security breaches, investors must be aware that the risk of losses to the Sub-Fund and cannot be totally eliminated.

**7.1.17 Operational Risk**

The Sub-Fund's operations (including investment management) are carried out by the service providers mentioned in this Prospectus. In the event of a bankruptcy or insolvency of a service provider, investors could experience delays (for example, delays in the processing of subscriptions, conversions and redemption of Shares) or other disruptions.

**7.1.18 Legal Risk**

There is a risk that it may not be possible to enforce agreements entered into by the Sub-Fund due to bankruptcy or a dispute as to the interpretation of the agreement. There is also a risk that legal agreements in respect of certain derivative transactions and Securities Lending transactions entered into by the Sub-Fund may be terminated due, for instance, to bankruptcy of the counterparty or a change in tax law. The Sub-Fund may incur a loss as a result.

**7.1.19 Custody Risk**

Assets of the Sub-Fund are safe kept by the Depositary Bank and shareholders are exposed to the risk of the Depositary Bank not being able to fully meet its obligation to restate in a short time frame all of the assets of the Sub-Fund in the case of bankruptcy of the Depositary Bank. The assets of the Sub-Fund will be identified in the Depositary Bank's books as belonging to the Sub-Fund. Securities held by the Depositary Bank will be segregated from other assets of the Depositary Bank which mitigates the risk of non-restitution in case of bankruptcy. However, no such segregation applies to cash which increases the risk of non-restitution in case of bankruptcy.

**7.1.20 Currency Hedged Share Classes**

Investors should be aware that the implementation of Currency Hedged Share Classes by the Administration Agent (or other appointed parties) is a passive currency hedge and will be implemented regardless of currency fluctuations between the Reference Currency of the Currency Hedged Share Class and the Base Currency of the relevant sub-fund. Furthermore, this passive currency hedging is separate from the various strategies the Investment Advisers may seek to implement at a sub-fund level to manage currency risks within each sub-fund.

There can be no assurance or guarantee that the Administration Agent or other appointed parties will be able to successfully implement passive currency hedging for Currency Hedged Share Classes at any time or at all. Investors should note that although the aim is to maintain at the time of this Prospectus a hedge ratio from 99.5% to 100.5% there may be occasions when the hedge ratio falls outside these parameters which may be due to factors which cannot be controlled such as investor trade activity, volatility in the NAV per Share and/or currency volatility.

Movements in currency exchange rates can materially impact investment returns and investors should ensure they fully understand the difference between investment in Currency Hedged Share Classes versus investment in those Share Classes which are neither Portfolio Currency Hedged nor Base Currency Hedged (i.e. those Share Classes denominated in the Base Currency of the sub-fund as well as Reference Currency Share Classes).

Currency Hedged Share Classes are not recommended for investors whose Home Currency is different to the Reference Currency of the Currency Hedged Share Class. Investors who choose to convert their Home Currency to the Reference Currency of a Currency Hedged Share Class and subsequently invest in such a Share Class should be aware that they may be exposed to higher currency risks and may suffer material losses as a result of exchange rate fluctuations between the Reference Currency of the Currency Hedged Share Class and their Home Currency.

Any transaction costs and gains or losses from currency hedging shall be accrued to and therefore reflected in the NAV per Share of the relevant Currency Hedged Share Class. Currency Hedged Share Classes will be hedged irrespective of whether the target currency is declining or increasing in value.

The main financial derivative instruments used in the passive currency hedging process are forward foreign exchange contracts.

**7.1.21 Cross-Class Liability Risk**



Multiple Share Classes may be issued in relation to a sub-fund, with particular assets and liabilities of a sub-fund attributable to particular Share Classes.

For instance, sub-funds offering Currency Hedged Share Classes will have assets and liabilities related to the hedge which are attributable to the relevant Currency Hedged Share Classes. Moreover, these assets and liabilities may be denominated in various currencies introducing currency risk.

Given that there is no legal segregation of liabilities between Share Classes, there may be a remote risk that, under certain circumstances, currency hedging transactions in relation to a Currency Hedged Share Class could result in liabilities which might affect the Net Asset Value of the other Share Classes of the same sub-fund.

Where the liabilities of a particular Class exceed the assets pertaining to that Class, creditors pertaining to one Share Class may have recourse to the assets attributable to other Share Classes. Although for the purposes of internal accounting, a separate account will be established for each Share Class, in the event of an insolvency or termination of a sub-fund (i.e., when the assets of a sub-fund are insufficient to meet its liabilities), all assets will be used to meet a sub-fund's liabilities, not just the amount standing to the credit of any individual Share Class. However, the assets of a sub-fund may not be used to satisfy the liabilities of another sub-fund.

### **7.1.22 Pandemic Risk**

An outbreak of an infectious disease, pandemic or any other serious public health concern could occur in any jurisdiction in which a sub-fund may invest, leading to changes in regional and global economic conditions and cycles which may have a negative impact on the Sub-Fund's investments and consequently its Net Asset Value. Any such outbreak may also have an adverse effect on the wider global economy and/or markets which may negatively impact a sub-fund's investments more generally. In addition, a serious outbreak of infectious disease may also be a force majeure event under contracts that the Sub-Fund has entered into with counterparties thereby relieving a counterparty of the timely performance of the services such counterparties have contracted to provide to the sub-funds (the nature of the services will vary depending on the agreement in question). In a worst case scenario, this may result with the sub-funds being delayed in calculating their Net Asset Value, processing dealing in Shares, undertaking independent valuations of the sub-funds or processing trades in respect of the sub-funds.

## **7.2 Specific Risks**

Investors in the Fund should carefully consider the following risks of the Fund.

A comprehensive description of the following risks can be obtained from Section 6 "Risks" in the Fund's Luxembourg Prospectus.

### **7.2.1 Currency Risk**

Where the Base Currency of a sub-fund, the currencies of markets in which such sub-fund invests in, or the investor's base currency are different, unfavourable movements in foreign exchange rates may affect the value of the Sub-Fund's Shares, the dividends or interest earned, and any gains or losses realised.

The Sub-Fund may seek to minimise their exposure to currency fluctuations by the use of hedging and other techniques and instruments, but it may not be possible, practicable or considered appropriate by the Management Company to hedge against all currency risk exposure.

### **7.2.2 China**

#### **1) Chinese Markets Risk**

Investing in Emerging Markets such as the PRC subjects the sub-fund to a higher level of market risk than investments in a developed country. This is due to, among other things, greater market volatility, lower trading volume, political and economic instability, settlement risk, greater risk of market shut down and more governmental limitations on foreign investment than those typically found in developed markets.

Investors should be aware that for more than 50 years, the Chinese government has adopted a planned economic system. Since 1978, the Chinese government has implemented economic reform measures which emphasise decentralisation and the utilisation of market forces in the development of the Chinese economy. Such reforms have resulted in significant economic growth and social progress.

On 21 July 2005, the PRC government introduced a managed floating exchange rate system to allow the value of RMB to fluctuate within a regulated band based on market supply and demand and by reference to a basket of currencies. There can be no assurance that such exchange rate will not fluctuate widely against the United States Dollars, Hong Kong Dollars or any other foreign currency in the future. Any appreciation of RMB will increase the value of any dividends that the sub-fund may receive from its PRC investments and the value of investments, which will be reported in the currency, and vice versa.

Many of the economic reforms in China are unprecedented or experimental and are subject to adjustment and modification, and such adjustment and modification may not always have a positive effect on investment in the companies in China.

The national regulatory and legal framework for capital markets and joint stock companies in China is not well developed when compared with those of developed countries.

The Shanghai and Shenzhen securities markets and the China Interbank Bond Market are all in the process of development and change. In addition, securities exchanges in China typically have the right to suspend or limit trading in any security traded on the relevant exchange and the government or the regulators may also implement policies that may affect the financial markets. This may lead to trading volatility, difficulty in the settlement and recording of transactions and difficulty in interpreting and applying the relevant regulations when trading China A-shares/B-shares. All these may have a negative impact on a sub-fund.

Under the prevailing tax policy in China, there are certain tax incentives available to foreign investment. There can be no assurance, however, that the aforesaid tax incentives will not be abolished in the future.

Investments in China will be sensitive to any significant change in political, social or economic policy in China. Such sensitivity may, for the reasons specified above, adversely affect the capital growth and thus the performance of these investments.

The Chinese government's control of currency conversion and future movements in exchange rates may adversely affect the operations and financial results of the companies invested in by the sub-funds, and the abilities of such companies to make payment of dividends declared in respect of the shares in the China companies.

- **Accounting and Reporting Standards**

PRC companies are required to follow PRC accounting standards and practice which, to a certain extent, follow international accounting standards. However, the accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and practices applicable to PRC companies may be less rigorous, and there may be significant differences between financial statements prepared by accountants following the PRC accounting standards and practice and those prepared in accordance with international accounting standards. For example, there are differences in the valuation methods of properties and assets and in the requirements for disclosure of information to investors which may result in non-disclosure of certain material information of the investee entities the Investment Adviser invest in for the account of the sub-fund.

As the disclosure and regulatory standards in China are less stringent than in more developed markets, there might be substantially less publicly available information about Chinese issuers. Therefore, disclosure of certain material information may not be made, and less information may be available to the Investment Adviser and other investors.

- **Taxation in the PRC**

The Sub-Fund, after seeking professional advice, may decide to make or not to make any tax provisions in respect of a sub-fund. Even if tax provisions are made, such provisions may be more than or less than a sub-fund's actual PRC tax liabilities and it is possible that such tax provisions made by the Sub-Fund may be insufficient. In case of a difference between the sub-fund's provision for taxes and its actual PRC tax liabilities, the relevant amounts shall be credited to or debited from the sub-fund's assets (as the case may be). As a result, the income from, and/or the performance of, the sub-fund may/may not be adversely affected and the impact/degree of impact on individual shareholders of the sub-fund may vary, depending on factors such as the level of the sub-fund's provision for taxes (if any) and the amount of the difference at the relevant time and when the relevant shareholders subscribed for and/or redeemed their Shares in the sub-fund.

Any tax provision, if made by the Sub-Fund, will be reflected in the net asset value of the relevant sub-fund at the time of debit or refund and thus will only impact on Shares which remain in such sub-fund at that time. Shares which are redeemed prior to such time will not be affected by any debit of insufficient tax provisions. Likewise, such Shares will not benefit from any refund of excess tax provisions. Investors should note that no shareholders who have redeemed their Shares in the sub-fund before the distribution of any excess provision shall be entitled to claim in whatsoever form any part of the withholding amounts distributed to the sub-fund, which amount would be reflected in the value of Shares in the sub-fund. In the event the Sub-Fund considers it necessary to adopt any tax provision (whether in respect of the PRC Enterprise Income Tax Law or any other applicable tax regulation/laws

in the PRC) on a retrospective basis, the prevailing and/or future net asset value of the sub-fund may be negatively impacted. The magnitude of such potential negative impact on the performance of the sub-fund may not correspond to the gains over an investor's holding period due to the retrospective nature.

The Sub-Fund will review and make adjustments to its tax provision policy as and when it considers necessary from time to time and as soon as practicable upon issuance of further notices or clarification issued by the PRC tax authority in respect of the application of the PRC Enterprise Income Tax and/or any other applicable tax regulations/laws and the respective implementation rules.

There is a possibility that the current tax laws, rules, regulations and practice in mainland China and/or the current interpretation or understanding thereof may change in the future and such change(s) may have retrospective effect. The sub-fund could become subject to additional taxation that is not anticipated as at the date hereof or when the relevant investments are made, valued or disposed of. Any increased tax liabilities on the relevant sub-fund may adversely affect the sub-fund's net assets and may reduce the income from, and/or the value of, the relevant investments in the sub-fund.

- **Direct Investment in China A-shares via Stock Connects**

On 14 November 2014, the PRC Ministry of Finance, State Administration of Taxation and CSRC jointly published a notice in relation to the taxation rule on the Shanghai Stock Connect under Caishui [2014] No.81 ("Notice No.81"). Under Notice No.81, Corporate Income Tax, Individual Income Tax and Business Tax will be temporarily exempted on gains derived by Hong Kong SAR and overseas investors (such as the sub-funds) on the trading of China A-shares through Shanghai Stock Connect with effect from 17 November 2014. However, Hong Kong SAR and overseas investors (such as the sub-funds) are required to pay tax on dividends and/or bonus shares at the rate of 10% which will be withheld and paid to the relevant authority by the listed companies.

Pursuant to the notice Caishui [2016] No. 36 issued jointly by the State Administration of Taxation and the Ministry of Finance in March 2016 effective from 1 May 2016, PRC Value-added Tax ("VAT") replaced PRC Business Tax ("BT") to cover all sectors that used to fall under the PRC BT. Gains derived by Hong Kong SAR Market investors from trading of China A-shares listed on the Shanghai Stock Exchange are exempted from VAT. Dividends are not subject to PRC VAT.

In addition, pursuant to the "Circular on the Taxation Policy of the Pilot Programme for the Mutual Stock Market Access between Shenzhen and Hong Kong SAR Stock Markets" notice Caishui [2016] No.127 promulgated by the MoF, the SAT and the CSRC on 5 November 2016, under the BT to VAT transformation pilot program, gains derived by Hong Kong SAR Market investors from trading of China A-shares listed on the Shenzhen Stock Exchange will also be temporarily exempted from Corporate Income Tax, Individual Income Tax and VAT.

Based on notices above and based on professional and independent tax advice, the sub-funds will not make any tax provision on gross realised or unrealised capital gains derived from trading of China A-shares via Shanghai and Shenzhen Stock Connects. The sub-funds may further modify its tax provision policy based on new developments and interpretation of the relevant PRC tax regulations/laws in the PRC.

- **Indirect investment in China A-shares via China A-Share Access Products ("CAAPs")**

On 14 November 2014, the PRC Ministry of Finance, State of Administration of Taxation and CSRC jointly published a notice in relation to the taxation rule on QFII and RQFII under Caishui [2014] No.79 ("Notice No.79"). Under Notice No.79, (i) Corporate income tax, will be temporarily exempted on gains derived by QFIIs and RQFIIs from the transfer of domestic shares and other equity interest investment in China with effect from 17 November 2014; and (ii) corporate income tax shall be imposed on such gains earned by QFIIs and RQFIIs before 17 November 2014 in accordance with the tax laws. The relevant dividends and/or bonus shares derived by QFIIs and RQFIIs are subject to tax at 10% (unless exempt or reduced under specific tax circulars or relevant tax treaty), which will be withheld and paid to the relevant authority by the listed companies.

Notice No. 79 is applicable for QFIIs and RQFIIs without any establishment or place in China or the income derived by the QFIIs and RQFIIs are not effectively connected with their establishment or place in China.

Also pursuant to Caishui [2016] No. 36 and No.70, gains derived by QFII or RQFII from securities trading carried out domestically are exempted from VAT. Dividends are not subject to PRC VAT.

Based on notices above and based on professional and independent tax advice, the sub-funds will not make any tax provision on gross realised or unrealised capital gains derived from trading of China A-shares via CAAPs issued by QFII or RQFII license holders. The sub-funds may further modify its tax provision policy based on new developments and interpretation of the relevant PRC tax regulations/laws in the PRC.

### 7.2.3 RMB Currency and Exchange Risk

Investors should be aware of the fact that the Chinese Renminbi (RMB) is subject to a managed floating exchange rate based on market supply and demand with reference to a basket of currencies. Currently, the RMB is traded in two markets: one in Mainland China, and one outside Mainland China (primarily in Hong Kong SAR). The RMB traded in Mainland China is not freely convertible and is subject to exchange controls and certain requirements by the government of Mainland China. The RMB traded outside Mainland China, on the other hand, is freely accessible to any person or entity for any purpose.

Non-RMB based investors are exposed to foreign exchange risk and there is no guarantee that the value of RMB against the investors' Home Currency will not depreciate. Any depreciation of RMB could adversely affect the value of investor's investment in a sub-fund.

Although offshore RMB (CNH) and onshore RMB (CNY) are the same currency, they trade at different rates. Any divergence between CNH and CNY may adversely impact investors.

In calculating the value of the investments denominated in RMB, the Investment Adviser will normally apply as appropriate the exchange rate for RMB traded outside or in Mainland China. The rate of the RMB traded outside Mainland China may be at a premium or discount to the exchange rate for RMB traded in Mainland China and there may be significant bid and offer spreads.

Under exceptional circumstances, payment of redemptions and/or dividend payment in RMB may be delayed due to the exchange controls and restrictions applicable to RMB.

In addition, there may be liquidity risk associated with RMB products, especially if such investments may not have an active secondary market and their prices subject to significant bid and offer spread.

#### **7.2.4 Chinese Equity**

Investors should be aware of a number of special risk factors attendant on investment in Emerging Markets generally and the markets in China in particular.

1. Emerging Markets can be significantly more volatile than developed markets, so that the price of Shares may be subject to large fluctuations. The sub-fund's investments are subject to changes in regulations and tax policies going forward as China has now joined the WTO and engages in continuing market liberalisation.
2. The Chinese currency, the Renminbi, is not a freely convertible currency. The State Council's securities regulation body, the CSRC, also supervises the two official stock exchanges in China (the Shanghai Stock Exchange and the Shenzhen Securities Exchange) on which shares of Chinese issuers are listed in two categories, of which the "B" shares are quoted and traded in foreign currencies (currently Hong Kong Dollars and US Dollars) and are available to foreign investors.
3. The China "B" share market is relatively illiquid so that the choice of investments will be limited by comparison with that of major international stock exchanges.
4. The sub-funds will invest directly in securities quoted on the regulated Stock Exchanges in China and also in securities of companies listed in other Stock Exchanges which have substantial business or investment links in China. For this purpose, Chinese Equity will generally only invest in companies listed outside China where those companies are owned or controlled by Chinese interests, or where at least 40% of the earnings, production facilities, turnover, assets or investments of such companies are based in or derived from China.
5. Certain sub-funds may invest more than 5% of their net assets in China A-Shares which may be accessed by overseas investors via the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect and/or the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect, as detailed under (3) "Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect and Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect" of this section.

The Sub-Fund may invest in equity markets in China other than the Shanghai and Shenzhen exchanges once such markets have been established and approved by the authorities in China.

#### **7.2.5 China A-Shares Access Products ("CAAP")**

The Sub-Fund may invest in CAAP linked to China A-shares in the PRC. Issuers of CAAP may deduct various charges, expenses or potential liabilities from the prices of the CAAP (including but not limited to any actual or potential tax liabilities determined by the CAAP issuer at its discretion) and such deduction is not normally refundable.

CAAPs may not be listed and are subject to the terms and conditions imposed by its issuer. These terms may lead to delays in implementing the Investment Adviser's investment strategy. Investment in CAAPs can be illiquid as there may not be an active market in the CAAPs. In order to liquidate investments, the sub-fund relies upon the counterparty issuing the CAAPs to quote a price to unwind any part of the CAAPs.

An investment in a CAAP is not an investment directly in the underlying investments (such as shares) themselves. An investment in the CAAP does not entitle the holder of such instrument to the beneficial interest in the shares nor to make any claim against the Sub-Fund issuing the shares.

The Sub-Fund will be subject to credit risk of the issuers of the CAAPs invested by the Sub-Fund. The Sub-Fund may suffer a loss if the issuers of the CAAPs invested by the sub-fund becomes bankrupt or otherwise fails to perform its obligations due to financial difficulties.

#### **7.2.6 Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect and Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect**

The aim of Stock Connect is to achieve mutual stock market access between the PRC and Hong Kong SAR.

The Sub-Fund listed may invest more than 5% of their net assets and have direct access to certain eligible China A-shares via the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect and/or the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect (a “Stock Connect” or together the “Stock Connects”).

##### **Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect**

The Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect is a securities trading and clearing links program developed by Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited (“HKEX”), Shanghai Stock Exchange (“SSE”) and China Securities Depository and Clearing Corporation Limited (“ChinaClear”).

The Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect comprises a Northbound Shanghai Trading Link and a Southbound Hong Kong Trading Link. Under the Northbound Shanghai Trading Link, Hong Kong SAR and overseas investors (including the sub-funds of the Sub-Fund which are authorised to), through its Hong Kong SAR broker and a securities trading service company established by the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong (“SEHK”), may be able to trade eligible China A Shares listed on the SSE by routing orders to SSE.

Under the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect, the sub-fund, through its Hong Kong SAR broker may trade certain eligible shares listed on the SSE. These include all the constituent stocks from time to time of the SSE 180 Index and SSE 380 Index, and all the SSE-listed China A Shares that are not included as constituent stocks of the relevant indices but which have corresponding H-Shares listed on SEHK, except the following:

- SSE-listed shares which are not traded in RMB; and
- SSE-listed shares which are included in the “risk alert board”.

Trading is subject to rules and regulations issued from time to time. Trading under the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect is subject to a daily quota (“Daily Quota”). Northbound Shanghai Trading Link and Southbound Hong Kong Trading Link under the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect will be subject to a separate set of Daily Quota. The Daily Quota limits the maximum net buy value of cross-boundary trades under the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect each day.

##### **Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect**

The Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect is a securities trading and clearing links program developed by HKEX, Shenzhen Stock Exchange (“SZSE”) and ChinaClear.

The Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect comprises a Northbound Shenzhen Trading Link and a Southbound Hong Kong Trading Link. Under the Northbound Shenzhen Trading Link, Hong Kong SAR and overseas investors (including the sub-funds), through their Hong Kong SAR broker and a securities trading service company established by SEHK, may be able to trade eligible China A Shares listed on the SZSE by routing orders to the SZSE.

Under the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect, the sub-funds, through its Hong Kong SAR brokers may trade certain eligible shares listed on the SZSE. These include any constituent stock of the SZSE Component Index and SZSE Small/Mid Cap Innovation Index which has a market capitalisation of RMB6 billion or above and all SZSE-listed shares of companies which have issued both China A Shares and H Shares. At the initial stage of the Northbound Shenzhen Trading Link, investors eligible to trade shares that are listed on the ChiNext Board of SZSE under the Northbound Shenzhen Trading Link will be limited to institutional professional investors as defined in the relevant Hong Kong SAR rules and regulations.

Trading is subject to rules and regulations issued from time to time. Trading under the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect will be subject to a Daily Quota (unrelated to the Daily Quota of the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect). Northbound Shenzhen Trading Link and Southbound Hong Kong Trading Link under the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect will be subject to a separate set of Daily Quota. The Daily Quota limits the maximum net buy value of cross-boundary trades under the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect each day.

**The Stock Connects**

It is expected that the list of securities eligible for trading under the Stock Connects will be subject to review.

The Hong Kong Securities Clearing Company Limited (“HKSCC”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of HKEX, and ChinaClear will be responsible for the clearing, settlement and the provision of depository, nominee and other related services of the trades executed by their respective market participants and investors (including the Sub-Fund). The China A Shares traded through Stock Connects are issued in scripless form, and investors will not hold any physical China A Shares.

Although HKSCC does not claim proprietary interests in the SSE and SZSE securities held in its omnibus stock accounts in ChinaClear, ChinaClear as the share registrar for SSE and SZSE listed companies will still treat HKSCC as one of the shareholders when it handles corporate actions in respect of such SSE and SZSE securities.

SSE-/SZSE-listed companies usually announce information regarding their annual general meetings/extraordinary general meetings about two to three weeks before the meeting date. A poll is called on all resolutions for all votes. HKSCC will advise the Hong Kong Central Clearing and Settlement System (“CCASS”) participants of all general meeting details such as meeting date, time, venue and the number of resolutions.

Under the Stock Connects, Hong Kong SAR and overseas investors will be subject to the fees and levies imposed by SSE, SZSE, ChinaClear, HKSCC or the relevant Mainland Chinese authority when they trade and settle SSE Securities and SZSE securities.

Further information about the trading fees and levies is available online at the website:  
[www.hkex.com.hk/eng/market/sec\\_tradinfra/chinaconnect/chinaconnect.htm](http://www.hkex.com.hk/eng/market/sec_tradinfra/chinaconnect/chinaconnect.htm)

In accordance with the UCITS requirements, the Depository Bank shall provide for the safekeeping of the sub-fund’s assets in the PRC through its Global Custody Network. Such safekeeping is in accordance with the conditions set down by the CSSF which provides that there must be legal separation of non-cash assets held under custody and that the Depository Bank through its delegates must maintain appropriate internal control systems to ensure that records clearly identify the nature and amount of assets under custody, the ownership of each asset and where documents of title to each asset are located.

Further information about the Stock Connects is available online at the website:  
[www.hkex.com.hk/eng/csm/chinaConnect.asp?LangCode=en](http://www.hkex.com.hk/eng/csm/chinaConnect.asp?LangCode=en)

In addition to risks regarding the Chinese market and risks related to investments in RMB, investments through the Stock Connects are subject to the following additional risks:

**Quota Limitations**

The Stock Connects are subject to quota limitations. In particular, the Stock Connects are subject to a daily quota which does not belong to the sub-funds and can only be utilised on a first-come-first-served basis. Once the daily quota is exceeded, buy orders will be rejected (although investors will be permitted to sell their cross-boundary securities regardless of the quota balance). Therefore, quota limitations may restrict the Sub-Funds’ ability to invest in China A Shares through the Stock Connects on a timely basis, and the Sub-Fund may not be able to effectively pursue its investment strategy.

**Legal / Beneficial Ownership**

The SSE and SZSE shares in respect of the Sub-Fund is held by the Depository Bank/ sub-custodian in accounts in the CCASS maintained by the HKSCC as central securities depository in Hong Kong SAR. HKSCC in turn holds the SSE and SZSE shares, as the nominee holder, through an omnibus securities account in its name registered with ChinaClear for each of the Stock Connects. The precise nature and rights of the sub-funds as the beneficial owners of the SSE and SZSE shares through HKSCC as nominee is not well defined under PRC law. There is lack of a clear definition of, and distinction between, “legal ownership” and “beneficial ownership” under PRC law and there have been few cases involving a nominee account structure in the PRC courts. Therefore the exact nature and methods of enforcement of the rights and interests of the sub-funds under PRC law is uncertain. Because of this uncertainty, in the unlikely event that HKSCC becomes subject to winding up proceedings in Hong Kong SAR it is not clear if the SSE and SZSE shares will be regarded as held for the beneficial ownership of the sub-funds or as part of the general assets of HKSCC available for general distribution to its creditors.

**Clearing and Settlement Risk**

HKSCC and ChinaClear have established the clearing links and each has become a participant of the other to facilitate clearing and settlement of cross-boundary trades. For cross-boundary trades initiated in a market, the

clearing house of that market will on one hand clear and settle with its own clearing participants, and on the other hand undertake to fulfil the clearing and settlement obligations of its clearing participants with the counterparty clearing house.

As the national central counterparty of the PRC's securities market, ChinaClear operates a comprehensive network of clearing, settlement and stock holding infrastructure. ChinaClear has established a risk management framework and measures that are approved and supervised by the CSRC. The chances of ChinaClear default are considered to be remote.

In the remote event of a ChinaClear default, HKSCC's liabilities in SSE and SZSE shares under its market contracts with clearing participants will be limited to assisting clearing participants in pursuing their claims against ChinaClear. HKSCC should in good faith, seek recovery of the outstanding stocks and monies from ChinaClear through available legal channels or through ChinaClear's liquidation. In that event, the sub-funds may suffer delay in the recovery process or may not fully recover its losses from ChinaClear.

### **Suspension Risk**

Each of the SEHK, SSE and SZSE reserves the right to suspend trading if necessary for ensuring an orderly and fair market and that risks are managed prudently. Consent from the relevant regulator would be sought before a suspension is triggered. Where a suspension is effected, the Sub-Funds' ability to access the PRC market will be adversely affected.

### **Differences in Trading Day**

The Stock Connects only operate on days when both the PRC and Hong Kong SAR markets are open for trading and when banks in both markets are open on the corresponding settlement days. So it is possible that there are occasions when it is a normal trading day for the PRC market but the sub-funds cannot carry out any China A Shares trading via the Stock Connects. The sub-funds may be subject to a risk of price fluctuations in China A Shares during the time when any of the Stock Connects is not trading as a result.

### **Restrictions on Selling Imposed by Front-end Monitoring**

PRC regulations require that before an investor sells any share, there should be sufficient shares in the account; otherwise the SSE or SZSE will reject the sell order concerned. SEHK will carry out pre-trade checking on China A Share sell orders of its participants (i.e. the stock brokers) to ensure there is no over-selling.

If the sub-funds intend to sell certain China A Shares it holds, it must transfer those China A Shares to the respective accounts of its broker(s) before the market opens on the day of selling ("trading day"). If it fails to meet this deadline, it will not be able to sell those shares on the trading day. Because of this requirement, the sub-funds may not be able to dispose of its holdings of China A Shares in a timely manner.

### **Operational Risk**

The Stock Connects are premised on the functioning of the operational systems of the relevant market participants. Market participants are permitted to participate in this program subject to meeting certain information technology capability, risk management and other requirements as may be specified by the relevant exchange and/or clearing house.

The securities regimes and legal systems of the two markets differ significantly and market participants may need to address issues arising from the differences on an on-going basis.

There is no assurance that the systems of the SEHK and market participants will function properly or will continue to be adapted to changes and developments in both markets. In the event that the relevant systems fail to function properly, trading in both markets through the program could be disrupted. The sub-funds' ability to access the China A Share market (and hence to pursue its investment strategy) may be adversely affected.

### **Regulatory Risk**

The current regulations relating to Stock Connects are untested and there is no certainty as to how they will be applied. In addition, the current regulations are subject to change which may have potential retrospective effects and there can be no assurance that the Stock Connects will not be abolished. New regulations may be issued from time to time by the regulators / stock exchanges in the PRC and Hong Kong SAR in connection with operations, legal enforcement and cross-border trades under the Stock Connects. The sub-funds may be adversely affected as a result of such changes.

### **Recalling of Eligible Stocks**

When a stock is recalled from the scope of eligible stocks for trading via the Stock Connects, the stock can only be sold but restricted from being bought. This may affect the investment portfolio or strategies of the sub-funds, for example, if the Investment Manager / the Sub-Investment Manager wishes to purchase a stock which is recalled from the scope of eligible stocks.

**Risks Associated with the Small and Medium Enterprise Board and/or ChiNext Market**

The sub-funds may invest in the Small and Medium Enterprise (“SME”) board and/or the ChiNext market of the Shenzhen Stock Exchange via the Shenzhen-Hong Kong SAR Stock Connect. Investments in the SME board and/or ChiNext market may result in significant losses for the sub-funds and its investors.

**The following additional risks apply:****Higher fluctuation on stock prices**

Listed companies on the SME board and/or ChiNext market are usually of emerging nature with smaller operating scale. Hence, they are subject to higher fluctuation in stock prices and liquidity and have higher risks and turnover ratios than companies listed on the main board of the Shenzhen Stock Exchange.

**Over-valuation risk**

Stocks listed on the SME board and/or ChiNext may be overvalued and such exceptionally high valuation may not be sustainable. Stock price may be more susceptible to manipulation due to fewer circulating shares.

**Differences in regulations**

The rules and regulations regarding companies listed on ChiNext market are less stringent in terms of profitability and share capital than those in the main board and SME board.

**Delisting risk**

It may be more common and faster for companies listed on the SME board and/or ChiNext to delist. This may have an adverse impact on the sub-funds if the companies that it invests in are delisted.

Risk associated with Small-Capitalisation / Mid-Capitalisation Companies

The stocks of small-capitalisation / mid-capitalisation companies may have lower liquidity and their prices are more volatile to adverse economic developments than those of larger capitalisation companies in general.

**7.2.7 Real Estate**

Investments in equity securities issued by companies which are principally engaged in the business of real estate or in shares/units of REITs/units of real estate collective investment scheme will subject the strategy to risks associated with the direct ownership of real estate. These risks include, among others, possible declines in the value of real estate risks related to general and local economic conditions, possible lack of availability of mortgage funds, overbuilding, extended vacancies of properties, increases in competition, real estate taxes and transaction, operating and foreclosure expenses, changes in zoning laws, costs resulting from the clean-up of, and liability to third parties for damages resulting from, environmental problems; casualty or condemnation losses, uninsured damages from natural disasters and acts of terrorism, limitations on and variations in rents; and changes in interest rates. The strategy may invest in securities of small to mid-size companies which may trade in lower volumes and be less liquid than the securities of larger, more established companies or other collective investment schemes. There are therefore risks of fluctuations in value due to the greater potential volatility in their share prices.

Exposure to real estate will normally be achieved by investment in either closed-ended REITs or in other open or closed-ended collective investment schemes (including other UCITS).

**7.2.8 Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITS)**

Investors should note that insofar as the Sub-Fund directly invests in Real Estate Investment Trusts (“REITs”), any dividend policy or dividend payout at the Sub-Fund level may not be representative of the dividend policy or dividend payout of the relevant underlying REIT.

The legal structure of a REIT, its investment restrictions and the regulatory and taxation regimes to which it is subject will differ depending on the jurisdiction in which it is established.

**8. Fees and Charges****8.1 Payable through deduction from asset value of the ILP Sub-Fund**



<b>Management Fee</b>	1.50% p.a.
<b>Operating, Administrative and Servicing Expenses</b>	0.35% p.a. The maximum rate for (i) the Operating, Administrative and Servicing Expenses and (ii) Operating Currency Hedged Share Class Fee is set at 1% of the net asset value of the relevant Share Class in the Sub-Fund.

Please refer to Singapore Prospectus of the Fund under Section 5 “Fees and Charges” for the details of other charges.

### 8.2 Payable by cancellation of units

Please refer to Section 5 of the Product Summary.

### 9. Suspension of Dealings

- 9.1** HSBC Life may suspend the issue, realisation and/or cancellation of units by the Policyholder as and when the issue, realisation and/or cancellation of units of the Fund is suspended.
- 9.2** The circumstances under which the issue, realisation and/or cancellation of units of the Fund may be suspended are set out in the Singapore Prospectus of the Fund (as may be supplemented or replaced from time to time).
- 9.3** In addition, HSBC Life may suspend the issue, realisation and/or cancellation of units by the Policyholder under the following circumstances:
- (a) any 48-hour period (or such longer period as HSBC Life may agree) prior to the date of any meeting of Policyholders (or any adjourned meeting thereof);
  - (b) any period when the dealing of units is suspended pursuant to any order or direction of the MAS; or
  - (c) any period when the business operations of the HSBC Life in relation to the operation of the ILP Sub-Fund is substantially interrupted or closed as a result of or arising from pestilence, acts of war, terrorism, insurrection, revolution, civil unrest, riots, strikes or acts of God.
- 9.4** Such suspension shall take effect forthwith upon the declaration in writing thereof by HSBC Life and shall terminate on the day following the first Business Day on which the condition giving rise to the suspension shall have ceased to exist and no other conditions under which suspension is authorized under this paragraph shall exist upon the declaration in writing thereof HSBC Life.

### 10. Performance of the ILP Sub-Fund

Performance of the ILP Sub-Fund against its benchmark as at 31 July 2021.

#### Average Annual Compounded Returns

Period	HSBC Global Investment Funds – Global Equity Climate Change – AC SGD Hedged (%)	HSBC Global Investment Funds – Global Equity Climate Change – AC USD (%)	Benchmark (%)
Year-to-Date	N.A	4.33	13.25
1-year	N.A	37.25	33.18
3-year	N.A	18.00	13.70
5-year	N.A	15.92	13.81
10-year	N.A	9.76	9.98
Since Inception*	4.83	3.22	4.35

\*Share Class AC SGD Hedged inception date: 21 June 2021. Share Class AC USD inception date: 9 November 2007.

Benchmark: MSCI AC World Net USD.

Source: HSBC Global Asset Management.

Note: The performance of the ILP Sub-Fund is not guaranteed and the value of investments and income from them may fall as well as rise. Past performance of the ILP Sub-Fund is not necessarily indicative of future performance.

## 10.1 Basis of Calculating the Return

The performance figures are calculated in Singapore Dollars and U.S Dollars using NAV-to-NAV prices, with any income or dividends reinvested. Fees and charges payable through deduction of premium or cancellation of units are excluded from this calculation.

## 11. Expense Ratio

ILP Sub-Fund	Expense Ratio	Period
HSBC Global Investment Funds – Global Equity Climate Change – AC SGD Hedged	N.A	From 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020
HSBC Global Investment Funds – Global Equity Climate Change – AC USD	1.85%	

The expense ratio of the ILP Sub-Fund does not include charges for insurance coverage, brokerage and other transactions costs, interest expenses, performance fee, foreign exchange gains and losses, front and back end loads and other costs arising from the purchase or sales of other funds, tax deducted at source or arising out of income received and dividends and other distributions to shareholders. The expense ratio of the ILP Sub-Fund is calculated in accordance to the Investment Management Association of Singapore’s guidelines as required by MAS Notice 307.

## 12. Turnover Ratio

ILP Sub-Fund	Turnover Ratio	Period
HSBC Global Investment Funds – Global Equity Climate Change – AC SGD Hedged	72.95%	From 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020
HSBC Global Investment Funds – Global Equity Climate Change – AC USD		

The turnover ratios of the ILP Sub-Fund and the Portfolio are calculated based on the lesser of purchases or sales expressed as a percentage over average daily net asset value.

## 13. Soft Dollar Commissions/Arrangements

HSBC Life does not receive any soft dollar commission in respect of the ILP Sub-Fund. Soft dollar refers to arrangements under which products or services, other than the execution of securities transactions, are obtained from or through a broker in exchange for the direction by the manager of transactions to the broker.

All transactions are executed in compliance with applicable regulatory requirements and in accordance with the best execution policy of the Fund. Transactions of the Fund may be executed by the Management Company, Investment Adviser, or their Connected Persons. The Management Company, Investment Advisers and their Connected Persons will not receive cash or other rebates from brokers or dealers but may enter into soft commission arrangements or commission sharing agreements for the provision of services which are of demonstrable benefit to the Fund (e.g. research) as long as transactions generating such commission are made in good faith and in strict compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

## 14. Conflicts of Interest

The Management Company and the Sub-Fund Investment Adviser, the sales agents, the Administration Agent, the Registrar and Transfer Agent, the Depositary Bank may from time to time act as management company, investment manager or adviser, sales agent, administrator, registrar and transfer agent or depositary bank in relation to, or be otherwise involved in, other funds or collective investment schemes which have similar investment objectives to

those of the Sub-Fund. It is therefore possible that any of them may, in the due course of their business, have potential conflicts of interest with the Sub-Fund.

In such event, each will at all times have regard to its obligations under any agreements to which it is party or by which it is bound in relation to the Sub-Fund. In particular, but without limitation to its obligations to act in the best interests of the shareholders when undertaking any dealings or investments where conflicts of interest may arise, each will respectively endeavour to ensure that such conflicts are resolved fairly.

Affiliates of the HSBC Group act as counterparties for certain forward foreign exchange and financial futures contracts. The Sub-Fund utilises the brokerage services of HSBC Securities and HSBC Investment Bank, both part of HSBC Bank plc, which is a fellow subsidiary of the Management Company, within the HSBC Group. All such transactions are entered into in the ordinary course of business and on normal commercial terms.

Other potential conflicts of interest are described in Section 2.13 of the Sub-Fund's Luxembourg Prospectus on Depositary and Paying Agent under the sub-heading "Conflicts of Interest" and Section 2.18 of the Sub-Fund's Luxembourg Prospectus on Conflicts of Interest.

## **15. Reports**

The financial year-end of the Sub-Fund is the 31st of March. The annual audited report should be available within 4 months after the end of the financial year and the un-audited semi-annual reports within 2 months after 30th September each year. Copies of the latest audited financial statements and semi-annual reports are available at [www.assetmanagement.hsbc.com/sg](http://www.assetmanagement.hsbc.com/sg)

HSBC Life's financial year-end for the ILP Sub-Fund is 30 June. The annual audited financial statements will be prepared and made available by 30 September, i.e. 3 months from the financial year end.

HSBC Life's financial half year-end for the ILP Sub-Fund is 31 December. The semi-annual report will be prepared and made available by 28 February, i.e. 2 months from the date of the financial half-year end.

These financial statements and/ or the reports, when available, will be accessible from HSBC Life's website at <http://www.insurance.hsbc.com.sg/annualreport>. A copy will be provided to Policyholders upon request.

## **16. Other material information**

The Fund Summary must be read in conjunction with the Product Highlights Sheet and the Product Summary.

The Fund's Annual Report and Prospectus are available for download at [www.assetmanagement.hsbc.com/sg](http://www.assetmanagement.hsbc.com/sg)

### **16.1 Distribution of Income, Capital and Dividends**

The Sub-Fund does not intend to declare and pay dividends.

### **16.2 Investment Guidelines and Restrictions**

The investment guidelines that have to be complied with by the ILP Sub-Fund are set out within MAS Notice 307 on Investment-Linked Policies, where applicable.

Please refer to Section "Other Material Information" of the Fund's Singapore Prospectus for details on the investment restrictions.