# METRO\$ EUROZONE EQUITY FEEDER FUND

KEY INFORMATION AND INVESTMENT DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Month Ended February 29, 2024

| FUND FACTS              |   |                                   |  |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| Classification:         | Feeder  | Net Asset Value per Unit (NAVPu): | 1.156855                                   |
| Launch Date:            | February 14, 2018                             | Total Fund NAV (in USD Mns):      | 2.52                                       |
| Trust Fee (per annum):  | 0.75% based on NAV                            | Dealing Day                       | 12:00NN for Branch Channels                |
| Minimum Investment:     | USD 500                                       | (any banking day <b>):</b>        | 2:30PM for Electronic Channels             |
| Additional Investment:  | USD 100                                       | Redemption Settlement:            | 4 Banking Days after date of<br>redemption |
| Minimum Holding Period: | 7 calendar days from date<br>of participation | Early Redemption Charge:          | 50% of income on redeemed amount           |

### **COOLING-OFF PERIOD**

Pursuant to BSP Circular No. 857, the TRUSTOR (individual participants) shall have the right to cancel their initial subscriptions or contributions, without penalty, upon written notice to the Trustee within two (2) banking days immediately following the signing of agreement or contract evidencing their participation in the Fund. Further, the net amount of payment or delivery due the TRUSTOR shall be based on the transaction day's NAVpu when notice of redemption, termination or cancellation was received.

#### FEES COLLECTED FOR THE MONTH<sup>1</sup>

| <br>EES COLLECTED FOR THE   |                         |                        |             |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| Trustee Fees:   | Custodianship Fees:     | External Auditor Fees: | Other Fees: |
| 0.060%  | 0.004%                  | 0.000%                 | 0.000%      |
| Metrobank-Trust Banking Group   | Standard Chartered Bank | SGV & Co.              | Others      |
| <sup>1</sup> As a percentage of average daily NAV for the month valued at (in USD Mns): <b>2.50</b> |                         |                        |             |

### **INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE AND STRATEGY**

The Investor Fund is a USD-denominated equity Unit Investment Trust Fund structured as a feeder fund and aims to provide market returns from a representative portfolio of stocks that comprise the European Equity Market by investing at least 90% of its assets in the iSHARES MSCI EUROZONE ETF. The Fund's benchmark is the MSCI Daily TR Net EMU (NDDUEMU Index).

### **CLIENT SUITABILITY**

A client profiling process is performed prior to participating in the Fund to guide the prospective investor if the Fund is suited to his/her investment objectives and risk tolerance. Clients are encouraged to update the resulting profile every three (3) years or if there's any change in his/her personal/financial circumstances. Before deciding to invest, clients are advised to read the Declaration of Trust/Plan Rules of the Fund, which may be obtained from the Trustee, or seek an independent/professional opinion when necessary.

# The METRO\$ EUROZONE EQUITY FEEDER FUND is suitable only for investors who:

#### • Have an Aggressive profile.

Want capital appreciation over the long-term by primarily investing in iSHARES MSCI EUROZONE ETF

•Recommended investment horizon is at least five (5) years

•Participation in the Fund shall be open to Filipino individuals, resident and non-resident aliens and corporate accounts.

### **KEY RISKS AND RISK MANAGEMENT**

You should not invest in this Fund if you do not understand or are not comfortable with the accompanying risks.

| Market/Price<br>Risk:          | The possibility for an investor to experience losses due to changes in the market prices of stocks/equities. It refers to the portfolio's exposure to marked-to-market valuation due to market price fluctuations of the stocks/equities.  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Liquidity Risk:                | The possibility for an investor to experience losses due to the inability to sell or convert assets into cash immediately or<br>in instances where conversion to cash is possible but at a price that could result in a loss. This may be caused by low<br>trading volume due to different reasons such as securities with small or few outstanding issues, absence of buyers<br>and/or sellers (limited buy/sell activity) or underdeveloped capital market.  |
| Credit Risk /<br>Default Risk: | The possibility for an investor to experience losses due to a borrower's failure to pay principal and/or interest in a timely manner on instruments such as bonds, loans, or other forms of fixed income security which the borrower issued. This inability of the borrower or counterparty to make good on its financial obligations may have resulted from adverse changes in its financial condition thus, lowering credit quality of the security, and consequently lowering the price (market/price risk) which contributes to the difficulty in selling such security. |
| Foreign<br>Exchange Risk:      | The possibility for an investor to experience losses due to fluctuations in foreign exchange rates. The exchange rates depend upon a variety of global and local factors, e.g. interest rates, economic performance, and political developments.   |
| Country Risk:                  | The possibility for an investor to experience losses arising from investments in securities issued by/in foreign countries due to the political, economic and social structures of these countries. There are risks in foreign investments due to the possible internal and external conflicts, currency devaluations, foreign ownership limitations and tax increases of the foreign country involved which are difficult to predict but must be taken into account in making such investments.   |
| Index Tracking<br>Risk:        | The possibility for the Fund not being able to achieve a level of return that closely mirrors the index being tracked due to operational and fund management expenses.   |
| Other Risks:                   | Your participation in the UITFs may be further exposed to the risk of any actual or potential conflicts of interest in the handling of in-house or related party transactions by Metrobank. These transactions may include own-bank deposits; purchase of own-institution or affiliate obligations (stocks, mortgages); purchase of assets from or sales to own institution, directors, officers, subsidiaries, affiliates or other related interests/parties; or purchases or sales between fiduciary/managed accounts.   |
| The Fund invests               | only in high-credit quality assets which are evaluated using a rigorous internal scoring model required under the Trustee's  |

The Fund invests only in high-credit quality assets which are evaluated using a rigorous internal scoring model required under the Trustee's accreditation process and BSP regulations. Internal risk limits and position limits together with regulatory exposure limits are monitored, reviewed and strictly adhered to on a daily basis. The Fund may also use financial derivatives solely for hedging risk exposures.

THE UIT FUND IS NOT A DEPOSIT AND IS NOT INSURED BY THE PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION (PDIC). RETURNS CANNOT BE GUARANTEED AND HISTORICAL NAVPU IS FOR ILLUSTRATION OF NAVPU MOVEMENTS/FLUCTUATIONS ONLY. WHEN REDEEMING, THE PROCEEDS MAY BE WORTH LESS THAN THE ORIGINAL INVESTMENT AND ANY LOSSES WILL BE SOLELY FOR THE ACCOUNT OF THE CLIENT.

THE TRUSTEE IS NOT LIABLE FOR ANY LOSS UNLESS UPON WILLFUL DEFAULT, BAD FAITH OR GROSS NEGLIGENCE.



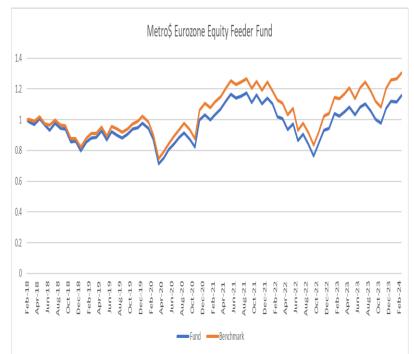


# FUND PERFORMANCE AND STATISTICS as of

February 29, 2024

(Purely for reference purposes and is not a guarantee of future results)

# NAVPu GRAPH



# **CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE**

|           | 1 Month | 3 Months | 6 Months | 1 Year  | 3 Years | 5 Years | Since<br>Inception |
|-----------|---------|----------|----------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|
| Fund      | 3.830%  | 7.590%   | 9.317%   | 13.207% | 12.146% | 31.080% | 15.686%            |
| Benchmark | 2.926%  | 8.059%   | 9.770%   | 14.818% | 16.926% | 43.229% | 30.233%            |

Name

# **PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION**

| Allocation   | % of Fund |
|--|-----------|
| IShares MSCI Eurozone ETF  | 96.84%    |
| Time Deposits  | 3.23%     |
| Cash   | -0.02%    |
| Other Receivables - Net of Liabilities <sup>6</sup>                    | -0.05%    |
| <sup>6</sup> Includes accrued income from investments receivables from | m         |

brokers/counterparties and unpaid expenses.

| Sector Allocation of the Target Fund |        |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Financials                           | 18.18% |
| Industrials                          | 17.36% |
| Consumer Discretionary               | 15.99% |
| Information Technology               | 14.31% |
| Consumer Staples                     | 7.33%  |
| Health Care                          | 6.88%  |
| Materials                            | 5.39%  |
| Utilities                            | 5.25%  |
| Communication                        | 4.13%  |
| Energy                               | 4.08%  |
| Real Estate                          | 0.94%  |
| DELATED DADTY TRANGACTIONS           |        |

## **RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

| Related Party | Transaction            | Market Value<br>(in USD Mns) |
|---------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| MBTC          | Time Deposit Placement | 0.05                         |

Investments in the said outlets were approved by the Trust Committee. Likewise, all related party transactions are conducted on an arm's length and best execution basis and within established limits.

## **TARGET FUND FACTS**

Name of Target Fund: *iShares MSCI Eurozone ETF* Fund Currency: US Dollar Fund Manager: BlackRock Fund Advisors Inception Date: July 25, 2000 Benchmark: MSCI EMU Index INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

#### 1. ASML HOLDING NV 2. LVMH

| 2. LVMH                               | 4.55% |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| 3. SAP                                | 3.53% |
| 4. SIEMENS N AG                       | 2.72% |
| 5. TOTALENERGIES                      | 2.51% |
| 6. SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC                 | 2.23% |
| 7. LOREAL SA                          | 2.08% |
| 8. SANOFI SA                          | 1.96% |
| 9. ALLIANZ                            | 1.95% |
| 10. LAIR LIQUIDE SOCIETE ANONYME POUR | 1.93% |

**TOP 10 HOLDINGS OF THE TARGET FUND** 

Domicile: United States of America Regulator: Securities and Exchange Commission Administrator, Custodian and Transfer Agent: State Street Bank & Trust Company

The Target Fund seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of large- and mid-capitalization equities from developed market countries that use the Euro as their official currency.

Fund Performance Report and relevant information about the iShares MSCI Eurozone ETF can be viewed and downloaded through www.iShares.com.





### NAVPu OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS

| Highest | 1.130132 |
|---------|----------|
| Lowest  | 0.956792 |

# STATISTICS OF THE TARGET FUND

| Volatility, Past 1 Year (in %) <sup>2</sup> | 16.45% |
|---|--------|
| Sharpe Ratio <sup>3</sup>                   | 0.48   |
| Information Ratio <sup>4</sup>              | -0.46  |
| Tracking Error <sup>5</sup>                 | 0.86%  |

<sup>2</sup> Volatility measures the degree to which the Fund fluctuates vis-à-vis its average return over a period of time. The lower the number, the more stable the Fund's return is relative to its average return over time.

<sup>3</sup>Sharpe Ratio is used to characterize how well the return of a Fund compensates the investor for the level of risk taken. The higher the number, the better.

<sup>4</sup> Information Ratio measures reward-to-risk efficiency of the portfolio relative to the benchmark. The higher the number, the higher the reward per unit of risk.

<sup>5</sup>Tracking Error measures the deviation between the Fund's return and benchmark return since the Fund's inception. The lower the number, the more aligned the Fund's return is with the benchmark. (Starting September 2021 report the basis for the Tracking Error computation is since the Fund's inception.)

% of Fund

6.87%

# **INVESTMENT POLICY**

- A. The Fund may be invested and reinvested in the following instruments:
- USD-denominated units/shares in collective investment schemes subject to the conditions under BSP Circular 767
- USD-denominated deposits
- Other traded money market instruments
- Other USD-denominated Investments allowed under BSP regulations

B. The Investor Fund may invest a minimum of 90% of its fund in the Target Fund and a maximum of 10% in cash, deposits and other money market instruments. The investment of the Investor Fund in any one Target Fund shall not exceed 10% of the Total Net Asset Value of the Target Fund.

### **OUTLOOK AND STRATEGY**

The fund increased by 3.83% for the month of February. The Eurozone bounced back following the profit taking entering 2024, as the ECB hinted on dovish policy movement in 2024.

The European Central Bank (ECB) again kept rates unchanged at 4.5% to 4.75%, as the ECB hinted that it was premature to lower rates with concerns of potential persistence of pricing pressures. ECB President Christine Lagarde said the progress was not yet sufficient enough for a pivot, but the Governing Council acknowledged that inflation appeared to be slowly coming under control.

The Eurozone dodged recession as the economic bloc grew 0% QoQ in 4Q-2023, as core inflation YoY declined from 3.3% to 3.1%. European power house, Germany continued its economic slump as its economy shrank 0.3% in the 4th quarter. While unemployment remained unchanged at 6.4%, consumer confidence in the region remain subdued at -15.5, resulting in a 1.1% decline in retail sales in December. Both PMI for Services and Manufacturing gained for the month but remained weak at 50 and 46.6; respectively.

European stocks regained its footing in February following the pullback the month prior. The region continues to push higher as the ECB hinted of easing policy in 2024, price movement continued to move towards an overbought state. Overall, optimism on the coming rate cuts has kept risk assets in a strong uptrend with mild pullbacks, if there were any.

In the short to medium term, the reflation risk has been an emerging concern, given fiscal spending ahead of the 2024 U.S. Presidential elections, improving PMI data, and equity markets hitting new all-time highs. Tensions in the Middle East have also driven WTI to increase by 3.17% for the month, bringing the YTD increase to 11%.

The fund is capitalizing on favorable dollar time deposit rates, offering a 60-day yield of 5.20%, for any excess liquidity.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Metropolitan Bank and Trust Company is regulated by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP). For any inquiries and complaints relating to Trust Products and Services you may (1) call our hotline: 8-8700-700 (Mondays-Fridays from 9:00am to 6:00pm); (2) send an email to *customercare@metrobank.com.ph*; or (3) visit our website at <u>https://www.metrobank.com.ph/invest/uitf</u> to know more. You may also file complaints at BSP Financial Consumer Protection Department at (632) 8708-7087 or <u>consumeraffairs@bsp.gov.ph</u>. To know your rights under BSP Circular No. 857 (Regulations on Financial Consumer Protection), please access a copy at the BSP website (<u>www.bsp.gov.ph</u>).



