# Unit Investment Trust Funds

# **METRO\$ SHORT TERM FUND**

### KEY INFORMATION AND INVESTMENT DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Month Ended February 29, 2024

#### **FUND FACTS**

Classification: Money Market - Dollar 1.424885 Net Asset Value per Unit (NAVPu): 60.94 March 1, 2007 Total Fund NAV (in USD Mns): Launch Date: 0.50% based on NAV 12:00NN for Branch Channels Trust Fee (per annum): Dealing Day 2:30PM for Electronic Channels (any banking day): Minimum Investment: **USD 500 Additional Investment: USD 100 Redemption Settlement:** 1 Banking Day after date of redemption 7 calendar days from date Early Redemption Charge: 50% of income on

**Minimum Holding Period:** of participation 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

Trustee Fees:	Custodianship Fees:	External Auditor Fees:	Other Fees:
0.040%	0.001%	0.000%	0.000%
Metrobank-Trust Banking Group	HSBC	SGV & Co.	Others

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As a percentage of average daily NAV for the month valued at (in USD Mns): **60.90** 

#### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE AND STRATEGY

The Fund is a US Dollar-denominated money market Unit Investment Trust Fund that aims to achieve for its participants, income and liquidity by investing in a diversified portfolio of short-term US Dollar-denominated fixed income securities and money market instruments with a maximum weighted average duration of one year.

The Fund's benchmark is the 3-month US Treasury Bill. The choice of benchmark is aligned with the general characteristics of the fund which is short term investment facility, and it closely matches the risk-return objective the fund.

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\$ SHORT TERM FUND is suitable only for investors who:

- Have a Moderate profile.
- Want potential returns that are higher than regular deposit products and are willing to be exposed to some risk in consideration of higher returns.
- •Recommended investment horizon is at least six (6) months
- 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.

Interest Rate The possibility for an investor to experience losses due to changes in interest rates. The purchase and sale of a debt Risk: instrument may result in profit or loss because the value of a debt instrument changes inversely with prevailing interest Market/Price The possibility for an investor to experience losses due to changes in the market prices of bonds. It refers to the Risk:

portfolio's exposure to marked-to-market valuation due to market price fluctuations of the bonds. Liquidity Risk: The possibility for an investor to experience losses due to the inability to sell or convert assets into cash immediately or in instances where conversion to cash is possible but at a price that could result in a loss. This may be caused by low trading volume due to different reasons such as securities with small or few outstanding issues, absence of buyers

and/or sellers (limited buy/sell activity) or underdeveloped capital market. Credit Risk / The possibility for an investor to experience losses due to a borrower's failure to pay principal and/or interest in a timely Default Risk: 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. The possibility of having lower returns or earnings when funds mature and are reinvested. Investors in the UITF who redeem and realize their gains run the risk of reinvesting their funds in an alternative investment outlet with lower yields. Similarly, the UIT fund manager is faced with the risk of not being able to find better yielding alternative

investment outlets as some of the securities in the fund matures. The possibility for an investor to experience losses due to fluctuations in foreign exchange rates. The exchange rates Exchange Risk: 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.

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 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.



Reinvestment

Risk:

Foreign

Other Risks:



# **Unit Investment Trust Funds**

# **FUND PERFORMANCE AND STATISTICS as of**

## February 29, 2024

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

#### **NAVPu GRAPH**



### **NAVPu OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS**

Highest	1.421053
Lowest	1.372336

#### **STATISTICS**

Weighted Average Duration (in years)	0.41
Volatility, Past 1 Year (in %) <sup>2</sup>	0.30%
Sharpe Ratio <sup>3</sup>	-4.95
Information Ratio4	1.62

<sup>&</sup>lt;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. Starting December 2017, computation is based on the annualized standard deviation of monthly returns

#### **CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE**

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	Since Inception <sup>5</sup>
Fund	0.249%	1.174%	2.176%	3.829%	4.694%	7.886%	42.489%
Benchmark	0.381%	1.141%	2.298%	4.603%	7.109%	8.991%	20.836%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Benchmark return was based on the original benchmark of 1-month LIBOR since inception, and was changed to 1-month US T-bill from September 1, 2010 to April 30, 2016 then to 3-month US T-bill from May 2016 until present.

# **PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION**

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Allocation	% of Fund
Time Deposits	79.13%
Government Securities	19.85%
Corporate Bonds	0.82%
Cash	0.21%
Other Receivables - Net of Liabilities <sup>6</sup>	-0.01%
<sup>6</sup> Includes accrued income from investments, receivables from	n

brokers/counterparties and unpaid expenses.
Maturity Profile

13.05%
6.81%
0.82%

#### **TOP 10 HOLDINGS**

Name	Maturity	% of Fund
1. \$RDB	04.11.29	6.81%
2. \$TBL	05.09.24	3.26%
3. \$GENTD RCBC	08.05.24	1.68%
4. \$GENTD RCBC	08.09.24	1.68%
5. PSB USD TD	04.11.24	1.67%
6. \$GENTD CHINABAN	04.12.24	1.66%
7. CHIB USD TD	03.18.24	1.65%
8. RCBC USD TD	04.22.24	1.64%
9. \$TBL	03.07.24	1.64%
10. \$TBL	03.14.24	1.64%

# **RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Related Party	Transaction	Market Value (in USD Mns)
MBTC	Time Deposit Placement	1.38
PSBank	Time Deposit Placement	5.03

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.





<sup>&</sup>lt;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>&</sup>lt;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.

# **Unit Investment Trust Funds**

#### **INVESTMENT POLICY**

The Fund may be invested and reinvested in the following instruments:

- USD-denominated deposits
- Other money market instruments
- Government Securities
- Corporate Bonds
- Other investments allowed under BSP regulations

#### **OUTLOOK AND STRATEGY**

The over-optimism for rate cuts returns to planet Earth after showcasing economic resilience.

From an initial expectation of 6 rate cuts in 2024, markets have adjusted probabilities to 3-4 cuts as inflation proved more persistent than anticipated. Federal officials have emphasized that policy rates might remain restrictive for a while to achieve the 2% inflation target, signaling a lack of urgency to cut rates. In January, the central bank maintained rates at 5.25% to 5.5%. Markets anticipate a rate pivot in June, with a 60% conviction.

Recent data, including 3.1% YoY inflation, Logistics Managers Index at 55.6, jobless claims falling to 212k, and an unchanged 3.7% unemployment rate, suggests the U.S. economy's resilience in a high-interest rate environment spanning two decades. However, concerns arise from mounting consumer debt and credit card delinquencies, reaching pre-COVID-19 era highs. Economic uncertainties have contributed to a surprising decline in consumer confidence from 114.8 to 106.7.

In the short to medium term, the evolving soft-landing narrative raises concerns about reflation, 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%. Overall, reflation headwinds have pushed US10Y yields 34 bps higher to 4.25%.

Additionally, the fund is capitalizing on favorable dollar time deposit rates, offering a 60-day yield of 5.20%.

#### 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 <a href="mailto:customercare@metrobank.com.ph">customercare@metrobank.com.ph</a>; or (3) visit our website at <a href="mailto:https://www.metrobank.com.ph/invest/uitf">https://www.metrobank.com.ph/invest/uitf</a> to know more. You may also file complaints at BSP Financial Consumer Protection Department at (632) 8708-7087 or <a href="mailto:consumeraffairs@bsp.gov.ph">consumeraffairs@bsp.gov.ph</a>. To know your rights under BSP Circular No. 857 (Regulations on Financial Consumer Protection), please access a copy at the BSP website (<a href="mailto:www.bsp.gov.ph">www.bsp.gov.ph</a>).



