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cs@hengansl.com.hk

Date: 7 November 2024

Private and confidential

Policy Plan: [Name of the Policy Plan] (the "Plan")
Policy Number: [Policy Number of the Policy Holder]

Dear Valued Customer,

As an important notice, please read this letter carefully and seek independent professional advice should you have any questions about the content. Heng An Standard Life (Asia) Limited accepts responsibility for the accuracy of the content of this letter.

# Change to the underlying fund corresponding to the following investment choices of abrdn SICAV I ("abrdn SICAV I")

Capitalised terms used in this letter shall have the same meaning as set out in the Prospectus and Hong Kong Supplement of abrdn SICAV I and the Product Key Facts Statement ("KFS") of the underlying fund (collectively, the "Hong Kong Offering Documents") unless the context otherwise requires.

Reference Code	Name of investment choice
12AU	abrdn SICAV I - Emerging Markets Bond Fund - A Acc USD
D02A	abrdn SICAV I - Emerging Markets Bond Fund - A MInc USD

(Each "Investment Choice" and collectively, the "Investment Choices")

We have been informed by the Board of Directors of abrdn SICAV I of the following change to the underlying fund corresponding to the Investment Choices (the "**Underlying Fund**"), has been from 16 May 2024 (the "**Effective Date**"). As the unitholders of the Investment Choice(s), the following change applicable to the Underlying Fund may have implications for your investment.

# Conversion of the Underlying Fund into a Promoting ESG Fund and associated changes to its investment objective and policy

abrdn, through its Investment Managers, is committed to continuously reviewing its range of underlying funds to ensure that they continue to meet client requirements as they develop and change over time.

Recently there has been identified a clear increase in client focus on Environmental, Social and Governance ("**ESG**") issues and wider sustainability. abrdn SICAV I believes that a conversion of the strategy of the Underlying Fund to incorporate ESG promotion aligns with investors future needs.

Sustainability risk integration is a key part of abrdn's investment process and as part of this process abrdn SICAV I has made changes to the Underlying Fund, with effect from 16 May 2024, to further promote the Underlying Fund's ESG characteristics.

For the avoidance of doubt, under Hong Kong regulations, the Underlying Fund is not classified as an ESG fund within the meaning of "Circular to management companies of SFC-authorized unit trusts and mutual funds - ESG funds" dated 29 June 2021.

The Underlying Fund now incorporates negative screening based on ESG Factors and societal norms. In addition, securities with the highest ESG risks are screened out via abrdn's ESG House Score along with quantitative and qualitative inputs and asset class specific screens. Finally, the Underlying Fund has explicit portfolio ESG targets as set out in the new investment objective and policy of the Underlying Fund. Through the application of this approach, the Underlying Fund commits to having a minimum of 10% in Sustainable Investments.

Please refer to Appendix 1 for details of the new investment objective and policy and the ESG investment strategy of the Underlying Fund. The investment approach documents can be found at <a href="https://www.abrdn.com">www.abrdn.com</a>1.

The "ESG Investment Policy Risk" (as set out in Appendix 2) applies to the Underlying Fund as a result of the above change. Save as otherwise disclosed above, the changes do not alter the risk profile of the Underlying Fund.

# Portfolio Rebalancing

The costs of the rebalancing of the portfolio (including spreads, commissions and taxes) were immaterial. Such costs were borne by the Underlying Fund. Any additional costs associated with implementing the changes set out above (such as legal, regulatory or administrative costs) were borne by a group company of abrdn plc.

### **SFDR**

The Underlying Fund has been reclassified as Article 8 under the EU's Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation ("**SFDR**"), changing from Article 6. Article 8 underlying funds are those that promote social and/or environmental characteristics, invest in companies that follow good governance, give binding commitments but do not have a sustainable investment objective.

### **Hong Kong Offering Documents**

The changes detailed in this letter, together with other miscellaneous updates, have been reflected in the revised Hong Kong Offering Documents. The revised Hong Kong Offering Documents will be available at <a href="https://www.abrdn.com/hk">www.abrdn.com/hk</a>1.

### Actions to take

You do not have to take any action if you wish to remain invested in the Investment Choice(s) regardless of the above change. Otherwise you may wish to consider switching the units of the Investment Choice(s) or redirect future regular premiums/contributions (if applicable) to other investment choice(s) through the usual application procedure. No switching fee(s) will be incurred under the current fee structure of your policy.

Investment involves risks. For details regarding the Plan, the investment choices available under the Plan and the underlying funds corresponding to such investment choices (including, without limitation, the investment objectives and policies, risk factors and charges), please refer to the latest offering documents of the Plan (in particular the document named "Investment Choices Brochure") and the offering documents of the underlying funds, all of which are available from us upon request and free of charge. You may also visit our website at <a href="https://www.hengansl.com.hk">www.hengansl.com.hk</a> for investment choices details.

Should you have any queries, please contact your Financial Adviser or our Customer Service Hotline on +852 2169 0300 or email us at <u>cs@hengansl.com.hk.</u>

Yours faithfully, Customer Service Department Heng An Standard Life (Asia) Limited

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Please note that this website has not been reviewed by the SFC.

### Appendix 1 - New investment objectives and policies

Name of underlying fund: abrdn SICAV I - Emerging Markets Bond Fund

This Underlying Fund is subject to Article 8 of the SFDR. Further information can be found under section "EU's Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation – Sustainability Risk Integration".

# **Investment Objective and Policy**

The Underlying Fund's investment objective is long term total return to be achieved by investing at least two-thirds of the Underlying Fund's assets in debt and debt-related securities which are issued by corporations with their registered office in, and/or government related bodies domiciled in an Emerging Market country.

The Underlying Fund may invest up to 100% of its Net Asset Value in Sub-Investment Grade Debt and Debt-Related Securities.

The Underlying Fund is actively managed.

The Underlying Fund aims to outperform the JP Morgan EMBI Global Diversified Index (USD) benchmark before charges. The benchmark is also used as a reference point for portfolio construction and as a basis for setting risk constraints.

In order to achieve its objective, the Underlying Fund will take positions whose weightings diverge from the benchmark or invest in securities which are not included in the benchmark. The investments of the Underlying Fund may deviate significantly from the components of and their respective weightings in the benchmark. Due to the active nature of the management process, the Underlying Fund's performance profile may deviate significantly from that of the benchmark over the longer term.

The Underlying Fund promotes environmental and social characteristics but does not have a sustainable investment objective.

Investment in all debt and debt-related securities will follow the abrdn "Emerging Markets Bond Promoting ESG Investment Approach".

Through the application of this approach, the Underlying Fund commits to having a minimum of 10% in Sustainable Investments.

This approach is designed to evaluate the Environmental, Social, Governance and Political ("ESGP") characteristics of sovereign issuers using a range of data points. This data results in a score being calculated for each of the four ESGP pillars and an overall ESGP score is then assigned to each issuer, based on an equally weighted average across the pillars. The overall ESGP score allows a subset of countries falling below a threshold to be excluded from the investment universe.

In addition to the exclusion threshold, a forward-looking qualitative Direction of Travel assessment is conducted. This assessment is based on internal research and focuses on material ESG factors, allowing quantitative exclusions to be overridden where ESGP weaknesses are being adequately addressed by the sovereign issuer and this is not reflected in the data.

To promote sustainable development, the Underlying Fund may invest in Green bonds, Social bonds or Sustainable bonds issued by excluded countries where the proceeds of such issues can be confirmed as having a positive environmental or social impact.

For investments in debt and debt-related securities issued by corporations, the abrdn ESG House Score is used to quantitatively identify and exclude those companies exposed to the highest ESG risks. In addition, abrdn applies a set of company exclusions, which are related to the UN Global Compact, Controversial Weapons, Tobacco Manufacturing and Thermal Coal. While these exclusions are applied at a company level, investment is permitted in Green bonds, Social bonds or Sustainable bonds issued by companies otherwise excluded by the environmental screens, where the proceeds of such issues can be confirmed as having a positive environmental impact.

Engagement with issuers is a part of abrdn's investment process and ongoing stewardship programme. As part of this, where the engagement process identifies companies in high carbon emitting sectors with ambitious and credible targets to decarbonise their operations, up to 5% of assets may be invested in these companies in order to support their transition to ultimately comply with the environmental screens.

Further detail of this overall process is captured within the "Emerging Markets Bond Promoting ESG Investment Approach", which is published at www.abrdn.com under "Fund Centre".

Investment in financial derivative instruments, money-market instruments and cash may not adhere to this approach.

Where Share Classes are denominated in a currency other than the base currency of the Underlying Fund, a currency specific benchmark will typically be used for performance comparison purposes. This will be the benchmark of the Underlying Fund expressed in another currency.

## Appendix 2 - Risk factors

# **ESG Investment Policy Risk**

- Applying ESG and sustainability criteria in the investment process may result in the exclusion of securities in which the Underlying Fund might otherwise invest. Such securities could be part of the benchmark against which the Underlying Fund is managed, or be within the universe of potential investments. This may have a positive or negative impact on performance and may mean that the Underlying Fund's performance profile differs to that of funds which are managed against the same benchmark or invest in a similar universe of potential investments but without applying ESG or sustainability criteria.
- In assessing the eligibility of an issuer based on ESG research, there is a dependence upon information and data from third party ESG research data providers and internal analyses, which may be subjective, incomplete, inaccurate or unavailable. In addition, there is a lack of common or harmonized definitions and labels regarding ESG and sustainability criteria. As a result, there is a risk of incorrectly or subjectively assessing a security or issuer or there is a risk that the Underlying Fund could have exposure to issuers who do not meet the relevant criteria.
- Furthermore, the lack of common or harmonized definitions and labels regarding ESG and sustainability criteria may result in
  different approaches by managers when integrating ESG and sustainability criteria into investment decisions. This means that
  it may be difficult to compare underlying funds with ostensibly similar objectives and that the Underlying Fund will employ
  different security selection and exclusion criteria. Consequently, the performance profile of otherwise similar underlying funds
  may deviate more substantially than might otherwise be expected.
- Additionally, in the absence of common or harmonised definitions and labels, a degree of subjectivity is required and this will
  mean that a underlying fund may invest in a security that another manager or an investor would not.

### 私人及機密

保單計劃: [保單計劃名稱](「**計劃**」) 保單編號: [保單持有人的保單編號]

親愛的客戶:

此乃重要通知,請細閱本信件內容,如對其內容有任何疑問應諮詢獨立專業人士之意見。恒安標準人壽(亞洲)有限公司對本信件的內容 的進確性自責。

# 有關連繫至下列投資選擇的安本基金(「安本基金」)相連基金之變更

除文義另有所指外·本信件所用詞彙具有安本基金的招股說明書及香港補充文件以及相連基金的產品資料概要 (「**產品資料概要**」) (統稱「**香港發售文件**」)所載的相同涵義。

參考編號	投資選擇名稱
12AU	安本基金 - 新興市場債券基金 - A 類累積 (美元)
D02A	安本基金 - 新興市場債券基金 - A 類每月派息 (美元)

(各稱為「該投資選擇」,統稱為「該等投資選擇」)

我們接獲安本基金的董事會就有關連繫至該等投資選擇的相連基金(稱為「**該相連基金**」)已作出以下變更的通知·由2024年5月16日 (「生效日期」) 起經已生效。作為該(等)投資選擇的單位持有人·以下有關該相連基金的更新對您的投資或會有所影響。

# 將該相連基金轉換為提倡 ESG 基金,並對其投資目標及政策作出相應變更

安本透過其投資經理致力持續檢相連基金的範圍.確保繼續符合客戶隨著時間發展和變化的要求。

近期安本基金看到客戶日益注重環境、社會及管治(「ESG」)事宜及整體的可持續性。安本基金相信,轉換該相連基金策略而納入提倡 ESG 的特點符合投資者未來的需要。

納入可持續性風險是安本投資流程的關鍵環節·作為此流程的其中一環·安本基金已對該相連基金作出變更·自 2024 年 5 月 16 日起生效·以進一步提倡該相連基金的 ESG 特點。

為免生疑問,根據香港規例,該相連基金未歸類為日期為 2021 年 6 月 29 日的《致證監會認可單位信託及互惠基金的管理公司的通函 --環境、社會及管治基金》所界定的ESG基金。

該相連基金現時採用基於 ESG 因素及社會範式的逆向篩選。此外,該相連基金使用安本 ESG 內部評分連同量化及質化數據以及資產類別專用篩選方法,從而剔除 ESG 風險最高的證券。最後,該相連基金具有明確的投資組合 ESG 目標,相關內容載於該相連基金的新投資目標及政策內。透過應用此方法,該相連基金承諾至少持有 10%的可持續投資。

有關該相連基金的新投資目標及政策以及 ESG 投資策略的詳情,請參閱附錄 1。投資方法文件則載於 www.abrdn.com1。

由於上述變更·附錄 2 所載「ESG 投資政策風險」適用於該相連基金。除上文另有披露者外·上述變更不會造成該相連基金的風險狀況出現變化。

# 投資組合再平衡

投資組合再平衡的成本(包括差價、佣金及稅項)非常有限。此成本由該相連基金承擔。實施上文所載變更的相關額外成本(例如法律、監管或行政成本)一概由 abrdn plc 的集團公司承擔。

### **SFDR**

該相連基金已重新分類為歐盟可持續性金融資料披露條例 (「SFDR」)第8條,而非原先分類的第6條。第8條相連基金為提倡社會及/或環境特徵的相連基金,投資於遵守良好管治、作出具約束力承諾但並無可持續投資目標的公司。

### 香港發售文件

本信件詳述的變更,連同其他雜項更新,已於經修訂香港發售文件中反映。經修訂香港發售文件可於www.abrdn.com/hk1免費查閱。

<sup>1</sup> 請注意,此網站未經證監會審閱。

# 應採取的行動

若您欲在上述變動後繼續投資該等投資選擇,您毋須採取任何行動。否則,您可透過一般的申請程序,要求將在該等投資選擇的單位或日後的定期保費/供款(如適用)轉至其他投資選擇。根據您保單內之現時收費基制,投資選擇的轉換將不會被收取任何轉換費用。

投資涉及風險·有關保單計劃、於保單計劃內可供銷售的投資選擇及連繫至投資選擇的該等相連基金的詳細資料(包括但不限於任何投資選擇的投資目標及政策·風險因素及費用)·您可參閱保單計劃的最新銷售文件(尤其是名為「投資選擇刊物」的文件)及該等相連基金的銷售文件·這些文件可按要求向我們索取並不收取費用。亦可同時瀏覽我們的網頁 www.hengansl.com.hk。

如有任何查詢·請與您的理財顧問聯絡。您亦可以致電我們的客戶服務熱線+852 2169 0300 或電郵至 <u>cs@hengansl.com.hk</u> 與我們聯絡。

恒安標準人壽(亞洲)有限公司 客戶服務部 謹啟

日期: 2024年11月7日

### 附錄 1 - 新投資目標及政策

相連基金名稱:安本基金-新興市場債券基金

本相連基金須遵守 SFDR 第 8 條。更多資料載於「歐盟可持續性金融資料披露條例 - 可持續性風險整合」之下。

# 投資目標及政策

該相連基金的投資目標是通過將其至少三分之二的資產投資於債券及債務相關證券(其發行人為註冊辦事處位於新興市場國家的公司及/或位於新興市場國家的政府相關機構),以獲取長期總回報。

該相連基金可將最多100%的資產淨值投資於次級投資評級債券及債務相關證券。

該相連基金以主動方式管理。

該相連基金的目標是在扣除費用之前超越摩根大通新興市場全球多元化債券指數(美元)基準。該基準亦用作構建投資組合的參考點,並作為設置風險限制的基礎。

為實現其目標,該相連基金將持有權重偏離基準的持倉或投資於未納入基準的證券。該相連基金的投資可能會顯著偏離基準的成份證券及其相應的權重。由於管理過程的主動性,從長遠來看,該相連基金的表現可能會顯著偏離基準。

該相連基金提倡環境及社會特徵,但並無可持續投資目標。

對所有債券及債務相關證券的投資將遵循安本的「新興市場債券提倡 ESG 投資方法」。

透過應用此方法,該相連基金承諾至少持有 10%的可持續投資。 此方法旨在使用一系列數據點評估主權發行人的環境、社會、管治及政治(「ESGP」)特徵。基於此數據,ESGP 四大支柱各自計算一個得分,然後再基於四大支柱的同等加權平均值為每間發行人賦予整體 ESGP 得分。根據整體 ESGP 得分,低於某一門檻的某些國家將剔出投資範圍以外。

除了排除門檻以外,亦會進行前瞻性質化發展方向評估。此評估基於內部研究,並聚焦於重大 ESG 因素,以便於主權發行人足夠解決其 ESGP 弱項且數據未有反映這一點的情況下允許凌駕量化排除決定。

為提倡可持續發展,該相連基金可投資於除外國家發行的綠色債券、社會債券或可持續債券,前提是有關債券的所得款項可證實產生正面的環境或社會影響。

至於對公司發行債券及債務相關證券的投資,安本 ESG 內部評分用於在量化方面識別及排除最高 ESG 風險的公司。此外,安本可應用與聯合國全球契約、爭議性武器、煙草生產及熱能煤有關的一系列公司排除標準。雖然此等排除標準應用於公司層面,但安本獲准投資於原本根據環境篩選標準被剔除的公司所發行的綠色債券、社會債券或可持續債券,前提是有關債券的所得款項可證實產生正面的環境影響。

與發行人溝通是安本投資流程及持續盡責管理計劃的一環。作為其中一部分,若溝通過程確定高碳排放行業的公司具有進取而可靠的營運脫碳目標,則最多可將5%的資產投資於此等公司,藉以支持其轉型活動而最終符合環境篩選標準。關於此整體流程的進一步詳情載於「新興市場債券提倡ESG投資方法」,該方法刊登於www.abrdn.com内的「基金中心」之下。

對金融衍生工具、貨幣市場工具及現金的投資未必遵循該方法。

倘若股份類別以該相連基金基本貨幣以外的貨幣計價,則通常將會採用特定貨幣的基準進行表現比較。這將會是該相連基金以另一種貨幣列示的基準。

### 附錄 2 - 風險因素

# ESG 投資政策風險

- 在投資過程中採用 ESG 及可持續性標準,或會導致剔除該相連基金本來可能投資的證券。該等證券可能是管理該相連基金時 參照的基準指數的一部分,亦可能是潛在投資範圍之內。此舉或會對表現產生正面或負面影響,並可能意味著該相連基金的表 現有別於參照相同基準指數管理或投資於相似 Z 的潛在投資範圍但未有採用 ESG 或可持續性標準的基金。
- 根據 ESG 研究評估發行人時,會依賴來自第三方 ESG 研究數據提供者及內部研究的資料和數據 ,此等資料和數據可能帶有主觀性、不完整、不準確或不可用。此外,缺乏 ESG 及可持續性標準的通用或統一定義和標籤。因此,存在錯誤或主觀地評估證券或發行人的風險,或該相連基金可能涉足於不符合相關標準的發行人的風險。
- 此外·將 ESG 及可持續性標準納入投資決策時·缺乏 ESG 及可持續性標準的通用或統一定義和標籤·可能會導致經理人採取不同的方法。換言之·安本基金可能難以對表面目標類似的相連基金進行比較·且該相連基金將採用不同的證券選擇和剔除標準。因此·其他類似相連基金的表現狀況可能較預期出現更大的偏差。
- 此外·在缺乏通用或統一定義和標籤的情況下·將需要施加一定程度的主觀性·所以相連基金可能投資於其他經理人或投資者不會投資的證券。