

ASTUTE DYNAMIC FUND (ADF)

AUDITED ANNUAL REPORT

For The Financial Year Ended 31 December 2023

ASTUTE DYNAMIC FUND

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1. FUND INFORMATION

FUND NAME	Astute Dynamic Fund (ADF)
FUND TYPE	Growth
FUND CATEGORY	Equity
FUND INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE	To seek capital appreciation by investing in equity and equity-related securities.
DURATION OF THE FUND	The Fund is an open-ended fund. The fund was launched on 18 May 2006.
PERFORMANCE BENCHMARK	 70% of FBM KLCI 30% of Maybank Berhad 1-year fixed deposit rate (Source: Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad and Malayan Banking Berhad) "The risk profile of the performance benchmark is not the same as the risk profile of the Fund."
FUND DISTRIBUTION POLICY	Distribution is at the discretion of the Manager. If income distributed, it will be automatically re-invested via issuance of additional Units in the Fund. Generally, in the absence of written instructions from the Unitholders, income for the Fund will be automatically reinvested into additional Units of the Fund at NAV per Unit on income payment date. Unitholders who wish to realise any income can do so by redeeming Units held in the Fund. For reinvestment into additional units, no sales charges will be imposed.

2. FUND PERFORMANCE

Summary of performance data is as follows:

	31.12.2023	31.12.2022	31.12.2021
	RM	RM	RM
Portfolio Composition:			
- Equity securities	89.81	90.05	92.08
- Liquid assets and others	10.19	9.95	7.92
Net Assets Value (RM)	941,856	1,773,696	2,645,251
Number of Units in Circulation	5,096,850	10,682,268	14,972,249
Net Asset Value per Units (RM)	0.1848	0.1660	0.1767
Highest NAV Price for the period under review (RM)	0.1858	0.1783	0.1913
Lowest NAV Price for the period under review (RM)	0.1580	0.1531	0.1675
Total Return for the period under review (RM)			
- Capital growth	104,264	(94,571)	(273,972)
- Income distribution	Nil	Nil	Nil
Gross Distribution Per Unit (RM)	Nil	Nil	Nil
Net Distribution Per Unit (RM)	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total Expense Ratio (TER) (%)	2.63*	2.15	1.99
*The TER was slightly higher compared to the previous			
financial year due to a lower average NAV during the			
financial year under review.			
Portfolio Turnover Ratio (PTR) (times)	1.01*	0.72	0.50
*the PTR was higher compared to the previous financial year due to a lower average NAV during the financial year under			

due to a lower average NAV during the financial year under review.

	Total Return		Average Total Return	
	ADF	Index	ADF	Index
1 Year	11.33	-1.04	11.33	-1.04
3 Year	8.07	-5.32	2.69	-1.77
5 Year	21.74	-5.89	4.35	-1.18
Since Inception 18 May 2006	63.73	52.35	3.61	2.97

Annual total return for each of the		
last five financial year ended	ADF	Index
31.12.2023	11.33	-1.04
31.12.2022	-6.06	-2.44
31.12.2021	3.33	-1.93
31.12.2020	2.58	2.76
31.12.2019	9.82	-3.27

Source: Bloomberg

*Notes:

- 1. Total returns as at 31.12.2023. Total returns are calculated based on NAV per unit, adjusted for income distribution,
- 2. The basis of calculation for the average total return is by dividing the total return by the numbers of years.

Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future performance. Unit prices and investment returns may fluctuate.

MANAGER'S REPORT

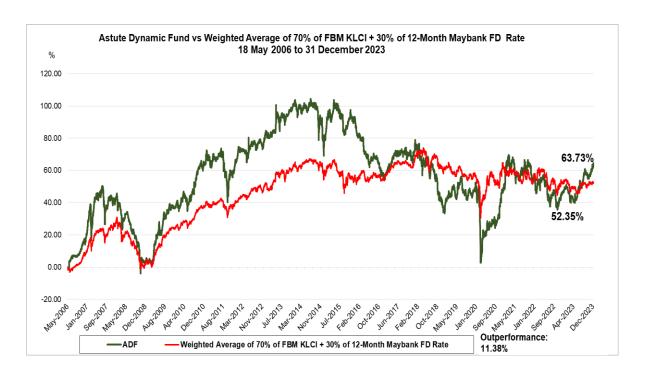
FUND'S OBJECTIVE ACHIEVEMENTS

The Fund has achieved its stated objective to seek capital appreciation by investing in equity and equity related securities. For the period ended 31st December 2023, the Fund had achieved a total return of 63.73% since its inception on 18th May 2006. The benchmark return was 52.35% for the same period.

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

For the one-year period ended 31st December 2023, the Fund achieved a return of 11.33% compare to the benchmark return of -1.04%, resulting in the outperformance against the benchmark of 12.37%. The total NAV of the Fund decreased to RM 941,856 as at 31st December 2023 from RM 1,773,696 as at 31st December 2022. The decrease in NAV was mainly due to redemptions from unit holders.

PERFORMANCE OF ASTUTE DYNAMIC FUND VS BENCHMARK INDEX SINCE 18 MAY 2006 TO 31 DECEMBER 2023 ADF HAS OUTPERFORMED THE BENCHMARK INDEX BY 11.38%



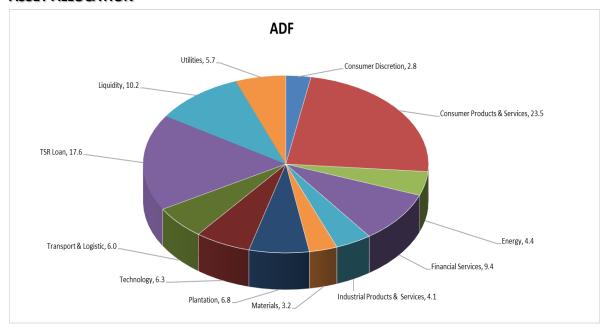
Source: Bloomberg

STRATEGIES EMPLOYED

The Fund had adopted the top-down and bottom up approach for its investment strategy. The investment policy was to invest in mostly undervalued companies with good potential of growth. The fund consists of only in shares or warrants that were listed on the Bursa Malaysia. In term of market sector, the Fund had concentrated mainly in the areas of consumer, financial and industrial products.

Investment strategy will remain centered on well-managed liquid stocks that exhibit good growth prospects with strong earning visibility. Stocks with strong cash flows, decent yield and have proactive capital management will also be considered.

ASSET ALLOCATION



ASSET ALLOCATION BY SECTOR AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

QUOTED SECURITIES	31 DEC 2023	31 DEC 2022
Financial Services	9.4	23.3
Consumer Discretion	2.8	-
Consumer Products & Services	23.5	12.3
Communication	-	0.8
Energy	4.4	17.6
Industrial Products & Services	4.1	2.5
IT	-	1.0
Materials	3.2	0.7
Plantation	6.8	11.1
Technology	6.3	7.5
Transport & Logistic	6.0	-
TSR Loans	17.6	4.4
Utilities	5.7	8.9
Liquidity	10.2	9.9

MARKET REVIEW

Equity markets started the year in positive territory, following through from the fourth quarter of 2022. However, equity benchmarks trended lower from February onwards till June as global markets contended with rising inflation and interest rates and strong currencies of developed economies, particularly the US, UK, Europe, and Australia as their rate hikes outpaced Asia.

Last year, Malaysia raised its overnight policy rate by only 25 basis points to 3.00%, whereas the US raised its Fed Funds interest rate by a total of 100 basis points throughout the year to 5.50% by the end of 2023. The disparities in rates led to weaknesses in Asian currencies and the Malaysian Ringgit (MYR) against the majors. For instance, the MYR traded at the 4.4000 levels against the US Dollar, and depreciated to the 4.6000 levels by the end of 2023.

Recession fears from the high global interest rates depressed commodity prices, notably in agriculture, petrochemical and industrial metals. Geopolitics also weighed on local and regional markets. Military tensions between China and Taiwan and bans in exports of technologically-sensitive materials and components between China and US added to regional volatility. Amidst the tensions, the lack of policy stimulus in China failed to ignite global and regional demand for products and materials from the rest of Asia.

Notwithstanding the above, interest in Malaysia garnered more attention among foreign investors in the second half of 2023. In the last six months, Malaysia posted net foreign inflows in five out of the past six months. From a macro (top-down) standpoint, the inflows were in line with offshore investors' posturing for stronger Asian currencies as the US interest rates peak and a broad US Dollar decline is expected to materialise.

There were also bottom-up driven catalysts that sparked interest in Malaysia in the second half. The conclusion of state elections with a status quo outcome alleviated concerns on political uncertainty and execution of federal government-led initiatives. Hence, pump-priming measures picked up (e.g. infrastructure projects like rail network and road), the National Energy Transition Roadmap (NETR), and joint ventures with foreign multinationals on data centres in Malaysia were among the drivers for construction, property and building material sectors' rallies. These offset the global recessionary concerns.

MARKET OUTLOOK

Despite fears of global recession, Bloomberg consensus estimates the global and Malaysian economies will continue growing, and are expected to avert recessions. A key premise in averting recession is interest rate cuts and looser monetary conditions in the year ahead.

Based on falling US inflation rates, global and local interest rates have peaked later in 2023. The US interest rate futures market is indicating cuts in interest rates in later in 2024 and going into 2025. We expect Malaysia to follow the global rate cut cycle if this materialises.

Given that developed economies had raised rates by a wider margin against Asian economies, we expect the former's rate cuts to be more pronounced. We expect this will eventually lead to sharper US Dollar declines against Asian currencies, which will bring foreign fund flows into the region and Malaysia.

Falling bond yields that accompany lower interest rates outlook is positive for the technology sector. This sector is also at an inflexion point as the global semiconductor is ticking up and the outlook is promising given the increasing demand for products linked to artificial intelligence, electric vehicles, and new smartphone models. Falling bond yields is also positive for dividend-yielding stocks, which we expect will perform well when central banks signal rate cuts.

We also expect domestic and policy-driven catalysts to drive markets higher. China's commitment to resuscitate its economy through private sector participation in infrastructure, ease property-related restrictions, and support e-commerce platforms' growth is expected to spur consumption and direct investments. This will draw demand for commodities and exports to China, benefiting the region and the rest of the world.

Similarly, Malaysia's potential re-initiation of megaprojects such as the Malaysia-Singapore high speed rail, and the development of the Johor-Singapore special economic zone may also catalyse the construction and building materials industry further, benefiting contractors and suppliers. Domestic sectors like energy, utilities, consumer discretionary, construction and building materials are preferred exposures as the government pump-prime economies amidst a challenging global economic environment.

DISTRIBUTIONS

For the financial year under review, the Fund did not declare any distribution.

STATE OF AFFAIRS OF THE FUND

There were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Fund during the financial year and up to the date of Manager's report, not otherwise disclosed in the financial statements.

SECURITIES FINANCING TRANSACTIONS

The Fund has not undertaken any securities lending and repurchase transactions during the financial year under review.

DETAILS OF ANY UNIT SPLIT EXERCISE

The Fund did not carry out any split exercise during the financial year under review.

CROSS TRADE

During the financial year under review, no cross-trade transactions were undertaken by the Manager for the Fund.

SOFT COMMISSION

The Manager will retain soft commissions received from stockbrokers, provided they are of demonstrable benefit to the Unit Holders. The soft commissions may take form of goods and services such as data and quotation services, computer software and investment related publications which are incidental to the management of the Fund. Rebates, if any, will be directed to the account of the Fund.

During the period under review the Manager received data and quotation services and investment related publications which are incidental to the Fund investment.

4. TRUSTEE'S REPORT



Maybank Trustees Berhad (soo4-P) 8th Floor, Menara Maybank, 100 Jalan Tun Perak, 50050 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Telephone +603 2070 8833 / 2078 8363 Facsimile +603 2070 9387 www.maybank?u.com.my

TRUSTEE'S REPORT

To the unit holders of ASTUTE DYNAMIC FUND

We have acted as Trustee of the Fund for the financial year ended 31 December 2023 and hereby confirm to the best of our knowledge, after having made all reasonable enquiries, Astute Fund Management Berhad has operated and managed the Fund during the year covered by these financial statements in accordance with the following:

- 1. Limitations imposed on the investment powers of the management company under the deeds, securities laws and Guidelines on Unit Trust Funds;
- 2. Valuation and pricing is carried out in accordance with the deed; and
- 3. Any creation and cancellation of units are carried out in accordance with the deed and any regulatory requirement.

For Maybank Trustees Berhad [Co. No.: 196301000109 (5004-P)]

NORHAZLIANA BINTI MOHAMMED HASHIM Head, Unit Trust & Corporate Operations

Date: 27 February 2024

5. INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE UNITHOLDERS OF ASTUTE DYNAMIC FUND



Crowe Malaysia PLT 201906000006 (LLP0018817-LCA) & AF 1018 Chartered Accountants Level 16, Tower C, Megan Avenue II

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE UNITHOLDERS OF ASTUTE DYNAMIC FUND

REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of **Astute Dynamic Fund** ("the Fund"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023, and the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in net asset value and statement of cash flows of the Fund for the financial year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, as set out on pages 5 to 40.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Fund as at 31 December 2023, and of its financial performance and its cash flows of the Fund for the financial year then ended in accordance with Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards and International Financial Reporting Standards.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with approved standards on auditing in Malaysia and International Standards on Auditing. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence and Other Ethical Responsibilities

We are independent of the Fund in accordance with the *By-Laws (on Professional Ethics, Conduct and Practice)* of the Malaysian Institute of Accountants ("By-Laws") and the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' *International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards)* ("IESBA Code"), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the By-Laws and the IESBA Code.

Information Other than the Financial Statements and Auditors' Report Thereon

The Manager of the Fund is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, but does not include the financial statements of the Fund and our auditors' report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements of the Fund does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements of the Fund, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements of the Fund or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE UNITHOLDERS OF ASTUTE DYNAMIC FUND (CONT'D)



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE UNITHOLDERS OF ASTUTE DYNAMIC FUND (CONT'D)

Responsibilities of the Manager and Trustee for the Financial Statements

The Manager of the Fund is responsible for the preparation of financial statements of the Fund that give a true and fair view in accordance with Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards and International Financial Reporting Standards. The Manager is also responsible for such internal control as the Manager determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements of the Fund that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements of the Fund, the Manager is responsible for assessing the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Manager either intend to liquidate the Fund or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Trustee is responsible for overseeing the Fund's financial reporting process. The Trustee is also responsible for ensuring that the Manager maintains proper accounting and other records as are necessary to enable true and fair presentation of these financial statements.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements of the Fund as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with approved standards on auditing in Malaysia and International Standards on Auditing will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with approved standards on auditing in Malaysia and International Standards on Auditing, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements of the Fund, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Manager.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE UNITHOLDERS OF ASTUTE DYNAMIC FUND (CONT'D)



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE UNITHOLDERS OF ASTUTE DYNAMIC FUND (CONT'D)

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements (Cont'd)

As part of an audit in accordance with approved standards on auditing in Malaysia and International Standards on Auditing, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also (Cont'd):

- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Manager's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements of the Fund or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Fund to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements of the Fund, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements of the Fund represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Manager regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

OTHER MATTERS

This report is made solely to the unitholders of the Fund, as a body, and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility to any other person for the content of this report.

Crowe Malaysia PLT

Crowe Malaysia PLT 201906000005 (LLP0018817-LCA) & AF 1018 Chartered Accountants

Kuala Lumpur

27 February 2024

Choong Kok Keong 03461/11/2025 J Chartered Accountant

Adylac

Y.M. DATO' TUNKU AHMAD ZAHIR

6. STATEMENT BY MANAGER

We, Clement Chew Kuan Hock and Y.M. Dato' Tunku Ahmad Zahir Bin Tunku Ibrahim, being two of the directors of Astute Fund Management Berhad, do hereby state that, in the opinion of the Manager, the accompanying audited financial statements of Astute Dynamic Fund are drawn up in accordance with the Deed, Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards, International Financial Reporting Standards and Securities Commission Malaysia's Guidelines on Unit Trust Funds so as to give a true and fair view of the financial position of Astute Dynamic Fund as at 31 December 2023 and of its financial performance and cash flows for the financial year ended on that date.

For and on behalf of the Manager, Astute Fund Management Berhad

CLEMENT CHEW KUAN HOCK

Director BIN TUNKU IBRAHIM
Director

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Date: 27 February 2024

6.1 STATEMENT OF AUDITED PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For The Financial Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 RM	2022 RM
INVESTMENT INCOME/(LOSS) Gross dividend income Realised loss on sale of investments Unrealised gain/(loss) on financial assets at fair value		51,262 (36,044)	85,423 (81,368)
through profit and loss ("FVPL") Other income		104,264 1,730	(94,571) 2,310
		121,212	(88,206)
LESS: EXPENSES Management's fee Trustee's fee Auditors' remuneration Tax agent's fee Administrative expenses Transaction costs	4 5	16,312 544 7,000 3,661 1,009 7,898	29,976 999 7,000 2,750 2,366 11,567 54,658
NET INVESTMENT INCOME/(LOSS)		84,788	(142,864)
GAINS/(LOSSES) ON FOREIGN EXCHANGE: - realised - unrealised		12,842 (124)	(7,296) 867
NET INCOME/(LOSS) BEFORE TAXATION		97,506	(149,293)
INCOME TAX EXPENSE	6	(4,167)	(932)
NET INCOME/(LOSS) AFTER TAXATION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		93,339	(150,225)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		-	
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME/(EXPENSE) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		93,339	(150,225)
Total comprehensive income/(expense) for the financial year is made up as follows:			
- realised - unrealised		(10,801) 104,140	(56,521) (93,704)
		93,339	(150,225)

The annexed notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

6.2 STATEMENT OF AUDITED FINANCIAL POSITION

At 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 RM	2022 RM
ASSETS			
INVESTMENT			
Quoted investments	7 –	845,938	1,597,459
OTHER ASSETS			
Dividend receivable		344	402
Current tax assets		22,090	22,090
Bank balances	_	97,347	177,802
		119,781	200,294
TOTAL ASSETS		965,719	1,797,753
NET ASSET VALUE ("NAV") AND LIABILITY		_	
NAV			
Unitholders' capital		463,525	1,388,704
Retained earnings	_	478,331	384,992
TOTAL NAV	8 _	941,856	1,773,696
LIABILITIES			
Sundry payables and accruals		22,629	21,809
Amount owing to Manager		1,194	2,176
Amount owing to Trustee	_	40	72
TOTAL LIABILITY	_	23,863	24,057
TOTAL NAV AND LIABILITY	_	965,719	1,797,753
NUMBER OF UNITS IN CIRCULATION	8.1	5,096,850	10,682,268
NAV PER UNIT (RM)	_	0.1848	0.1660

6.3 STATEMENT OF AUDITED CHANGES IN NET ASSET VALUE

For the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2023

Note	Unitholders' Capital RM	Retained Earnings RM	Total NAV RM
	2,110,034	535,217	2,645,251
	-	(150,225)	(150,225)
8.1 8.1	2,675 (724,005)		2,675 (724,005)
	(721,330)		(721,330)
	1,388,704	384,992	1,773,696
	-	93,339	93,339
8.1 8.1	11,160 (936,339)		11,160 (936,339)
	(925,179)	<u>-</u>	(925,179)
	463,525	478,331	941,856
	8.1 8.1	Note RM 2,110,034 - 8.1 2,675 (724,005) (721,330) 1,388,704 - 8.1 11,160 (936,339) (925,179)	Note RM Earnings RM 2,110,034 535,217 - (150,225) 8.1 2,675 - (724,005) - (721,330) - 1,388,704 384,992 - 93,339 8.1 11,160 - (936,339) - (925,179) -

6.4 STATEMENT OF AUDITED CASH FLOWS

For the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2023

	2023 RM	2022 RM
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING AND INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from sale of investments Purchase of investments Dividend income received Interest income received Management fee paid Trustee's fee paid Other fees and expenses paid Foreign exchange loss	1,513,012 (670,584) 50,264 1,730 (17,294) (576) (18,748) (9,845)	1,777,431 (1,108,645) 84,515 2,310 (31,155) (1,039) (23,856) (13,646)
CASH FROM OPERATION Income tax paid NET CASH FROM OPERATING AND INVESTING ACTIVITIES	847,959 (3,111) 844,848	685,915
CASH FLOW FOR FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from units created Payment for cancelled units NET CASH FOR FINANCING ACTIVITIES	11,160 (936,339) (925,179)	2,675 (724,005) (721,330)
NET DECREASE IN BANK BALANCES	(80,331)	(35,415)
EFFECTS OF FOREIGN CURRENCY EXCHANGE	(124)	867
BANK BALANCES AT BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	177,802	212,350
BANK BALANCES AT END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	97,347	177,802

6.5 NOTES TO THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For The Financial Year Ended 31 December 2023

1. THE FUND, THE MANAGER AND THEIR PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

Astute Dynamic Fund ("the Fund") was constituted pursuant to the execution of a Deed dated 28 March 2006, First Supplemental Deed dated 20 August 2013, Second Supplemental Deed dated 3 August 2015, between the Manager, Astute Fund Management Berhad, the Trustee, AmTrustee Berhad and the registered Unitholders of the Fund. Third Supplemental Deed dated 15 April 2016 was executed for the change of Trustee from AmTrustee Berhad to Maybank Trustees Berhad, the Fourth Supplemental Deed dated 22 April 2022 was executed for the change of the Manager's name from Apex Investment Services Berhad to Astute Fund Management Berhad, and the Fifth Supplemental Deed dated 11 January 2023, was further modified to be in-line with the recent amendments to the relevant guidelines.

The principal activity of the Fund is to invest in "Permitted Investments" as defined in the Seventh Schedule of the Deed. The Fund commenced operations on 18 May 2006 (commencement date) and will continue its operations until its termination by the Trustee or the Manager as provided under Clauses 12.1, 12.2 and 12.3 of the Deed.

The investment objective of the Fund is to seek capital appreciation by investing in equity and equity-related securities.

The Manager, Astute Fund Management Berhad, is a company incorporated in Malaysia. The principal activity of the Manager is the management of unit trust funds.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of the Directors of the Manager on 27 February 2024.

2. BASIS OF PREPARATION

The financial statements of the Fund are prepared under the historical cost convention and modified to include other bases of valuation as disclosed in other sections under significant accounting policies, and in compliance with Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards ("MFRSs") and International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRSs").

2.1 During the current financial year, the Fund has adopted the following new accounting standards and/or interpretations (including the consequential amendments, if any):-

MFRSs and/or IC Interpretations (Including The Consequential Amendments)

MFRS 17 Insurance Contracts

Amendments to MFRS 17 Insurance Contracts

Amendment to MFRS 17: Initial Application of MFRS 17 and MFRS 9 – Comparative Information

Amendments to MFRS 101: Disclosure of Accounting Policies

Amendments to MFRS 108: Definition of Accounting Estimates

Amendments to MFRS 112: Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction

Amendments to MFRS 112: International Tax Reform - Pillar Two Model Rules

2. BASIS OF PREPARATION (CONT'D)

2.1 During the current financial year, the Fund has adopted the following new accounting standards and/or interpretations (including the consequential amendments, if any (Cont'd):-

The adoption of the above accounting standards and/or interpretations (including the consequential amendments, if any) did not have any material impact on the financial statements of the Fund.

2.2 The Fund has not applied in advance the following accounting standards and/or interpretations (including the consequential amendments, if any) that have been issued by the Malaysian Accounting Standards Board (MASB) but are not yet effective for the current financial year:-

MFRSs and/or IC Interpretations (Including The Consequential Amendments)	Effective Date
Amendments to MFRS 10 and MFRS 128: Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture	Deferred
Amendments to MFRS 16: Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback	1 January 2024
Amendments to MFRS 101: Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current	1 January 2024
Amendments to MFRS 101: Non-current Liabilities with Covenants	1 January 2024
Amendments to MFRS 107 and MFRS 7: Supplier Finance Arrangements	1 January 2024
Amendments to MFRS 121: Lack of Exchangeability	1 January 2025

The adoption of the above accounting standards and/or interpretations (including the consequential amendments, if any) is expected to have no material impact on the financial statements of the Fund upon their initial application.

3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

3.1 CRITICAL ACCOUTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

Management believes that there are no key assumptions made concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year other than as disclosed below:-

3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

3.1 CRITICAL ACCOUTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS (CONT'

Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty (Cont'd)

Income Taxes

There are certain transactions and computations for which the ultimate tax determination may be different from the initial estimate. The Fund recognises tax liabilities based on its understanding of the prevailing tax laws and estimates of whether such taxes will be due in the ordinary course of business. Where the final outcome of these matters is different from the amounts that were initially recognised, such difference will impact the income tax expense and deferred tax balances in the year in which such determination is made. The carrying amount of current tax assets as at the reporting date is RM22,090 (2022 - RM 22,090).

Critical Judgements Made in Applying Accounting Policies

Management believes that there are no instances of application of critical judgement in applying the Fund's accounting policies which will have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

3.2 FUNCTIONAL AND FOREIGN CURRENCIES

(a) Functional and Presentation Currency

The functional currency of the Fund is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Fund operates.

The financial statements of the Fund are presented in Ringgit Malaysia ("RM") which is the functional and presentation currency of the Fund.

(b) Foreign Currency Transactions and Balances

Transactions in foreign currencies are converted into the respective functional currencies on initial recognition, using the exchange rates at the transaction dates. Monetary assets and liabilities at the end of the reporting period are translated at the exchange rates ruling as of that date. Non-monetary assets and liabilities are translated using exchange rates that existed when the values were determined. All exchange differences are recognised in profit or loss.

3.3 INCOME RECOGNITION

The income recognition policies for each of the Fund's major activities are as follows:-

(a) Dividend Income

Dividend income from investments is recognised when the right to receive dividend payment is established.

3.3 INCOME RECOGNITION (CONT'D)

The income recognition policies for each of the Fund's major activities are as follows (Cont'd):-

(b) Realised Gains or Losses on Sale of Investments

Realised gain or loss on the sale of an investment is recognised when the sales is contracted, based on the sale proceeds less cost which is determined on the weighted average cost basis.

(c) Interest Income

Interest income is recognised on a time proportion basis taking into account the principal outstanding and the effective interest rates applicable.

3.4 INCOME TAXES

(a) Current Tax

Current tax assets and liabilities are the expected amount of income tax recoverable or payable to the taxation authorities.

Current taxes are measured using tax rates and tax laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted at the end of the reporting period and are recognised in profit or loss except to the extent that the tax relates to items recognised outside profit or loss (either in other comprehensive income or directly changes in NAV).

(b) Deferred Tax

Deferred tax is recognised using the liability method for temporary differences other than those that arise from the initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction which is not a business combination and at the time of the transaction, affects neither accounting profit nor taxable profit.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the period when the asset is realised or the liability is settled, based on the tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted at the end of the reporting period.

Deferred tax assets are recognised for all deductible temporary differences, unused tax losses and unused tax credits to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which the deductible temporary differences, unused tax losses and unused tax credits can be utilised. The carrying amounts of deferred tax assets are reviewed at the end of each reporting period and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that the related tax benefits will be realised.

3.4 INCOME TAXES (CONT'D)

Current and deferred tax items are recognised in correlation to the underlying transactions either in profit or loss, other comprehensive income or directly changes in NAV.

Current tax assets and liabilities or deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to set off current tax assets against current tax liabilities and when the deferred taxes relate to the same taxable entity (or on different tax entities but they intend to settle current tax assets and liabilities on a net basis) and the same taxation authority.

3.5 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised in the statement of financial position when the Fund has become a party to the contractual provisions of the instruments.

Financial instruments are classified as financial assets, financial liabilities or equity instruments in accordance with the substance of the contractual arrangement and their definitions in MFRS 132. Interests, dividends, gains and losses relating to a financial instrument classified as liability are reported as an expense or income. Distributions to holders of financial instruments classified as equity are charged directly to equity.

Financial instruments are offset when the Fund has a legally enforceable right to offset and intends to settle either on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

A financial instrument is recognised initially at its fair value. Transaction cost that are directly attributable to the acquisition or issue of the financial instrument (other than a financial instrument at fair value through profit or loss) are added to/deducted from the fair value on initial recognition, as appropriate. Transaction costs on the financial instrument at fair value through profit or loss are recognised immediately in profit or loss.

Financial instruments recognised in the statement of financial position are disclosed in the individual policy statement associated with each item.

(a) Financial Assets

All recognised financial assets are measured subsequently in their entirety at either their amortised cost or fair value (through profit or loss, or other comprehensive income), depending on the classification of the financial assets.

Debt Instruments

(i) Amortised Cost

The financial asset is held for collection of contractual cash flows where those cash flows represent solely payments of principal and interest. Interest income is recognised by applying the effective interest rate to the gross carrying amount of the financial asset. When the asset has subsequently become credit-impaired, the interest income is recognised by applying the effective interest rate to the amortised cost of the financial asset.

3.5 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

(a) Financial Assets (Cont'd)

Debt Instruments (Cont'd)

(i) Amortised Cost (Cont'd)

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset and of allocating interest income over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that discounts estimated future cash receipts (including all fees and points paid or received that form an integral part of the effective interest rate, transaction costs and other premiums or discounts), excluding expected credit losses, through the expected life of the financial asset or a shorter period (where appropriate).

(ii) Fair Value through Other Comprehensive Income

The financial asset is held for both collecting contractual cash flows and selling the financial asset, where the asset's cash flows represent solely payments of principal and interest. Movements in the carrying amount are taken through other comprehensive income and accumulated in the fair value reserve, except for the recognition of impairment, interest income and foreign exchange difference which are recognised directly in profit or loss. Interest income is calculated using the effective interest rate method.

(iii) Fair Value through Profit or Loss ("FVPL")

All other financial assets that do not meet the criteria for amortised cost or fair value through other comprehensive income are measured at fair value through profit or loss. The fair value changes do not include interest or dividend income.

The Fund reclassifies debt instruments when and only when its business model for managing those assets change.

Equity Instruments

All equity investments are subsequently measured at fair value with gains and losses recognised in profit or loss except where the Fund has elected to present the subsequent changes in fair value in other comprehensive income and accumulated in the fair value reserve at initial recognition.

The designation at fair value through other comprehensive income is not permitted if the equity investment is either held for trading or is designated to eliminate or significantly reduce a measurement or recognition inconsistency that would otherwise arise.

Dividend income from this category of financial assets is recognised in profit or loss when the Fund's right to receive payment is established unless the dividends clearly represent a recovery of part of the cost of the equity investments.

3.5 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

(b) Financial Liabilities

(i) Financial Liabilities at Fair Value through Profit or Loss

Fair value through profit or loss category comprises financial liabilities that are either held for trading or are designated to eliminate or significantly reduce a measurement or recognition inconsistency that would otherwise arise. The changes in fair value of these financial liabilities are recognised in profit or loss.

(ii) Other Financial Liabilities

Other financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial liability and of allocating interest expense over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments (including all fees and points paid or received that form an integral part of the effective interest rate, transaction costs and other premiums or discounts), through the expected life of the financial liability or a shorter period (where appropriate).

(c) Equity Instruments

Equity instruments classified as equity are measured initially at cost and are not remeasured subsequently.

(i) Unitholders' Capital

Unitholders' capital are classified as equity and recorded at the proceeds received, net of directly attributable transaction costs.

The unitholders' contributions to the Fund meet the criteria of puttable instruments classified as equity instruments under the revised MFRS 132 Financial Instruments Presentation. Those criteria include:

- the units entitle the holder to a proportionate share of the Fund's NAV;
- the units are the most subordinated class and class features are identical;
- there is no contractual obligation to deliver cash or another financial asset other than the obligation on the Fund to repurchase; and
- the total expected cash flows from the units over its life are based on substantially on the profit or loss of the Fund.

3.5 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

(c) Equity Instruments (Cont'd)

(ii) NAV Attributable to Unitholders

NAV attributable to unitholders represents the total NAV in the statement of financial position, which is carried at the redemption amount that would be payable at the end of the reporting period if the unitholders exercised the right to redeem units of the Fund.

Units are created or cancelled at prices based on the Fund's NAV per unit at the time of the creation or cancellation. The Fund's NAV per unit is calculated by dividing the net assets attributable to the unitholders with the total issued and paid-up units as of that date.

(iii) Distributions

Distributions are at the discretion of the Fund. A distribution to the Fund's unitholders is accounted for as a reduction from realised reserves. A proposed distribution is recognised as a liability in the period in which it is approved.

(d) Derecognition

A financial asset or part of it is derecognised when, and only when, the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or when it transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the asset to another entity. On derecognition of a financial asset measured at amortised cost, the difference between the carrying amount of the asset and the sum of the consideration received and receivable is recognised in profit or loss. In addition, on derecognition of a debt instrument classified as fair value through other comprehensive income, the cumulative gain or loss previously accumulated in the fair value reserve is reclassified from equity to profit or loss. In contrast, there is no subsequent reclassification of the fair value reserve to profit or loss following the derecognition of an equity investment.

A financial liability or a part of it is derecognised when, and only when, the obligation specified in the contract is discharged or cancelled or expires. On derecognition of a financial liability, the difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability extinguished or transferred to another party and the consideration paid, including any non-cash assets transferred or liabilities assumed, is recognised in profit or loss.

3.6 IMPAIRMENT OF FINANCIAL ASSETS

The Fund recognises a loss allowance for expected credit losses on investments in debt instruments that are measured at amortised cost or at fair value through other comprehensive income, receivables, short-term deposits with financial institutions and cash at bank.

The expected credit loss is estimated as the difference between all contractual cash flows that are due to the Fund in accordance with the contract and all the cash flows that the Fund expects to receive, discounted at the original effective interest rate.

The amount of expected credit losses is updated at each reporting date to reflect changes in credit risk since initial recognition of the respective financial instrument. The Fund always recognises lifetime expected credit losses for receivables, short-term deposits with financial institutions and cash at bank using the simplified approach. The expected credit losses on these financial assets are estimated using a provision matrix based on the Fund's historical credit loss experience and are adjusted for forward-looking information (including time value of money where appropriate).

For all other financial instruments, the Fund recognises lifetime expected credit losses when there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition. However, if the credit risk on the financial instrument has not increased significantly since initial recognition, the Fund measures the loss allowance for that financial instrument at an amount equal to 12-month expected credit losses.

The Fund recognises an impairment gain or loss in profit or loss for all financial instruments with a corresponding adjustment to their carrying amount through a loss allowance account, except for investments in debt instruments that are measured at fair value through other comprehensive income, for which the loss allowance is recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in the fair value reserve, and does not reduce the carrying amount of the financial asset in the statement of financial position.

3.7 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash in hand, bank balances, demand deposits and short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value with original maturity periods of three months or less.

3.8 CLASSIFICATION OF REALISED AND UNREALISED GAINS AND LOSSES

Unrealised gains and losses comprise changes in the fair value of financial instruments for the period and from reversal of prior period's unrealised gains and losses for financial instruments which were realised (i.e. sold, redeemed or matured) during the reporting period.

Realised gains and losses on disposal of financial instruments classified as part of at fair value through profit or loss are calculated using the weighted average method. They represent the difference between an instrument's initial carrying amount and disposal amount.

3.9 OPERATING SEGMENTS

An operating segment is a component of the Fund that engages in business activities from which it may earn revenue and incur expenses, including revenues and expenses that relate to transactions with any of the Fund's other components. An operating segment's operating results are reviewed regularly by the chief operating decision maker to make decisions about resources to be allocated to the segment and assess its performance, and for which discrete financial information is available.

3.10 FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date, regardless of whether that price is directly observable or estimated using a valuation technique. In estimating the fair value of an asset or a liability, the Fund take into account the characteristics of the asset or liability if market participants would take those characteristics into account when pricing the asset or liability at the measurement date. The measurement assumes that the transaction takes place either in the principal market or in the absence of a principal market, in the most advantageous market. For non-financial asset, the fair value measurement takes into account a market participant's ability to generate economic benefits by using the asset in its highest and best use or by selling it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

For financial reporting purposes, the fair value measurements are analysed into level 1 to level 3 as follows:-

- Level 1: Inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liability that the entity can access at the measurement date;
- Level 2: Inputs are inputs, other than quoted prices included within level 1, that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly; and
- Level 3: Inputs are unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

The transfer of fair value between levels is determined as of the date of the event or change in circumstances that caused the transfer.

4. MANAGEMENT'S FEE

Clause 13.1 of the Deed provides that the Manager is entitled to a management fee computed daily on the net asset value attributable to unitholders of the Fund at a rate not exceeding 2% (2022 - 2%) per annum. The management fee recognised in the financial statements is based on 1.50% (2022 - 1.50%) per annum for the financial year.

5. TRUSTEE'S FEE

Trustee is entitled to a fee at such rate as may be agreed from time to time between the Manager and the Trustee. The Trustee's fee recognised in the financial statements is computed daily at 0.05% (2022 - 0.05%) per annum of the net asset value attributable to unitholders of the Fund.

6. INCOME TAX EXPENSE

	2023 RM	2022 RM
Current tax expense for the financial year Under provision in the previous financial year	2,738 1,429	932 -
Total income tax expense	4,167	932

A reconciliation of income tax expense applicable to the net income/(loss) before taxation at the statutory tax rate to income tax expense at the effective tax rate of the Fund is as follows:-

	2023 RM	2022 RM
Net income/(loss) before taxation	97,506	(149,293)
Tax at the statutory tax rate of 24% (2022 - 24%)	23,401	(35,830)
Tax effects of:- Non-taxable income Net (non-taxable gains)/non-deductible losses on	(12,718)	(21,056)
investments	(19,424)	43,768
Non-deductible expenses	11,479	14,050
Under provision of current tax in the previous financial year	1,429	-
Income tax expense for the financial year	4,167	932

Domestic income tax is calculated at the Malaysian statutory tax rate of 24% (2022 - 24%) of the estimated assessable profit for the financial year.

7. QUOTED INVESTMENTS

	Note	2023 RM	2022 RM
Quoted equity investments, at fair value:	Note	MVI	MVI
- in Malaysia	7.1	583,529	1,155,337
- outside Malaysia	7.2	96,809	364,122
Quoted non-equity investments held in Malaysia, at		680,338	1,519,459
fair value	7.3	165,600	78,000
	_	845,938	1,597,459

At 3	1 December 2023	Number Of Shares	At Cost RM	At Fair Value RM	Percentage Of NAV Of The Fund %
7.1	QUOTED EQUITY INVESTMENTS IN MALAYSIA				
	Bursa Malaysia Securities Main Market				
	CONSUMER PRODUCT & SERVICES Hong Leong Industries Berhad MBM Resources Berhad MSM Malaysia Holdings Berhad Spritzer Berhad	5,000 13,500 55,000 16,300	46,409 45,389 60,590 27,190 179,578	46,050 57,240 88,550 29,829 221,669	4.89 6.08 9.40 3.17 23.54
	ENERGY Dialog Group Berhad	19,900	55,725	41,193	4.37
	FINANCIAL SERVICES ELK-Desa Resources Berhad Malayan Banking Berhad	42,000 4,008	35,339 33,837 69,176	52,500 35,631 88,131	5.57 3.78 9.35
	INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS & SERVICES Malaysia Smelting Corporation Berhad	19,000	45,203	38,570	4.10
	PLANTATION United Plantation Berhad	3,600	53,522	64,080	6.80
	TECHNOLOGY Frontken Corporation Berhad	6,000	19,486	19,440	2.06
	TRANSPORT & LOGISTIC Malaysia Airports Holdings Berhad	7,700	56,361	56,672	6.02
	<u>UTILITIES</u> Taliworks Corporation Berhad	64,400	54,799	53,774	5.71
	TOTAL QUOTED EQUITY INVESTMENTS IN MALAYSIA	-	533,850	583,529	61.95

A+ 21	L December 2023 (Cont'd)	Number Of Shares	At Cost RM	At Fair Value RM	Percentage Of NAV Of The Fund %
7.2	QUOTED EQUITY INVESTMENTS		KIVI	KIVI	70
	OUTSIDE MALAYSIA				
	IN HONG KONG				
	CONSUMER DISCRETION Alibaba Group Holding Limited	600	37,987	26,663	2.83
	MATERIAL Zijin Mining Group Company Limited	4,000	28,637	29,907	3.18
	TOTAL QUOTED EQUITY INVESTMENTS IN HONG KONG	-	66,624	56,570	6.01
	IN KOREA				
	TECHNOLOGY SK Hynix Inc	80	37,609	40,239	4.27
	TOTAL QUOTED EQUITY INVESTMENTS	-	07,003	.0,200	
	IN KOREA	-	37,609	40,239	4.27
	TOTAL QUOTED EQUITY INVESTMENTS				
	OUTSIDE MALAYSIA	-	104,233	96,809	10.28
7.3	QUOTED NON-EQUITY INVESTMENTS IN MALAYSIA				
	<u>TSR LOANS</u>				
	Hume Cement Industries Berhad - LA Capital A Berhad - LA	41,000 40,000	43,454 39,043	131,200 34,400	13.93 3.65
	TOTAL QUOTED NON-EQUITY INVESTMENT IN MALAYSIA	-	82,497	165,600	17.58
тоти	AL QUOTED INVESTMENTS	_	720,580	845,938	89.81

At 31	December 2022	Number Of Shares	At Cost RM	At Fair Value RM	Percentage Of NAV Of The Fund %
7.1	QUOTED EQUITY INVESTMENTS IN MALAYSIA				
	Bursa Malaysia Securities Main Market				
	CONSUMER PRODUCT & SERVICES				
	Genting Malaysia Berhad	31,800	97,589	85,542	4.82
	Hong Leong Industries Berhad	7,300	67,757	67,160	3.79
	MBM Resources Berhad	7,800	25,632	25,584	1.44
	Malayan Flour Mill Berhad	51,000	35,583	38,760	2.19
		-	226,561	217,046	12.24
		•			
	ENERGY				
	Dialog Group Berhad	71,900	201,338	176,155	9.93
	Hibiscus Petroleum Berhad	96,600	86,133	103,362	5.83
		·	287,471	279,517	15.76
	FINANCIAL CEDVICES	·			
	FINANCIAL SERVICES	C2 C00	70.007	00.534	F C1
	ELK-Desa Resources Berhad	62,600	79,007	99,534	5.61
	Hong Leong Financial Group Berhad	5,600	102,843	104,160	5.87
	Malayan Banking Berhad	6,308	53,255	54,880	3.09
		-	235,105	258,574	14.57
	INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS & SERVICES				
	Petronas Chemicals Group Berhad	5,200	44,518	44,720	2.52
	DIANTATION	-			
	PLANTATION	CE 100	07.070	102 500	F 0.4
	Innoprise Plantation Berhad	65,100	97,078	103,509	5.84
	United Plantation Berhad	6,100	90,690	93,330	5.26
			187,768	196,839	11.10
		-			
	<u>UTILITIES</u> Taliworks Corporation Berhad	183,400	156,058	158,641	8.94
	TOTAL QUOTED EQUITY INVESTMENTS				
	IN MALAYSIA		1,137,481	1,155,337	65.13
		-			

At 31	L December 2022 (Cont'd)	Number Of Shares	At Cost RM	At Fair Value RM	Percentage Of NAV Of The Fund %
7.2	QUOTED EQUITY INVESTMENTS OUTSIDE MALAYSIA				
	IN HONG KONG				
	COMMUNICATION China Mobile Limited	500	14,637	14,602	0.82
	FINANCE AlA Group	1,000	43,217	48,984	2.76
	Manulife Financial	500	43,873	39,108	2.20
		- -	87,090	88,092	4.96
	MATERIAL TIANQI Lithium Corporation	400	18,467	12,596	0.71
	TECHNOLOGY PAX Global Technology Travelsky Technology	12,000 4,000	41,616 31,549	45,711 37,246	2.58 2.10
	TOTAL QUOTED EQUITY INVESTMENTS IN HONG KONG	-	73,165 193,359	198,247	11.17
	IN INDONESIA				
	ENERGY Bukit Asam	12,900	17,196	13,328	0.75
	TOTAL QUOTED EQUITY INVESTMENTS IN INDONESIA	_	17,196	13,328	0.75

At 31	December 2022 (Cont'd)	Number Of Shares	At Cost RM	At Fair Value RM	Percentage Of NAV Of The Fund %
7.2	QUOTED EQUITY INVESTMENTS OUTSIDE MALAYSIA (CONT'D)				
	IN SINGAPORE				
	FINANCE DBS Group Holdings	600	61,781	66,808	3.77
	<u>IT</u> Aztech Global Limited	6,200	17,926	16,893	0.95
	TECHNOLOGY AEM Holdings Limited	4,500	66,603	50,520	2.85
	TOTAL QUOTED EQUITY INVESTMENTS IN SINGAPORE		146,310	134,221	7.57
	IN THAILAND				
	ENERGY Banpu Public - NVDR	10,500	18,428	18,326	1.03
	TOTAL QUOTED EQUITY INVESTMENTS IN THAILAND		18,428	18,326	1.03
	TOTAL QUOTED EQUITY INVESTMENTS OUTSIDE MALAYSIA		375,292	364,122	20.52
7.3	QUOTED NON-EQUITY INVESTMENTS IN MALAYSIA				
	TSR LOANS Hume Cement Industries Berhad - LA	60,000	63,592	78,000	4.40
тот	AL QUOTED INVESTMENTS	_	1,576,366	1,597,459	90.05

The foreign currency exposure profile of the above quoted investments is the total amount of the equity securities in each country's stock exchange as disclosed above.

8. TOTAL NET ASSET VALUE

	Note	2023 RM	2022 RM
Unitholders' capital	8.1	463,525	1,388,704
Retained earnings:			
- realised reserve	8.2	347,964	356,647
- unrealised reserve	8.3	130,367	28,345
	_	478,331	384,992
		941,856	1,773,696

8.1 UNITHOLDERS' CAPITAL

	20	23	202	22
	No. of units	RM	No. of units	RM
As at beginning of the financial year Creation of units	10,682,268 64,009	1,388,704 11,160	14,972,249 15,972	2,110,034 2,675
Cancellation of units	(5,649,427)	(936,339)	(4,305,953)	(724,005)
As at end of the financial year	5,096,850	463,525	10,682,268	1,388,704

8.2 REALISED RESERVE - DISTRIBUTABLE

	2023 RM	2022 RM
Balance as at beginning of the financial year	356,647	402,543
Net income/(loss) for the financial year Net unrealised (gains)/losses on valuation of quoted investments transferred to unrealised	93,339	(150,225)
reserve Unrealised foreign exchange losses/(gains)	(104,264)	94,571
transferred to unrealised reserve Realised foreign exchange gains transferred from	124	(867)
unrealised reserve during the year	2,118	10,625
Net decrease in realised reserve during the financial year	(8,683)	(45,896)
Balance as at end of the financial year	347,964	356,647

8. TOTAL NET ASSET VALUE (CONT'D)

8.3 UNREALISED RESERVE - NON-DISTRIBUTABLE

	2023 RM	2022 RM
Balance as at beginning of the financial year Net unrealised gains/(losses) on valuation of quoted investments transferred from realised	28,345	132,674
reserve	104,264	(94,571)
Unrealised foreign exchange (losses)/gains transferred from realised reserve Realised foreign exchange gains transferred to	(124)	867
realised reserve during the year	(2,118)	(10,625)
Balance as at end of the financial year	130,367	28,345

9. TOTAL EXPENSE RATIO ("TER")

	2023 %	2022 %
TER	2.63	2.15

The total expense ratio includes annual management's fee, annual trustee's fee, auditors' remuneration and other administrative fee and expenses which is calculated as follows:-

TER =
$$\frac{(A+B+C+D+E) \times 100\%}{F}$$

A = Management's fee

B = Trustee's fee

C = Auditors' remuneration

D = Tax agent's fee

E = Administrative expenses

F = Average NAV of the Fund calculated on daily basis

The average net asset value of the Fund for the financial year is RM1,082,746 (2022 - RM2,006,734).

10. PORTFOLIO TURNOVER RATIO ("PTR")

	2023	2022
PTR (Times)	1.01	0.72

The portfolio turnover ratio is derived from the following calculation:

PTR = (Total acquisitions for the financial year + total disposals for the financial year) ÷ 2

Average NAV of the Fund for the financial year calculated on daily basis

Where,

total acquisitions for the financial year = RM670,584 (2022 - RM1,108,645) total disposals for the financial year = RM1,513,012 (2022 - RM1,777,431)

11. OPERATING SEGMENT

Operating segments are prepared in a manner consistent with the internal reporting provided to the Fund Manager as its chief investment decision maker in order to allocate resources to segments and to assess their performance.

As this Fund invests in various geographical locations outside Malaysia in addition to its investments in Malaysia, the Fund Manager requires relevant information to allocate the resources of the Fund more effectively to the locations where the investments may give better returns given the related risks involved.

11. OPERATING SEGMENT (CONT'D)

GEOGRAPHICAL SEGMENT

The following table provides an analysis of the results and assets by geographical segments:

2023	Malaysia RM	Hong Kong RM	Singapore RM	Others RM	Total RM
INVESTMENT INCOME					
Segment income/(loss) representing segment res	ults:-				
Gross dividend income Realised gain/(loss) on	41,597	2,468	4,402	2,795	51,262
sale of investments Unrealised gain/(loss) on	36,972	(29,264)	(7,402)	(36,350)	(36,044)
valuation of investments Other income	100,518 1,727	(14,942) -	3,867 -	14,821 3	104,264 1,730
	180,814	(41,738)	867	(18,731)	121,212
Unallocated expenditure					(36,424)
Net investment income					84,788
Foreign exchange gain/(loss):					
realisedunrealised	-	12,650 -	(668) -	860 (124)	12,842 (124)
	-	12,650	(668)	736	12,718
Net income before taxation Income tax expense					97,506 (4,167)
Net income after taxation				_	93,339
ASSETS Investment:-					
Quoted investments/ Segmental assets	749,129	56,570	-	40,239	845,938
Other assets - unallocated					119,781
Total assets				_	965,719
LIABILITIES					
Unallocated liabilities					23,863

11. OPERATING SEGMENT (CONT'D)

GEOGRAPHICAL SEGMENT (CONT'D)

2022 INVESTMENT LOSS	Malaysia RM	Hong Kong RM	Singapore RM	Others RM	Total RM
Segment (loss)/income representing segment res	ults:-				
Gross dividend income Realised gain/(loss) on	70,998	7,577	4,632	2,216	85,423
sale of investments Unrealised (loss)/gain on valuation of investments	31,179 (179,634)	(102,091) 59,503	- (12,089)	(10,456) 37,649	(81,368) (94,571)
Other income	2,310	-	-	-	2,310
	(75,147)	(35,011)	(7,457)	29,409	(88,206)
Unallocated expenditure				-	(54,658)
Net investment loss					(142,864)
Foreign exchange loss:					
- realised - unrealised	-	(1,313) 157	(4,400) 524	(1,583) 186	(7,296) 867
	-	(1,156)	(3,876)	(1,397)	(6,429)
Net loss before taxation Income tax expense					(149,293) (932)
Net loss after taxation					(150,225)
ASSETS Investment:-					
Quoted investments/ Segmental assets	1,233,337	198,246	134,221	31,655	1,597,459
Other assets - unallocated					200,294
Total assets				- -	1,797,753
LIABILITIES Unallocated liabilities				-	24,057

12. UNITS HELD BY THE MANAGER AND DIRECTORS OF THE MANAGER

There were no units in the Fund held by the Manager or directors of the Manager as at 31 December 2023 (2022 - Nil).

13. TRANSACTIONS BY THE FUND WITH BROKERS

The transactions entered into by the Fund by value of trade with brokers during the financial year were as follows:-

2023

BROKERS	Value of tr	ade	Brokerage fees		
	RM	%	RM	%	
Maybank Investment Bank Berhad	574,410	26.34	1,153	25.62	
CIMB Investment Bank Berhad	471,163	21.61	975	21.66	
Affin Hwang Investment Bank Berhad	379,507	17.41	828	18.41	
CCB International (Singapore)	339,087	15.55	679	15.10	
Others	416,453	19.09	864	19.21	
	2,180,620	100.00	4,499	100.00	

2022

BROKERS	Value of tr	ade	Brokerage fees		
	RM	%	RM	%	
DBS Vickers Securities Singapore Pte Ltd	732,662	25.44	2,129	32.19	
Affin Hwang Investment Bank Berhad	712,137	24.73	1,490	22.51	
Maybank Investment Bank Berhad	710,340	24.67	1,454	21.97	
CIMB Investment Bank Berhad	636,849	22.11	1,368	20.68	
Others	87,903	3.05	175	2.65	
	2,879,891	100.00	6,616	100.00	

14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

14.1 IDENTITIES OF RELATED PARTIES

The Fund has related party relationships with its Manager, Astute Fund Management Berhad and its Trustee, Maybank Trustees Berhad.

14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES (CONT'D)

14.2 In addition to the balances detailed elsewhere in the financial statements, the Fund carried out the following transactions with the related parties during the financial year:-

	2023 RM	2022 RM
Astute Fund Management Berhad: - management's fee	16,312	29,976
Maybank Trustees Berhad: - trustee's fee	544	999

15. FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

The principal closing foreign exchange rates used (expressed on the basis of one unit of foreign currency to RM equivalent) for the translation of foreign currency balances at the end of the reporting period are as follows:-

	2023 RM	2022 RM
United States Dollar Singapore Dollar Hong Kong Dollar Indonesian Rupiah Philippines Peso Korean Won	4.5903 - 0.5878 - - - 0.0035	4.4040 3.2827 0.5643 0.0003 0.0790

16. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Fund's activities are exposed to a variety of market risk (including foreign currency risk, interest rate risk and equity price risk), credit risk and liquidity risk. The Fund's overall financial risk management policy focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the Fund's financial performance.

16.1 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT POLICIES

The Fund's policies in respect of the major areas of treasury activity are as follows:-

(a) Foreign Currency Risk

The Fund is exposed to foreign currency risk on transactions and balances that are denominated in currencies other than Ringgit Malaysia. The currencies giving rise to this risk are primarily Hong Kong Dollar, Singapore Dollar, United States Dollar and others. Foreign currency risk is monitored closely on an ongoing basis to ensure that the net exposure is at an acceptable level.

16.1 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT POLICIES (CONT'D)

(a) Foreign Currency Risk (Cont'd)

The Fund's exposure to foreign currency risk based on the carrying amounts of the financial instruments at the end of the reporting period is summarised below:-

Foreign Currency Exposure

2023	RINGGIT MALAYSIA RM	HONG KONG DOLLAR RM	UNITED STATES DOLLAR RM	OTHERS RM	TOTAL RM
Financial Assets					
Quoted investments	749,129	56,570	-	40,239	845,938
Dividend receivable	344	-	-	-	344
Bank balances	71,604	955	24,788	-	97,347
	821,077	57,525	24,788	40,239	943,629
Financial Liabilities					
Sundry payables and accruals	22,629	-	-	-	22,629
Amount owing to Manager	1,194	-	-	-	1,194
Amount owing to Trustee	40	-	-	-	40
	23,863	-	-	-	23,863
Net financial assets Less: Net financial assets denominated in the Fund's	797,214	57,525	24,788	40,239	919,766
functional currency	(797,214)	-	-	-	(797,214)
Net Currency Exposure	-	57,525	24,788	40,239	122,552

16.1 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT POLICIES (CONT'D)

(a) Foreign Currency Risk (Cont'd)

The Fund's exposure to foreign currency risk based on the carrying amounts of the financial instruments at the end of the reporting period is summarised below (Cont'd):-

Foreign Currency Exposure (Cont'd)

	RINGGIT	HONG KONG	SINGAPORE	UNITED STATES	OTUENS	TOTAL
2022	MALAYSIA RM	DOLLAR RM	DOLLAR RM	DOLLAR RM	OTHERS RM	TOTAL RM
Financial Assets						
Quoted investments	1,233,337	198,247	134,221	-	31,654	1,597,459
Dividend receivable	402	-	-	-	-	402
Bank balances	114,309	-	-	63,493	-	177,802
_	1,348,048	198,247	134,221	63,493	31,654	1,775,663
Financial Liabilities						
Sundry payables and accruals	21,809	-	-	-	-	21,809
Amount owing to Manager	2,176	-	-	-	-	2,176
Amount owing to Trustee	72	-	-	-	-	72
<u>-</u>	24,057	-	-	-	-	24,057
Net financial assets Less: Net financial assets denominated in	1,323,991	198,247	134,221	63,493	31,654	1,751,606
the Fund's functional currency	(1,323,991)		-	-	-	(1,323,991)
Net Currency Exposure	-	198,247	134,221	63,493	31,654	427,615

16.1 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT POLICIES (CONT'D)

(a) Foreign Currency Risk (Cont'd)

Foreign Currency Risk Sensitivity Analysis

The following table details the sensitivity analysis to a reasonably possible change in the foreign currencies at the end of the reporting period, with all other variables held constant:-

	20	23
	Effect On Net	Effect On NAV
	Income After	Attributable
	Taxation	То
	Increase/	Unitholders
	(Decrease)	Increase/
	RM	(Decrease)
		RM
Hong Kong Dollar		
- strengthened by 5%	2,876	2,876
- weakened by 5%	(2,876)	(2,876)
United States Dollar		
- strengthened by 5%	1,239	1,239
- weakened by 5%	(1,239)	(1,239)
Others		
- strengthened by 5%	2,012	2,012
- weakened by 5%	(2,012)	(2,012)

16.1 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT POLICIES (CONT'D)

(a) Foreign Currency Risk (Cont'd)

Foreign Currency Risk Sensitivity Analysis (Cont'd)

The following table details the sensitivity analysis to a reasonably possible change in the foreign currencies at the end of the reporting period, with all other variables held constant (Cont'd):-

	20	22
	Effect On Net	Effect On NAV
	Loss After	Attributable
	Taxation	То
	(Increase)/	Unitholders
	Decrease	Increase/
	RM	(Decrease)
		RM
Hong Kong Dollar		
- strengthened by 5%	(9,912)	9,912
- weakened by 5%	9,912	(9,912)
,	•	, , ,
Singapore Dollar		
- strengthened by 5%	(6,711)	6,711
- weakened by 5%	6,711	(6,711)
United States Dollar		
- strengthened by 5%	(3,175)	3,175
- weakened by 5%	3,175	(3,175)
OAls a ve		
Others	(1 502)	1 502
- strengthened by 5%	(1,583)	1,583
- weakened by 5%	1,583	(1,583)

(b) Interest Rate Risk

The Fund does not have any interest rate bearing balances at the end of the current reporting period, hence is not exposed to interest rate risk.

16.1 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT POLICIES (CONT'D)

(c) Particular Stock Risk

Any major price fluctuations of a particular stock invested by the Fund may adversely or favourably impact the NAV of the Fund. However, due to the diversification nature of the unit trust, the impact would not be as major as investing in one particular stock.

Particular Stock Risk Sensitivity

The Manager's best estimate of the effect on the net income/(loss) for the financial year and other comprehensive income due to a reasonable possible change in equity indices, with all other variables held constant is indicated in the table below:-

FTSE Bursa Malaysia KLCI	Change in equity price	Effects on income for the financial year increase/ (decrease) RM	Effects on equity increase/ (decrease) RM
2023	+ 1%	5,835	5,835
	- 1%	(5,835)	(5,835)
FTSE Bursa Malaysia KLCI	Change in equity price	Effects on loss for the financial year (increase)/ decrease RM	Effects on equity increase/ (decrease) RM
2022	+ 1%	(11,553)	11,553
	- 1%	11,553	(11,553)

In practice, the actual trading results may differ from the sensitivity analysis above and the difference could be material.

Investments in ACE Market, Derivative Instruments, REITs and investment outside Malaysia are individually not significant for sensitivity analysis purposes.

16.1 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT POLICIES (CONT'D)

(c) Particular Stock Risk (Cont'd)

Particular Stock Risk Concentration

The Fund's concentration of equity price risk analysed by the Fund's equity instruments by sector is as follows:-

	2023		202	2
		As a % of		As a % of
Investment Sector	RM	NAV	RM	NAV
Consumer Products				
& Services	221,669	23.54	217,046	12.24
TSR Loans	165,600	17.58	78,000	4.4
Financial Services	88,131	9.35	258,574	14.57
Plantation	64,080	6.80	196,839	11.10
Technology	59,679	6.34	133,477	7.53
Transport & Logistics	56,672	6.02	-	-
Utilities	53,774	5.71	158,641	8.94
Energy	41,193	4.37	311,171	17.54
Industrial Products &				
Services	38,570	4.10	44,720	2.52
Materials	29,907	3.18	12,596	0.71
Consumer Discretion	26,663	2.83	-	-
Finance	-	-	154,900	8.73
IT	-	-	16,893	0.95
Communication	-	-	14,602	0.82
	845,938	89.81	1,597,459	90.05

(d) Liquidity and Cash Flows Risk

Liquidity risk refers to the ease to convert investments into cash without significantly incurring loss in value. Stocks issued by smaller companies will face a greater chance of liquidity risk as compared to stocks issued by larger companies. When investing in stocks of smaller companies, the historical volume traded would be analysed to minimise the liquidity risk.

(e) Fund Manager's Risk

The performance of the Fund is also influenced by the expertise of the Fund Manager. The investment committee will oversee the activities and performance of the Fund Manager. There is also the risk that the Fund Manager does not adhere to the investment mandate of the Fund. The investment committee and the compliance unit hold primary functions to ensure that the Fund's investment strategy and mandate are adhered to. A compliance checklist and investment performance report shall be presented for review during the investment committee meeting.

16.1 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT POLICIES (CONT'D)

(f) Credit Risk

The Fund's exposure to credit risk, or the risk of counterparties defaulting, arises mainly from sundry receivables.

(i) Credit Risk Concentration Profile

The Fund does not have any major concentration of credit risk related to any individual customer or counterparty.

(ii) Maximum Exposure to Credit Risk

As the Fund does not hold any collateral, the maximum exposure to credit risk is represented by the carrying amount of the financial assets as at the end of the reporting period.

(iii) Assessment of Impairment Losses

At each reporting date, the Fund assesses whether any of the financial assets at amortised cost, contract assets are credit impaired.

The gross carrying amounts of financial assets are written off against the associated impairment, if any, when there is no reasonable expectation of recovery despite the fact that they are still subject to enforcement activities.

Receivables

The Fund applies the simplified approach to measuring expected credit losses which uses a lifetime expected loss allowance for all receivables. No expected credit loss is recognised as it is negligible.

A financial asset is credit impaired when the receivable is in significant financial difficulties.

The Fund considers a receivable to be in default when the receivable is unlikely to repay its debt to the Fund in full or is more than 90 days past due.

Bank Balances

The Fund considers the licensed bank has low credit risk. In addition, some of the bank balances are insured by Government agencies. Therefore, the Fund is of the view that the loss allowance is immaterial and hence, it is not provided for.

16.2 CAPITAL RISK MANAGEMENT

The Manager of the Fund manages the capital of the Fund by maintaining an optimal capital structure so as to support its businesses and maximise unitholders value. To achieve this objective, the Manager of the Fund may make adjustments to the capital structure in view of changes in economic conditions, such as adjusting the amount of dividend payment, returning of capital to unitholders or undertake a unit splitting exercise to lower the value per unit of the Fund, thus the units become more affordable to raise more funds.

16.3 CLASSIFICATION OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

		2023 RM	2022 RM
	Financial Assets		
	Mandatorily at FVPL Quoted investments	845,938	1,597,459
	Amortised Cost Dividend receivable Bank balances	344 97,347	402 177,802
		97,691	178,204
	Financial Liability		
	Amortised Cost Sundry payables and accruals Amount owing to Manager Amount owing to Trustee	22,629 1,194 40 23,863	21,809 2,176 72 24,057
16.4	GAINS OR LOSSES ARISING FROM FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS	23,803	24,037
		2023 RM	2022 RM
	Financial Assets		
	Mandatorily at FVPL Net gains/(losses) recognised in profit or loss	119,482	(90,516)
	Amortised Cost Net gain recognised in profit or loss	1,730	2,310

16.5 FAIR VALUE INFORMATION

Other than those disclosed below, the fair values of the financial assets and financial liabilities of the Fund which are maturing within the next 12 months approximated their carrying amounts due to the relatively short-term maturity of the financial instruments. The fair values of these assets are included in level 1 of the fair value hierarchy.

Fair Value of Financial						
	Instruments Carried at Fair Value			Total Fair	Carrying	
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Value	Amount	
2023	RM	RM	RM	RM	RM	
Financial Asset						
Quoted investments	845,938	-	-	845,938	845,938	
2022						
<u>Financial Asset</u>						
Quoted investments	1,597,459	-	-	1,597,459	1,597,459	

The Fund measures its quoted investments that are classified as financial assets at their fair values, determined at their quoted closing bid prices at the end of the reporting period. These financial assets belong to level 1 of the fair value hierarchy.

There were no transfer between level 1 and level 2 during the financial year.

7. CORPORATE DIRECTORY

Manager	Astute Fund Management Berhad	[199701004894 (420390-M)]		
Business Office	3 rd Floor, Menara Dungun, 46 Jalan Dungun,			
	Damansara Heights,			
Registered Office	50490 Kuala Lumpur. No.47-1,			
negistered Office	Jalan SS 18/6,			
	47500 Subang Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan			
Board of Directors	Y.M. Dato' Tunku Ahmad Zahir	Non-Executive and Independent Director		
Board of Directors	bin Tunku Ibrahim	Non Executive and independent birector		
	Clement Chew Kuan Hock	Executive and Non-Independent Director		
	Wong Fay Lee	Non-Executive and Non-Independent Director		
	Wong Fay Lee	Non-Executive and Non-Independent Director		
	Azran bin Osman Rani	Non-Executive and Independent Director		
	Asgari bin Mohd Fuad Stephens	Non-Executive and Non-Independent Director		
Investment Committee	Y.M. Dato' Tunku Ahmad Zahir bin Tunku Ibrahim	Independent Member		
	Asgari bin Mohd Fuad Stephens	Non-Independent Member		
	Azran bin Osman Rani	Independent Member		
Secretary	Ng Chin (MAICSA 7042650)			
	No. 47-1, Jalan SS 18/6			
	47500 Subang Jaya,			
Trustee	Selangor Darul Ehsan Maybook Tyyotaas Barbad [1003201000100 (5004 P)]			
Trustee	Maybank Trustees Berhad [196301000109 (5004-P)] 8 th Floor, Menara Maybank			
	100 Jalan Tun Perak 50050 Kuala Lumpur			
Auditor and	Crowe Malaysia PLT (201906000005 (LLP0018817-LCA) & AF-1018)			
Reporting	Level 16, Tower C			
Accountant	Megan Avenue II 12, Jalan Yap Kwan Seng			
	50450 Kuala Lumpur			
Taxation Advisers	·			
	Wisma Golder Eagle Realty,			
	11 th Floor, South Block, No.142-A, Jalan Ampang,			
	Kuala Lumpur			
	50450 Malaysia.			

BUSINESS OFFICE ASTUTE FUND MANAGEMENT BERHAD

3rd Floor, Menara Dungun 46, Jalan Dungun Damansara Heights 50490 Kuala Lumpur