

News Release

UOB Asset Management launches first sustainable bond fund focused on impact investing and stable income for retail investors

Singapore, 27 March 2020 – UOB Asset Management Ltd (UOBAM) today launched the United Sustainable Credit Income Fund (USCIF), the first bond fund in Singapore for retail investors which focuses on bonds from companies that are making progress against the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)¹. The UN SDGs set the global agenda for sustainable economic, social and environmental development to be achieved by 2030.

Through the USCIF, retail investors will invest into the RobecoSAM SDG Credit Income Fund (the Underlying Fund). Managed by international asset manager Robeco, a global leader in sustainable investing², the Underlying Fund was previously available only to institutional investors and high-net-worth individuals. The multi-sector USCIF offers stable income through monthly dividend distributions*.

Mr Thio Boon Kiat, Group CEO of UOBAM, said, “At UOBAM, we believe in investing for purpose and providing positive returns. With more Singapore investors including environmental, social and governance (ESG) considerations in their investment decisions, we are excited to partner Robeco, a global leader in sustainable investing, to offer investors the opportunity to do good while also enjoying stable income amid current market volatility. As more investors around the region look for impact investment options, UOBAM will continue to sharpen our ESG capabilities and to provide more investment solutions that balance investment returns with ESG outcomes.”

Using a proprietary framework developed by Robeco and RobecoSAM, the Underlying Fund assesses investible companies’ contributions towards UN SDGs by evaluating the sustainability impact of their products, operational processes and business practices. The assessment also helps to identify companies that are able to remain competitive and relevant in the transition to a more sustainable economy, thereby limiting investments in companies with a higher risk of default in the future. As the Underlying Fund is not assessed against a benchmark, it has the flexibility to select bonds, including

¹ For more information, please refer to: <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals.html>

² Robeco has been engaged in sustainable investing since 1990. As at end-December 2019, it managed €149 billion worth of ESG-integrated assets. For more information, please refer to: <https://www.robeco.com/sq/about-us/>

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green bonds, which are attractive in terms of both yield and their SDG-related efforts. In doing so, the Underlying Fund aims to maintain a high and consistent level of income.

Mr Tom Keenan, CEO of Robeco Singapore and Regional Head of Wholesale Asia ex-Japan at Robeco, said, “We are excited to partner UOBAM to introduce the RobecoSAM SDG Credit Income Fund to retail investors in Singapore. To Robeco, it is vital to consider the social and ecological effects of our investments, in addition to the traditional financial perspective. We are one of the first to develop a proprietary investing framework based on the UN SDGs. Applying this framework as a filter to our investment universe better enables us to screen out old-school business models that are becoming increasingly risky, and to identify those business models that are more future proof.”

UOBAM is one of the first regional asset management firms in Singapore to become a signatory of the UN-supported Principles for Responsible Investment³. It is also a signatory to the Singapore Stewardship Principles for Responsible Investors. Since 2017, UOBAM has been progressively incorporating ESG factors in its investment research and securities evaluation and approval processes and is expected to complete the implementation for all asset classes in 2020.

The USCIF is UOBAM’s first fund in its offering of sustainable solutions. The initial minimum subscription sum is S\$1,000 or US\$1,000. For more information, please visit <https://www.uobam.com.sg/our-funds/highlights/united-sustainable-credit-income-fund/index.page>.

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About UOB Asset Management

UOB Asset Management Ltd (UOBAM) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of United Overseas Bank Limited. Established in 1986, UOBAM has been managing collective investment schemes and discretionary funds in Singapore for more than 30 years. We currently manage 56 unit trusts in Singapore and are one of the largest unit trust managers in terms of assets under management. As at 31 January 2020, UOBAM and our subsidiaries manage about S\$36.5 billion (US\$26.7 billion) in clients' assets.

UOBAM has an extensive presence in Asia with regional business and investment offices in Brunei, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand. Our network includes UOB Alternative Investment Management Pte. Ltd and UOB Islamic

³ For more information, please refer to UOB News Release: [UOB investment arms sign up to the United Nations-supported Principles for Responsible Investment](#), 5 January 2020

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Asset Management Sdn Bhd in Malaysia. We have a joint venture with Ping-An Fund Management Company Limited (China) and we have also forged strategic alliances with UTI International (India) and Wellington Management Singapore.

UOBAM is one of the most awarded fund management companies, winning 'Best Asset Management House (Regional)' and 'Best Fintech Innovation in Asset Management (Singapore)' for corporate robo-adviser UOBAM Invest at the *Asia Asset Management Best of the Best 2020 Awards*, 'Asia Fund House of the Year' at the *AsianInvestor Asset Management Awards 2019*, 'Top Investment Houses in Asian G3 Bonds' – ranked fourth at *The Asset Benchmark Research Awards 2019*, 'Best Asset Management Firm Singapore' and 'Best Asia Fixed Income Fund House Singapore' at the *International Finance Awards 2018* and 'Best Fixed Income Fund House' award at the *Morningstar Awards 2017*.

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*The distributions are based on the net asset value (NAV) per unit of the relevant Distribution Class as at the last business day of every month. Investors should note that the intention of the Managers to make the distribution is not guaranteed. The Managers reserve the right to vary the frequency and/or amount of distributions. If a dividend distribution is made, it should not be taken to imply that further distributions will be made. Distribution may be made out of the income, capital gains or capital of the relevant Distribution Class. Investors should also note that the paying of distributions may have the effect of lowering the NAV of the Fund. Please refer to the prospectus for more information on distributions by the Fund.

Important notes and disclaimer

This document is for general information only. It does not constitute an offer or solicitation to deal in units in the Fund ("Units") or investment advice or recommendation and was prepared without regard to the specific objectives, financial situation or needs of any particular person who may receive it. The information is based on certain assumptions, information and conditions available as at the date of this document and may be subject to change at any time without notice. No representation or promise as to the performance of the Fund or the return on your investment is made. **Past performance of the Fund or UOB Asset Management Ltd ("UOBAM") or the Robeco group of companies and any past performance, prediction, projection or forecast of the economic trends or securities market are not necessarily indicative of the future or likely performance of the Fund or UOBAM or the Robeco group of companies.** The value of Units and the income from them, if any, may fall as well as rise. Investments in Units involve risks, including the possible loss of the principal amount invested, and are not obligations of, deposits in, or guaranteed or insured by United Overseas Bank Limited ("UOB"), UOBAM, or any of their subsidiary, associate or affiliate ("UOB Group") or distributors of the Fund. The Fund may use or invest in financial derivative instruments and you should be aware of the risks associated with investments in financial derivative instruments which are described in the Fund's prospectus. The UOB Group may have interests in the Units and may also perform or seek to perform brokering and other investment or securities-related services for the Fund. Investors should read the Fund's prospectus, which is available and may be obtained from UOBAM or any of its appointed agents or distributors, before investing. **You may wish to seek advice from a financial adviser before making a commitment to invest in any Units, and in the event that you choose not to do so, you should consider carefully whether the Fund is suitable for you. Applications for Units must be made on the application forms accompanying the Fund's prospectus.** This advertisement has not been reviewed by the Monetary Authority of Singapore.

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