Portfolio Manager Commentary

A key element of our investment approach is to own businesses that can recognise and adapt to change. This means that we don’t need to spend valuable time and energy forecasting changes, because we own businesses that can handle change; in fact, many of them have proven that they can thrive on change.

In our fund, businesses like Discovery, Remgro, HCI and Omnia have successfully handled significant changes, both positive and negative, in their respective histories. Where they have made mistakes they owned up to and learned from it, retained such knowledge and put it to good use. Best in class is when we observe that companies like Remgro and Omnia successfully transfer knowledge across multiple generations of leadership.

We spend almost all of our time focused on assessing the current realities of a selection of businesses that we either own or will invest in when the price is right. We try to accurately and objectively observe ‘what is’, not what anyone wants or needs it to be.

Our research process is never-ending because businesses are not static entities operating in a vacuum. Any business of any size in any sector of the economy and anywhere in the world deals daily with a form of ‘change’ management – from the smallest to the most significant. Change represents opportunity and risk, and the best businesses in the world recognize and respond rapidly to either.

Our research process is complex because it involves gathering information from and interactions with a diverse range of data and people, while we try to figure out (a) whether conclusions can be formed, and (b) whether they actually matter or not.

It is too early for us to conclude whether or not the election of Mr. Cyril Ramaphosa to the presidency of the ANC signals a turnaround in South Africa’s trajectory. For now we reason that the likelihood of meaningful positive change has increased. Such a positive change, if it occurs, will present opportunities and risks to the businesses we own and we are confident that they will handle it.

Our work continues.
Investment Objective
The Fund aims to provide investors with long-term investment returns after costs at or above its benchmark of the South African inflation rate plus 5%.

Investment Strategy
The Fund complies with Regulation 28 of the Pension Funds Act and may invest up to maximums of 75% in equities and 25% in offshore assets. The Fund will invest in a diversified range of equities, investment grade bonds, property and cash, but may also invest in preference shares, currencies and commodities when sensible opportunities present themselves. The flexibility of this mandate empowers the fund managers to be more fully invested when a diversified selection of good assets are cheap and to be positioned defensively when good assets are very expensive or highly concentrated in a single sector.

Suitability
The Fund is most suited to investors with an investment horizon of five to ten years seeking a combination of principal preservation, income generation and long-term capital growth.

Tax Free Investment
Based on section 12T of the Income Tax Act this Fund qualifies as a tax-free investment account (“TFSA”). This allows South African individuals to qualify for no tax on distributions and / or capital gains while invested in the Fund. The current tax framework limits contributions to tax-free investments to R33 000 per tax year with the lifetime limit capped at R500 000. Any contributions exceeding these limits will be subject to tax. It is recommended that any investor considering investing in the Fund for specific tax purposes and requires explicit tax advice consult directly with a qualified tax professional. Perspective Investment Management (Pty) Ltd does not render financial advice but can recommend accredited professionals who are licenced to do so if required.

What It Really Means
Long-Term: An investment period of five to ten years.
ASISA: Association for Saving & Investment South Africa.
Moderate Risk: The fund aims to maximise long-term capital growth and can invest up to 75% in equities, which provide the best opportunity for high returns but also carry the risk of temporary and / or permanent capital loss.
CPI: South African Consumer Price Index.
Fund NAV: The total amount of investor capital in the fund.
ISIN: The International Securities Identification Number is a code that uniquely identifies your fund.
Issue Date: The date that this MDD document is approved for publication.
Annualised Performance: Shows fund performance re-scaled to a 12-month period. The average return per year over the period.
Highest and Lowest Return: The highest and lowest return over a 12-month period since the inception of the fund.
Total Expense ratio (“TER”): The total cost to the investor from investing in the fund inclusive of audit, custody and trustee fees. Please note the Total Expense Ratio and Transaction Costs cannot be determined accurately because of the short life span of the Financial Product and the funds TER will be available after one year.

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The Management Company and Trustee are registered and approved under the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act (No.45 of 2002). Prescient is a member of the Association for Savings and Investments SA.

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Perspective Investment Management (Pty) Ltd is an authorised Financial Services Provider (FSP No. 47672) under the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act (No.37 of 2002), to act in the capacity as investment manager. This information is not advice, as defined in the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act (No.37 of 2002). Please be advised that there may be representatives acting under supervision.
Disclaimer

This portfolio operates as a white label fund under the Prescient Unit Trust Scheme, which is governed by the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act. Collective Investment Schemes in Securities (CIS) should be considered as medium to long-term investments. The value may go up as well as down and past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. CIS’s are traded at the ruling price and can engage in scrip lending and borrowing. The collective investment scheme may borrow up to 10% of the market value of the portfolio to bridge insufficient liquidity. A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions is available on request from the Manager. There is no guarantee in respect of capital or returns in a portfolio. A CIS may be closed to new investors in order for it to be managed more efficiently in accordance with its mandate. CIS prices are calculated on a net asset basis, which is the total value of all the assets in the portfolio including any income accruals and less any permissible deductions (brokerage, STT, VAT, auditor’s fees, bank charges, trustee and custodian fees and the annual management fee) from the portfolio divided by the number of participatory interests (units) in issue. Forward pricing is used.

The Fund’s Total Expense Ratio (TER) reflects the percentage of the average Net Asset Value (NAV) of the portfolio that was incurred as charges, levies and fees related to the management of the portfolio. A higher TER does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return. The current TER cannot be regarded as an indication of future TER’s. During the phase in period TER’s do not include information gathered over a full year.

Transaction Costs (TC) is the percentage of the value of the Fund incurred as costs relating to the buying and selling of the Fund’s underlying assets. Transaction costs are a necessary cost in administering the Fund and impacts Fund returns. It should not be considered in isolation as returns may be impacted by many other factors over time including market returns, the type of Fund, investment decisions of the investment manager and the TER.

The Manager retains full legal responsibility for any third-party-named portfolio. Where foreign securities are included in a portfolio there may be potential constraints on liquidity and the repatriation of funds, macroeconomic risks, political risks, foreign exchange risks, tax risks, settlement risks; and potential limitations on the availability of market information. The investor acknowledges the inherent risk associated with the selected investments and that there are no guarantees.

Please note that all documents, notifications of deposit, investment, redemption and switch applications must be received by Prescient by or before 13:00 (SA), to be transacted at the net asset value price for that day. Where all required documentation is not received before the stated cut off time Prescient shall not be obliged to transact at the net asset value price as agreed to. Money market Funds are priced at 1pm. All other Funds are priced at either 3pm or 5pm depending on the nature of the Fund. Prices are published daily and are available on the Prescient website.

Performance has been calculated using net NAV to NAV numbers with income reinvested. The performance for each period shown reflects the return for investors who have been fully invested for that period. Individual investor performance may differ as a result of initial fees, the actual investment date, the date of reinvestments and dividend withholding tax. Full performance calculations are available from the manager on request.

For any additional information such as fund prices, brochures and application forms please go to www.perspectiveim.co.za.

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