

PRINCIPAL INSTITUTIONAL BOND FUND 8

ANNUAL REPORT

**FOR THE FINANCIAL PERIOD FROM 28 AUGUST 2024 (DATE OF LAUNCH) TO 31 DECEMBER
2024**

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INVESTORS' LETTER

Dear Valued Investor,

Greetings from Principal Asset Management Berhad (“Principal Malaysia”) and thank you for investing with us!

We are pleased to bring you a copy of the Annual Fund Report of the Principal Institutional Bond Fund 8 for the financial period from 28 August 2024 (date of launch) to 31 December 2024. You may also download this report from our website at www.principal.com.my.

We are proud to announce that Principal Malaysia has earned numerous accolades in 2024. At the Asia Asset Management 2024 Best of the Best Awards, we were honored with the Best of the Best Performance Award for China A-Share Equity (3 years) and recognized as the Best Institutional House – Malaysia. At the 2024 Global Banking & Finance Awards, our CEO, Munirah Khairuddin, was named Asset Management CEO of the Year Malaysia, and our company was recognized as Asset Management Company of the Year Malaysia. Additionally, we received the Best International Equity Fund Manager for MSCI EM Latin America 2023 at the EPF External Fund Managers Awards 2023.

At the Alpha Southeast Asia Fund Management Awards 2024, we won three awards: Best Absolute Return Strategy, Best Online & Mobile Platform (Asset Manager), and Best Asset Manager (Income-Oriented, Money Market & Alternative Investment Funds). The International Finance Awards honored us with ‘Best Asset Management Company – Malaysia 2024’ and ‘Best Asset Management CEO – Munirah Khairuddin – Malaysia 2024’. At the Triple A Sustainable Investing Awards 2024, we secured the Asset Management Company of the Year (Malaysia) award. The World Business Outlook magazine recognized us with the titles of Best Investment Management and Solutions Provider Malaysia, Best Institutional House Malaysia, and Asset Management CEO (Munirah Khairuddin) of the Year Malaysia. Additionally, we received three awards at the iFast Awards 2024, seven at the LSEG Lipper Fund Awards 2024, ten at the FSMOne Recommended Funds 2023/2024, and two at the Edge Awards 2024.

Digital innovation is central to our strategy, as we use data and technology to develop the right solutions for you. We will continue to advance our digital capabilities to provide easy access to your investment portfolio and enable you to carry out transactions seamlessly. Please continue to check out our website, like our Facebook page (@PrincipalMalaysia), follow us on our Instagram account (@principalmalaysia), and LinkedIn page (Principal Malaysia) for the latest updates, market insights and investment articles.

We appreciate your continuous support and the trust you place in us.

Yours faithfully,
for **Principal Asset Management Berhad**

Munirah Khairuddin
Chief Executive Officer,
Malaysia & Global Shariah & Managing Director,
Strategic Distribution & Institutional Client Relations
(Southeast Asia & Global Shariah)
Non-Independent Executive Director

MANAGER'S REPORT**FUND OBJECTIVE AND POLICY****What is the investment objective of the Fund?**

The Fund aims to provide regular income by investing in fixed income securities.

Has the Fund achieved its objective?

The Fund has achieved its objective in investing in a diversified pool of fixed income securities which provided regular income over the medium to long-term.

What are the Fund investment policy and principal investment strategy?

The Fund will be managed with the aim of achieving regular income through a diversified portfolio of MYR-denominated fixed income securities. The Fund will invest up to 100% of its NAV in government or government-guaranteed bonds and up to 80% of its NAV in corporate bonds (including commercial papers) which carry a minimum credit rating of "A3" or "P1" by RAM or equivalent rating by MARC or equivalent by any reputable credit rating agency. The Fund may also invest up to 10% in Securitized Securities.

The asset allocation strategy for the Fund is as follows:

- Up to 100% in fixed income securities, out of which:
- Up to 100% of the Fund's NAV in government and/or government-guaranteed bonds;
- Up to 80% of the Fund's NAV in corporate bonds;
- Up to 50% of the Fund's NAV in liquid assets such as cash and cash equivalents; and/or
- Up to 10% of the Fund's NAV may be invested in Securitized Securities.

Fund category/type

Wholesale Fund (Bond)/Income

When was the Fund launched?

Name of Class	Launch Date
Class MYR	28 August 2024

What was the size of the Fund as at 31 December 2024?

RM361.79 million (358.43 million units)

What is the Fund's benchmark?

10% FTSE Bond Pricing Agency Malaysia ("BPAM") Government 1Y-3Y All Bond Index + 30% FTSE BPAM Government 3Y-7Y All Bond Index + 40% FTSE BPAM Corporates 1Y-3Y All Bond Index + 20% FTSE BPAM Corporates 3Y-7Y All Bond Index

Note: The Fund's benchmark is for performance comparison purpose only. The benchmark is customised as such to align it closer to the structure of the investment portfolio. Information on the benchmark can be obtained from www.bpam.com.my.

What is the Fund distribution policy?

Depending on the level of income (if any) that this Fund generates, this Fund aims to distribute part or all of its distributable income on a quarterly basis.

What was the net income distribution for the financial period from 28 August 2024 (date of launch) to 31 December 2024?

The Fund distributed a total net income of RM0.80 million to unit holders for the financial period from 28 August 2024 (date of launch) to 31 December 2024.

FUND OBJECTIVE AND POLICY (CONTINUED)

The Fund's NAV per unit before and after distribution were as follows:

Date	NAV per unit (before distribution) RM	NAV per unit (after distribution) RM
Distribution on 30 December 2024	1.0113	1.0090

Breakdown of distribution were as follows:

Source of distribution	31.12.2024	
	RM	%
Distribution out of current period's income	800,031	100.00
Distribution out of prior period's income/capital	-	-
Total	800,031	100.00

PERFORMANCE DATA

Details of portfolio composition of the Fund for the first audited financial period were as follows:

	31.12.2024
	%
Unquoted fixed income securities	92.96
Deposits with licensed financial institutions	5.54
Cash and other assets	1.51
Liabilities	(0.01)
	100.00

Performance details of the Fund for the first audited financial period were as follows:

	31.12.2024
NAV (RM Million)	
- Class MYR	361.79
Units in circulation (Million)	
- Class MYR	358.43
NAV per unit (RM)	
- Class MYR	1.0093
	28.08.2024
	(date of launch)
	to 31.12.2024
Highest NAV per unit (RM)	
- Class MYR	1.0113
Lowest NAV per unit (RM)	
- Class MYR	1.0000
Total return (%)	
- Class MYR	1.16
Capital growth (%)	
- Class MYR	0.94
Income distribution (%)	
- Class MYR	0.22

PERFORMANCE DATA (CONTINUED)

28.08.2024
(date of launch)
to 31.12.2024

Total Expense Ratio (“TER”) (%)	0.06
Portfolio Turnover Ratio (“PTR”) (times)	1.05

Since inception
to 31.12.2024
%

Annual total return	
- Class MYR	1.16

(Launch date: 28 August 2024)

Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future performance and that unit prices and investment returns may go down, as well as up. All performance figures for the financial period have been extracted from Lipper.

MARKET REVIEW (28 AUGUST 2024 (DATE OF LAUNCH) TO 31 DECEMBER 2024)

Employees Provident Fund (“EPF”) introduced a new account (i.e. Akaun Fleksibel or Account 3) that will help to address any short-term financial needs for its members. New contributions will be apportioned at a ratio of 75:15:10 for Account 1, 2 and 3 respectively (current: 70:30 for Account 1 and 2). Additionally, between 11 May 2024 and 31 August 2024, members can opt-in for a one-off transfer from Account 2 to Account 3 depending on their existing balances in Account 2. EPF has guided that should every member opt-in for this one-off exercise, this would amount to RM57 billion – of which it estimates RM25 billion may flow out in the first year, before moderating to RM4 billion to RM 5 billion per annum thereafter. As at end-June 2024, close to ~RM7 billion has been withdrawn.

Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim announced a new minimum monthly income for civil servants at RM2,000 (previously RM1,765 translating to a >13% hike) with effective December 2024 – which would benefit approximately 1.6 million civil servants. This is expected to cost the Government more than RM10 billion annually, and further details will be announced in the tabling of Budget 2025 in October 2024.

The blanket diesel subsidy in Malaysia ended on 10th June 2024 with diesel prices increasing by 56% to RM3.35 per litre. Diesel prices will thus be ‘free float’ and updated every Wednesday, 5pm. The tiered subsidised diesel prices will remain unchanged at a) RM2.15 per litre for 400,000 logistic vehicles from 23 commercial sectors; b) RM2.15 per litre for diesel users in East Malaysia; c) RM 1.88 per litre for public transport vehicles and d) RM1.65 per litre for fishermen.

The Ministry of Finance (“MoF”) reported that a total of RM10.86 billion (involving 3.45 million members) has been transferred to into EPF’s Flexible Account 3 as of 10 June. As for members below 55, the total sum was RM6.98 billion (i.e. 23% of EPF members below 55). Members are allowed to transfer a portion of their Account 2 to the Flexible Account (Account 3) from 12 May 2024 to 31 August 2024, hence the final sum will be higher.

Malaysia’s economy grew by 5.3% in quarter three of 2024, with 2024 growth revised up to 4.8% to 5.3%, supported by strong domestic demand and an improving external sector. Budget 2025 targets 4.5% to 5.5% growth while focusing on fiscal consolidation, subsidy rationalization, and efficient resource management to reduce the fiscal deficit from 4.3% in 2024 to 3.8% in 2025. In line with the government’s effort to narrow its fiscal deficit, total government auction for 2025 is estimated to be RM163.5 billion, relatively lower than total issuance in 2024. Meanwhile, supply on corporate bond/sukuk issuance for 2024 increased marginally by 2% year-on-year (“y-o-y”), which is supportive of market dynamics.

The Government will continue to enhance fiscal management through broadening of revenue measures, optimal use of resources and continue to pursue subsidy rationalization, particularly RON95.

**MARKET REVIEW (28 AUGUST 2024 (DATE OF LAUNCH) TO 31 DECEMBER 2024)
(CONTINUED)**

The implementation of the 15% Global Minimum Tax (“GMT”) starting January 2025 is expected to strengthen Malaysia’s financial position, targeting multinational companies with global revenues exceeding Euro 750 million. This move aims to attract investments while signaling Malaysia’s commitment to global tax compliance.

In November 2024, headline inflation declined to 1.8% (October 2024: 1.9%), while core inflation remained stable at 1.8% (October 2024: 1.8%). The lower headline inflation was largely due to a continued downtrend in mobile communication services inflation, which declined to -11.4% (October 2024: -5.2%) during the month. This was partly offset by higher inflation for food away from home (4.8%; October 2024: 4.1%) and streaming services (8.9%; October 2024: 5.3%).

The manufacturing industrial production index grew by 3.3% in October 2024 (September 2024: 3.2%). The export-oriented clusters expanded further, lifted by higher production of both electrical and electronics products and primary-related products. Growth in the domestic-oriented clusters rose further, reflecting higher production of construction-related materials as well as food, beverage and tobacco products.

The S&P Global Malaysia Manufacturing Purchasing Index (“PMI”) fell to 48.6 in December 2024 from 49.2 in November, marking the lowest reading since March and the seventh consecutive month of contraction in the manufacturing sector.

Malaysia’s trade surplus widened to RM15.3 billion in November 2024 from a marginally revised MYR 12.1 billion in the same month of 2023, easily surpassing market estimates for a gain of MYR 9.1 billion. It was the largest trade surplus since September 2023, as exports grew more than imports for the first time since December 2021.

Exports rose by 4.1% y-o-y to RM 126.6 billion, accelerating from a 1.6% rise in October 2024 and beating estimates of 1.3%, mainly driven by sales of manufacturing (5.2%) and agriculture (13.4%), while mining & quarrying tumbled (-17.3%). Meantime, imports grew by 1.6% to RM111.3 billion, the softest growth in a year and less than forecasts of 4.2%, primarily due to rises in intermediate goods (12.7%) and consumption goods (3.5%), as demand for capital goods plunged (-10.0%).

Fitch Ratings (“Fitch”) has reaffirmed Malaysia sovereign credit rating at BBB+, with “Stable” outlook. Key rating drivers which support the reaffirmation are namely broad-based and strong growth momentum; strengthened political stability; continuous current account surplus with strong foreign direct investments.

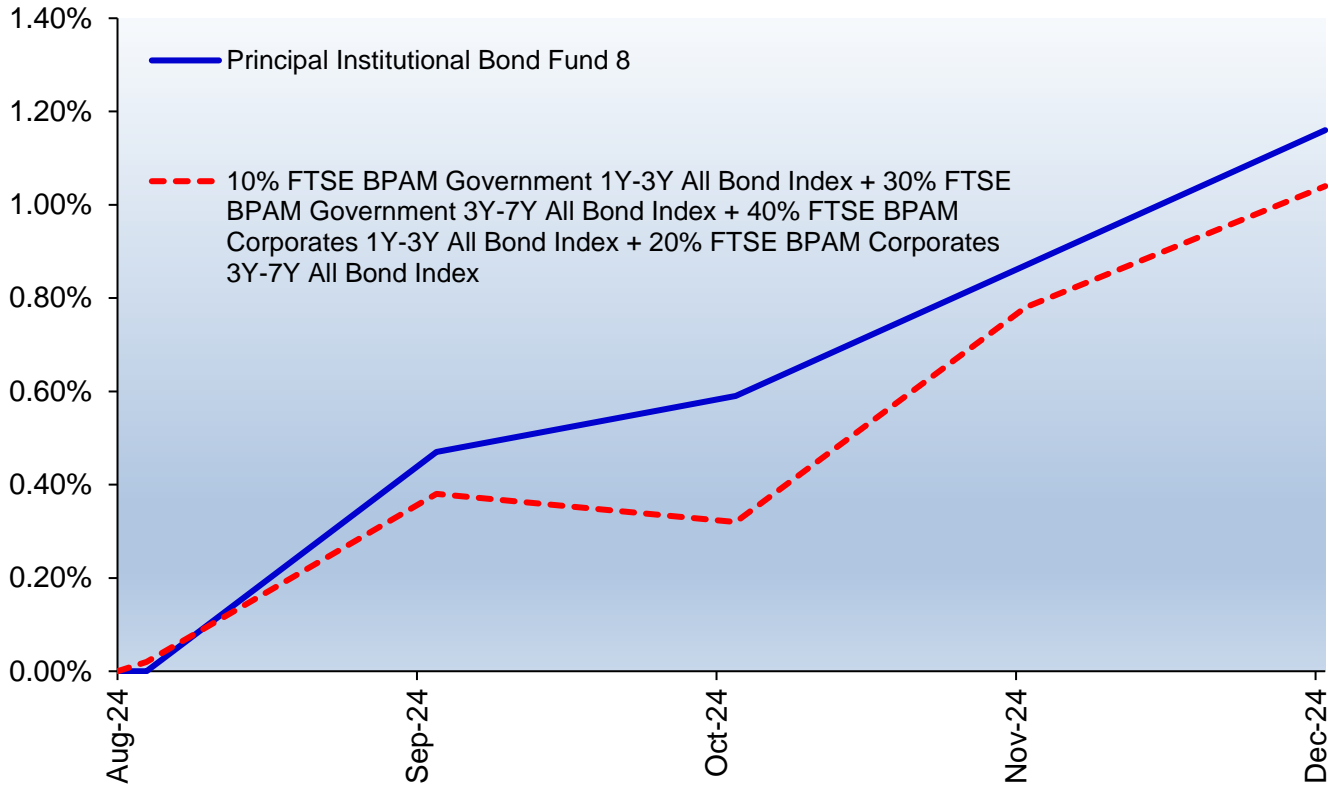
FUND PERFORMANCE

	Since inception to 31.12.2024
	%
Income Distribution	0.22
Capital Growth	0.94
Total Return	1.16
Benchmark	1.04
Average Total Return	3.44

For the financial period, the Fund has achieved a total return of 1.16% since inception, outperforming the Benchmark by 12 basis points (“bps”).

FUND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Since inception



Changes in NAV

CLASS MYR	31.12.2024
NAV (RM Million)	361.79
NAV/Unit (RM)	1.0093

The Fund’s NAV as at 31 December 2024 stood at RM361.79 million. Meanwhile, the NAV per unit stood at RM1.0093.

Performance data represents the combined income and capital return as a result of holding units in the Fund for the specified length of time, based on NAV to NAV price. The performance data assumes that all earnings from the Fund are reinvested and are net of management and trustee fees. Past performance is not reflective of future performance and income distributions are not guaranteed. Unit prices and income distributions, if any, may fall and rise. All performance figures for the financial period have been extracted from Lipper.

PORTFOLIO STRUCTURE

Asset allocation

(% of NAV)	31.12.2024
Unquoted fixed income securities	92.96
Deposits with licensed financial institutions	5.54
Cash and other assets	1.51
Liabilities	(0.01)
TOTAL	100.00

As at 31 December 2024, the Fund is 92.96% invested in unquoted fixed income securities, 5.54% in deposits with licensed financial institutions and 1.51% invested in cash and other assets as liquidity for redemption purposes.

MARKET OUTLOOK*

We remain positive on the local bond markets as we believe the tightening trend on monetary policies has reached its peak with the last rate hike by Monetary Policy Committee (“MPC”) in May 2023. While we remain cautious on global bond market volatility, we plan to capitalize on any market corrections as periods of market weakness can present strategic opportunities to acquire bonds at more attractive prices, thereby improving the overall yield of our portfolio. Our approach will be to carefully monitor market movements and act accordingly when these opportunities arise.

* This market outlook does not constitute an offer, invitation, commitment, advice, or recommendation to make a purchase of any investment. The information given in this article represents the views of Principal Asset Management Bhd (“Principal Malaysia”) or based on data obtained from sources believed to be reliable by Principal Malaysia. Whilst every care has been taken in preparing this, Principal Malaysia makes no guarantee, representation or warranty and is under no circumstances liable for any loss or damage caused by reliance on, any opinion, advice or statement made in this market outlook.

INVESTMENT STRATEGY

Active portfolio management will be deployed in uncertain market condition in anticipation of market volatility by targeting various maturities along the yield curve that could add value.

We maintain our preference on credit with disciplined profit taking activities once valuation turns expensive and replaced with new primary issuances or tactical position in government bonds.

We also maintain our overweight duration bias relative to the benchmark as the current market conditions still remains favorable for an overweight duration stance.

SOFT COMMISSIONS AND REBATES

Principal Malaysia (the “Manager”) and the Trustee will not retain any form of rebate from, or otherwise share in any commission with, any broker or dealer in consideration for directing dealings in the investments of the Principal Malaysia Funds (“Funds”). Accordingly, any rebate or shared commission will be directed to the account of the Fund. The Manager may retain goods and services (soft commission) provided by any broker or dealer if the following conditions are met:

- (a) the soft commission brings direct benefit or advantage to the management of the Fund and may include research and advisory related services;
- (b) any dealings with the broker or dealer is executed on terms which are the most favourable for the Fund; and
- (c) the availability of soft commission is not the sole or primary purpose to perform or arrange transactions with such broker or dealer, and we and the fund the manager will not enter into unnecessary trades in order to achieve a sufficient volume of transactions to qualify for soft commission.

During the financial period under review, the Manager and Trustee did not receive any rebates from the brokers or dealers but the Manager has retained soft commission in the form of goods and services for the benefit of the fund such as financial wire services and stock quotations system incidental to investment management of the Funds and there was no churning of trades.

SECURITIES FINANCING TRANSACTIONS

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

STATE OF AFFAIR OF THE FUND

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

CIRCUMSTANCES THAT MATERIALLY AFFECT ANY INTEREST OF UNIT HOLDERS

There were no circumstances that had materially affected the interest of the unit holders during the financial period under review.

CROSS TRADE

No cross-trade transactions have been carried out during the financial period under review.

UNIT SPLIT

No unit split exercise has been carried out during the financial period under review.

**STATEMENT BY MANAGER TO THE UNIT HOLDERS OF
PRINCIPAL INSTITUTIONAL BOND FUND 8**

We, being the Directors of Principal Asset Management Berhad (the “Manager”), do hereby state that, in the opinion of the Manager, the accompanying audited financial statements set out on pages 7 to 28 are drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Deeds and give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Fund as at 31 December 2024 and of its financial performance, changes in net assets attributable to unit holders and cash flows for the financial period from 28 August 2024 (date of launch) to 31 December 2024 then ended in accordance with the provisions of the MFRS Accounting Standards and IFRS Accounting Standards.

For and on behalf of the Manager

Principal Asset Management Berhad (Company No.: 199401018399 (304078-K))

MUNIRAH KHAIRUDDIN

Chief Executive Officer,
Malaysia & Global Shariah & Managing Director,
Strategic Distribution & Institutional Client Relations
(Southeast Asia & Global Shariah)
Non-Independent Executive Director

UDAY JAYARAM

Executive Managing Director,
Head of Southeast Asia
Non-Independent Executive Director

Kuala Lumpur
14 February 2025

TRUSTEE'S REPORT

**TO THE UNIT HOLDERS OF
PRINCIPAL INSTITUTIONAL BOND FUND 8 ("Fund")**

We have acted as Trustee of the Fund for the financial period from 28 August 2024 (date of launch) to 31 December 2024 and we hereby confirm to the best of our knowledge, after having made all reasonable enquiries, Principal Asset Management Berhad has operated and managed the Fund during the period covered by these financial statements in accordance with the following:

- a) limitations imposed on the investment powers of the Manager and the Trustee under the Deed, securities laws, and the Securities Commission's Guidelines on Unlisted Capital Market Products under the Lodge and Launch Framework;
- b) valuation/pricing is carried out in accordance with the Deed and any regulatory requirements; and
- c) creation and cancellation of units are carried out in accordance with the Deed and any regulatory requirements.

We are of the opinion that the distribution of income by the Fund is appropriate and reflects the investment objective of the Fund.

For HSBC (Malaysia) Trustee Berhad

Lee Cincee
Senior Manager, Trustee and Fiduciary Services

Kuala Lumpur
14 February 2025

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE UNIT HOLDERS OF
PRINCIPAL INSTITUTIONAL BOND FUND 8**

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Principal Institutional Bond Fund 8 (the "Fund"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2024 of the Fund, and statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in net assets attributable to unit holders and statement of cash flows of the Fund for the financial period from 28 August 2024 (date of launch) to 31 December 2024, and notes to the financial statements including material accounting policy information, as set out on pages 7 to 28.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Fund as at 31 December 2024, and of its financial performance and cash flows for the financial period from 28 August 2024 (date of launch) to 31 December 2024 then ended in accordance with MFRS Accounting Standards and IFRS Accounting 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 audit 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 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.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE UNIT HOLDERS OF
PRINCIPAL INSTITUTIONAL BOND FUND 8 (CONT'D.)**

Report on the audit of the financial statements (cont'd.)

Information other than the financial statements and auditors' report thereon

The Manager of the Fund (the "Manager") is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report of the Fund 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.

Responsibilities of the Manager and the Trustee for the financial statements

The Manager is responsible for the preparation of financial statements of the Fund that give a true and fair view in accordance with MFRS Accounting Standards and IFRS Accounting 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 intends 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.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE UNIT HOLDERS OF
PRINCIPAL INSTITUTIONAL BOND FUND 8 (CONT'D.)**

Report on the audit of the financial statements (cont'd.)

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.
- 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.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE UNIT HOLDERS OF
PRINCIPAL INSTITUTIONAL BOND FUND 8 (CONT'D.)**

Report on the audit of the financial statements (cont'd.)

Other matters

This report is made solely to the Unit Holders of the Fund, as a body, in accordance with the Guidelines on Unlisted Capital Market Products under the Lodge and Launch Framework, the Capital Markets and Services Act 2007 issued by the Securities Commission Malaysia and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility to any other person for the content of this report.

Ernst & Young PLT
202006000003 (LLP0022760-LCA) & AF 0039
Chartered Accountants

Yeo Beng Yean
No. 03013/10/2026 J
Chartered Accountant

Kuala Lumpur
14 February 2025

**STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE FINANCIAL PERIOD FROM 28 AUGUST 2024 (DATE OF LAUNCH) TO 31 DECEMBER
2024**

	Note	28.08.2024 (date of launch) to 31.12.2024 RM
INCOME/(LOSS)		
Interest income from unquoted fixed income securities at fair value through profit and loss		1,671,776
Interest income from deposits with licensed financial institutions at amortised cost		496,443
Net loss on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	8	<u>(262,141)</u>
		<u>1,906,078</u>
EXPENSES		
Management fee	4	84,795
Trustee fee	5	16,959
Tax agent's fee		1,459
Other expenses		<u>150</u>
		<u>103,363</u>
PROFIT BEFORE DISTRIBUTIONS AND TAXATION		1,802,715
Distributions:		
- Class MYR	6	<u>800,031</u>
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION		1,002,684
Taxation	7	<u>-</u>
PROFIT AFTER TAXATION, REPRESENTING TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE FINANCIAL PERIOD		<u><u>1,002,684</u></u>
Profit after taxation is made up as follows:		
Realised amount		1,158,228
Unrealised amount		<u>(155,544)</u>
		<u><u>1,002,684</u></u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements form an integral part of the audited financial statements.

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Note	31.12.2024 RM
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	9	5,499,202
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	8	<u>356,342,660</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>361,841,862</u>
LIABILITIES		
Accrued management fee		42,914
Amount due to Trustee		8,583
Other payables and accruals		<u>1,458</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>52,955</u>
NET ASSET VALUE OF THE FUND		<u>361,788,907</u>
NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNIT HOLDERS		<u>361,788,907</u>
REPRESENTED BY:		
FAIR VALUE OF OUTSTANDING UNITS		
- Class MYR		<u>361,788,907</u>
NUMBER OF UNITS IN CIRCULATION (UNITS)		
- Class MYR	10	<u>358,428,389</u>
NET ASSET VALUE PER UNIT		
- Class MYR		<u>1.0093</u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements form an integral part of the audited financial statements.

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNIT HOLDERS
FOR THE FINANCIAL PERIOD FROM 28 AUGUST 2024 (DATE OF LAUNCH) TO 31 DECEMBER
2024**

**28.08.2024
(date of launch)
to 31.12.2024
RM**

NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNIT HOLDERS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL PERIOD	<u>-</u>
Movement due to units created and cancelled during the financial period:	
Creation of units from applications	
- Class MYR	<u>359,990,164</u>
Creation of units from distributions	
- Class MYR	<u>800,031</u>
Cancellation of units	
- Class MYR	<u>(3,972)</u>
Total comprehensive income for the financial period	<u>1,002,684</u>
NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO UNIT HOLDERS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL PERIOD	<u>361,788,907</u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements form an integral part of the audited financial statements.

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE FINANCIAL PERIOD FROM 28 AUGUST 2024 (DATE OF LAUNCH) TO 31 DECEMBER
2024**

	Note	28.08.2024 (date of launch) to 31.12.2024 RM
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of unquoted fixed income securities		(341,855,291)
Proceeds from disposal of unquoted fixed income securities		5,287,750
Placement of deposits with licensed financial institutions		(20,000,000)
Interest income received from deposits with licensed financial institutions and current account		459,183
Interest income received from unquoted fixed income securities		1,671,776
Management fee paid		(41,881)
Trustee fee paid		(8,376)
Payment of other fees and expenses		(151)
Net cash used in operating activities		<u>(354,486,990)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Cash proceeds from units created		359,990,164
Payments for cancellation of units		(3,972)
Net cash generated from financing activities		<u>359,986,192</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		5,499,202
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial period		-
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial period	9	<u>5,499,202</u>
<u>Cash and cash equivalents comprised:</u>		
Bank balance		20,707
Deposits with licensed financial institutions		5,478,495
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of financial period	9	<u>5,499,202</u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements form an integral part of the audited financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. THE FUND, THE MANAGER AND ITS PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

Principal Institutional Bond Fund 8 (the “Fund”) is governed by a Principal Deed dated 5 March 2024, a First Supplemental Deed dated 12 June 2024, and a Second Supplemental Deed dated 12 July 2024 (collectively referred to as the “Deeds”), made between Principal Asset Management Bhd (the “Manager”) and HSBC (Malaysia) Trustee Berhad (the “Trustee”).

The Fund will be managed with the aim of achieving regular income through a diversified portfolio of MYR-denominated fixed income securities. The Fund will invest up to 100% of its NAV in government or government-guaranteed bonds and up to 80% of its NAV in corporate bonds (including commercial papers) which carry a minimum credit rating of “A3” or “P1” by RAM or equivalent rating by MARC or equivalent by any reputable credit rating agency. The Fund may also invest up to 10% in Securitized Securities.

The asset allocation strategy for the Fund is as follows:

- Up to 100% in fixed income securities, out of which:
- Up to 100% of the Fund’s NAV in government and/or government-guaranteed bonds;
- Up to 80% of the Fund’s NAV in corporate bonds;
- Up to 50% of the Fund’s NAV in liquid assets such as cash and cash equivalents; and/or
- Up to 10% of the Fund’s NAV may be invested in Securitized

All investments are subjected to the Securities Commission Malaysia (“SC”) Guidelines on Unlisted Capital Market Products under the Lodge and Launch Framework, SC requirements, the Deeds, except where exemptions or variations have been approved by the SC, internal policies and procedures and the Fund’s objective.

The Manager is a joint venture between Principal Financial Group®, a member of the FORTUNE 500® and a Nasdaq-listed global financial services and CIMB Group Holdings Berhad, one of Southeast Asia’s leading universal banking groups. The principal activities of the Manager are the establishment and management of unit trust funds and fund management activities.

2. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION

The following accounting policies have been used consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the financial statements:

(a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the MFRS Accounting Standards as issued by the Malaysian Accounting Standards Board (“MASB”) and IFRS Accounting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (“IASB”).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by financial assets at fair value through profit or loss.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with MFRS Accounting Standards and IFRS Accounting Standards requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reported period.

2. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

(a) Basis of preparation (continued)

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with MFRS Accounting Standards and IFRS Accounting Standards requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reported period.

It also requires the Manager to exercise their judgement in the process of applying the Fund's accounting policies. Although these estimates and assumptions are based on the Manager's best knowledge of current events and actions, actual results may differ.

The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are disclosed in Note 2(i).

There are no other standards, amendments to standards or interpretations that are effective for financial period beginning on 28 August 2024 (date of launch) that have a material effect on the financial statements of the Fund.

None of the standards, amendments to standards or interpretations that are effective for the financial period beginning on/after 1 January 2025 are applicable to the Fund.

(b) Financial assets and financial liabilities

Classification

The Fund classifies its financial assets in the following measurement categories:

- those to be measured subsequently at fair value through profit or loss, and
- those to be measured at amortised cost.

The Fund classifies its investments based on both the Fund's business model for managing those financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets. The portfolio of financial assets is managed, and performance is evaluated on a fair value basis. The Fund is primarily focused on fair value information and uses that information to assess the assets' performance and to make decisions. The Fund has not taken the option to irrevocably designate any equity securities as fair value through other comprehensive income ("OCI").

The Fund classifies cash and cash equivalents as financial assets at amortised cost as these financial assets are held to collect contractual cash flows consisting of the amount outstanding.

All of the Fund's financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost.

Recognition and measurement

Financial instruments are recognised in the statement of financial position when, and only when, the Fund becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument.

2. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION (CONTINUED)**(b) Financial assets and financial liabilities (continued)**Recognition and measurement (continued)

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the investments have expired or have been transferred and the Fund has transferred substantially all risks and rewards of ownership. Financial liabilities are derecognised when it is extinguished, i.e., when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged or cancelled or expired.

Unrealised gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of the financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are presented in the statement of comprehensive income within net gain or loss on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss in the financial period which they arise.

Unquoted fixed income securities denominated in RM are revalued on a daily basis based on fair value prices quoted by a Bond Pricing Agency ("BPA") registered with the SC as per the SC Guidelines on Unlisted Capital Market Products under the Lodge and Launch Framework. Refer to Note 2(i) for further explanation.

Deposits with licensed financial institutions are stated at cost plus accrued interest calculated on the effective interest method over the period from the date of placement to the date of maturity of the respective deposits.

Financial assets at amortised cost and other financial liabilities are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Impairment for assets carried at amortised costs

The Fund measures credit risk and expected credit losses ("ECL") using probability of default, exposure at default and loss given default. The Manager consider both historical analysis and forward looking information in determining any ECL. The Manager consider the probability of default to be close to zero as these instruments have a low risk of default and the counterparties have a strong capacity to meet their contractual obligations in the near term. As a result, no loss allowance has been recognised based on 12 month ECL as any such impairment would be wholly insignificant to the Fund.

Significant increase in credit risk

A significant increase in credit risk is defined by the Manager as any contractual payment which is more than 30 days past due.

Definition of default and credit-impaired financial assets

Any contractual payment which is more than 90 days past due is considered credit impaired.

Write-off

The Fund writes off financial assets, in whole or in part, when it has exhausted all practical recovery efforts and has concluded there is no reasonable expectation of recovery. The assessment of no reasonable expectation of recovery is based on unavailability of debtor's sources of income or assets to generate sufficient future cash flows to repay the amount. The Fund may write-off financial assets that are still subject to enforcement activity. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off will result in impairment gains. There are no write-offs/recoveries during the financial period.

2. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION (CONTINUED)**(c) Income recognition**

Interest income from deposits with licensed financial institutions and unquoted fixed income securities are recognised on a time proportionate basis using the effective interest method on an accrual basis.

Interest income is calculated by applying the effective interest rate to the gross carrying amount of a financial asset except for financial assets that subsequently become credit impaired. For credit-impaired financial assets the effective interest rate is applied to the net carrying amount of the financial asset (after deduction of the loss allowance).

Realised gain or loss on disposal of unquoted fixed income securities is accounted for as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of unquoted fixed income securities, determined on cost adjusted for accretion of discount or amortisation of premium.

(d) Functional and presentation currency

Items included in the financial statements of the Fund are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Fund operates (the “functional currency”). The financial statements are presented in MYR, which is the Fund’s functional and presentation currency.

(e) Unit holder’s contributions

The unit holders’ contributions to the Fund meet the definition of puttable instruments classified as financial liability under MFRS 132 “Financial Instruments: Presentation”.

The Fund issues cancellable units, in 1 classes of units, known respectively as the Class MYR which are cancelled at the unit holder’s option and do not have identical features subject to restrictions as stipulated in the Prospectus and Guidelines on Unlisted Capital Market Products under the Lodge and Launch Framework. The units are classified as financial liabilities. Cancellable units can be put back to the Fund at any time for cash equal to a proportionate share of the Fund’s NAV of respective classes. The outstanding units are carried at the redemption amount that is payable at the date of the statement of financial position if the member exercises the right to put back the unit to the Fund.

Units are created and cancelled at the unit holders’ option at prices based on the Fund’s NAV per unit of respective classes at the close of business on the relevant dealing day. The Fund’s NAV per unit of respective classes is calculated by dividing the net assets attributable to members of respective classes with the total number of outstanding units of respective classes.

(f) Cash and cash equivalents

For the purpose of statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise bank balances and deposits with licensed financial institutions held in highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

(g) Taxation

Current tax expense is determined according to Malaysian tax laws at the current rate based upon the taxable profit earned during the financial period.

Tax on interest income from foreign quoted securities is based on the tax regime of the respective countries that the Fund invests in.

2. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

(h) Realised and unrealised portions of profit or loss after tax

The analysis of realised and unrealised portions of profit or loss after taxation as presented on the statement of comprehensive income is guided by SC Guidelines on Unit Trust Funds¹.

(i) Critical accounting estimates and judgements in applying accounting policies

The Fund makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, rarely equal the related actual results. To enhance the information content of the estimates, certain key variables that are anticipated to have material impact to the Fund's results and financial position are tested for sensitivity to changes in the underlying parameters.

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated by the Manager and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Estimate of fair value of unquoted fixed income securities

In undertaking any of the Fund's investment, the Manager will ensure that all assets of the Fund under management will be valued appropriately, that is at fair value and in compliance with the SC Guidelines on Unlisted Capital Market Products under the Lodge and Launch Framework.

Ringgit-denominated unquoted fixed income securities are valued using fair value prices quoted by a BPA. Where the Manager is of the view that the price quoted by BPA for a specific unquoted fixed income securities differs from the market price by more than 20 bps, the Manager may use market price, provided that the Manager records its basis for using a non-BPA price, obtains necessary internal approvals to use the non-BPA price, and keeps an audit trail of all decisions and basis for adopting the use of non-BPA price.

3. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

Financial instruments of the Fund were as follows:

	Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss RM	Financial assets at amortised cost RM	Total RM
31.12.2024			
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 9)	-	5,499,202	5,499,202
Deposits with licensed financial institutions (Note 8)	-	20,037,260	20,037,260
Unquoted fixed income securities (Note 8)	336,305,400	-	336,305,400
	<u>336,305,400</u>	<u>25,536,462</u>	<u>361,841,862</u>

¹ The presentation of the analysis of realised and unrealised portions of increase/decrease in net assets attributable to unit holders as presented on the statement of comprehensive income is provided as per the SC Guidelines on Unit Trust Funds. However, the Fund is not guided by the SC Guidelines on Unit Trust Funds.

3. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES (CONTINUED)

All financial liabilities are financial liabilities which are carried at amortised cost.

The Fund seeks to provide regular income by investing in fixed income securities.

The Fund is exposed to a variety of risks which include market risk (inclusive of price risk and interest rate risk), credit risk and liquidity risk.

Financial risk management is carried out through internal control process adopted by the Manager and adherence to the investment restrictions as stipulated in the Deeds and SC Guidelines on Unlisted Capital Market Products under the Lodge and Launch Framework.

(a) Market risk**(i) Price risk**

This is the risk that the fair value of an investment in unquoted fixed income securities will fluctuate because of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk).

The Fund is exposed to price risk arising from interest rate fluctuation in relation to its investments of RM336,305,400 in unquoted fixed income securities. The Fund's exposure to price risk arising from interest rate fluctuation and the related sensitivity analysis are disclosed in "interest rate risk" below.

(ii) Interest rate risk

In general, when interest rates rise, unquoted fixed income securities prices will tend to fall and vice versa. Therefore, the NAV of the Fund may also tend to fall when interest rates rise or are expected to rise. However, investors should be aware that should the Fund holds unquoted fixed income securities till maturity, such price fluctuations would dissipate as it approaches maturity, and thus the growth of the NAV shall not be affected at maturity. In order to mitigate interest rates exposure of the Fund, the Manager will manage the duration of the portfolio via shorter or longer tenured assets depending on the view of the future interest rate trend of the Manager, which is based on its continuous fundamental research and analysis.

In general, when interest rates rise, unquoted fixed income securities prices will tend to fall and vice versa. Therefore, the NAV of the Fund may also tend to fall when interest rates rise or are expected to rise. However, investors should be aware that should the Fund holds unquoted fixed income securities till maturity, such price fluctuations would dissipate as it approaches maturity, and thus the growth of the NAV shall not be affected at maturity. In order to mitigate interest rates exposure of the Fund, the Manager will manage the duration of the portfolio via shorter or longer tenured assets depending on the view of the future interest rate trend of the Manager, which is based on its continuous fundamental research and analysis.

Investors should note that the movement in prices of unquoted fixed income securities and money market instruments are benchmarked against interest rates. As such, the investments are exposed to the movement of the interest rates.

3. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(a) Market risk (continued)

(ii) Interest rate risk (continued)

This risk is crucial since unquoted fixed income securities portfolio management depends on forecasting interest rate movements. Prices of unquoted fixed income securities move inversely to interest rate movements, therefore as interest rates rise, the prices of unquoted fixed income securities decrease and vice versa. Furthermore, unquoted fixed income securities with longer maturity and lower yield coupon rates are more susceptible to interest rate movements.

Such investments may be subject to unanticipated rise in interest rates which may impair the ability of the issuer to meet the obligation under the instrument, especially if the issuers are highly leveraged. An increase in interest rates may therefore increase the potential for default by an issuer.

The table below summarises the sensitivity of the Fund's profit or loss and NAV to movements in prices of unquoted fixed income securities held by the Fund as a result of movement in interest rate. The analysis is based on the assumptions that the interest rate changed by 1% with all other variables held constant. This represents management's best estimate of a reasonable possible shift in the interest rate, having regard to the historical volatility of the interest rate.

% Change in interest rate	Impact on profit or loss/NAV 31.12.2024 RM
+1%	(462,146)
-1%	<u>463,091</u>

The Fund's exposure to interest rates associated with deposits with licensed financial institutions is not material as the deposits are held on short-term basis.

The weighted average effective interest rate per annum is as follows:

	31.12.2024 %
Deposits with licensed financial institutions	<u>4.25</u>

(b) Credit risk

Credit risk refers to the risk that a counterparty will default on its contractual obligation resulting in financial loss to the Fund.

Investment in unquoted fixed income securities may involve a certain degree of credit/default risk with regards to the issuers. Generally, credit risk or default risk is the risk of loss due to the issuer's non-payment or untimely payment of the investment amount as well as the returns on investment. This will cause a decline in value of the defaulted unquoted fixed income securities and subsequently depress the NAV of the Fund. Usually, credit risk is more apparent for an investment with a longer tenure, i.e. the longer the duration, the higher the credit risk.

3. **FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

(b) **Credit risk (continued)**

Credit risk can be managed by performing continuous fundamental credit research and analysis to ascertain the creditworthiness of its issuer. In addition, the Manager imposes a minimum rating requirement as rated by either local and/or foreign rating agencies and manages the duration of the investment in accordance with the objective of the Fund.

The credit risk arising from bank balances and placements of deposits in licensed financial institutions is managed by ensuring that the Fund will only place deposits in reputable licensed financial institutions.

The following table sets out the credit risk concentration of the Fund:

	Cash and cash equivalents RM	Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss RM	Total RM
31.12.2024			
AAA	-	81,728,898	81,728,898
AA3	-	51,084,017	51,084,017
AA2	-	8,421,406	8,421,406
AA1	-	41,959,635	41,959,635
AA	-	5,041,703	5,041,703
A3	5,499,202	20,037,260	25,536,462
GB	-	148,069,741	148,069,741
	<u>5,499,202</u>	<u>356,342,660</u>	<u>361,841,862</u>

All financial assets of the Fund as at the end of financial period are neither past due nor impaired.

(c) **Liquidity risk**

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Fund will encounter difficulty in meeting its financial obligations.

The Manager manages this risk by maintaining sufficient level of liquid assets to meet anticipated payments and cancellations of the units by unit holders. Liquid assets comprise bank balances and deposits with licensed financial institutions, which are capable of being converted into cash within 7 business days. Generally, all investments are subject to a certain degree of liquidity risk depending on the nature of the investment instruments, market, sector and other factors. For the purpose of the Fund, the Manager will attempt to balance the entire portfolio by investing in a mix of assets with satisfactory trading volume and those that occasionally could encounter poor liquidity. This is expected to reduce the risks for the entire portfolio without limiting the Fund's growth potentials.

The table below summarises the Fund's financial liabilities into relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining period as at the statement of financial position date to the contractual maturity date. The amounts in the table are the contractual undiscounted cash flows.

3. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(c) Liquidity risk (continued)

	Less than 1 month RM	Between 1 month to 1 year RM	Total RM
31.12.2024			
Accrued management fee	42,914	-	42,914
Amount due to Trustee	8,583	-	8,583
Other payables and accruals	-	1,458	1,458
Net assets attributable to unit holders*	<u>361,788,907</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>361,788,907</u>
Contractual undiscounted cash flows	<u>361,840,404</u>	<u>1,458</u>	<u>361,841,862</u>

* Outstanding units are redeemed on demand at the holder's option. However, the Manager does not envisage that the contractual maturity disclosed in the table above will be representative of the actual cash outflows, as holders of these instruments typically retain them for the medium to long term.

(d) Capital risk management

The capital of the Fund is represented by net assets attributable to unit holders of RM361,788,907. The amount of capital can change significantly on a daily basis as the Fund is subjected to daily subscriptions and redemptions at the discretion of unit holder. The Fund's objective when managing capital is to safeguard the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern in order to provide returns to unit holder and benefits for other stakeholders and to maintain a strong capital base to support the development of the investment activities of the Fund.

(e) Fair value estimation

Fair value is defined as 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 (i.e. an exit price).

The fair value of financial assets traded in active markets (such as trading securities) are based on quoted market prices at the close of trading on the financial period end date. The Fund utilises the last traded market price for financial assets where the last traded price falls within the bid-ask spread. In circumstances where the last traded price is not within the bid-ask spread, the Manager will determine the point within the bid-ask spread that is most representative of the fair value.

An active market is a market in which transactions for the asset or liability take place with sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis.

The fair value of financial assets that are not traded in an active market is determined by using valuation techniques.

3. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES
(CONTINUED)

(e) Fair value estimation (continued)

(i) Fair value hierarchy

The table below analyses financial instruments carried at fair value. The different levels have been defined as follows:

- Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active market for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1)
- Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (that is, as prices) or indirectly (that is, derived from prices) (Level 2)
- Inputs for the asset and liability that are not based on observable market data (that is, unobservable inputs) (Level 3)

The level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement is categorised in its entirety is determined on the basis of the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety. For this purpose, the significance of an input is assessed against the fair value measurement in its entirety.

If a fair value measurement uses observable inputs that require significant adjustment based on unobservable inputs, that measurement is a Level 3 measurement.

Assessing the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgment, considering factors specific to the asset or liability.

The determination of what constitutes 'observable' requires significant judgment by the Fund. The Fund considers observable data to be that market data that is readily available, regularly distributed or updated, reliable and verifiable, not proprietary, and provided by independent sources that are actively involved in the relevant market.

	Level 1 RM	Level 2 RM	Level 3 RM	Total RM
31.12.2024				
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss:				
- Unquoted fixed income securities	-	336,305,400	-	336,305,400
- Deposits with licensed financial institutions	-	20,037,260		20,037,260
	<u>-</u>	<u>356,342,660</u>		<u>356,342,660</u>

Financial instruments that trade in markets that are not considered to be active but are valued based on quoted market prices, dealer quotations or alternative pricing sources supported by observable inputs are classified within Level 2. These include unquoted fixed income securities. As Level 2 instruments include positions that are not traded in active markets and/or are subject to transfer restrictions, valuations may be adjusted to reflect illiquidity and/or non-transferability, which are generally based on available market information. The Fund's policies on valuation of these financial assets are stated in Note 2(b).

3. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(e) Fair value estimation (continued)

- (ii) The carrying values of cash and cash equivalents and all current liabilities are a reasonable approximation of their fair values due to their short-term nature.

4. MANAGEMENT FEE

In accordance with the Deeds, the Manager is entitled to a maximum management fee of 3.00% per annum, calculated daily based on the NAV of the Fund.

For the financial period ended 31 December 2024, the management fee is recognised at a rate of 0.15%.

There was no further liability to the Manager in respect of management fee other than the amount recognised above.

5. TRUSTEE FEE

In accordance with the Deeds, the Trustee is entitled to a maximum fee of 0.03% per annum, calculated daily based on the NAV of the Fund.

For the financial period ended 31 December 2024, the Trustee fee is recognised at a rate of 0.03% per annum.

There was no further liability to the Trustee in respect of Trustee fee other than the amount recognised above.

6. DISTRIBUTIONS

Distributions to unit holders were derived from the following sources (assessed up to distribution declaration date):

	31.12.2024	
	RM	%
Distribution out of current period's income	800,031	100.00
Distribution out of prior period's income/capital*	-	-
Total	<u>800,031</u>	<u>100.00</u>

	31.12.2024
Gross/Net distribution per unit (sen)	
Distribution on 30 December 2024	0.22

* Distribution income has been accrued as at the end of the prior financial period but is not declared and paid as distribution.

Gross distribution is derived using total income less total expenses. Net distribution above is sourced from current and prior financial period' realised income.

Gross distribution per unit is derived from gross realised income less expenses, divided by the number of units in circulation. Net distribution per unit is derived from gross realised income less expenses and taxation, divided by the number of units in circulation.

6. **DISTRIBUTIONS (CONTINUED)**

There were no unrealized losses during the financial period ended 31 December 2024.

7. **TAXATION**

28.08.2024
(date of launch)
to 31.12.2024
RM

Tax charged for the financial period:

- Current taxation -

A numerical reconciliation between the profit before taxation multiplied by the Malaysian statutory income tax rate and tax expenses of the Fund was as follows:

28.08.2024
(date of launch)
to 31.12.2024
RM

Profit before taxation	<u>1,002,684</u>
Taxation at Malaysian statutory rate of 24%	240,644
Tax effects:	
Investment income not subject to tax	(457,459)
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	196,464
Restriction on tax deductible expenses for Wholesale Funds	<u>20,351</u>
Taxation	<u><u>-</u></u>

8. **FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS**

31.12.2024
RM

At fair value through profit or loss:

- Unquoted fixed income securities	336,305,400
- Deposits with licensed financial institutions*	<u>20,037,260</u>
	<u><u>356,342,660</u></u>

*Includes profit receivable of RM37,260

28.08.2024
(date of launch)
to 31.12.2024

Net loss on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss:

- Realised gain on disposals	2,471
- Unrealised fair value loss	<u>(264,612)</u>
	<u><u>(262,141)</u></u>

8. FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS (CONTINUED)

Deposits with licensed financial institutions:

The weighted average effective interest rate per annum are as follows:

	2024
	%
Deposits with licensed financial institutions	4.25

For the financial year ended 31 December 2024, the deposits with licensed financial institutions of the Fund have an average maturity of 204 days.

Name of issuer	Nominal value RM	Aggregate cost RM	Market value RM	Percentage of NAV %
31.12.2024				
UNQUOTED FIXED INCOME SECURITIES				
7-Eleven Malaysia Holding Bhd 4.28% 26/06/2026 (AA3)	5,300,000	5,310,954	5,306,755	1.47
7-Eleven Malaysia Holding Bhd 4.73% 28/06/2028 (AA3)	4,000,000	4,056,737	4,039,117	1.12
Aeon Credit Service M Bhd 4.13% 14/11/2029 (AA3)	750,000	755,723	756,766	0.21
Bank Pembangunan Malaysia Bhd 4.02% 01/12/2028 (AAA)	5,000,000	5,040,121	5,036,321	1.39
Bank Pertanian Malaysia 3.63% 02/11/2026 (AAA)	5,000,000	5,020,091	5,020,141	1.39
Bank Simpanan Nasional 3.80% 15/02/2027 (AAA)	8,300,000	8,429,112	8,427,083	2.33
Cagamas Bhd 3.90% 14/04/2026 (AAA)	5,000,000	5,058,555	5,056,205	1.40
Cagamas Bhd 3.90% 29/05/2026 (AAA)	3,300,000	3,323,087	3,321,338	0.92
DRB-Hicom Bhd 5.08% 30/08/2030 (AA3)	1,300,000	1,355,693	1,384,189	0.38
GENM Capital Bhd 5.07% 05/05/2028 (AA1)	2,000,000	2,053,835	2,028,935	0.56
GENM Capital Bhd 5.35% 03/05/2030 (AA1)	2,000,000	2,081,110	2,053,970	0.57
GENM Capital Bhd 4.92% 08/06/2029 (AA1)	2,000,000	2,033,131	2,007,131	0.55
GENM Capital Bhd 4.92% 31/05/2029 (AA1)	3,500,000	3,570,869	3,517,599	0.97
GENM Capital Bhd 5.30% 11/07/2028 (AA1)	2,500,000	2,637,414	2,598,089	0.72
Genting Capital Sdn Bhd 4.86% 08/06/2027 (AA1)	6,500,000	6,570,031	6,524,521	1.80
Genting Bhd 5.19% 25/3/2027 (AA1)	7,500,000	7,720,371	7,663,161	2.12
GII Murabahah 4.12% 30/11/2034 (GB) #	15,000,000	15,457,066	15,403,816	4.26

8. FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS (CONTINUED)

Name of issuer	Nominal value RM	Aggregate cost RM	Market value RM	Percentage of NAV %
31.12.2024 (CONTINUED)				
UNQUOTED FIXED INCOME SECURITIES (CONTINUED)				
GII Murabahah 3.42% 30/09/2027 (GB) #	10,000,000	10,092,430	10,082,430	2.79
GII Murabahah 4.37% 31/10/2028 (GB) #	20,000,000	20,697,235	20,693,835	5.72
Hektar Satu Sdn Bhd 4.20% 15/02/2029 (AAA)	5,000,000	5,112,223	5,094,973	1.41
Imtiaz Sukuk II Berhad 4.05% 02/10/2026 (AA2)	8,300,000	8,421,672	8,421,406	2.33
Konsortium KAJV Sdn Bhd 5.75% 13/05/2032 (AA3)	450,000	454,330	463,893	0.13
Konsortium KAJV Sdn Bhd 5.90% 13/05/2031 (AA3)	1,500,000	1,564,531	1,564,021	0.43
Konsortium KAJV Sdn Bhd 18 6.00% 13/05/2030 (AA3)	1,500,000	1,567,882	1,565,092	0.43
Konsortium KAJV Sdn Bhd 19 6.10% 13/05/2031 (AA3)	1,500,000	1,581,284	1,580,384	0.44
Malayan Cement Bhd 5.05% 26/06/2028 (AA3)	4,200,000	4,360,617	4,339,903	1.20
Malayan Cement Bhd 4.12% 02/07/2027 (AA3)	5,000,000	5,123,318	5,123,218	1.42
Malaysia Airports Holding Bhd 3.60% 06/11/2030 (AAA)	5,000,000	4,948,116	4,949,966	1.37
Malaysia Airports Holding Bhd 3.95% 22/11/2029 (AAA)	5,000,000	5,021,644	5,035,844	1.39
Malaysia Government Securities 2.63% 15/04/2031 (GB) #	65,000,000	61,077,600	61,297,600	16.94
Malaysia Government Securities 3.50% 31/05/2027 (GB) #	20,000,000	20,040,074	20,072,574	5.55
Malaysian Government Securities 3.89% 15/08/2029 (GB) #	20,000,000	20,515,486	20,519,486	5.67
Malaysian Resources Corporation Bhd 4.25% 13/08/2027 (AA3)	5,000,000	5,090,407	5,090,357	1.41
MMC Corporation Berhad 5.80% 12/11/2025 (AA3)	5,000,000	5,144,776	5,125,776	1.42
Pengurusan Air SPV Bhd 2.91% 28/09/2027 (AAA)	3,300,000	3,246,258	3,246,852	0.90
Pengurusan Air SPV Bhd 3.80% 30/10/2026 (AAA)	5,000,000	5,037,795	5,036,795	1.39

8. FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS (CONTINUED)

Name of issuer	Nominal value RM	Aggregate cost RM	Market value RM	Percentage of NAV %
31.12.2024 (CONTINUED)				
UNQUOTED FIXED INCOME SECURITIES (CONTINUED)				
Pengurusan Air SPV Bhd 3.83% 11/11/2027 (AAA)	3,000,000	3,018,155	3,016,115	0.83
Sarawak Energy Bhd 4.70% 24/11/2028 (AAA)	5,000,000	5,195,678	5,173,828	1.43
Southern Power Generation 4.88% 30/04/2025 (AA3)	5,000,000	5,074,865	5,061,665	1.40
Sunway Healthcare Treasury Sdn Bhd 3.85% 29/04/2027 (AA)	5,000,000	5,041,803	5,041,703	1.39
Telekom Malaysia Bhd 4.58% 03/09/2027 (AAA)	2,500,000	2,588,580	2,588,805	0.72
Telekom Malaysia Bhd 4.68% 31/10/2028 (AAA)	2,500,000	2,591,895	2,592,270	0.72
Toyota Capital (M) Sdn Bhd 4.08% 19/11/2029 (AAA)	1,310,000	1,319,179	1,323,738	0.37
Toyota Capital (M) Sdn Bhd 4.25% 28/07/2028 (AAA)	1,400,000	1,425,539	1,420,597	0.39
Toyota Capital (M) Sdn Bhd 4.32% 26/09/2028 (AAA)	13,510,000	13,976,034	13,947,165	3.86
Toyota Capital (M) Sdn Bhd 4.35% 29/08/2028 (AAA)	1,400,000	1,446,616	1,440,862	0.40
UEM Sunrise Bhd 4.87% 29/09/2028 (AA3)	3,500,000	3,669,780	3,649,235	1.00
UEM Sunrise Bhd 5.45% 30/01/2026 (AA3)	5,800,000	6,050,949	6,033,646	1.66
UMW Holding Bhd 3.88% 24/11/2026 (AA1)	3,300,000	3,315,619	3,314,958	0.91
YTL Corporation Bhd 4.63% 11/11/2026 (AA1)	12,000,000	12,283,742	12,251,271	3.38
	<u>334,920,000</u>	<u>336,570,012</u>	<u>336,305,400</u>	<u>92.96</u>
ACCUMULATED UNREALISED LOSS ON FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS		<u>(264,612)</u>		
TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS		<u>336,305,400</u>		

The unquoted fixed income securities which are not rated as at the end of each financial period are issued, backed or guaranteed by government or government agencies.

9. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

31.12.2024
RM

Bank balances	20,707
Deposits with licensed financial institutions	5,478,495
	<u>5,499,202</u>

10. NUMBER OF UNITS IN CIRCULATION (UNITS)

31.12.2024

No. of units

Class MYR (i)	<u>358,428,389</u>
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(i) Class MYR

31.12.2024

No. of units

At the beginning of the financial period	-
Add: Creation of units from applications	357,639,443
Add: Creation of units from distribution	792,895
Less: Cancellation of units	(3,949)
At the end of the financial period	<u>358,428,389</u>

11. TOTAL EXPENSE RATIO ("TER")

31.12.2024
%

TER	<u>0.06</u>
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TER is derived from the following calculation:

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

A	=	Management fee
B	=	Trustee fee
C	=	Audit fee
D	=	Tax agent's fee
E	=	Other expenses
F	=	Average NAV of the Fund calculated on a daily basis

The average NAV of the Fund for the financial period calculated on a daily basis is RM164,597,551.

12. PORTFOLIO TURNOVER RATIO (“PTR”)

31.12.2024

PTR (times) 1.05

PTR is derived from the following calculation:

$$\frac{(\text{Total acquisition for the financial period} + \text{total disposal for the financial period}) \div 2}{\text{Average NAV of the Fund for the financial period calculated on a daily basis}}$$

where:

total acquisition for the financial period = RM339,088,174

total disposal for the financial period = RM5,287,750

13. UNITS HELD BY THE MANAGER AND PARTIES RELATED TO THE MANAGER, AND SIGNIFICANT RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES

The related parties and their relationship with the Fund were as follows:

<u>Related parties</u>	<u>Relationship</u>
Principal Asset Management Berhad	The Manager
Principal Financial Group, Inc.	Ultimate holding company of shareholder of the Manager
Principal International (Asia) Ltd	Shareholder of the Manager
Subsidiaries and associates of Principal Financial Group Inc., other than above, as disclosed in its financial statements	Fellow subsidiary and associated companies of the ultimate holding company of shareholder of the Manager
CIMB Group Holdings Bhd	Ultimate holding company of shareholder of the Manager
CIMB Group Sdn Bhd	Shareholder of the Manager
CIMB Investment Bank Bhd	Fellow related party to the Manager
CIMB Bank Bhd	Fellow related party to the Manager
CIMB Islamic Bank Bhd	Fellow related party to the Manager
Subsidiaries and associates of CIMB Group Holdings Bhd, other than above, as disclosed in its financial statements	Fellow subsidiary and associated companies of the ultimate holding company of the shareholder of the Manager

Units held by the Manager and parties related to the Manager

	<u>31.12.2024</u>	
	<u>No. of units</u>	<u>RM</u>
Manager		
Principal Asset Management Berhad		
- Class MYR	1,002	1,012

13. UNITS HELD BY THE MANAGER AND PARTIES RELATED TO THE MANAGER, AND SIGNIFICANT RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES (CONTINUED)

In the opinion of the Manager, the above units were transacted at the prevailing market price.

The units are held beneficially by the Manager for booking purposes. Other than the above, there were no units held by the Directors or parties related to the Manager.

In addition to the related party disclosures mentioned elsewhere in the financial statements, set out below are other significant related party transactions and balances. The Manager is of the opinion that all transactions with the related companies have been entered into in the normal course of business at agreed terms between the related parties.

14. TRANSACTIONS WITH DEALERS

Details of transactions with the dealers for the financial period from 28 August 2024 (date of launch) to 31 December 2024 were as follows:

Dealers	Value of trades RM	Percentage of total trades %
RHB Investment Bank Berhad	60,021,302	17.43
RHB Bank Berhad	50,234,340	14.59
HLG Securities Sendirian Bhd	44,100,560	12.81
Hong Leong Bank Bhd	38,212,000	11.10
Citibank Bhd	34,798,750	10.10
CIMB Bank Bhd #	30,070,882	8.73
CIMB Islamic Bank Bhd #	20,546,000	5.97
Hong Leong Investment Bank Bhd	16,773,190	4.87
Affin Hwang Investment Bank Bhd	15,150,700	4.40
J.P Morgan Chase Bank Bhd	14,037,000	4.08
Others	20,431,200	5.92
	<u>344,375,924</u>	<u>100.00</u>

Included in the transactions are trades conducted with CIMB Bank Bhd and CIMB Islamic Bank Bhd, related parties to the Manager amounting to RM830,070,882 and RM20,546,000 respectively. The Manager is of the opinion that all transactions with the related companies have been entered into in the normal course of business at agreed terms between the related parties.

15. COMPARATIVES

There are no comparatives as this is the Fund's first set of financial statements.

16. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements have been approved for issue by the Manager on 14 February 2025.

DIRECTORY

Head office of the Manager

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