

Schroders

SCHRODER BIC FUND

Annual Report & Financial Statements

December 2023



SCHRODER BIC FUND

(Formerly known as Schroder BRIC Fund)

(a sub-fund of Schroder International Opportunities Portfolio)

Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore on 3 January 2006

Manager

Schroder Investment Management (Singapore) Ltd
138 Market Street
#23-01 CapitaGreen
Singapore 048946
Company Registration No. 199201080H

Trustee

HSBC Institutional Trust Services (Singapore) Limited
10 Marina Boulevard
Marina Bay Financial Centre Tower 2
#48-01
Singapore 018983
Company Registration No. 194900022R

Auditor

KPMG LLP
12 Marina View, #15-01
Asia Square Tower 2
Singapore 018961

Solicitor to the Manager

Allen & Gledhill LLP
One Marina Boulevard #28-00
Singapore 018989

Solicitor to the Trustee

Shook Lin & Bok LLP
1 Robinson Road
#18-00 AIA Tower
Singapore 048542

Further Information

Schroders is a Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act ("FATCA") compliant organisation. Please find the FATCA classification of this Fund and its Global Intermediary Identification Number ("GIIN") below.

FATCA entity classification: Nonreporting IGA FFI / Sponsored Investment Entity
GIIN: WM9S4Z.00019.SF.702

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COMMENTARY

Fund performance

The Fund generated a negative return in US dollar terms and significantly underperformed the benchmark (MSCI BIC (Brazil, India, China) 10-40) over 2023, before fees as positive country allocation was outweighed by negative stock selection.

Within country allocation, the overweight to Brazil and underweight to China were beneficial while the underweight to India and cash held in a rising market detracted.

Stock selection was negative, driven by China (underweight **PDD Holdings**, overweight **Shandong Weigao Group**, **LONGi Green Energy**, **JD.com**, **Sunny Optical** and **China Mengniu Dairy**).

It also weighed on returns in India (overweight **HDFC Bank**, **Marico** and **Cipla**, zero-weight **Larsen & Toubro**) and Brazil (off-benchmark **CBA**, **3R Petroleum** and **Arezzo**, underweight **Petrobras**, overweight **Gerdau**).

During the period we were able to exit some Russian holdings. As we have valued all remaining Russian positions at zero since March 2022, there was a positive impact.

Market performance

The index markets of Brazil and India generated strongly positive returns in 2023 while China lagged significantly, registering a double-digit decline in US dollar terms.

Brazil began the year with fiscal policy uncertainty and concerns about the central bank's independence under the new government. These eased as the year progressed and the government deployed fiscal policy responsibly and upheld the central bank's autonomy. With a fiscal anchor in place, the central bank started easing monetary policy from very high levels, which has been beneficial for the economy. This, together with attractive valuations, underpinned the market's strong performance.

India was up in double digit terms too. Economic growth held up well during the year and moderating inflation meant monetary policy remained loose, the combination of which boosted sentiment. Later in the year, a strong showing by the ruling Bharatiya Janata party in key state elections was also supportive.

China was the poorest performer in a BIC context. A convincing economic rebound failed to materialise in 2023; instead, the economy's anaemic recovery was accompanied by an ongoing crisis in the real estate industry and regulatory uncertainty, particularly regarding technology companies. Meanwhile, geopolitical tension between the US and China persisted throughout the year and included the imposition of various technology restrictions by both parties.

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Outlook

The global economy was more resilient than many had anticipated in 2023, underpinned by the US economy. As a result, US monetary policy remained tighter for longer than had been expected 12 months ago. While the US economy remains healthy, there are signs of a moderation in activity, and with the eurozone likely in technical recession, a slowdown in global growth is anticipated this year. Against this backdrop, further disinflation should gradually follow, enabling the Fed and other major central banks to begin monetary policy easing.

A soft landing for the US economy and a combination of Fed policy easing and a weaker US dollar should be broadly supportive for BIC. The key downside risks around this outlook are that markets have over-anticipated the scale of Fed easing, or that the degree of growth slowdown is underestimated.

Following the Fed meeting in December, and with markets moving to price-in rate cuts this year, central banks effectively have the green light to begin or proceed more confidently with rate easing. Upside surprises to inflation are risks to this outlook, notably with regards to the path of energy and food prices. Global geopolitics, especially the conflict in the Middle East, bears monitoring.

In China, the economy continues to face structural, as it transitions away from a growth model based on infrastructure and real estate, and cyclical challenges. GDP growth is projected to slow over the medium-term, albeit with cycles. That said, sequential, quarter-on-quarter growth should see a short-lived pick up in the first half of this year, driven by stronger manufacturing exports and as previous policy stimulus impacts.

So far, the government has taken somewhat piecemeal measures to support the economy given ongoing deflationary concerns, which is a key risk given debt levels. The pace of policy has picked up but has not been sufficient to increase confidence and activity; measures in property for example are quickly fading. Geopolitics, particularly relations with the US, remains difficult. Improved communications between US and Chinese officials is positive, albeit this is against a backdrop of a declining trajectory in relations. The US has extended technology restrictions, while China has sanctioned five US defence firms in relation to arms sales to Taiwan.

Meanwhile, EU relations are a further area of concern as China increases exports in key areas. The EU launched an anti-dumping investigation into battery electric vehicles in October. China responded in January, launching an anti-dumping investigation into French brandy imports. Regulatory concerns also re-emerged in December, with the draft release of new gaming restrictions, which have since been walked back.

In Brazil, we expect the central bank to reduce its policy rate to about 9% by mid-2024. This, along with more clarity on public policy as we enter the second year of the government, should boost domestic earnings. Valuations remain attractive, but we think further returns need earnings revisions which we expect to see throughout the year. The commodity outlook is less supportive as oil supply has increased and iron ore demand seems too high.

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While the structural outlook for India is positive, on a near term basis it is the most expensive emerging market and close to historical high valuations. Strong local buying has pushed Indian equities to levels that we believe are unrealistic in the shorter term and earnings revisions are flat. It is also an election year in India, with polling due to take place between April and May. The incumbent prime minister, Narendra Modi, and his ruling BJP are widely expected to secure a third term in office.

There are various risks to the outlook in 2024, notably stemming from geopolitics. US-China relations, Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the Middle East conflict all bear close monitoring, as discussed above. The latest focus has been on events in the Red Sea, which has led to the disruption of some global supply chains. Higher energy prices pose upside risk to inflation and rates expectations, while risk aversion could drive safe haven demand for the US dollar. El Nino could also lead to deterioration in the inflation outlook.

The US presidential election in November will also be important to watch for notably from a US dollar and a policy perspective. Strategic competition between the US and China is a bipartisan issue in Washington DC.

Valuations are reasonable in Brazil and China but expensive in India. As at early 2024, the Fund is overweight Brazil and underweight India and China.

31 December 2023

SCHRODER BIC FUND

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEE

For the financial year ended 31 December 2023

The Trustee is under a duty to take into custody and hold the assets of Schroder BIC Fund (formerly known as Schroder BRIC Fund) (the “Fund”) in trust for the unitholders. In accordance with the Securities and Futures Act 2001, its subsidiary legislation and the Code on Collective Investment Schemes, the Trustee shall monitor the activities of the Manager for compliance with the limitations imposed on the investment and borrowing powers as set out in the Trust Deed in each annual accounting year and report thereon to unitholders in an annual report.

To the best knowledge of the Trustee, the Manager has, in all material respects, managed the Fund during the financial year covered by these financial statements, set out on pages 10 to 29, in accordance with the limitations imposed on the investment and borrowing powers set out in the Trust Deed.

For and on behalf of the Trustee
HSBC Institutional Trust Services (Singapore) Limited

SCHRODER BIC FUND

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STATEMENT BY THE MANAGER

For the financial year ended 31 December 2023

In the opinion of Schroder Investment Management (Singapore) Ltd, the accompanying financial statements set out on pages 10 to 29, comprising the Statement of Total Return, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Movements of Unitholders' Funds, Statement of Portfolio and Notes to the Financial Statements are drawn up so as to present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position and portfolio holdings of Schroder BIC Fund (formerly known as Schroder BRIC Fund) (the "Fund") as at 31 December 2023, and the financial performance and movements of unitholders' funds for the financial year then ended in accordance with the recommendations of Statement of Recommended Accounting Practice 7 "Reporting Framework for Investment Funds" issued by the Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Fund will be able to meet its financial obligations as and when they materialise.

For and on behalf of the Manager
Schroder Investment Management (Singapore) Ltd

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE UNITHOLDERS OF
SCHRODER BIC FUND**
(Formerly known as Schroder BRIC Fund)
(a sub-fund of Schroder International Opportunities Portfolio)
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Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Schroder BIC Fund (Formerly known as Schroder BRIC Fund) (the "Fund"), which comprise the Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Portfolio as at 31 December 2023, the Statement of Total Return and Statement of Movements of Unitholders' Funds for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of material accounting policy information, as set out on pages 10 to 29.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements are properly drawn up in accordance with the recommendations of Statement of Recommended Accounting Practice 7 "Reporting Framework for Investment Funds" issued by the Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants so as to present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position and portfolio holdings of the Fund as at 31 December 2023 and the financial performance and movements in unitholders' funds for the year ended on that date.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Singapore Standards on Auditing ("SSAs"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the '*Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements*' section of our report. We are independent of the Fund in accordance with the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Public Accountants and Accounting Entities ("ACRA Code") together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Singapore, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the ACRA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other matter

The financial statements of the Fund for the year ended 31 December 2022 were audited by another auditor who expressed an unmodified opinion on those financial statements on 30 March 2023.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE UNITHOLDERS OF
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Other information

Schroder Investment Management (Singapore) Ltd, the Manager of the Fund (the "Manager"), is responsible for the other information contained in the annual report. Other information is defined as all information in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon.

We have obtained all other information prior to the date of this auditors' report.

Our opinion on the financial statements 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, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements 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 for the financial statements

The Manager is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the recommendations of Statement of Recommended Accounting Practice 7 "Reporting Framework for Investment Funds" issued by the Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants, and for such internal control as the Manager determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, 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 terminate the Fund or to cease the Fund's operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Manager's responsibilities include overseeing the Fund's financial reporting process.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements 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 SSAs 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.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE UNITHOLDERS OF
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As part of an audit in accordance with SSAs, 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, 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 controls.
- Obtain an understanding of internal controls 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 controls.
- 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 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, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements 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 controls that we identify during our audit.

KPMG LLP
*Public Accountants and
Chartered Accountants*

Singapore
27 March 2024

SCHRODER BIC FUND*(Formerly known as Schroder BRIC Fund)**(a sub-fund of Schroder International Opportunities Portfolio)**Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore on 3 January 2006***STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN***For the financial year ended 31 December 2023*

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Expenses			
Trustee fees	9	21,495	24,696
Valuation fees	9	8,327	9,661
Audit fees		11,737	14,659
Transaction costs		119	79
Others		26,349	14,206
		68,027	63,301
Net expense		(68,027)	(63,301)
Net gains or losses on value of investments and financial derivatives			
Net losses on investments		(3,691,968)	(14,195,117)
Net (losses)/gains on spot foreign exchange contracts		(1,916)	599
Net foreign exchange gains/(losses)		2,563	(1,529)
		(3,691,321)	(14,196,047)
Total deficit for the year		(3,759,348)	(14,259,348)

SCHRODER BIC FUND*(Formerly known as Schroder BRIC Fund)**(a sub-fund of Schroder International Opportunities Portfolio)**Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore on 3 January 2006***STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION***As at 31 December 2023*

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
ASSETS			
Portfolio of investments		38,554,455	44,840,381
Bank balances	9	461,065	518,390
Receivables	4	46,728	5,130
Total assets		39,062,248	45,363,901
LIABILITIES			
Payables	5	35,642	39,822
Total liabilities		35,642	39,822
EQUITY			
Net assets attributable to unitholders	6	39,026,606	45,324,079

SCHRODER BIC FUND*(Formerly known as Schroder BRIC Fund)**(a sub-fund of Schroder International Opportunities Portfolio)**Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore on 3 January 2006***STATEMENT OF MOVEMENTS OF UNITHOLDERS' FUNDS***For the financial year ended 31 December 2023*

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Net assets attributable to unitholders at the beginning of the financial year		45,324,079	61,509,152
Operations			
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders resulting from operations		(3,759,348)	(14,259,348)
Unitholders' contributions/(withdrawals)			
Creation of units		581,525	1,130,783
Cancellation of units		(3,119,650)	(3,056,508)
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders resulting from net creation and cancellation of units		(2,538,125)	(1,925,725)
Total decrease in net assets attributable to unitholders		(6,297,473)	(16,185,073)
Net assets attributable to unitholders at the end of the financial year	6	39,026,606	45,324,079

SCHRODER BIC FUND*(Formerly known as Schroder BRIC Fund)**(a sub-fund of Schroder International Opportunities Portfolio)**Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore on 3 January 2006***STATEMENT OF PORTFOLIO***As at 31 December 2023***Primary**

	Holdings at 31 Dec 2023	Fair value at 31 Dec 2023 \$	Percentage of total net assets attributable to unitholders at 31 Dec 2023 %
By geography			
Quoted			
Collective investment scheme			
LUXEMBOURG (country of domicile) Schroder Intl Selection Fund - BIC (Brazil, India, China) A Accumulation Share Class	142,776	38,554,455	98.79
Portfolio of investments		38,554,455	98.79
Other net assets		472,151	1.21
Net assets attributable to unitholders		39,026,606	100.00

SCHRODER BIC FUND*(Formerly known as Schroder BRIC Fund)**(a sub-fund of Schroder International Opportunities Portfolio)**Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore on 3 January 2006***STATEMENT OF PORTFOLIO***As at 31 December 2023***Primary** (continued)

	Percentage of total net assets attributable to unitholders at 31 Dec 2023 %	Percentage of total net assets attributable to unitholders at 31 Dec 2022 %
By geography (summary)		
Quoted		
Luxembourg	98.79	98.93
Portfolio of investments	98.79	98.93
Other net assets	1.21	1.07
Net assets attributable to unitholders	100.00	100.00

As the Fund invests wholly into an underlying collective investment scheme, it is not meaningful to show any secondary segmentation analysis.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2023

These notes form an integral part of and should be read in conjunction with the accompanying financial statements.

1. General

With effect from 18 April 2023, the Fund and the Underlying Fund for Schroder BRIC Fund and Schroder International Selection Fund BRIC (Brazil, Russia, India, China) were changed to Schroder BIC Fund and Schroder International Selection Fund BIC (Brazil, India, China) respectively.

Schroder BIC Fund (the “Fund”) is a sub-fund of Schroder International Opportunities Portfolio, a Singapore umbrella fund constituted by a Deed of Trust dated 3 January 2006 (and as amended, restated and supplemented from time to time) (thereafter referred to as “Trust Deed”). The Trust Deed is governed in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Singapore. The Manager of the Fund is Schroder Investment Management (Singapore) Ltd and the Trustee is HSBC Institutional Trust Services (Singapore) Limited.

The Fund, which was launched on 16 February 2006, invests substantially into the Schroder International Selection Fund - BIC (Brazil, India, China) (the “Underlying Fund”), whose investment objective is to aim to provide capital growth in excess of the MSCI BIC (Net TR) 10/40 index after fees have been deducted over a three to five year period, by investing in equity and equity related securities of Brazilian, Indian and Chinese companies. The benchmark of the Underlying Fund is MSCI BIC (Net TR) 10/40 index.

2. Material accounting policies

2.1 Changes in material accounting policies - material accounting policy information

The Fund adopted Amendments to FRS 1: *Presentation of Financial Statements* for the first time for the annual period beginning 1 January 2023. Although the amendments did not result in any changes to the accounting policies themselves, they impacted the accounting policy information disclosed in the financial statements.

The amendments require the disclosure of ‘material’, rather than ‘significant’ accounting policies. The amendments also provide guidance on the application of materiality to disclosure of accounting policies, assisting entities to provide useful, entity-specific accounting policy information that users need to understand other information in the financial statements.

Management reviewed the accounting policies and made updates to the information disclosed in Material accounting policies (2022: Significant accounting policies) in certain instances in line with the amendments.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2023

2. Material accounting policies (continued)

2.2 The accounting policies set out below have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements, except as explained in note 2.1, which addressed changes in material accounting policies. The Fund has applied new FRSs, amendments to and interpretations of the FRSs that became effective for the annual period beginning on 1 January 2023. Other than described in note 2.1, the application of these new FRSs, amendments to and interpretations of the FRSs does not have a material effect on the Fund's financial statements.

(a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss, and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Accounting Practice 7 "Reporting Framework for Investment Funds" ("RAP 7") revised and issued by the Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants.

(b) Recognition of income

Interest income on deposits is recognised on a time proportion basis using the effective interest method.

(c) Investments

Investments are classified as financial assets held at fair value through profit or loss. Purchases of investments are recognised on trade date. Investments are recorded at fair value on initial recognition, and subsequently carried at fair value. The fair value of investments in underlying fund is based on the quoted net asset value of the underlying fund on the reporting date. Net changes in fair value of investments are included in the Statement of Total Return in the year in which they arise.

Investments are derecognised on the trade date of disposal. Net gains or losses on investments are taken up in the Statement of Total Return.

(d) Receivables

Receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. Receivables are initially recognised at their fair value and subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less accumulated impairment losses.

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For the financial year ended 31 December 2023

2. Material accounting policies (continued)

(e) Sales and purchases awaiting settlement

Sales and purchases awaiting settlement represent receivables for securities sold and payables for securities purchased that have been contracted for but not yet settled or delivered on the statement of financial position date respectively. These amounts are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost.

(f) Bank balances

Bank balances comprise cash at banks which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

(g) Payables

Payables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently stated at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

(h) Foreign currency translation

The Fund may hold assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than Singapore dollars. The financial statements are presented in Singapore dollars, which is the Fund's functional and presentation currency.

Foreign currency transactions during the year are translated into Singapore dollars at the rates of exchange ruling on the transaction dates. Foreign currency monetary assets and liabilities are translated into Singapore dollars at the rates of exchange ruling at the reporting date. Foreign exchange gains or losses resulting from the settlement of foreign currency transactions and from the translation at year end exchange rates of foreign currency monetary assets and liabilities, are taken to the Statement of Total Return.

(i) Financial derivatives

Financial derivatives are recognised at fair value on the date in which a financial derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently re-measured at their fair values. Fair values are obtained from quoted market prices in active markets, including recent market transactions. A financial derivative is carried as an asset when its fair value is positive, and as a liability when its fair value is negative.

Net gains or losses on financial derivatives held for protection or enhancement of investments are taken to the Statement of Total Return as gains or losses on financial derivatives.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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2. Material accounting policies (continued)

(j) Offsetting financial instruments

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the Statement of Financial Position when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously. The legally enforceable right must not be contingent on future events and must be enforceable in the normal course of business and in the event of default, insolvency or bankruptcy of the Fund or the counterparty.

(k) Structured entities

A structured entity is an entity that has been designed so that voting or similar rights are not the dominant factor in deciding who controls the entity, such as when any voting rights relate to administrative tasks only and the relevant activities are directed by means of contractual arrangements. A structured entity often has some or all of the following features or attributes: (a) restricted activities, (b) a narrow and well-defined objective, such as to provide investment opportunities for investors by passing on risks and rewards associated with the assets of the structured entity to investors, (c) insufficient equity to permit the structured entity to finance its activities without subordinated financial support and (d) financing in the form of multiple contractually linked instruments to investors that create concentrations of credit or other risks (tranches).

The Fund considers its investment in the Underlying Fund to be investment in unconsolidated structured entities. The Fund invests in the Underlying Fund whose objectives range from achieving short to long term capital growth and whose investment strategy does not include the use of leverage. The Underlying Fund is managed by related asset managers and applies various investment strategies to accomplish its respective investment objectives. The Underlying Fund finances its operations by issuing redeemable shares which are puttable at the holder's option and entitles the holder to a proportional stake in the respective fund's net assets. The Fund holds redeemable shares in the Underlying Fund.

The change in fair value of the Underlying Fund is included in the net gains or losses on investments taken up in the Statement of Total Return as described in Note 2(c).

SCHRODER BIC FUND*(Formerly known as Schroder BRIC Fund)**(a sub-fund of Schroder International Opportunities Portfolio)**Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore on 3 January 2006***NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS***For the financial year ended 31 December 2023***3. Income tax**

The Fund has been approved by the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) under the Enhanced-Tier Fund (ETF) Scheme (section 13U of the Income Tax Act 1947 and the relevant regulations). Subject to certain conditions being met on an annual basis, the Fund enjoys Singapore corporate income tax exemption on “specified income” derived from “designated investments” for the life of the Fund. The tax exemption does not apply in the year when the relevant conditions are not met. Losses from “designated investments” are correspondingly disregarded. The terms “specified income” and “designated investments” are defined in the relevant income tax regulations.

4. Receivables

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Amount receivable for creation of units	43,331	2,387
GST receivable	3,350	2,684
Other	47	59
	46,728	5,130

5. Payables

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Amount payable for cancellation of units	14,307	9,722
Accrued trustee fees	1,546	1,883
Accrued valuation fees	554	680
Other accrued expenses	19,235	27,537
	35,642	39,822

SCHRODER BIC FUND*(Formerly known as Schroder BRIC Fund)**(a sub-fund of Schroder International Opportunities Portfolio)**Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore on 3 January 2006***NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS***For the financial year ended 31 December 2023***6. Units in issue**

	2023 Units	2022 Units
At the beginning of the financial year	32,613,370	33,874,340
Created	428,821	705,619
Cancelled	(2,314,009)	(1,966,589)
At the end of the financial year	30,728,182	32,613,370
	\$	\$
Net assets attributable to unitholders	39,026,606	45,324,079
Net assets attributable to unitholders per unit	1.27	1.39

There is no difference between the net assets attributable to unitholders per unit per the financial statements and the net assets attributable to unitholders per unit for issuing/redeeming of units.

7. Financial risk management

The Fund's activities expose it to a variety of risks including but not limited to market risk (including price risk, interest rate risk and currency risk), liquidity risk and credit risk. The Manager does not consider these risks to be wholly identical to the risks of the Underlying Fund which is managed by Schroder Investment Management (Europe) SA.

The overall responsibility for the management of the Fund's financial risks lies with the Manager whom, among other things, will regularly assess the economic condition, monitor changes in market outlook and take appropriate measures accordingly to manage the Fund's exposure to these risks. The Manager may from time to time employ derivatives including but not limited to options, futures and currency forwards, subject to the terms of the Trust Deed, for the purpose of efficient portfolio management.

The data used and assumptions made in the sensitivity analyses below may not reflect actual market conditions, nor is it representative of any potential future market conditions. The sensitivity analyses can be complex and the disclosures made here are not exhaustive. The market exposures change regularly and the assumptions made below may not be representative of the risk taken throughout the year. The sensitivity analyses below should not be solely relied upon by investors in their investment decision making.

SCHRODER BIC FUND**(Formerly known as Schroder BRIC Fund)****(a sub-fund of Schroder International Opportunities Portfolio)***Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore on 3 January 2006***NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS***For the financial year ended 31 December 2023***7. Financial risk management (continued)****(a) Market risk**

Market risk is the risk of potential adverse changes to the value of financial instruments because of changes in market conditions such as interest rate and currency rate movements and volatility in security prices.

At reporting date, the Fund's assets principally consist of investments into an Underlying Fund (as disclosed in the Statement of Portfolio) and bank balances. The investment objective of the Underlying Fund is disclosed in Note 1.

The Fund's investment in the Underlying Fund is subject to the fluctuations in the quoted net asset value of the Underlying Fund. Such risk is primarily managed by the respective manager of the Underlying Fund. The Manager monitors the performance of the Fund on a regular basis, so as to assess changes in fundamentals and valuation. The Manager may also select other financial instruments within the investment guidelines as set out in the Fund's Trust Deed.

The Fund's exposure to market risks are discussed below:

(i) Price risk

The table below summarises the potential impact of increases/decreases in the quoted net asset value of the Underlying Fund on the Fund's net assets attributable to unitholders at reporting date. The analysis is based on the assumption that the quoted net asset value of the Underlying Fund increases/decreases by a reasonable possible shift with all other variables held constant. This represents the Manager's best estimate of a reasonable possible shift having regard to the historical movement in the quoted net asset value of the Underlying Fund in its denominated currency.

2023		2022	
Reasonable possible change %	Impact on net assets attributable to unitholders \$	Reasonable possible change %	Impact on net assets attributable to unitholders \$
7	2,698,812	11	4,932,442

The disclosure above is shown in absolute terms, changes and impacts could be positive or negative.

SCHRODER BIC FUND*(Formerly known as Schroder BRIC Fund)**(a sub-fund of Schroder International Opportunities Portfolio)**Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore on 3 January 2006***NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS***For the financial year ended 31 December 2023***7. Financial risk management (continued)****(a) Market risk (continued)****(ii) Interest rate risk**

The majority of the Fund's financial assets and liabilities are non-interest bearing; as a result, the Fund is not subject to significant amounts of risk due to fluctuations in the prevailing levels of market interest rates. Hence, no interest rate sensitivity analysis is presented.

(iii) Currency risk

The Fund may hold monetary and non-monetary assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than Singapore dollars. Consequently, the Fund may be exposed to currency risk since the value of these assets and liabilities denominated in other currencies will fluctuate due to changes in exchange rates. The Manager monitors the exposure on all foreign currency denominated assets and liabilities and may manage the currency risks by hedging some or all of the currency risk exposure through derivatives such as forward currency contracts, currency futures, currency swap agreements or currency options.

The table below summarises the Fund's exposure to foreign currencies from its monetary and non-monetary assets and liabilities:

	As at 31 December 2023		
	SGD	USD	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Assets			
Portfolio of investments	-	38,554,455	38,554,455
Bank balances	460,916	149	461,065
Receivables	46,728	-	46,728
Total assets	507,644	38,554,604	39,062,248
Liabilities			
Payables	35,599	43	35,642
Total liabilities	35,599	43	35,642
Currency exposure	472,045	38,554,561	

SCHRODER BIC FUND*(Formerly known as Schroder BRIC Fund)**(a sub-fund of Schroder International Opportunities Portfolio)**Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore on 3 January 2006***NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS***For the financial year ended 31 December 2023***7. Financial risk management (continued)**(a) Market risk (continued)(iii) Currency risk (continued)

	As at 31 December 2022		
	SGD	USD	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Assets			
Portfolio of investments	-	44,840,381	44,840,381
Bank balances	517,916	474	518,390
Receivables	5,130	-	5,130
Total assets	523,046	44,840,855	45,363,901
Liabilities			
Payables	39,791	31	39,822
Total liabilities	39,791	31	39,822
Currency exposure	483,255	44,840,824	

The following table shows the sensitivity of the Fund's monetary and non-monetary assets and liabilities to foreign currency exposure should the currency increase or decrease against the Fund's functional currency with all other variables held constant.

Currency	2023		2022	
	Reasonable possible change %	Impact on net assets attributable to unitholders \$	Reasonable possible change %	Impact on net assets attributable to unitholders \$
USD	3	1,156,637	3	1,345,225

SCHRODER BIC FUND**(Formerly known as Schroder BRIC Fund)****(a sub-fund of Schroder International Opportunities Portfolio)***Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore on 3 January 2006***NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS***For the financial year ended 31 December 2023***7. Financial risk management (continued)****(b) Liquidity risk**

The Fund's liquidity risk arises mainly from redemptions of units. The Fund invests the majority of its assets in liquid investments.

The Fund has the ability to borrow in the short-term for the purposes of meeting redemptions and short-term bridging requirements. Dedicated personnel are responsible for monitoring the Fund's liquidity position on a daily basis to ensure that sufficient cash resources and liquid assets are available to meet liabilities as and when they fall due.

Units are redeemable at the holder's option. However, the Manager also has the option to limit redemption requests to 10% of the total number of units then in issue on each dealing day, with the approval of the Trustee.

The table below analyses the Fund's financial liabilities into relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining period at the reporting date to the contractual maturity date. The amounts in the table are the contractual undiscounted cash flows. Balances due within 12 months approximate their carrying values as the impact of discounting is not significant.

	2023	2022
	Less than	Less than
	3 months	3 months
	\$	\$
Payables	35,642	39,822

(c) Credit risk

The Fund takes on exposure to credit risk, which is the risk that a counterparty will be unable to pay amounts in full when due, including transactions with counterparties such as issuers, brokers, custodians and banks.

Impairment allowances are made for losses that have been incurred by the reporting date, if any. The Manager has in place procedures for proper credit screening and monitoring of credit risk, including the use of approved counterparties with credit limits set and subject to specified financial strength criteria. Exposure against all counterparties is then monitored on a daily basis.

SCHRODER BIC FUND*(Formerly known as Schroder BRIC Fund)**(a sub-fund of Schroder International Opportunities Portfolio)**Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore on 3 January 2006***NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS***For the financial year ended 31 December 2023***7. Financial risk management (continued)****(c) Credit risk (continued)**

The Fund measures credit risk and expected credit losses using probability of default, exposure at default and loss given default, considering both historical analysis and forward looking information in determining any expected credit loss. As at 31 December 2023 and 31 December 2022, the Fund's financial assets (except portfolio of investments and/or financial derivatives) as disclosed in the Statement of Financial Position are realised within three months. The Manager considers the probability of default to be close to zero as 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 expected credit losses as any such impairment would be wholly insignificant to the Fund.

All transactions in quoted securities are settled/paid upon delivery using approved brokers. The risk of default is deemed to be low, as delivery of securities is only made once the broker has received payment. Payment is made on a purchase once the securities have been received by the broker. The trade will fail if either party fails to meet its obligation.

The Fund's exposure to credit risk arises mainly from its bank balances and assets held with custodians and counterparties. The table below summarises the credit rating of banks and custodians with whom the Fund's assets are held as at reporting date.

As at 31 December 2023	Credit rating	Source of credit rating
<u>Bank & Custodian</u>		
The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited	a2	Moody's
As at 31 December 2022	Credit rating	Source of credit rating
<u>Bank & Custodian</u>		
The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited	a2	Moody's

SCHRODER BIC FUND

(Formerly known as Schroder BRIC Fund)

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2023

7. Financial risk management (continued)

(c) Credit risk (continued)

The credit rating shown is the Baseline Credit Assessment rating as published by Moody's.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date is the carrying amount of the financial assets.

The custodian of the Underlying Fund is J.P. Morgan SE, Luxembourg Branch (the "underlying custodian"). As at 31 December 2023, the underlying custodian is rated A+ (2022: A+) based on the Long Term Issuer Credit rating by Standard & Poor's.

(d) Fair value estimation

The fair value of financial instruments is based on quoted market prices as at the reporting date. The quoted market price used for the underlying funds is the quoted net asset value of the underlying fund as determined by the underlying fund's administrator and the quoted market price used for other financial assets is the current bid price; the appropriate quoted market price used for financial liabilities is the current asking price.

The Fund classifies fair value measurements using a fair value hierarchy that reflects the significance of the inputs used in making the measurements. The fair value hierarchy has the following levels:

Level 1: Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities

Level 2: 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 3: Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (that is, unobservable inputs)

The following table analyses within the fair value hierarchy the Fund's financial instruments measured at fair value at reporting date:

	As at 31 December 2023			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Assets				
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss				
Collective investment scheme	38,554,455	-	-	38,554,455

SCHRODER BIC FUND*(Formerly known as Schroder BRIC Fund)**(a sub-fund of Schroder International Opportunities Portfolio)**Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore on 3 January 2006***NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS***For the financial year ended 31 December 2023***7. Financial risk management (continued)****(d) Fair value estimation (continued)**

	As at 31 December 2022			Total
	Level 1 \$	Level 2 \$	Level 3 \$	
Assets				
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss				
Collective investment scheme	44,840,381	-	-	44,840,381

Investments in open-ended investment funds whose net asset value is struck daily, price information is published and readily available and units are subscribed and redeemable on demand at the published price, are classified within level 1. The quoted price for these financial instruments is not adjusted.

There are no financial instruments classified within level 2 and level 3.

Except for bank balances which are classified as level 1, the Fund's assets and liabilities not measured at fair value at reporting date have been classified as level 2. The carrying amounts of these assets and liabilities approximate their fair values as at the reporting date.

(e) Offsetting financial assets and financial liabilities

There were no outstanding financial assets and liabilities subject to offsetting, enforceable master netting arrangements or similar agreements as at reporting date.

(f) Capital management

The Fund's capital is represented by the net assets attributable to unitholders. The Fund strives to invest the subscriptions of units in investments that meet the Fund's investment objectives while maintaining sufficient liquidity to meet unitholder redemptions.

SCHRODER BIC FUND

(Formerly known as Schroder BRIC Fund)

(a sub-fund of Schroder International Opportunities Portfolio)

Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore on 3 January 2006

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2023

8. Interests in unconsolidated structured entities

The Fund's investment in the Underlying Fund is subject to the terms and conditions of the offering documentation and is susceptible to market price risk arising from uncertainties about future values of the Underlying Fund. The Manager makes investment decisions after extensive due diligence of the Underlying Fund, its investment strategies and the overall quality of the Underlying Fund's manager. The Underlying Fund in the investment portfolio is managed by portfolio managers who are compensated by the respective Underlying Fund for their services. Such compensation generally consists of an asset based fee and is reflected in the valuation of the Fund's investments in the Underlying Fund.

The Fund has right to request redemption of its investments in the Underlying Fund on a daily basis.

The exposure to investments in the Underlying Fund at fair value is disclosed under the Statement of Portfolio. These investments are included within "Portfolio of investments" in the Statement of Financial Position.

The Fund's holding in the Underlying Fund, as a percentage of the Underlying Fund's total net asset value, will vary from time to time dependent on the volume of subscriptions and redemptions at the Underlying Fund level. It is possible that the Fund may, at any point in time, hold a majority of an Underlying Fund's total units in issue.

The Fund's maximum exposure to loss from its interests in the Underlying Fund is equal to the total fair value of its investments in the Underlying Fund.

Once the Fund has disposed of its shares in the Underlying Fund, the Fund ceases to be exposed to any risk from it.

9. Related party disclosure

The Manager of the Fund is Schroder Investment Management (Singapore) Ltd. The Trustee is HSBC Institutional Trust Services (Singapore) Limited. The Registrar for the Fund is The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited. Both Trustee and Registrar are subsidiaries of the HSBC Group. The management fees payable by the Fund to the Manager is currently waived by the Manager. The registration fees payable by the Fund to the Registrar has been waived by the Registrar. The trustee fees and valuation fees charged by the HSBC Group are shown in the Statement of Total Return.

As at reporting date, the Fund maintained with the HSBC Group, the following bank balances:

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Current accounts	461,065	518,390

SCHRODER BIC FUND*(Formerly known as Schroder BRIC Fund)**(a sub-fund of Schroder International Opportunities Portfolio)**Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore on 3 January 2006***NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS***For the financial year ended 31 December 2023***10. Financial ratios**

	2023	2022
Expense ratio ¹ (excluding Underlying Fund's unaudited expense ratio)	0.16%	0.13%
Expense ratio ² (including Underlying Fund's unaudited expense ratio)	1.99%	1.96%
Turnover ratio ³	-	-

- ¹ The expense ratio has been computed based on the guidelines laid down by the Investment Management Association of Singapore ("IMAS"). The calculation of the expense ratio was based on annualised total operating expenses divided by the average net asset value for the year. The total operating expenses do not include brokerage and other transaction costs, interest expense, distribution paid out to unitholders, foreign exchange gains/losses, front or back end loads arising from the purchase or sale of other funds and tax deducted at source or arising out of income received. The Fund does not pay any performance fee. The respective values used in the calculation of the expense ratio are disclosed below. The average net asset value is based on the daily balances.

Expense ratio calculations	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Total operating expenses	67,909	63,222
Average net asset value	43,053,941	49,930,907

- ² The expense ratio is the sum of the Fund's expense ratio and the Underlying Fund's unaudited expense ratio. The unaudited expense ratio of the Underlying Fund, a Luxembourg domiciled fund, is obtained from Schroder Investment Management (Europe) SA. There is no requirement for the expense ratio of this Luxembourg domiciled fund to be published or audited.

- ³ The portfolio turnover ratio is calculated in accordance with the formula stated in the Code on Collective Investment Schemes. The calculation of the portfolio turnover ratio was based on the lower value of purchases or sales of the underlying investments divided by the average daily net asset value.

Turnover ratio calculations	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Lower of purchases or sales	- (purchases)	- (purchases)
Average net asset value	43,053,941	49,930,907

REPORT TO UNITHOLDERS

31 December 2023

The following is a report on the Schroder BIC Fund (the "Fund"):

1. The only security holding of the Fund as at 31 December 2023:

	Fair value \$	Percentage of total net assets attributable to unitholders %
Schroder Intl Selection Fund - BIC (Brazil, India, China) A Accumulation Share Class	38,554,455	98.79

The only security holding of the Fund as at 31 December 2022:

	Fair value \$	Percentage of total net assets attributable to unitholders %
Schroder Intl Selection Fund - BIC (Brazil, India, China) A Accumulation Share Class	44,840,381	98.93

The Fund was not invested in other unit trusts, mutual funds or collective investment schemes as at 31 December 2023 other than as stated in the Statement of Portfolio.

2. The Fund did not have any exposure to financial derivatives as at 31 December 2023.
3. The Fund did not have any borrowings as at 31 December 2023.
4. The amount of subscriptions and redemptions in the period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023 were as follows:

	\$
Subscriptions	581,525
Redemptions	3,119,650

REPORT TO UNITHOLDERS

31 December 2023

5. Expense Ratio (including Underlying Fund)

1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023 1.99%

1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022 1.96%

6. Turnover of Portfolio

1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023 -

1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022 -

7. Soft dollar commissions/arrangements:

The Fund invests substantially into the Underlying Fund. In the management of the Underlying Fund, the manager may enter into soft dollar commission arrangements only where there is a direct and identifiable benefit to their clients, and where the manager is satisfied that the transactions generating the soft dollar commissions are made in good faith, in strict compliance with applicable regulatory requirements and in the best interests of the Underlying Fund on terms commensurate with best market practice.

In the management of the Fund, the Manager currently does not receive or enter into any soft dollar commissions or arrangements.

8. Related Party Transactions

In addition to the disclosure in Note 9 in the Notes to the Financial Statements, the management fees are chargeable by:

- i) Schroder Investment Management (Europe) SA as Management Company of the following Underlying Fund:

Underlying fund	Per annum of Net Asset Value
Schroder Intl Selection Fund	
- BIC (Brazil, India, China) A Acc	1.500%

9. Performance of Fund for periods ended 31 December 2023

	3 mths	6 mths	1 yr	3 yrs*	5 yrs*	10 yrs*	Since Launch**
Fund	-4.1%	-7.3%	-8.6%	-14.5%	-2.1%	1.3%	1.3%
Benchmark**	-0.3%	-0.2%	0.3%	-10.6%	0.0%	2.3%	2.2%

* Returns of more than 1 year are annualised

Since launch figures from 16 February 2006

** Benchmark: The benchmark of the Fund was changed from the MSCI BRIC (Net TR) index to the MSCI BIC (Net TR) 10/40 index on 5 May 2021.

Source

Fund: Morningstar (\$, bid to bid, net income reinvested, net of fees)

Benchmark: Schroders (\$)

REPORT TO UNITHOLDERS

31 December 2023

10. The Fund invests more than 30% of its assets in Schroder International Selection Fund - BIC (Brazil, India, China) A Accumulation Share Class. The following are the key information on the Underlying Fund:

i. Top 10 holdings as at 31 December 2023:

	Market value US\$	Percentage of total net assets %
Tencent Hldg Ltd	41,416,420	8.81
Alibaba Group Hldg Ltd	27,407,233	5.83
Tata Consultancy Services Ltd	20,026,555	4.26
Reliance Ind Ltd	19,227,373	4.09
HDFC Bank Ltd	18,898,298	4.02
ICICI Bank Ltd	16,829,828	3.58
Axis Bank Ltd	14,902,389	3.17
Itau Unibanco Hldg SA	13,162,994	2.80
Bharti Airtel Ltd	12,034,737	2.56
Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Ltd	11,188,545	2.38

Top 10 holdings as at 31 December 2022:

	Market value US\$	Percentage of total net assets %
Tencent Hldg Ltd	55,492,651	9.97
Tata Consultancy Services Ltd	25,659,090	4.61
Alibaba Group Hldg Ltd	25,492,111	4.58
JD.com Inc	23,655,343	4.25
HDFC Bank Ltd	19,536,530	3.51
ICICI Bank Ltd	19,258,232	3.46
Yum China Hldg Inc	16,196,952	2.91
Meituan	15,306,398	2.75
Reliance Ind Ltd	15,250,739	2.74
Bharti Airtel Ltd	15,250,739	2.74

REPORT TO UNITHOLDERS

31 December 2023

ii. Expense Ratio

1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023	1.85%
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1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022	1.85%
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Brokerage and other transaction costs, performance fees, interest expense, foreign exchange gains/losses, front or back end loads arising from the purchase or sale of other funds, tax deducted at source or arising out of income received and dividends paid to unitholders are not included in the expense ratio.

iii. Turnover of Portfolio

1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023	49.57%
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1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022	41.25%
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