



2 November 2009

HSBC ESTABLISHES ASIA SELECT EQUITY FUND

HSBC has established the HSBC Asia Select Equity Fund in Australia. The fund is currently available to institutional investors and will be available to retail investors via platforms later this year. The establishment of the HSBC Asia Select Equity Fund follows the recent launch of HSBC's Global Emerging Markets Equity Fund in Australia.

HSBC will now be the sole distributor in Australia of HSBC Global Asset Management Asia and China investment capabilities previously distributed by Challenger.

The HSBC Asia Select Equity Fund aims to deliver strong relative performance as a result of in-depth fundamental research, long term focus and strong investment discipline. HSBC Global Asset Management believes that fundamental analysis of companies using its global research resources gives it a competitive advantage. While valuations are stretched after the strong run so far this year, the investment team believes Asia's prospects are more robust than those of Western economies if you take a long-term view.

Charles Genocchio, Head of Global Investments for HSBC in Australia, said distribution of HSBC's Asia and China investment capabilities in Australia was critical to the expansion of HSBC's wealth management brand and business in this market.

"HSBC's wealth management and investment distribution strategy in Australia is based on importing the best of HSBC's international investment management capabilities to meet Australian demand – giving Australian investors access to HSBC's global investment expertise.

"What differentiates HSBC is our on-the-ground investment analyst coverage across the world's fastest-growing markets and our ability to use this insight in managing our clients' portfolios. The HSBC Asia Select Equity Fund does exactly that," Genocchio said.

HSBC Global Asset Management has US\$69 billion in emerging markets assets under management, of which around US\$23 billion is invested in Asian assets (excluding Japan) at 30 June 2009. Globally, the HSBC Group manages US\$763 billion in assets under management at 30 June 2009.

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Notes to editors

HSBC Bank Australia

In Australia, the HSBC Group offers an extensive range of financial services through a network of 35 branches and offices. These services include personal and commercial financial services, financial planning, trade finance, treasury and financial markets, payments and cash management and securities custody. Principal HSBC Group members operating in Australia include HSBC Bank Australia Limited (ABN 48 006 434 162) and The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (ABN 65 117 925 970). HSBC is marketed worldwide as 'the world's local bank'.

HSBC Global Investments

HSBC Global Investments is the institutional wealth management arm of HSBC Bank Australia. HSBC Global Investments distributes the international asset management capabilities of the HSBC Group to institutional clients and wholesale platforms in Australia. HSBC Global Investments offers products from HSBC Global Asset Management, including Halbis (active management specialist) and Sinopia (quantitative specialist), as well as HSBC Alternative Investments Limited (HSBC's hedge fund specialist), HSBC Principal Investments Limited (infrastructure, private equity and unlisted real estate specialist) and HSBC Special Investments Limited.

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