# OLD MUTUAL GLOBAL ISLAMIC EQUITY FUND

# CLASS A | USD | ACCUMULATION

#### **FUND INFORMATION**

BENCHMARK: OMGIEAH ID

S&P Developed Large Mid Cap Shari'ah Index

PUBLIC INCEPTION DATE: 12 April 2016

CURRENCY: USD

FUND SIZE: \$198m

SUBSCRIPTION SETTLEMENT: T+1

**REDEMPTION SETTLEMENT:** T+3

DOMICILE: Ireland

STRUCTURE: Undertaking for Collective

Investments in Transferable Securities (UCITS), Open-Ended

Investment Company

#### INVESTMENT DESCRIPTION

The Old Mutual Global Islamic Equity Fund offers investors exposure to a broad spectrum of Developed Market shares. The fund is a Shari'ah compliant managed fund and excludes companies whose core business involves dealing in alcohol, gambling, non-halaal foodstuffs or interest-bearing instruments. The fund adheres to the standards of the Accounting and Auditing Organisation for Islamic Financial Institutions as interpreted by the Shari'ah Supervisory Board. This fund is suitable for investors seeking an ethical, diversified investment, who have a moderate risk profile in an equity context and a time horizon longer than three years.

We believe superior investment performance comes from a combination of stock selection and portfolio construction. Our stock selection process seeks to systematically invest in high quality, attractively valued companies with favourable long-term growth prospects. Viewed from a fund construction lens, we believe that outperformance can be obtained by actively managing the fund's volatility via its construction.

#### INVESTMENT TEAM



MAAHIR JAKOET Portfolio Manager BCom (Hons), MBA



FAWAZ FAKIER Portfolio Manager BCom Fin (Hons), CFA, FRM, CSAA

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31 JANUARY 2025

#### **FUND PERFORMANCE** (Net of fees)

	Fund	Benchmark
3 Months	3.0%	5.2%
6 Months	3.6%	6.6%
1 Year	16.3%	21.4%
3 Years	10.0%	10.1%
5 Years	12.1%	14.1%
Since Inception	11.1%	14.2%

Source: Old Mutual Investment Group. Returns for periods greater than 1 year are annualised.

#### **RISK STATISTICS** (Annualised, three years)

	Fund	Benchmark
Standard Deviation	16.7%	17.6%
Tracking Error	4.8%	
Beta	0.9%	
Information Ratio	0.0%	

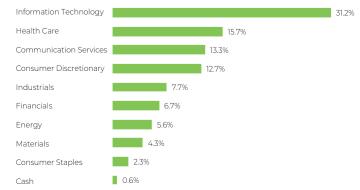
Source: Old Mutual Investment Group

# PRINCIPAL EQUITY HOLDINGS

Company	% of Fund
Alphabet A	5.8
Meta Platforms A	5.8
Nvidia	4.5
Apple	4.1
Applied Materials	3.4
Microsoft Corp	3.1
Visa A	2.8
Lilly (Eli) & Company	2.6
Novo Nordisk B	2.5
Vertex Pharmaceuticals	2.4

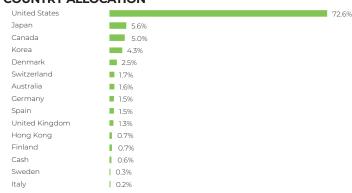
Source: Old Mutual Investment Group

### **SECTOR ALLOCATION**



Source: Old Mutual Investment Group

## **COUNTRY ALLOCATION**



Source: Old Mutual Investment Group



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### QUARTERLY COMMENTARY (31 DECEMBER 2024)

#### Market overview

In 2024, Global equities were up 17.5% (in US dollar) despite losing ground over the quarter (down 1% in US dollar). This was led by the US, which gained 24.5% (in US dollar) over the year and follows last year's 20% plus return from the index. The last time this occurred in two consecutive years was the late 1990s. While interest rate cuts around the world meant financials did well globally, a large part of the performance is due to a surging Magnificent Seven. These US mega caps were up 67% (in US dollar) this year. This meant Growth outperformed Value significantly again (24% vs 11% in US dollar) and the US dollar had another year of strength against most currencies.

Over the quarter, as Trump started to take the lead in and eventually be elected the next US president, global bonds sold off significantly (Bloomberg Global Aggregate down 5% in US dollar) given his likely inflationary policies. For the year, even though global credit spreads tightened over the year, global bonds were down 1.7% in US dollar for the year.

#### Performance review

The fund underperformed its benchmark over the quarter. The top sector contributors were the underweight in materials and the overweight in communication services. The contributors to alpha within these sectors were the overweight in Packaging Corp and the overweight in Alphabet. In contrast, the underweight in information technology and overweight in consumer discretionary detracted from performance, specifically within these sectors, the overweight exposure to Arista Networks and underweight Tesla respectively.

#### Strategy and positioning

The fund's objective is to only invest Shari'ah-compliant equities, which are approved by the Shari'ah board. The fund employs a systematic approach to investing and has positive exposure to businesses with Quality, Value and Growth characteristics, and delivers returns by maintaining and capitalising on these risk premia over time.

As a result, the fund remains underweight the US and underweight tech and has an overweight exposure to the communication services sector. The US stock market sentiment has become stretched as the S&P 500 trades at above 21x forward earnings, this is more than 25% pre-pandemic levels. This sky-high optimism warrants caution and, furthermore, a quality portfolio.

We need to observe the markets with caution as our proprietary in-house quant Macroeconomic indicators point us to an early slowdown; therefore, we remain cautious about global growth. The fund's dominant style exposure is to quality, which is more defensive and should hold up well in an environment of higher volatility. Historically when interest rates are being cut and bond yield decline then Quality tends to outperform Value.

We are comfortable with a large absolute weight to the US, as US equities tend to do better in a slowdown. Furthermore, we could potentially witness, a reduction in US tax rates, deregulation, and trade policies to help US manufacturing when Trump steps into office.

## CONTACT DETAILS

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Russell Investment Company Plc ("RIC") can be contacted at the offices of Russell Investments Limited ("RIL"): Rex House, 10 Regent Street, London SW1Y 4PE; Tel: 020 7204 6000; website: www.russellinvestments.com. The RIC has its registered office at 78 Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2 Ireland.

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