Principal S&P Ethical Asia Pacific Dividend ETF

(Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore)

Semi-Annual Report (Unaudited)

For the six months ended 31 December 2023

General Information

Manager

Principal Asset Management (S) Pte. Ltd. 50 Raffles Place #22-03A&B Singapore Land Tower Singapore 048623

Directors of the Manager

Christopher Leow Chong Chooi Wan

Trustee/Registrar

Citicorp Trustee (Singapore) Limited 5 Changi Business Park Crescent Level 5 Singapore 486027

Custodian

Citibank N.A., Singapore Branch 5 Changi Business Park Crescent Level 5 Singapore 486027

Auditors

Ernst & Young LLP One Raffles Quay North Tower, Level 18 Singapore 048583

Contents

	Page
Manager's investment report	1
Statement by the manager	9
Financial statements	
Statement of total return	10
Statement of financial position	11
Statement of movements of unitholders' funds	12
Statement of portfolio	13

Manager's investment report

About Principal S&P Ethical Asia Pacific Dividend ETF:

Principal S&P Ethical Asia Pacific Dividend ETF (the "Fund") is an exchange traded fund, designed to track the performance of the S&P Ethical Pan-Asia Select Dividend Opportunities Index. Shares of Principal S&P Ethical Asia Pacific Dividend ETF have been listed and traded on SGX-ST since 8 March 2012.

Details of Principal S&P Ethical Asia Pacific Dividend ETF:

Fund Currency
Trading Currencies
Listing Date of USD counter on SGX-ST
Listing Date of SGD counter on SGX-ST
Stock Codes on SGX-ST
Board Lot
Number of units as at 31 December 2023
NAV per unit as at 31 December 2023
Management Fee

United States dollars ("USD")
USD, Singapore dollars ("SGD")
8 March 2012
15 June 2012
P5P (USD counter), QR9 (SGD counter)
100 units
28,500,000
USD 0.681
0.65% of NAV per annum

Performance

Cumulative Performance (%) as at 31 December 2023:

From 31/12/2023	<u>Period</u>	Fund's Performance	Index's Performance
3 months	30/09/2023 – 31/12/2023	6.76%	8.61%
6 months	30/06/2023 - 31/12/2023	7.56%	8.69%
1 year	31/12/2022 - 31/12/2023	10.55%	12.99%
3 years	31/12/2020 - 31/12/2023	-1.39%	4.56%
Since inception	08/03/2012 - 31/12/2023	-0.47%	9.12%

The Fund aims to mirror the performance of the S&P Ethical Pan-Asia Select Dividend Opportunities Index (the "Index"), using full replication strategy, by investing in Securities constituting the Index in substantially the same proportion or weighting as in the Index.

The Index represents the top 40 high-yielding stocks in the Asia Pacific region which meet the criteria for inclusion into the tracked index and is subject to rigorous ground rules such as free float adjustment and liquidity screening to ensure that these stocks are highly investable. The focus of the Index is on both capital growth and dividend income characteristics, thus providing yield and stability. The transparent and freely available index rules are governed and maintained by an independent committee of leading market professionals.

Manager's investment report (continued)

Performance (continued)

From 30 June 2023 to 31 December 2023, the return of the Fund increased by 7.56% whilst the value of the Index increased by 8.69%.

In terms of country allocation, Hong Kong, China and Australia contributed to more than 70% of the ETF. While in terms of sector allocation, Financials and Real Estate are the largest position weight.

China post-covid recovery has been sluggish and volatile. After initial rebound in 1Q23, the economy slowed sharply in 2Q23. It is then rebounded in 3Q23 but slowed again in 4Q23.

The Politburo meeting has turned the policy tone on property and local government debt more supportive. In the meeting, policymakers' response in property signaled more urgency with the removal of "housing is for living, not for speculation" for the first time since appearing four years ago. Banks will revise down mortgage rates for existing home loans. This is in addition to previously announced 15-20 bps cut in rates for first time homebuyers. Downpayment for 1st and 2nd home purchases for Beijing and Shanghai have been drastically reduced to 20% and 30% respectively (from 30% / 30-80% previously). Meantime, various cities have lifted restrictions on home purchases and sales, and some cities have rolled out home purchase subsidies. Meantime plans for Urban Village Renovation could be extended to China's top cities, with the fiscal boost estimated to be about RMB 1-3 trillion a year (0.8-2.3% of GDP).

Regarding government debt, local governments are encouraged to raise special LG bonds to facilitate the repayment of arrears to private enterprises. This should release RMB 1-2 trillion in cash flow over the next few months. On the monetary front, the People's Bank of China cut its Medium-Term Lending Facilities (MLF) 1-Year rate by 25 bps from June levels. This is in addition to the 25bps. Finally, regulatory headwinds against internet companies have abated.

Going into 2024, expect China's early-cycle recovery to continue. Although the road may remain bumpy, but the coordination between monetary and fiscal policy is likely to turn positive. Fiscal policy is likely to turn expansionary and monetary policy will support fiscal operation via liquidity management and expanded its Pledged Supplementary Lending facility.

Manager's investment report (continued)

Investments at market value and as a percentage of NAV as at 31 December 2023 classified by:

		Market value USD	% of NAV
(i)	Country Australia China Hong Kong Indonesia Malaysia Singapore South Korea Thailand	5,053,515 4,080,791 5,195,432 874,134 326,661 1,294,575 2,064,107 478,450	26.03 21.03 26.78 4.50 1.68 6.67 10.63 2.47
(ii)	Industry Consumer Discretionary Energy Financials Industrials Information Technology Materials Real Estate Communication services/ Telecommunication Utilities	603,002 3,358,010 5,185,418 1,422,294 365,943 2,407,887 3,571,171 632,269 1,821,671	3.11 17.31 26.71 7.33 1.89 12.40 18.40 3.26 9.38
(iii)	Asset class Equities Other net assets	19,367,665 40,441	99.79 0.21
		19,408,106	100.00

Manager's investment report (continued)

Details of Top 10 holdings of the Fund:

As at 31 December 2023	Cost USD	Market value USD	% of total net assets
China Shenhua Energy Co Ltd	745,701	992,960	5.12
SITC International Holdings Co Ltd	1,198,620	810,957	4.18
Whitehaven Coal Ltd	663,637	732,825	3.78
Fortescue Ltd	488,968	719,010	3.70
HKT Trust & HKT Ltd	692,223	632,269	3.26
BHP Group Ltd	507,783	622,755	3.21
Henderson Land Development Co Ltd	707,544	618,758	3.19
Astra International Tbk PT	751,886	611,337	3.15
Incitec Pivot Ltd	631,355	609,121	3.14
JB Hi-Fi Ltd	562,188	603,002	3.11
	6,949,905	6,952,994	35.84

As at 31 December 2022	Cost USD	Market value USD	% of total net assets
BHP Group Ltd	932,656	1,040,609	5.85
Fortescue Metals Group Ltd	980,248	1,018,761	5.73
China Petroleum & Chemical Corp	926,533	952,426	5.35
Rio Tinto Ltd	956,829	916,618	5.15
China Shenhua Energy Co Ltd	620,815	793,802	4.46
POSCO Holdings Inc	608,211	717,264	4.03
China Construction Bank Corp	599,639	536,792	3.02
Orient Overseas International Ltd	915,151	506,291	2.85
JB Hi-Fi Ltd	586,657	490,657	2.76
Hana Financial Group Inc	424,772	490,415	2.76
	7,551,511	7,463,635	41.96

Exposure to derivatives:

The Fund had no exposure to derivatives for the period from 1 July 2023 to 31 December 2023.

Manager's investment report (continued)

Index constituent's weights:

Constituent name	As at 31- December- 2023	Constituent name	As at 31- December- 2022
China Chanhua Engrav Call td	%	DLID Crown Ltd	% 5.05
China Shenhua Energy Co Ltd	5.12	BHP Group Ltd	5.85
SITC International Holdings Co Ltd	4.18	Fortescue Metals Group Ltd	5.73
Whitehaven Coal Ltd	3.78	China Petroleum & Chemical Corp	5.35
Fortescue Ltd	3.70	Rio Tinto Ltd	5.15
HKT Trust & HKT Ltd	3.26	China Shenhua Energy Co Ltd	4.46
BHP Group Ltd	3.21	POSCO Holdings Inc	4.03
Henderson Land Development Co Ltd	3.19	China Construction Bank Corp	3.02
Astra International Tbk PT	3.15	Orient Overseas International Ltd	2.85
Incitec Pivot Ltd	3.14	JB Hi-Fi Ltd	2.76
JB Hi-Fi Ltd	3.11	Hana Financial Group Inc	2.76
Woodside Energy Group Ltd	3.08	Aurizon Holdings Ltd	2.52
Power Assets Holdings Ltd	3.04	PTT PCL	2.52
China Petroleum & Chemical Corp	2.86	Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd	2.46
Hana Financial Group Inc	2.76	New World Development Co Ltd	2.42
Mapletree Industrial Trust	2.72	HKT Trust & HKT Ltd	2.41
New World Development Co Ltd	2.67	Henderson Land Development Co Ltd	2.40
Woori Financial Group Inc	2.63	SITC International Holdings Co Ltd	2.29
CK Infrastructure Holdings Ltd	2.59	Woori Financial Group Inc	2.19
PTT PCL	2.47	China CITIC Bank Corp Ltd	2.11
Rio Tinto Ltd	2.35	Swire Properties Ltd	2.08
Sino Land Co Ltd	2.22	Malayan Banking Bhd	2.02
China CITIC Bank Corp Ltd	2.16	Dexus	2.01
CLP Holdings Ltd	2.13	Venture Corp Ltd	1.96
Frasers Logistics & Commercial Trust	2.06	Power Assets Holdings Ltd	1.93
Dexus	2.04	Shinhan Financial Group Co Ltd Samsung Fire & Marine Insurance Co	1.92
China Construction Bank Corp	1.95	Ltd	1.83
Agricultural Bank of China Ltd	1.93	Frasers Logistics & Commercial Trust	1.82
Bank of China Ltd	1.89	CK Infrastructure Holdings Ltd	1.75
Venture Corp Ltd	1.89	APA Group	1.71
Shinhan Financial Group Co Ltd	1.88	Agricultural Bank of China Ltd	1.71
Bank of Communications Co Ltd Industrial & Commercial Bank of China	1.85	KB Financial Group Inc	1.70
Ltd	1.81	Bank of China Ltd	1.70
Swire Properties Ltd	1.77	Sino Land Co Ltd	1.67
Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd	1.73	Mapletree Industrial Trust	1.66
KB Financial Group Inc	1.71	Singapore Technologies Engineering Ltd	1.65
Malayan Banking Bhd	1.68	CLP Holdings Ltd	1.64
Samsung Fire & Marine Insurance Co Ltd	1.65	Bank Mandiri Persero Tbk PT Industrial & Commercial Bank of China	1.61
APA Group	1.62	Ltd	1.44
PICC Property & Casualty Co Ltd	1.46	Bank of Communications Co Ltd	1.36
Bank Mandiri Persero Tbk PT	1.35	PICC Property & Casualty Co Ltd	1.05

Manager's investment report (continued)

Creation/redemption for the six months ended 31 December 2023:

Total subscription during the period under review amounted to US\$663,000 (equivalent to 1,000,000 units). There were no redemptions during the period.

Other information:

During the period under review, the Fund had no exposure to other unit trusts, mutual funds and collective investment schemes and had no borrowings. There is no other material information that will adversely impact the valuation of the Fund.

Expense Ratio (1)	0.64%
Turnover Ratio (2)	28.68%_

⁽¹⁾ The expense ratio is for the 6-month period between 1 July 2023 to 31 December 2023 and is computed in accordance with the revised IMAS' guidelines on disclosure of expense ratios dated 25 May 2005.

Change in investment personnel:

There was no change in investment personnel during the period under review.

Soft dollar commissions:

During the period under review, no soft dollar commissions were received from brokers.

The portfolio turnover ratio is for the 6-month period between 1 July 2023 to 31 December 2023 and is calculated in accordance with the formula stated in the "Code on Collective Investment Schemes".

Manager's investment report (continued)

Directors of the Manager:

Christopher Leow

Mr Leow, of 50 Raffles Place, #22-03A & B Singapore Land Tower, Singapore 048623, is the Chief Executive Officer and a Director of the Manager, and is responsible for leading the International Investment team based in Singapore. He joined Principal Asset Management Berhad in December 2003 and was transferred to the Manager in May 2007. He has more than 20 years of experience in the equities and fund management industry. Mr Leow is a Chartered Financial Analyst ("CFA") and a Certified Financial Planner. He has been registered with the Monetary Authority of Singapore under the Securities and Futures Act (Cap. 289) as a Representative of the Manager in fund management since September 2007. Mr Leow holds a Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting and Finance (Hons) from the University of Western Australia.

Chong Chooi Wan

Ms Chong, of 10th Floor, Bangunan CIMB, Jalan Semantan, 50490 Damansara Heights, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, is a Director of the Manager and has more than 20 years of experience in strategic planning and investment, corporate developments, mergers and acquisitions in various industries ranging from the financial sector to the energy sector. In 2020, she joined CIMB as the Director of Group Ventures and Partnerships where she is tasked to oversee business optimisation projects as well as portfolio management for CIMB. Ms Chong graduated with a Bachelor Degree in Finance, a Summa Cum Laude honours, from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, U.S.A.

Manager's investment report (continued)

Key Executives of the Manager / Appointed Portfolio Managers of the Fund:

The appointed individual/principal portfolio manager of the Fund who will be primarily performing the investment management functions for the Fund is Mr Christopher Leow, who is also one of the directors of the Manager. Please see his write-up above for more information on his qualification, experience and employment history. Mr Leow is assisted by Ms Zhang Yuzheng, Ms Seng Jing Xin, and Mr Kwan Yi Yan.

Yuzheng joined the Manager in 2017 and focuses primarily on asset allocation models. Yuzheng holds a Masters of Economics from Columbia University and is a CFA charter holder.

Jing Xin joined the Manager in 2019 and focuses primarily on quantitative strategy. Jing Xin holds a Bachelor of Business Administration (Hons) from the University of Malaya.

Yi Yan joined the Manager in 2021 and focuses primarily on analysing companies listed on the China, India and Singapore equities markets. Yi Yan holds a Bachelor of Business with Honours (Distinction) from Nanyang Technological University.

Statement by the Manager

In the opinion of the directors of Principal Asset Management (S) Pte. Ltd., the accompanying financial statements set out on pages 10 to 17, comprising the Statement of Total Return, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Movements of Unitholders' Funds and Statement of Portfolio are drawn up so as to present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund as at 31 December 2023 and the total return and changes in unitholders' funds for the financial period then ended, in accordance with the recommendations of Statement of Recommended Accounting Practice 7 "Reporting Framework for Unit Trusts" issued by the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Singapore. 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 Directors of Principal Asset Management (S) Pte. Ltd.

Christopher Leow

Director/Chief Executive Officer

Date: 19 February 2024

Statement of total return For the six months ended 31 December 2023 (unaudited)

	Six months ended 31 December 2023 (unaudited) USD	Six months ended 31 December 2022 (unaudited) USD
Investment income		
Dividends Interest	608,067 2	753,344 14
Total income	608,069	753,358
Expenses		
Management fee Administration fee Custodian fee Other operating expenses	(61,084) (9,075) (11,333) (40,105)	(54,641) (9,075) (9,919) (38,893)
Total expenses	(121,597)	(112,528)
Net investment income	486,472	640,830
Net gains/(losses) on value of investments		
Net realised losses on investments sold Net change in unrealised gains on fair value of investments Net foreign exchange losses	(43,485) 865,971 (43,553) 778,933	(2,434,483) 1,481,050 (1,690) (955,123)
Total return/(deficit) for the period before income tax	1,265,405	(314,293)
Less: Income tax	(34,334)	(53,569)
Total return/(deficit) for the period after income tax before distribution	1,231,071	(367,862)
Less: Distribution	(912,000)	(598,000)
Total return/(deficit) for the period after income tax and distribution	319,071	(965,862)

Statement of financial position As at 31 December 2023 (unaudited)

	As at 31 December 2023 (unaudited) USD	As at 30 June 2023 (audited) USD
Assets		
Portfolio of investments Dividend and other receivables Cash and cash equivalents	19,367,665 23,576 130,900	17,961,675 139,108 431,368
Total assets	19,522,141	18,532,151
Liabilities		
Amounts due to brokers Other payables	_ 114,035	1,002 105,114
Total liabilities	114,035	106,116
Equity		
Net assets attributable to unitholders	19,408,106	18,426,035

Statement of movements of unitholders' funds As at 31 December 2023 (unaudited)

	As at 31 December 2023 (unaudited) USD	As at 30 June 2023 (audited) USD
Net asset attributable to unitholders at the beginning of financial period/year	18,426,035	17,842,255
Operations		
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders resulting from operations	1,231,071	268,280
Unitholders' contributions		
Creation of units Cancellation of units	663,000	913,500 -
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders resulting from net creation and cancellation of units	663,000	913,500
Distribution	(912,000)	(598,000)
Total increase in net assets attributable to unitholders	982,071	583,780
Net asset attributable to unitholders at the end of financial period/year	19,408,106	18,426,035

Primary	Holdings at 31 December 2023	Fair value at 31 December 2023 USD	Percentage of total net assets attributable to unitholders at 31 December 2023
By geography			
Equities			
Quoted			
Australia APA Group BHP Group Ltd Dexus Fortescue Ltd Incitec Pivot Ltd JB Hi-Fi Ltd Rio Tinto Ltd Whitehaven Coal Ltd Woodside Energy Group Ltd Total Australia	54,192 18,138 75,856 36,377 314,901 16,695 4,946 144,616 28,258	315,213 622,755 396,791 719,010 609,121 603,002 457,001 732,825 597,797	1.62 3.21 2.04 3.70 3.14 3.11 2.35 3.78 3.08
China Agricultural Bank of China Ltd Bank of China Ltd Bank of Communications Co Ltd China CITIC Bank Corp Ltd China Construction Bank Corp China Petroleum & Chemical Corp China Shenhua Energy Co Ltd Industrial & Commercial Bank of China Ltd PICC Property & Casualty Co Ltd	970,000 961,000 576,000 891,000 636,000 1,062,000 290,000 719,000	373,722 366,564 359,055 419,697 378,547 555,978 992,960 351,562 282,706	1.93 1.89 1.85 2.16 1.95 2.86 5.12 1.81 1.46
Total China	·	4,080,791	21.03

Primary (continued)	Holdings at 31 December 2023	Fair value at 31 December 2023 USD	Percentage of total net assets attributable to unitholders at 31 December 2023
By geography (continued)			
Equities (continued)			
Quoted (continued)			
Hong Kong CK Infrastructure Holdings Ltd CLP Holdings Ltd Henderson Land Development Co Ltd HKT Trust & HKT Ltd New World Development Co Ltd Power Assets Holdings Ltd Sino Land Co Ltd SITC International Holdings Co Ltd Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd Swire Properties Ltd Total Hong Kong	91,000 50,000 201,000 530,000 333,750 102,000 396,351 470,000 31,000 169,800	503,194 412,480 618,758 632,269 517,766 590,784 430,723 810,957 335,098 343,403	2.59 2.13 3.19 3.26 2.67 3.04 2.22 4.18 1.73 1.77
Total Hong Kong		5,195,432	
Indonesia Astra International Tbk PT Bank Mandiri Persero Tbk PT Total Indonesia	1,667,200 669,300	611,337 262,797 874,134	3.15 1.35 4.50
Malaysia Malayan Banking Bhd Total Malaysia	168,692	326,661	1.68
i Otal Malaysia		320,001	1.00

Primary (continued)	Holdings at 31 December 2023	Fair value at 31 December 2023 USD	Percentage of total net assets attributable to unitholders at 31 December 2023 %
By geography (continued)			
Equities (continued)			
Quoted (continued)			
Singapore Frasers Logistics & Commercial Trust Mapletree Industrial Trust Venture Corp Ltd	460,100 277,672 35,500	400,754 527,878 365,943	2.06 2.72 1.89
Total Singapore		1,294,575	6.67
South Korea Hana Financial Group Inc KB Financial Group Inc Samsung Fire & Marine Insurance Co Ltd Shinhan Financial Group Co Ltd Woori Financial Group Inc Total South Korea	15,931 7,920 1,576 11,735 50,706	535,570 331,899 321,067 364,965 510,606 2,064,107	2.76 1.71 1.65 1.88 2.63
Thailand PTT PCL (NVDR) ⁽¹⁾ Total Thailand	459,100	478,450	2.47
Portfolio of investments Other net assets		19,367,665 40,441	99.79 0.21
Net assets attributable to unitholders		19,408,106	100.00

⁽¹⁾Non-voting Depository Receipts

Primary (continued)	Percentage of total net assets attributable to unitholders at 31 December 2023	Percentage of total net assets attributable to unitholders at 30 June 2023
By geography (Summary)		
Quoted equities		
Australia China Hong Kong Indonesia Malaysia Singapore South Korea Thailand	26.03 21.03 26.78 4.50 1.68 6.67 10.63 2.47	20.88 16.79 30.53 1.37 2.17 9.68 13.52 2.54
Portfolio of investments Other net assets Net assets attributable to unitholders	99.79 0.21 100.00	97.48 2.52 100.00

Secondary	Fair value at 31 December 2023 USD	Percentage of total net assets attributable to unitholders at 31 December 2023	Percentage of total net assets attributable to unitholders at 30 June 2023 %
By industry			
Consumer discretionary Energy Financials Industrials Information Technology Materials Real estate Communication services/ Telecommunication Utilities	603,002 3,358,010 5,185,418 1,422,294 365,943 2,407,887 3,571,171 632,269 1,821,671	3.11 17.31 26.71 7.33 1.89 12.40 18.40 3.26 9.38	2.82 9.21 24.43 13.91 1.49 13.67 19.48 2.98 9.49
Portfolio of investments	19,367,665	99.79	97.48
Other net assets	40,441	0.21	2.52
Net assets attributable to unitholders	19,408,106	100.00	100.00