

Joint Media Release



OCBC BANK & ALLIANZ LAUNCH FIRST FUND IN SINGAPORE THAT GIVES RETAIL CUSTOMERS ACCESS TO GLOBAL EQUITIES AND COVERED CALL OPTIONS IN ONE SIMPLE PRODUCT

***Investors of the AllianzGI Global High Payout Fund will potentially receive
high and sustainable payout of 8% p.a.***

Singapore, 3 January 2006 – OCBC Bank and Allianz Global Investors kickstart the New Year with an innovative new fund that makes it convenient and accessible for retail customers to enjoy potentially high and sustainable dividends with typically lower portfolio volatility in one simple product. The AllianzGI Global High Payout Fund (“The Fund”) combines a globally diversified portfolio of equities offering attractive and sustainable dividend yields with the selling of call options to generate option premiums that will enhance income and reduce overall portfolio risk.

This Fund, which is managed by Allianz Global Investors, will be the first in Singapore that adopts such an investment strategy for the mass retail market. A steady stream of income is generated from the dividends of selected global high income stocks together with the options premiums earned from the selling of call options on the underlying stocks. By selling call options on the underlying stocks, the strategy aims to generate an additional stream of income in exchange for capping the capital appreciation potential of the stocks.

With this strategy, the fund manager aims to generate an annual payout of 8% p.a., which will be paid to investors semi-annually. If the underlying stocks appreciate in value, there is also potential for further capital growth.

The AllianzGI Global High Payout Fund is the latest in a range of wealth management products launched by OCBC Bank that meet specific needs of the man-in-the-street in simple, easy-to-understand and accessible modes.

“This Fund is a good example of our efforts to simplify and streamline what is traditionally, a more complex financial product that was only within the reach of sophisticated or institutional clients,” said Mr Nicholas Tan, Head Group Wealth Management, OCBC Bank. “As banker to the community, we always strive to meet the real-life needs of Singaporeans with relevant products. With the launch of this Fund, we aim to give our customers the unbeatable opportunity to participate in global equities and call option strategy in one simple and easy-to-understand product. This will be the first time that retail customers can invest so conveniently in a diversified portfolio of global equities and integrated with options strategy at the same time.”

This Fund is suitable for investors who wish to receive regular and sustainable income from participating in the upside opportunities of global stocks but at the same time, require some cushioning against possible market downturn. In exchange for the potentially high sustainable regular payout, these investors should be willing to give up some of the upside during strong equity bull markets.

“After three strong equity years in 2003, 2004 and 2005, we expect 2006 to be a positive, albeit only a single digit equity year,” said Mr Karsten Niemann, Portfolio Manager, Allianz Global Investors. “Global economic growth should remain fairly robust in 2006, with growth wide-spread geographically: The US, Southeast Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe all continue to grow vigorously. Also valuations are supportive for equities in Europe, Latin America and South East Asia, with more than 20% of the large cap stocks offering a dividend yield of 4%, or more.”

“We expect only moderate returns from bonds in 2006 given the possible inflationary pressure from higher oil prices and from a strong global economy. In this ‘world of low returns’ from equities and fixed income, the high income of the AllianzGI Global High Payout from dividends and options premiums makes the AllianzGI Global High Payout a very attractive investment.”

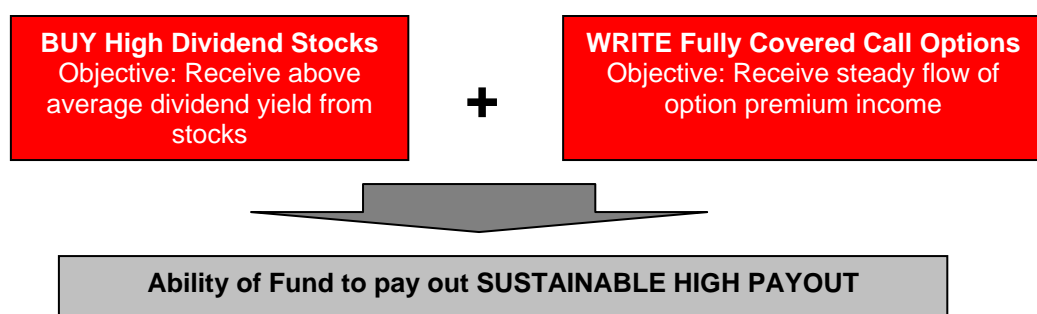
What the Fund offers

Investors who participate in this Fund will enjoy:

- Total return from dividend income, option premiums and capital appreciation;
- Sustainable payouts;
- Typically lower return volatility compared to traditional global equities fund; and
- Diversification offered by a global equities portfolio.

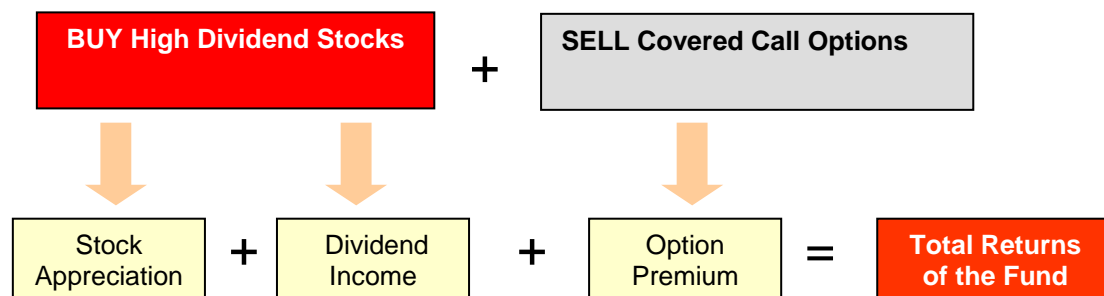
How the Fund aims to achieve the 8% p.a. payout

Traditional high payout funds typically invest in high dividend stocks and/or high yield bonds to generate income to investors (i.e. the “buy” strategy). The Fund complements the “buy” strategy with a “write” component (i.e. the writing/selling of covered call options) to generate higher income. Hence, both stock dividends and income earned from the selling of covered call options (option premium) potentially enables the Fund to achieve sustainable and high payout. This unique and clearly defined “BuyWrite” strategy enhances income means so that the aim of 8% p.a. is potentially sustainable.



The “BuyWrite” Strategy

The “BuyWrite” Strategy is a unique two-part investment strategy that enables the Fund to achieve total return deriving from three sources – stock appreciation, dividend income and option premiums. Payouts that are distributed to investors typically come from dividend income and option premium earned by the Fund. There is also potential for further growth should the underlying stocks appreciate in value.



This unique investment strategy with the selling of covered call options also reduces the volatility that is usually present in equity investments. Selling call options, a well-established investment strategy in the United States since the 1970s, usually results in lower volatility as compared to direct stock investments.

The Fund sells call options to generate an additional stream of income for the Fund. As investors are usually wary of risks involved in derivatives, the options that the Fund sells will be ‘covered’ (i.e. sell options only on the stocks that Fund owns) so that the Fund is not exposed to any extra risk. Thus, the Fund’s liability on the call option is fully covered.

The options strategy will be actively managed to maximise the upside potential of the Fund. In strong rising markets, the sale of covered call options is reduced to allow the Fund to benefit from stock appreciation. In falling/flat/moderately rising markets, more covered call options will be sold to generate additional income and provide a ‘cushion’ against downside risk.

This clearly defined strategy which enhances income means that the aim of 8% p.a. is potentially sustainable.

The Investment Scope

The “Buy” component of the Fund’s strategy consists of investments in high dividend stocks around the world. Seeking investments globally offers wider opportunities and potential for enhanced returns as the Fund has the flexibility of tapping opportunities whenever they arise. Diversification in global markets also reduces risk, as the concentration on a single country entails higher risks compared to a globally diversified portfolio.

The current proposed regional allocation of the Fund is tilted towards Europe as stocks in Europe typically has higher dividend yield than other regions and countries such as North America and Japan. However, as the Fund is actively managed, this allocation may change from time to time. The Fund will invest in approximately 60 – 80 stocks.

Fund Details

Initial offer period	3 January – 20 February 2006
Fund currency	SGD and USD
Launch price	SGD 1.00 and USD 1.00
Minimum initial investment	SGD 5,000 and USD 5,000
Sales charge	5%
Annual management fee	1.75%
Annual trustee fee	up to 0.075%
Redemption charge	NIL
Dealing frequency	Daily

About Allianz Global Investors

Allianz is a leading global provider of insurance, banking and asset management services, rated AA- by S&P. Founded in 1890 in Germany, Allianz shares are traded at leading international stock exchanges in Frankfurt, London, Paris, Zurich and New York.

Allianz Global Investors, the asset management division of the Allianz Group, is one of the five largest asset managers worldwide with extensive experience in managing assets for central banks, government related institutions, pension funds, institutions as well as mutual funds for retail clients. Assets under management amount to US 1.45 trillion as of 30 June 2005.

Its investment capabilities include the reputable capabilities of RCM, PIMCO, Nicholas Applegate, Oppenheimer Capital, Allianz Hedge Fund Partners and dit. Therefore, it is able to draw upon an international array of the world's leading investment professionals managing a number of independent investment styles and processes, to provide investors with investment solutions that meet the demands and challenges of today's sophisticated and complex investment and economic circumstances.

Allianz Global Investors is one of the few asset managers with an experienced investment capability in the Fund's unique strategy of high dividend stock investments coupled with option selling. It has successfully raised assets under this strategy in US and Europe via closed-ended and open-ended funds. Currently, AllianzGI manages and advises approximately USD 4 billion of assets (as of 31 October 2005) under such investment strategy.

Allianz Global Investors Singapore Limited was established in 1996, and was among the first few fund houses to get the CPF approval for offshore funds.

About OCBC Bank

Singapore's longest established local bank, OCBC Bank currently has assets of S\$134 billion and a network of 292 branches and representative offices in 15 countries and territories including Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, China, Hong Kong SAR, Brunei, Japan, Australia, UK and USA. This network includes 185 branches and offices in Indonesia operated by OCBC Bank's subsidiary, PT Bank NISP. OCBC Bank and its banking subsidiaries offer a wide range of specialist financial services, from consumer, corporate, investment, private and transaction banking to global treasury and stockbroking services to meet the needs of its customers across communities.

OCBC Bank's insurance subsidiary, Great Eastern Holdings, is the largest insurance group in Singapore and Malaysia, in terms of assets and market share, and its asset management subsidiary, Lion Capital Management Ltd. is the largest private investment management firm in Southeast Asia.

In 2005, OCBC Bank was named *Global Finance* magazine's best Trade Finance Bank and *FinanceAsia*'s Best Bond House. Additional information may be found at www.ocbc.com.

Disclaimer

Investments in the Fund are not obligations of, deposits, or guaranteed by Allianz Global Investors Singapore Limited ("AllianzGI") or OCBC Bank and are subject to investment risks, including the possible loss of the principal amount invested. Prices of units of the Fund and the income from them may fall as well as rise and cannot be guaranteed. The payouts are not guaranteed and might change in the event of extreme market conditions or at the Manager's discretion. The payouts may be funded by the Manager realizing sufficient investments of the Fund to raise the total amount required for the payouts which will erode the capital of the Fund. Investors should note that the payouts are not in any way a forecast or projection of the future or likely performance of the fund. All applications for units in the Funds must be made on the application form accompanying the prospectus. Investors should read the prospectus for details before investing. Copies of the prospectus of the Fund are available and may be obtained from AllianzGI or any of its appointed distributors. Investors may wish to seek advice from a financial adviser before purchasing units in the Fund. In the event that the investor chooses not to seek advice from a financial adviser before investing in the Fund, he should consider whether the Fund is suitable for him