



# CIMB-Principal launches RM150m open ended fund

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by **BHUPINDER SINGH**

**CIMB-PRINCIPAL** Asset Management Bhd has launched a RM150 million open ended equity growth fund called CIMB-Principal China-India-Indonesia Equity Fund that aims to reap the benefits from the industrialisation and urbanisation of the three economies.

The fund will invest between 70% and 98% of its net asset value in medium (capitalisation of US\$2 billion (RM6.85 billion) and above) to large companies domiciled in the respective countries.

It also includes investment in companies that do businesses or operations in the three markets but are listed elsewhere such as in Taiwan or Hong Kong.

"This fund will invest into markets we know best. These markets are close to home, we hear and read about them everyday and they have proven track records of growing gross domestic product, strengthening stock markets and corporate earnings" said Campbell Tupling, chief ex-

ecutive of CIMB-Principal at the fund yesterday.

The fund allocation according to markets will be China at 60%, India (30%) and Indonesia (10%) with the Hang Seng China Enterprise Index, S&P CNX Nifty Index and Jakarta Composite Index acting as the benchmarks.

Campbell said the fund targets to invest in companies that will fuel the economic growth of the respective companies in sectors such as infrastructure, utilities, telecommunications, building materials and construction that will support the industrialisation and urbanisation process.

The three economies combined are about half the size

of the US\$14 trillion American economy but are expected to surpass the US\$10 trillion figure by 2015, according to the CIMB-Principal.

Its chief investment officer, Raymond Tang, said the fund is meant for investors who are looking for the medium to long-term investment horizon with an expected return of about 10%-15% per annum.

CIMB-Principal current manages 67 funds in total worth RM22 billion at the end of last year. The company has 24 funds that are fully invested offshore and another 13 funds that have some offshore exposure.



**Tupling and with CIMB-Principal Asset Management chief investment officer Raymond Tang at the launch of the CIMB-Principal China-India-Indonesia Equity Fund yesterday**