Platinum Asia Investments Limited ASX: PAI

MONTHLY REPORT 31 March 2021

FACTS

Portfolio value	\$493.45 mn
Portfolio commenced	15 September 2015
Current share price	\$1.270
Current dividend yield	5.51%
Pre-tax NTA	\$1.3471
Post-tax NTA	\$1.2753
Maximum franked dividend	13.44 cps
NTA retained earnings & div profit resv.	28.44 cps
Pre-tax NTA Post-tax NTA Maximum franked dividend	\$1.3471 \$1.2753 13.44 cps

PERFORMANCE 1

	Company % (Pre-tax NTA)	MSCI %
1 month	(2.3)	(0.9)
3 months	3.5	4.0
6 months	13.6	14.6
Calendar year to date	3.5	4.0
1 year	32.7	26.4
2 years (compound pa)	19.4	12.7
3 years (compound pa)	12.3	9.1
5 years (compound pa)	16.0	14.0
Since inception (compound p	a) 12.6	11.8

PAI's returns are calculated after the deduction of fees and expenses, adjusted for taxes paid and any capital flows and assume the reinvestment of dividends. PAI's returns have not been calculated using PAI's share price.

INVESTED POSITIONS³

	LONG %	SHORT %	NET %	CCY %
Asia-Pacific	82.6	(8.1)	74.5	83.9
China	43.6		43.6	43.6
Hong Kong	7.8		7.8	11.6
Taiwan	6.1		6.1	6.1
India	5.5	(2.7)	2.8	2.8
Japan		(0.3)	(0.3)	0.1
Macao	1.1		1.1	1.1
Philippines	1.3		1.3	1.3
Singapore	1.6		1.6	1.6
South Korea	11.3	(5.1)	6.2	11.4
Thailand	1.6		1.6	1.6
Vietnam	2.8		2.8	2.8
Europe				0.2
United Kingdom				0.2
North America				15.8
United States of America				15.8
Sub-Total	82.6	(8.1)	74.5	100.0
Cash	17.4	8.1	25.5	
Total	100.0		100.0	100.0

Long - 50 stocks Short - 1 swap, 2 indices

FEES

1.10% p.a. (excl. GST) of portfolio value* Management fee:

Performance fee: 15.00% p.a. (excl. GST) of outperformance

over benchmark (MSCI All Country Asia ex

Japan Net Index (A\$))

*The portfolio value is the market value of the investments in the portfolio after the deduction of fees and expenses, adjusted for taxes, corporate actions and dividends.

PERFORMANCE GRAPH 2



STOCK	COUNTRY	INDUSTRY	%
Samsung Electronics Co	South Korea	Info Technology	5.5
Taiwan Semiconductor	Taiwan	Info Technology	5.0
AIA Group Ltd	Hong Kong	Financials	3.6
Ping An Insurance Group	China	Financials	3.3
Weichai Power Co Ltd	China	Industrials	3.1
SK Hynix Inc	South Korea	Info Technology	3.1
China Resources Land Ltd	China	Real Estate	2.8
Vietnam Ent Investments	Vietnam	Other	2.8
Kingsoft Corp Ltd	China	Info Technology	2.7
Huazhu Group Ltd	China	Cons Discretionary	2.7
		Total	34.8

INDUSTRY BREAKDOWN³

SECTOR	LONG %	SHORT %	NET %
Information Technology	18.3		18.3
Consumer Discretionary	17.0		17.0
Financials	13.0		13.0
Industrials	12.6		12.6
Real Estate	9.7		9.7
Materials	3.6	(0.3)	3.3
Consumer Staples	2.4		2.4
Communication Services	1.9		1.9
Health Care	1.2		1.2
Other	2.8	(7.8)	(4.9)

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1. & 2. Source: Platinum for portfolio returns and Factset Research Systems for MSCI returns. The returns are calculated relative to the MSCI All Country Asia ex-Japan Net Index in A\$. The investment returns in the line graph are cumulative on A\$20,000 invested in PAI since inception. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns. Platinum does not invest by reference to the weightings of the index. The index is provided as a reference only.

^{3.} The geographic "Long %" is the exposure to long securities/index derivative positions, the geographic "Short %" is the exposure to short securities and short securities/index derivative positions and the geographic "Net %" is the difference between the geographic "Long %" and the geographic "Short %", each as a percentage of the market value of the Fund's portfolio. The "Currency %" is the effective currency exposure as a percentage of the market value of the Fund's portfolio taking into account long and short securities/index derivative positions. The cash "Long %" includes cash at bank, cashflows expected from forwards and effective cash exposures resulting from long securities/index derivative positions and the cash "Short %" includes effective cash exposures resulting from short securities/index derivative positions and the cash "Short %" is the difference between the cash "Long %" and the cash "Short %" each as a percentage of the market value of the Fund's portfolio. For the "Industry breakdown", index positions (whether through ETFs or derivatives) are only included under the relevant sector if they are sector specific, otherwise they are included under "Other

^{4.} The "Top ten positions" show PAI's top ten long securities positions as a percentage of PAI's portfolio value (including long securities and long securities derivative positions).

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MARKET UPDATE AND COMMENTARY

- China seeing very strong export growth and officials trying to talk down any exuberance.
- We added to Chinese property developers amid industry reform.
- We have trimmed semiconductors and Indian exposure.

The month of March saw Non-Japan Asia equity markets and the portfolio decline slightly, amid US dollar strength and a pause in the ascent of commodity prices such as crude oil and copper.

China growing but officials talking down the economy

Chinese monetary officials continue to send sobering signals to the market. Guo Shuqing, chairman of the China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission, warned in February of speculative excess in US and European markets, and spoke of "[reducing] the high leverage within the financial system" (Source: Ollari Consulting). Given the strong rebound in global demand, and hence for Chinese exports, this is not surprising. During March data was released for February's Chinese exports. These were up 60.6% versus a year ago, which is clearly affected by the baseline comparison and seasonality: still, the figure was nearly double consensus expectations (Source: Bloomberg, Ollari Consulting).

China's economy continues to expand, as indicated by Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) data for March. The official manufacturing PMI came in at 51.9 and non-manufacturing was 56.3 (Source: Bloomberg). China's official PMI surveys larger firms and skews more toward the state-owned sector. The Caixin China General Manufacturing PMI, which surveys smaller and more privately-owned firms, indicated a slower expansion with a reading of 50.6, while the non-manufacturing figure was robust at 54.3 (Source: Caixin Global). Readings above 50 in PMIs indicate expansion.

Our interpretation of Chinese economic data is that the economy is slowing from its rapid ascent in its reopening phase and that officials are attempting to curb enthusiasm about the immediate future, particularly in the presence of rapidly accelerating external demand as the US and European economies reopen.

Adding to property developers

We reduced exposure during March, we added to Chinese property developers namely **China Vanke** and **China Resources Land**, which join fellow developer **China Overseas Land & Investment** in the portfolio. Investor sentiment toward the sector is negative, with the market appearing to believe that increased regulatory scrutiny on debt levels and home price limitations will hamper the profitability of developers for years to come. We see significant potential for consolidation, with higher quality operators with stronger balance sheets poised to benefit in our view.

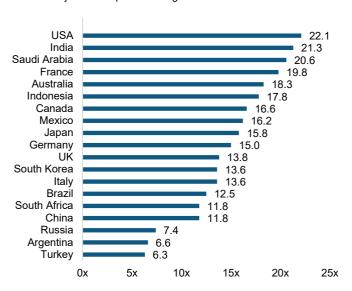
During March it was announced that 22 cities in China would adopt a new policy to conduct land auctions for property development in three short windows each year (Source: South China Morning Post). This will require more capital in short periods of time for property developers and may lower land prices — both would be beneficial to the larger property developers, we believe. Moreover, our work indicates the property developers are trading at close to record low valuations — on low single digit price-to-earnings ratios in many cases. This is an attractive starting point.

Trimming semis and India

We have continued to trim our holdings at the margin in semiconductor names Samsung Electronics, SK Hynix and Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing into strength, with this theme playing out in excess of our expectations Signs of a global chip shortage include recent news from Nissan that it will idle production at three North American plants in response to the global chip shortage for vehicle production (Source: Nissan).

Daily COVID-19 cases were running at over 90,000 in early April 2021, near the peaks recorded in India in September 2020 (Source: Google data). We see potential for meaningful economic interruption and have trimmed exposure to India as a result. We exited **Reliance Holdings** in recent weeks.

Major market price-earnings ratios - Next 12 months



Source: Chart 1 – IBES consensus, in local currency. Correct as at 8 April 2021.



Source: Chart 2 – IBES consensus, in local currency. Correct as at 8 April 2021.