# Platinum Asia Investments Limited ASX: PAI

# MONTHLY REPORT 30 June 2022

# **FACTS**

Portfolio value \$389.92 mn Portfolio commenced 15 September 2015 Current share price \$0.860 Current dividend yield 9.88% Pre-tax NTA \$1.0566 Post-tax NTA \$1.0730 Maximum franked dividend 11.16 cps NTA retained earnings & div profit resv. 8.11 cps

# PERFORMANCE 1

Company % (Pre-tax NTA)	MSCI %
4.3	(0.4)
3.4	(0.6)
(8.0)	(11.5)
(8.0)	(11.5)
(14.4)	(18.1)
3.8	2.4
7.3	2.8
7.9	5.4
a) 7.9	7.1
	4.3 3.4 (8.0) (8.0) (14.4) 3.8 7.3 7.9

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 POSITIONS<sup>3</sup>

	LONG %	SHORT %	NET %	CCY %
Asia-Pacific	84.1	(1.0)	83.1	87.5
China	46.9		46.9	46.9
Hong Kong	4.2		4.2	8.2
Taiwan	5.0		5.0	5.1
India	9.1	(1.0)	8.1	8.3
Indonesia	0.5		0.5	0.5
Macao	1.4		1.4	1.4
Philippines	1.6		1.6	1.6
Singapore	1.4		1.4	1.4
South Korea	8.1		8.1	8.1
Vietnam	5.9		5.9	5.9
North America				12.5
United States of America				12.5
Sub-Total	84.1	(1.0)	83.1	100.0
Cash	15.9	1.0	16.9	
Total	100.0		100.0	100.0

Long - 59 stocks, 1 swap Short - 1 swap, 1 index

# **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



assume the reinvestment of dividends. PAI's returns have not been calculated using PAI's share price.

TOP TEN POSITIONS<sup>4</sup>

MSĈI

59.5%

STOCK	COUNTRY	INDUSTRY	%
Taiwan Semiconductor	Taiwan	Info Technology	4.6
ZTO Express Cayman Inc	China	Industrials	4.1
Tencent Holdings Ltd	China	Comm Services	4.1
Vietnam Ent Investments	Vietnam	Other	4.0
Ping An Insurance Group	China	Financials	4.0
Samsung Electronics Co	South Korea	Info Technology	3.7
Alibaba Group Holding Ltd	China	Cons Discretionary	3.5
InterGlobe Aviation Ltd	India	Industrials	3.5
China Resources Land Ltd	China	Real Estate	3.2
JD.com Inc	China	Cons Discretionary	2.7
		Total	37.3

# INDUSTRY BREAKDOWN<sup>3</sup>

SECTOR	LONG %	SHORT %	NET %
Consumer Discretionary	20.2		20.2
Information Technology	14.1	(1.0)	13.2
Real Estate	12.6		12.6
Industrials	11.8		11.8
Financials	9.9		9.9
Communication Services	4.1		4.1
Consumer Staples	3.6		3.6
Materials	3.1		3.1
Health Care	0.7		0.7
Energy	0.1		0.1
Other	4.0		4.0

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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.

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3. The "Long %" is the exposure to long securities and long securities/index derivative positions, the "Short %" is the exposure to short securities and short securities/index derivative positions, each as a percentage of PAI's portfolio value. The "Currency %" is the effective currency exposure of PAI's portfolio as a percentage of its portfolio value, taking into account long and short securities, forwards and long and short securities, forwards and long and short securities. For the "Industry breakdown", index positions (whether through ETFs or derivatives) are only included under "Other".

3. and 4. Country classifications for securities reflect Bloomberg's "country of risk" designations, and currency classifications for securities of our country classifications.

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## MARKET UPDATE AND COMMENTARY

- · Strong performance by China.
- Chinese property developers are a case study.
- Updates on India and South Korea.

Performance in June was pleasing for the portfolio, driven by our Chinese holdings. The Shanghai Composite has performed well in recent months relative to large regional peers India (Nifty) and Korea (KOSPI), as shown in the accompanying chart. Drivers of performance for the month were Chinese travel companies Trip.com and Huazhou, tech/consumer discretionary names Alibaba and JD.com, Ping An Insurance, and property developer China Resources Land. Among our larger detractors for the month were our semiconductor holdings Samsung Electronics, SK Hynix and Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing.

### Chinese property developers contribute strongly

The performance of our Chinese property developer holdings over the past year has been pleasing: China Resources Land is up approximately 23% in Australian dollars (AUD); and China Overseas Land & Investment is up approximately 42% in AUD (Source: FactSet). These are emblematic of our approach, particularly in China. These are large companies, with long track records of earnings growth, sound balance sheets, operating in an industry that is essential for ongoing Chinese development, and they are advantaged by official pressure on smaller and highly geared competitors, in our estimation.

Property development presents a case study in what our peers call "political risk" in China. A highly interventionist and methodical state regularly announces areas of concern: corruption, pollution, excessive speculation or gearing and so on, and then action follows. This gives investors time to analyse and decide a course of action. In the case of property developers, we decided that the larger and well-capitalised developers presented excellent opportunities. We can still make mistakes of course, but this is a fault of analysis, not "political risk".

### India

Indian equities have come under pressure in recent months as energy prices bite and inflation has remained above the Reserve Bank of India's upper threshold of 6% p.a. since February, with a last available reading of 7% in May (Source: Bloomberg). At the same time, unemployment has remained stubbornly high (7.7% in June), but the situation is more serious than this suggests, with a participation rate of just 40% of working age Indians, and only 9% of women, in the labour market, according to the Centre for Monitoring the Indian Economy (Source: Bloomberg, *The Economist*).

In response to high energy prices, at the end of June, the Modi Government announced an increase in diesel and gasoline export duties, along with a windfall tax on domestic oil production and a reserving policy for the domestic market. This is unlikely to solve India's long-term reliance on imported energy and vulnerability to high oil prices, in our view.

In all, India remains an expensive equity market, and very much the emerging market that global investors can hold in preference to China. Earnings growth is rapid, but it is hardly an economy without challenges – hence our relatively modest holdings (see accompanying charts and portfolio data).

### South Korea

Following a decade of the slowest GDP growth in the country's history, South Korea enjoyed GDP growth of 4% in 2021, its highest reading since 2010 (Source: World Bank). Now, however, the country faces inflation of 6% in June and has recorded 15 straight months of inflation above the Bank of Korea's target of 2%, contributing to significant pressure for Korean equities (Source: CNBC). Korea has a challenging domestic economy, competing with the North Asian giants, but in our view the country produces some fine businesses: our holdings in Korea are limited to chip makers Samsung Electronics and SK Hynix, plus petrochemicals and battery material company LG Chem.



9.2

10x

15x

20x

8 4

66

Source: Chart 1 – IBES consensus, in local currency. Correct as at 5 July 2022.

52

46

3.4

5x

South Korea

Italy

Brazil

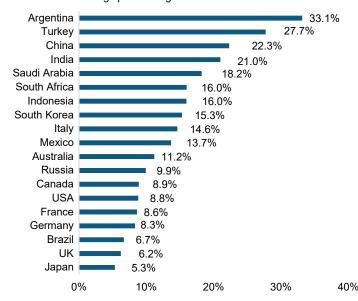
Turkey

Russia

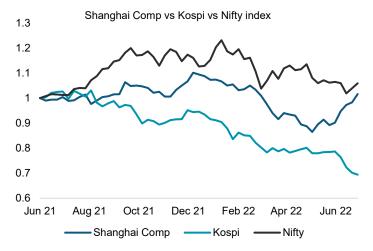
0x

Argentina





Source: Chart 2 – IBES consensus, in local currency. Correct as at 5 July 2022.



Source: Chart 3 - FactSet from 6/62021 to 3/07/2022