AGCM China Stars Fund



July 3, 2018

Trade tensions weigh on markets – China announces more reforms

During the month of June, the NAV of AGCM China Stars Fund RC1 SEK share class decreased by -3.6%. The month started out strong but escalating global trade tensions weighed on investor sentiment. China's mainland A-share market fell over 10% in June to multi-year lows, not far from the level where China's "National Team" of state-backed investors have stepped forward in the past to put a floor under the market.

Political developments have now replaced central bank policies as the key driver of world financial markets. Particularly, for investors in Asian equities, the aggressive stance taken by the US on global trade has become a central area of concern. The tariffs announced by Trump's trade representatives targeting China's "Made in China 2025" program have led to Chinese retaliation, followed by threats of additional US measures. In a closed-door meeting, president Xi Jinping told US business leaders in China that the country will "punch back". What has received less attention in Western media however, is that China now accelerates the opening of its domestic market to foreign investors, a long-standing request by the West. Chinese state media are keen to emphasize that the reforms now announced are not concessions due to external pressure but rather reforms which have been planned for years.

On Thursday last week, China's Ministry of Commerce and the National Development and Reform Commission, China's top economic planning agency, jointly announced that China will ease foreign investment curbs in 22 industries including banking, automotive, energy, shipping, airplane manufacturing, railway construction, mining and agriculture. Effective July 28, foreign companies will be allowed to own a controlling 51% stake in joint ventures in financial services such as securities, fund management and life insurance. In 2021, all restrictions on foreign holdings in the financial sector will be removed. The government will maintain domestic control over media and entertainment, internet publications, law firms, nuclear power facilities and tobacco.

Despite the current trade tensions, there are good reasons to be optimistic on the outlook for Chinese equity markets. After a 20% decline since January of China's main A-share index, the CSI300, valuations are now at a threeyear low trading at 12 times earnings, while the growth in earnings remains high in the mid-teens. Today, China's central bank PBOC, said in a statement that it will prevent a further slide of China's currency, eliminating one of the fear factors behind foreign selling of Chinese equities. Other government agencies are now signaling that support is underway should markets slide further. On September 1, the second step of the MSCI-inclusion of Chinese A-shares in regional equity indices will be implemented, a boost to share prices as passive investment funds need to rebalance. Also in the medium and long term, Chinese equity markets have good tailwinds. Institutional investors account for only 25% of the market, a share which is set to increase over time with growing foreign participation. A larger participation of non-Chinese investors will contribute to a reduced valuation gap between China and the West. China's domestic stock markets are also supported by high underlying economic growth and a steady stream of IPOs. We also expect further support for markets as additional supply-side reforms are announced later in the year, as well as more news related to large scale investments in high-tech industries, expanded welfare spending, and tax reforms.

Gustav Rhenman, Chief Investment Officer

AGCM China Stars Fund

Monthly Report

Performance

A	G	C	Μ		
ASIA GROWTH CAPITAL MANAGEN					

As of 30/06/2018	1 month	3 month	YTD	Since launch August 28, 2017
AGCM China Stars Fund RC1 SEK	-3.6%	+1.8%	+6.1%	+16.4%
AGCM China Stars Fund RC8 SEK	-3.5%	+2.0%	+6.5%	+17.6%
AGCM China Stars Fund RC9 SEK	-4.0%	+2.0%	+6.8%	+19.2%



About Asia Growth Capital Management

Asia Growth Capital Management AB (AGCM) is a specialized investment management company managing investment funds investing in listed equities in Asia. The company was founded in Sweden in 2013 by a group of investment professionals and executives with extensive experiences from a wide range of different industries. The Chief Investment Officer has twice before been awarded by Lipper (Thomson Reuters) for managing the best performing Asia Fund among all regulated Asia funds registered for marketing in any EU country.

Fund Facts

Portfolio manager:	Gustav Rhenman		
Inception date:	28-August-2017		
Fund size:	SEK 384 million		
Number of holdings:	30		
Management fee (RC1):	1.35% + 10% perf. fee		
Fund management	SEB Fund Services		
Company:	Luxembourg		
NAV:	(RC1) SEK 116.4		
	(RC8) SEK 117.6		
	(RC9) SEK 119.2		
Minimum subscription:	n.a.		
ISIN code:	SEK RC1 LU 1608617111		
	SEK RC8 LU 1608617384		
	SEK RC9 LU 1608617467		

Disclaimers

Risk information: Money you invest in the Fund can both increase and decrease in value. Historic performance is no guarantee of future return. Saving in funds should be viewed in a long-term perspective, which then may potentially offer a better return than traditional savings in fixed income. We recommend that you read the KIID and prospectus available at <u>www.agcm.se</u> before you make an investment. You can also request such information via e-mail to info@agcm.se.

ASIA GROWTH CAPITAL MANAGEMENT • Strandvägen 5A 2 tr • SE-114 51 Stockholm • Sweden • <u>info@agcm.se</u> • <u>www.agcm.se</u> Finnish Investors: contact <u>mauri.lavikainen@agcm.se</u>

According to Personuppgiftslagen (PUL): AGCM can use such personal data which has been given to the company by the registered person or which the company has sourced from other sources (name, e-mail and telephone number) to, via e-mail or telephone, give information about and market its products and services, including direct marketing. The personal data is used mainly in relation to people who orally or in written form have indicated interest to AGCM. If you want to receive information about which personal data about yourself the company is handling, you can in writing, signed by yourself, make a request to Asia Growth Capital Management AB, Strandvägen 5A, 2 tr, 114 51 Stockholm. You can also make a request in writing to the same address that you wish not to have your personal data used for purposes of direct marketing. Request for correction of personal data can also be made to the same address.