## **IMPORTANT:**

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Investments involve risks, including the loss of principal. You are advised to consider your investment objectives and circumstances in determining the suitability of an investment in the Trust. An investment in the Trust may not be suitable for everyone.

SFC authorisation is not a recommendation or endorsement of a scheme nor does it guarantee the commercial merits of a scheme or its performance. It does not mean the scheme is suitable for all investors nor is it an endorsement of its suitability for any particular investor or class of investors.

## **iShares Asia Trust**

a Hong Kong unit trust authorised under Section 104 of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571) of Hong Kong

> iShares Core Hang Seng Index ETF (HKD Counter Stock Code: 3115) (RMB Counter Stock Code: 83115) (USD Counter Stock Code: 9115)

iShares Hang Seng TECH ETF (HKD Counter Stock Code: 3067) (USD Counter Stock Code: 9067)

sub-funds of the iShares Asia Trust (the "Trust") (each a "Sub-Fund" and collectively, the "Sub-Funds")

## Announcement

Unless specified otherwise, capitalised terms have the same meaning as stated in the Prospectus of the Sub-Funds.

The Manager of the Sub-Funds, BlackRock Asset Management North Asia Limited (the "**Manager**") hereby informs Unitholders of the following changes, to be made by Hang Seng Indexes Company Limited (the "**Index Provider**") to the index methodology of the Hang Seng Index and the Hang Seng TECH Index (collectively, the "**Underlying Indices**"), the underlying index of iShares Core Hang Seng Index ETF and iShares Hang Seng TECH ETF respectively.

In conjunction with the September 2023 quarterly review and effective from 4 December 2023 (the "Effective Date"):

(a) Adding primary-listed foreign companies to the universes of the Hang Seng Index and the Hang Seng TECH Index

Primary-listed foreign companies in the Hang Seng Composite LargeCap & MidCap Index will be eligible for the

Hang Seng Index and the Hang Seng TECH Index constituent selection. Individual constituent weighting of foreign companies constituents will be subject to a 4% cap and the aggregate weighting of foreign companies constituents will be capped at 10%. "Foreign companies" are companies which are incorporated outside Greater China (i.e. Hong Kong, Mainland PRC, Macau and Taiwan) and have the majority of their business presence outside Greater China.

(b) Removing the cap on the number of "Hong Kong" constituents in the Hang Seng Index

The number of "Hong Kong" constituents in the Hang Seng Index is currently fixed between 20 to 25. From the Effective Date, the upper limit on the "Hong Kong" constituent number, i.e. 25, will be removed, keeping only the minimum number for "Hong Kong" constituents at 20.

The portfolio of the Sub-Funds will be rebalanced to reflect the changes to the Underlying Indices constituents (if any) as a result of the above changes.

For the avoidance of doubt, there are no changes to the index methodology of the Underlying Indices other than as set out above. The investment strategy and risk profile of the Sub-Funds do not change. The Manager believes that (i) the changes do not amount to a material change to the Sub-Funds; (ii) there will not be any material change or increase in the overall risk profile of the Sub-Funds following the above changes; and (iii) the changes will not materially prejudice the interest of Unitholders.

For further details, please refer to the announcement dated 7 July 2023 issued by the Index Provider which is available at <a href="https://www.hsi.com.hk/static/uploads/contents/en/news/pressRelease/20230707T163005.pdf">https://www.hsi.com.hk/static/uploads/contents/en/news/pressRelease/20230707T163005.pdf</a> (this website has not been reviewed by the SFC).

The Prospectus and the Product Key Facts Statement of the Sub-Funds will be revised to reflect the above changes on or around the Effective Date. The revised Prospectus and the Product Key Facts Statement of the Sub-Funds will subsequently be uploaded on the Manager's website at <u>www.blackrock.com/hk</u> (this website has not been reviewed by the SFC) and the Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited's website at <u>www.hkex.com.hk</u> (this website has not been reviewed by the SFC).

If you have any questions concerning this Announcement, please contact us on +852 3903 2823 or at 16th Floor Champion Tower, 3 Garden Road, Central, Hong Kong.

BlackRock Asset Management North Asia Limited 貝萊德資產管理北亞有限公司 as Manager of the Trust and the Sub-Funds Hong Kong, 1 December 2023