

OLD MUTUAL MULTI-MANAGERS BUSINESS UPDATE – MARCH 2023

QUARTER 1, 2023

This is my 52nd and last quarterly update note after 13 years at the helm of the multi-manager business. I therefore write with a sense of trepidation, thinking about what to say and how to say it. As I reflect, there are a number of 'the best of times and the worst of times' when considering what markets have done over this period. It seemed not long ago we had a strong currency at around R6.50 to the US dollar as the markets were recovering from the Global Financial Crisis.

We had to deal with the US Taper Tantrum, Nenegate, African Bank, Steinhoff and Landbank to name a few. The COVID crisis that shocked markets and the amazing better than V shaped recovery were definitely not on anyone's radar. Negative yields on offshore bonds were the norm over the last decade until inflation, a forgotten economic term globally, reared its head and led to significant increases in interest rates.

Thinking back over these events, I realise how privileged I have been to be part of an investment team that has really proved its worth. The long-term track record is really fantastic with the institutional fund performance being 1st, 2nd or 3rd over 10 years when looked at over the recent past. This is testimony that despite what markets, politics or wars throw at us, the investment philosophy is sound and the investment expertise is outstanding.

I have been privileged to engage with really great clients and advisors, be it retirement fund trustees, planners, or consultants. The more memorable times being when I was challenged, and while tough at the time, it did inspire me to build a better business. My team can testify to my angst when we made errors, however, hopefully our response was appropriate and led to better outcomes afterwards.

There are a number of exciting changes that will be taking place within the multi-manager business over the next few months. I truly believe that these changes will launch the business to new heights and look forward to seeing the growth over the next couple of years. I leave a very solid team behind, but also know that Kieyam Gamielien who is taking over from me will drive success for both you and your clients, as well as for the business.

My sincerest thanks to you for your valued support. I know that I have pretty much ended every one of my notes with this comment, but it is with real appreciation that I say this. Without you we would not have a business.

God bless,

TREVOR PASCOE
MANAGING DIRECTOR
OLD MUTUAL MULTI-MANAGERS

