





# FY2023 Annual General Meeting

29 July 2024









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## **Agenda**

Section A Key Highlights

Section B Financial Review

Section C Portfolio Management

Section D Independent Auditor's Disclaimer of Opinion











# **Section A: Key Highlights**









#### **FY2023 Macro Environment**

#### **Global Macro Economy**

- Ongoing geo-political tension led to prolonged market uncertainty
- Persistent high inflation remained a significant challenge
- Continued global trend of rising and high interest rate, some countries initiated rate cuts towards the latter part of 2023

#### **China Economy and Real Estate Sector**

- ❖ FY2023 GDP growth meet official target, but recovery was far shakier than market expectations (1)
- The market has yet to fully respond to government stimulus measures
- Real estate sector had worsened, property investment dropped 9.6% in FY2023
- ❖ Focus in new quality (新质) industries, hi-tech industries
- Average vacancy rates at logistics properties in east and north China are approaching 20%, the highest in years<sup>(2)</sup>
- Some leading warehouse players who faced with high vacancy rates and falling rents, are contemplating divestment of assets in China (2)(3)
- ❖ The market share of the top 10 logistics developers in 2023 decreased from 71.6% in 2019 to 65.5% (3)

#### **Singapore REITs**

5-year Singapore iEdge S-REIT Index [SGD] as of 30 June 2024 (4)

Price return (YTD): -14.06% Total return (YTD): -11.67%

- 1. <a href="https://www.reuters.com/world/china/chinas-q4-gdp-grows-52-yy-below-market-forecast-2024-01-17">https://www.reuters.com/world/china/chinas-q4-gdp-grows-52-yy-below-market-forecast-2024-01-17</a>
- 2. https://www.businesstimes.com.sg/property/us100-billion-bet-chinas-economy-sours-warehouses-empty
- 3. <a href="https://pdf.savills.asia/selected-international-research/2024-china-logistics-en-2.pdf">https://pdf.savills.asia/selected-international-research/2024-china-logistics-en-2.pdf</a>
- 4. https://api2.sgx.com/sites/default/files/2024-07/S-REIT\_Factsheet\_20240628.pdf



## **FY2023 Financial Highlights**



- Excluding the relevant accounting and distribution adjustment, the gross revenue and NPI in RMB terms was 1.6% and 0.5% lower respectively compared to FY2022, mainly due to lower occupancy rate in Wuhan Meiluote, discontinuation of China Tobacco leases in relation to Hengde Logistics Phase I, cessation of rental income contribution from Fu Zhuo Industrial from 1 Apr 2022, mitigated partly by organic rental escalations, higher late fee income and lower operating expenses at the Properties
- Higher finance cost mainly due to higher interest rate and extension fee incurred during the year
- Calculated FY2023 DPU of 3.659 cents was 23.2% lower y-o-y mainly due to lower gross revenue and higher finance cost and absence of pay out distribution previously retained in prior periods
- The distribution for the period from 1 January 2023 to 30 June 2023 has been deferred until ECW has sufficient available cash
- No distribution was declared for 2H FY2023, and it is highly likely that no distribution will be declared for the financial year 2024.

## **Asset Management**



Committed occupancy of 79.9% as at 31 December 2023

 Valuation of the portfolio of EC World REIT has declined by 43% to RMB4,336 million (RMB 7,604 million as at 31 December 2022)

- Completed novation process on 30 June 2024 to take over underlying leases from master lessees
- Discontinuation of China Tobacco leases in Hengde Logistics Phase
   1 had impacted property assessment
- Proactive leasing strategies to improve lease performance and stabilize rental income
- Hengde Logistics achieved an overall committed occupancy of 76.2% as at 30 June 2024
- Overall committed occupancy improved to 80.2% as at 30 June 2024



## **Challenges and Updates**





**Updates** 

 As of 31 December 2023, the REIT and its subsidiaries are owed more than RMB289.1 million (S\$53.7 million) in overdue rent receivables by the Sponsor group.

- Unauthorised mortgages had been imposed on three properties owned by ECW during November 2023 without the Manager's consent or knowledge
- The Manager retrieved all stamps, issued demand letters to the Sponsor, submitted lawsuits to the relevant PRC court.
- Management secured the discharge of the unauthorised mortgages over Hengde Logistics and Fuheng Warehouse and is working to discharge Fuzhou E-commerce
- Engaged KPMG Services Pte. Ltd. to explore various strategic options
- Appointed Savills Property Services (Shanghai) Co., Ltd. and Cushman & Wakefield (HK) Ltd. to identify potential purchasers for property divestment to meet lenders' requirement











## **Section B: Financial Review**









#### **Balance Sheet**

S\$'000	As at 31 December 2023	As at 31 December 2022
Cash and cash equivalents <sup>(1)</sup>	100,964	113,330
Investment Properties <sup>(2)</sup>	805,629	1,076,874
Assets of Disposal Group classified as held- for-sale	-	460,424
Total Assets	1,005,280	1,666,778
Borrowings	559,079	593,136
Liabilities directly associated with Disposal Group classified as held-for-sale	-	161,053
Total Liabilities	910,419	1,059,784
Net Assets attributable to Unitholders	94,861	606,994
NAV per unit (S\$)	0.12	0.75

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes RMB195.1 million (S\$36.2 million) cash security deposits received from the master leases and cash deposits of RMB474.9 million (S\$88.2 million) placed as collateral for standby letter of credit ("SBLC") issuance. As at 31 December 2023, cash collaterals for SBLC facilities were placed with United Overseas Bank (China) Limited and Bank of East Asia (China) Limited which have good credit rating

<sup>(2)</sup> Represents the year end fair value of the investment properties based on the valuation as at 31 December 2023 conducted by Knight Frank. The decrease in the carrying amount of Investment Properties was due to fair value loss and weakening of RMB against SGD

#### **Facilities Update**

- The restructuring of the Onshore Facilities has been completed with the signing of a supplementary agreement on 16 July 2024 between the EC World REIT group and the Onshore Lenders
- Although the Manager has received the Pre-enforcement Notice from Offshore lenders, the Pre-enforcement Notice allows up to 31 May 2025 (more than 12 months from year end) for the Group to divest its assets in such amount sufficient to repay the Offshore Facility.
- As of today, the Group has not received any notice of enforcement action. The Manager is actively working with the lenders of the Offshore Facility and KPMG to fulfil conditions under the Pre-enforcement Notice
- Approximately S\$20.1 million of the EC World REIT group's revolving loans (Existing SBLC Loans) remains outstanding which is fully secured by cash deposit in PRC

### **Key Terms Under the Onshore Supplementary Agreement**

- ☐ Interest Expense Reduction: Margin reduction by 2% per annum, preserving more cash for ongoing operations.
- Waiver Fee: Obligation to pay a 2% waiver fee per annum on the current outstanding principal by 30 April 2026.
- Repayment Schedule Revision: Significant reduction in the principal amount payable before the Onshore Facilities Maturity Date.
- Income Account Requirement: Maintain income account at least equal to the next interest payment due under the Onshore Facilities.











# Section C: Portfolio Management









## **Existing Portfolio**

Chongxian Port

Logistics

Multi Tenanted

#### **Average Occupancy**

#### **E-Commerce Logistics Assets**

Committed Occupancy (As at Committed Occupancy (As

92.9%

Asset	Lease Structure (1)	31 Dec 2023)	at 30 June 2024)	Key Highlight	
Fu Heng Warehouse	MLA/ Novation completed	100.0%	78.1%	Coveted property; supporting e-commerce fulfilment	
Fuzhou E- Commerce	MLA/ Novation completed	100.0%	70.8%	Situated next to Fu Heng. An integrated e-commerce logistics asset	
Stage 1 Properties of Bei Gang	Master Lease: 1 Nov 2015 to 31 Oct 2024	100.0%	100%	An integrated e-commerce logistic asset	
Wuhan Meiluote	Multi Tenanted	44.0%	33.8%	First acquisition in 2018. Houses mainly e-commerce players Heavy competition at Wuhan market currently	
Specialized Logistics Asset					
Asset	Lease Structure	Committed Occupancy (As at 31 Dec 2023)	Committed Occupancy (As at 30 June 2024)	Key Highlight	
		,			
Hengde Logistics (	<sup>(2)</sup> Multi Tenanted	31.4%	76.2%	Customised environment control warehouse space	
Hengde Logistics	<sup>(2)</sup> Multi Tenanted	,	76.2%		
Hengde Logistics (	(2) Multi Tenanted  Lease Structure	31.4%	76.2% ssets		

- (1) As at 31 December 2023. MLA: Master Leased Agreement; Negotiation on Master Settlement Agreement with the Sponsor Group is pending
- (2) The decrease in occupancy rate of Hengde Logistics was due to China Tobacco Zhejiang Industrial Co., Ltd deciding not to continue its lease in relation to Hengde Phase 1 (forming 159,794 square metres of Hengde Logistics)

99.3%

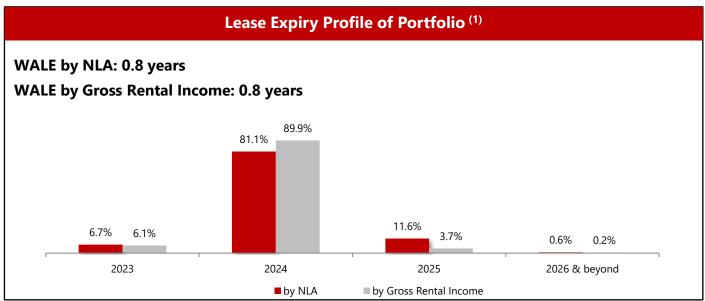


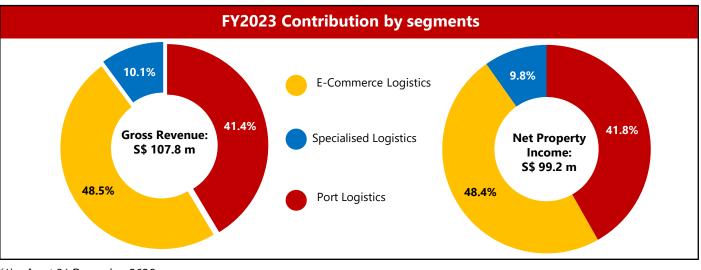
An integrated complex of with

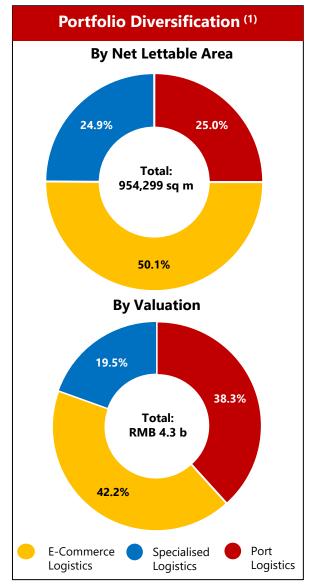
warehouses and office building

### **Quality and Differentiated Asset Portfolio**

- Average portfolio occupancy of 79.9% as at 31 December 2023
- ✓ Income contribution across all sectors, however collection of rentals from related parties has been seriously delayed



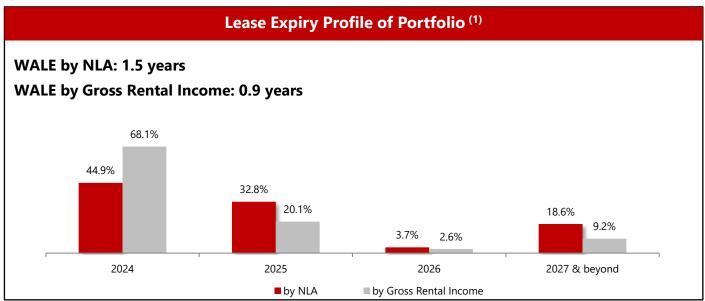


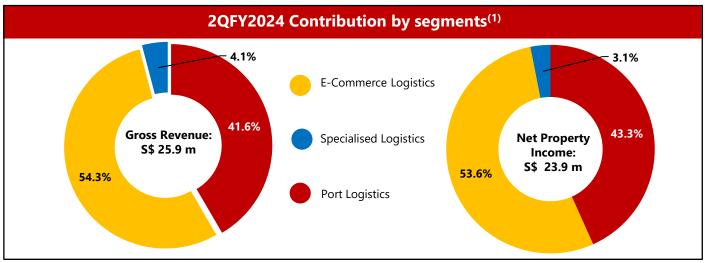


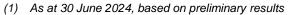
(1) As at 31 December 2023

## **Quality and Differentiated Asset Portfolio**

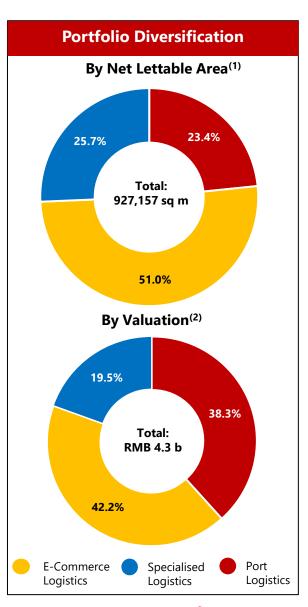
- ✓ Average committed occupancy of **80.2%** as at 30 June 2024
- ☑ Completed novation process on 30 June 2024 to take over underlying leases from master lessees.







<sup>(2)</sup> As at 31 December 2023











## **Section D: Independent Auditor's Disclaimer of Opinion**









## **Independent Auditor's Disclaimer of Opinion**

Disclaimer	Details	
Going Concern	Material uncertainties about the ECW Group's ability to continue as going concerns:  Current liabilities exceed current assets  Bank borrowings repayable on demand	
Valuation of Investment Properties	■ Fair values of certain investment properties are based on assumptions regarding lease restructuring and Master Settlement Agreement negotiations with the Sponsor Group	
Impairment Allowance for Trade and Other Receivables	<ul> <li>Trade and other receivables: \$\$92.2 mil</li> <li>Assumptions regarding negotiations over a Master Settlement Agreement with the Sponsor Group</li> </ul>	
Contingent Liabilities Relating to Unauthorised Mortgages	<ul> <li>Unauthorised mortgages on properties: up to RMB 268.6 mil (\$\$49.9 mil)</li> <li>Two out of three unauthorised mortgages were released</li> </ul>	
Unauthorised Use of Relevant • Unauthorised use of company seals and title deeds by the Seals and Stamps Sponsor		
Impairment Allowance for Investments in Subsidiaries	<ul> <li>Investments in a subsidiary at ECW REIT level: \$\$39.6 mil</li> <li>Assumptions regarding the restructuring of group entities to recover the carrying value</li> <li>No impairment at ECW REIT's Group as a whole</li> </ul>	









## **Thank You**







