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# Haitong CSI300 Index ETF ("Sub-Fund")

(A sub-fund of Haitong ETF Series (the "**Trust**"), a Hong Kong umbrella unit trust, authorised under Section 104 of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571) of Hong Kong)

RMB Counter Stock Code: 82811 HKD Counter Stock Code: 02811

# **Announcement – Amendments to the Prospectus of the Sub-Fund**

Unless otherwise indicated, all undefined capitalised terms have the same meanings in this notice as in the latest Prospectus for the Trust and the Sub-Fund dated December 2014. The Manager accepts responsibility for the accuracy, as at the date of this notice, of the information contained in it.

#### Dear Unitholders

We are writing to inform you of the amendments below in relation to the Trust and Sub-Fund, which have been reflected in the latest Prospectus of the Trust and Sub-Fund dated December 2014.

Unless otherwise specified, the new amendments set out in this notice will take immediate effect from the date of this notice.

### 1. Update on index methodology of CSI 300

China Securities Index Co., Ltd ("CSI") has decided to include Chinext stocks which have been listed for more than three years in the index universe of CSI 300. This change will be implemented in the next periodic adjustment and will take effect from 15 December 2014.

#### 2. Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect

The Sub-Fund currently invests directly in the PRC domestic securities markets through the RQFII quota of the RQFII Holder, Haitong International Holdings Limited, the holding company of the Manager. Starting from 15 December 2014, in addition to the investment channel through the RQFII programme, the Sub-fund may directly access certain eligible China A-Shares listed on Shanghai Stock Exchange ("SSE") through Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect. Subject to applicable laws and regulations, the Manager may invest up to 30% of the Sub-Fund's Net Asset Value in eligible China A Shares via Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect.

Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect is a securities trading and clearing linked programme developed by HKEx, SSE and China Securities Depository and Clearing Corporation Limited ("CSDCC"), with an aim to achieve mutual stock market access between mainland China and Hong Kong.

Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect comprises a Northbound trading link (for investment in PRC shares) and a Southbound trading link (for investment in Hong Kong shares). Under the Northbound trading link, investors (including the Sub-Fund), through their Hong Kong brokers who are eligible participants of Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect, may be able to place orders to trade eligible shares listed on SSE by routing orders to SSE.

Currently, Hong Kong and overseas investors are allowed to trade certain stocks listed on the SSE market ("SSE Securities"). These include all the constituent stocks from time to time of the SSE 180 Index and SSE 380 Index, and all the SSE-listed China A-Shares that are not included as constituent stocks of the relevant indices but which have corresponding H-Shares listed on SEHK, except: (a) SSE-listed shares which are not traded in RMB; and (b) SSE-listed shares which are included in the "risk alert board".

#### Risks associated with Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect

Investments through Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect is subject to additional risks, including quota limitations, suspension risk, differences in trading days, operational risks, selling restrictions imposed by front-end monitoring, recalling of eligible stocks, clearing and settlement risk, nominee arrangements in holding China A-Shares, participation in corporate actions and shareholders' meetings, regulatory risk and taxation risk. In particular, the Sub-Fund's investments through Northbound trading under Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect is not covered by the Hong Kong's Investor Compensation Fund and accordingly, the Sub-Fund is exposed to the risks of default of the broker(s) that the Sub-Fund engages in its trading in China A-Shares through the programme.

However, since Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect is used as an ancillary investment channel with no more than 30% of the Sub-Fund's Net Asset Value invested in eligible China A-Shares, the Manager does not expect any material change or increase in the overall risk profile of the Sub-Fund following such change to its investment strategy.

For further information relating to Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect, please refer to the updated Prospectus of the Sub-Fund dated December 2014.

#### 3. FATCA

With effect from 1 July 2014, sections 1471-1474 of the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (commonly known as the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act or "FATCA") provides that a 30% withholding tax will be imposed on certain payments to foreign financial institutions, such as the

the Trust and/or the Sub-Fund, unless the Trust and/or the Sub-Fund satisfies certain due diligence and tax information sharing requirements.

The Hong Kong government has entered into a Model 2 Intergovernmental Agreement ("**IGA**") for the implementation of FATCA with the US. Under the terms of the IGA, the Sub-Fund, as "Foreign Financial Institutions" ("**FFI**"), would be required to enter into an FFI Agreement with the US Internal Revenue Service ("**IRS**"), register with the US IRS and comply with the terms of an FFI Agreement. Otherwise they will be subject to a 30% withholding tax on relevant US-sourced payments and other "withholdable payments" paid to them.

FFIs in Hong Kong (such as the Sub-Fund) complying with the terms of an FFI Agreement (i) will generally not be subject to the above described 30% withholding tax; and (ii) will not be required to withhold tax on payments to "nonconsenting US accounts" (i.e. certain accounts of which the Unitholders do not consent to FATCA reporting and disclosure to the US IRS), but may be required to withhold tax on withholdable payments made to non-compliant FFIs.

#### Impact to the Sub-Fund and Unitholders

Unitholders will be required to furnish appropriate documentation certifying as to their US or non-US tax status, together with such additional tax information as the Manager or its agents may from time to time request. Each Unitholder shall also be required to: (a) inform the Trust, the Sub-Fund, the Manager or its agents as soon as possible of any change in any information provided in relation to its US or non-US tax status (including any circumstances that would result in a change in the taxpayer status of such Unitholder); and (b) subject to the Unitholder's express consent, waive any and all rights of such Unitholder under any relevant law or regulation in any applicable jurisdiction that would prevent the Trust, the Sub-Fund, the Manager or its agents from meeting applicable regulatory and legal requirements.

In the event a Unitholder does not provide the requested information and/or documentation, the Trust, the Sub-Fund, the Manager or its agents may, and acting in good faith and on reasonable grounds as permitted under applicable laws and regulations (i) report the relevant information of such Unitholder to the US IRS (subject to applicable laws or regulations in Hong Kong); and/or (ii) exercise its right to request a transfer of Units to another person or to compulsorily redeem the Units held by such Unitholder.

New disclosures on the FATCA regime have been inserted into the "Risk Factors" section and the "Taxation" section of the Prospectus to provide the latest FATCA developments and explain the measures that the Fund may take to ensure its compliance with FATCA.

## 4. Tax Announcement

The Prospectus has been amended to include disclosures relating to the new tax announcement issued by MOF, SAT and CSRC regarding the tax treatment on capital gains for QFII and RQFII dated 14 November 2014 ("**Tax Announcement**"). For further information, please refer to the previous announcements in respect of the Trust and the Sub-Fund issued by the Manager dated 17 and 18 November 2014 and the updated Prospectus dated December 2014.

#### 5. Reduction of transaction levy

Under Section 3 of the Securities and Futures (Levy) (Amendment) Order 2014, the transaction levy payable by each of a seller and a buyer in respect of a transaction of securities (including the Units of

the ETF) on the SEHK has been reduced from 0.003% to 0.0027% with effect from 1 November 2014. Accordingly, the Prospectus has been updated to disclose the reduced transaction levy.

#### 6. Other amendments

The Prospectus has been updated to incorporate amendments in the First Addendum dated 7 April 2014, the Second Addendum dated 9 June 2014 and the Third Addendum dated 23 July 2014 to the Prospectus of the Trust and the Sub-Fund dated 27 February 2014.

The Prospectus has also been amended for other cosmetic amendments (including amendments to reflect the above changes).

This announcement, the updated Prospectus and the Product Key Facts Statement of the Sub-Fund will be available on the Manager's website at <a href="https://www.haitongetf.com.hk">www.haitongetf.com.hk</a> and HKEx's website at <a href="https://www.hkex.com.hk">www.hkex.com.hk</a> from 15 December 2014.

Investors who have any enquiries regarding the above may contact the Manager at 22/F, Li Po Chun Chambers, 189 Des Voeux Road Central, Hong Kong or call our enquiry hotline at (852) 3588 7699 during normal office hours (Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays), from 9:00a.m. to 6:00p.m.).

Copies of the Prospectus, Trust Deed and other material agreements as disclosed in the Prospectus will be available for inspection at the Manager's place of business in Hong Kong during normal business hours free of charge and copies thereof may be obtained from the Manager upon payment of a reasonable fee.

Hai Tong Asset Management (HK) Limited as Manager of Haitong CSI300 Index ETF

15 December 2014