

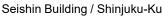
# Supplementary Material – Rebuttal to Star Asia

Sakura Sogo REIT Investment Corporation (Code: 3473)

## **Message to Sakura Unitholders**

- Hostile approach taken by Star Asia creates a dangerous precedent and threatens the value of Sakura unitholders' investment and the stability of the entire J-REIT sector
- Sakura can demonstrate superior performance relative to Star Asia and that the Sakura REIT portfolio
  is of a higher quality than the Star Asia REIT portfolio
- The "merger proposal" put forward by a unitholder controlled by a competitor (Star Asia) is <u>NOT</u> in the best interests of Sakura unitholders







Matsuya Residence Sekime / Osaka



Takadanobaba Access / Shinjuku-Ku



# **Section 1**

**Dangerous precedents for J-REIT Sector** 

# Star Asia is attempting to bypass fair merger protocols Approach taken by Star Asia creates <u>dangerous precedents</u> for the J-REIT sector

- Unitholder using tactics to benefit a related party with misaligned interests with all other Sakura unitholders
- Attempt to eliminate any bone-fide and fair negotiations for a merger
- Attempt to eliminate any possible alternative proposals that may offer superior value for Sakura unitholders
- Attempt to replace existing manager without legitimate reasons, or expressing any concern with the manager prior to issuing the notice
- Unitholder taking a strategic stake in Sakura REIT for the sole purpose of taking this abusive action
- Attempt to take advantage of "Deemed Approval" system which exposes all unitholders to significant risk in these circumstances (refer slide 7)
- Proposing a merger without disclosing any meaningful information about the merger terms, the merger ratios or the merger benefits, if any, to Sakura unitholders
- Proposing to have a single manager for two REITs with the same or very similar investment mandate creating serious conflicts of interest
- · Providing no detail about how, or if, these conflicts of interest can be satisfactorily managed
- Ultimate objective is to force Sakura unitholders to a meeting where they will have no option other than to accept a forced merger, irrespective of the proposed terms



Potential to severely disadvantage other J-REIT unitholders, not just Sakura unitholders

#### **Process**

#### Star Asia Proposal

#### Sakura's View

1

Unitholder request for extraordinary unitholders meeting

Request extraordinary unitholders meeting as soon as possible

- Eliminate any and all bona-fide and fair negotiation for merger
- Eliminate any and all possible alternatives for Sakura unitholders
- Star Asia made no attempt to discuss any potential merger or concerns with management

2

General unitholders meeting

Change executive director and asset manager (Decided by the approval of more than 50% of Sakura unitholders)

- Attempt by Star Asia to force a merger by:
  - <u>- replacing the manager without legitimate reasons and,</u>
  - without disclosing merger terms and merger ratio
- Attempt to control and force merger effectively negating the two thirds voting threshold required by law (refer slide 7)



#### **Process**

### Star Asia Proposal

#### Sakura's view

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Merger Agreement Negotiations

Same asset manager in control of two REITs with same investment mandate

- Serious conflicts of interest with no clear plan to manage
- Fair negotiation highly unlikely given disproportionate ownership interest
  - Star Asia Group owns 17.9% of Star Asia REIT and only 3.6% of Sakura REIT
- At this point, no alternative options would remain for Sakura unitholders
- <u>Likely that Sakura would be neglected as both REITs</u>
   compete against each other. This may lead to erosion in
   value of Sakura and ultimately less favorable merger
   terms

4

General unitholders meeting to approve the proposed merger Approving the proposed merger (Decided by the approval of two thirds of Sakura unitholders)

 Unitholder meeting to approve merger when there will be, in a practical sense, no alternative other than to accept a forced merger irrespective of terms

The process proposed by Star Asia Group to effect the merger is not consistent with the normal merger protocol (Refer to slide 7)



## **Normal Merger**

Merger under Commercial Code

Boards of both parties negotiate and agree on conditions of merger Sign merger agreement which includes merger ratio



Approved by shareholders meeting by two thirds voting threshold

## Hostile Takeover

Star Asia Proposal No request for discussion over fund management No discussion / negotiation offered regarding merger proposal Sakura will be in effect under the control of Star Asia

Minority (3.6%) unitholder requests for general unitholders meeting
To change Sakura executive director and asset manager by 50% approval

No bone-fide and fair negotiation on behalf of the current Sakura unitholders

Merger ratio and terms determined

No alternative other than to accept a forced merger irrespective of terms

Approved by unitholders meeting by two thirds voting threshold

Key concern with abusing the Deemed Approval System

- 1. There is a unique system to investment corporations called "<u>deemed approval system</u>", i.e. unitholders who do not exercise their voting rights will be deemed to have agreed to the proposal
- 2. Unitholders of a REITs are not proactive in exercising their voting rights at general unitholders meeting, which means Star Asia can leverage its 3.6% holding. For example, if 50% of unitholders do not vote, the Star Asia proposal will be deemed to been approved by 53.6%
- 3. Therefore, the Star Asia Proposal could be approved even if half or more (in the case of a merger, more than one third) of the Sakura unitholders who cast their vote dissenting from the Star Asia Proposal



## **Section 2**

Sakura Management and portfolio superior to Star Asia

## Sakura REIT can demonstrate superior performance

Sakura REIT can demonstrate superior performance relative to Star Asia REIT and that the Sakura REIT portfolio is of a higher quality than the Star Asia REIT

- Higher annual compound growth in net assets per unit (last four Fiscal Periods)
- Distribution more sustainable, lower volatility
  - higher average distribution yield on IPO issue price<sup>1</sup>
- No unrealised losses vs Star Asia REIT (7 properties/ 429mn JPY)
- Superior portfolio asset mix
- Consistently higher occupancy vs Star Asia REIT





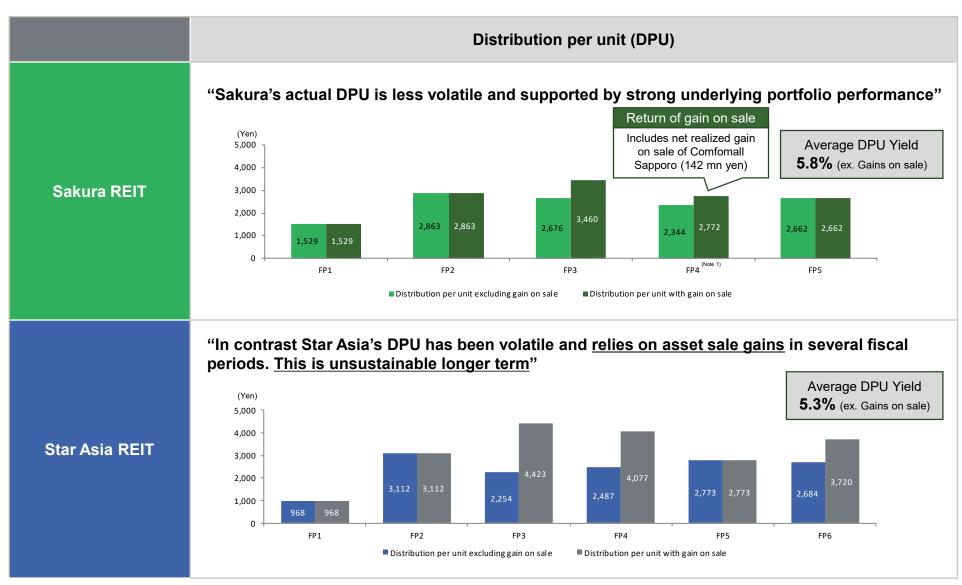
	Sakura REIT	Star Asia REIT
Growth in net assets (NAV) per unit (Note 1)(Note 2)	"Sakura REIT has demonstrated clear outper during which Star Asia REIT has completed 3  (Yen) 98,000 97,000 96,000 95,000 94,000 93,000 92,000 92,000 95,000 97,000 98,000 99,000	formance from 1 February 2017. This is the period 3 follow-on public offerings."  (Yen) 113,200 112,800 112,400 112,400 112,200 111,800
Properties with unrealized losses	"No property in Sakura's portfolio has an appraisal value less than book value. In contrast, Star Asia REIT has 7 assets (20% of the portfolio) with unrealized losses. This suggests they are either paying too much for each property or the properties are under performing post acquisition"	
(# of properties / amount)	No unrealized losses	7 properties with 429 mn yen total unrealized losses (as of the end of FP6)
Average DPU yield on IPO issue price (ex. gains on sale)	"Sakura has achieved a higher average distribution yield post IPO relative to Star Asia REIT"	
	5.8%	5.3%



Note 1: Net assets (NAV) per unit = ((net assets - total amount of DPU+ appraisal based unrealized gain) / total number of investment units issued and outstanding}

Note 2: CAGR of NAV = (Growth in net assets (NAV) per unit for the past 4 FP)^(1 / operating fiscal period)-1

Note 3: Average distribution yield per unit based on actual distributions (ex. gains on asset sales) / IPO issue price



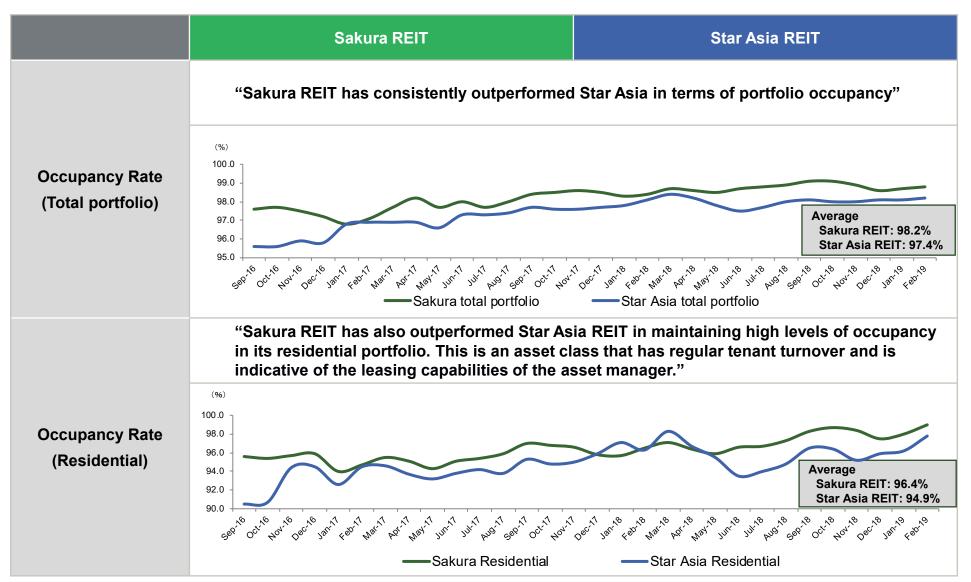


Note 1: The figure is calculated after conversion to 6 months

	Sakura REIT	Star Asia REIT	
Investment Ratio: Central Tokyo Office	"Sakura's portfolio has a disproportionately high weighting to Central Tokyo office. This is widely acknowledged as the strongest sector currently in the Japan real estate market"		
	Other 59.5%  Central Tokyo Office 40.5%	Central Tokyo Office 13.2%	
Investment Ratio by Asset Type	"Sakura's portfolio is well balanced for growth (office / residential) and stability (retail / other). Star Asia REIT has a significant weighting to logistics and hotels (50+%). Almost half of the hotels in Star Asia REIT's portfolio have appraisal values less than current book value"		
	Residential 11.7%  Other 4.3% Office 44.0%  Retail 40.0%	Hotel 20.1% Office 34.8%  Logistics 30.3% Residential 14.9%	



Note: On acquisition price basis as of the most recent FP end







# **Section 3**

## Conclusion

## The "merger proposal" from Star Asia is <u>NOT</u> in the best interests of Sakura unitholders

Sakura REIT considers the notice to be abusive and ignores the interests of Sakura unitholders.

Sakura REIT considers the notice as a <u>"hostile takeover"</u> attempt and rejects such notice and request without hesitation.

The Executive Director of Sakura and Sakura Real Estate Funds Management remain fully committed to continue to protect the best interests of Sakura unitholders at all times.



La Park Kishiwada SC / Osaka



Abode Yoyogi Parkside / Shibuya-ku



Nara Building
/ Shin Yokohama



Hiei Kudan Building / Chiyoda-Ku



Azabu Amerex Building / Minato-Ku

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