

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 29, 2008

**Manulife Asset Management (Thailand) Company Limited (MAMT)
announces the launch of Manulife Strength-Global Resources FIF**

BANGKOK – Manulife Asset Management (Thailand) Company Limited (MAMT) today launches the Manulife Strength – Global Resources FIF, mainly invested in Manulife Global Fund-Global Resources Fund (Share Class AA), the master fund. The fund will offer investors access to three commodity sectors i.e. oil and alternative energy, gold and precious metals and basic materials.

Mr. Alan Kam, Chief Executive Officer, MAMT explains: “This fund is an open-ended feeder fund emphasizing investment in investment units of foreign equity funds, mainly invested in Manulife Global Fund-Global Resources Fund (Share Class AA) which aims to achieve long-term capital growth. The underlying investment portfolio will mainly consist of equity-related investments and equities of companies involved in global resources such as gas, oil, coffee, sugar and related industries throughout the world and which are listed on any stock exchange. The remaining assets of the master fund may include bonds, deposits and other investments. The fund, which will be available to both retail and institutional investors during the IPO period of May 9-15, 2008, is a Thai-baht denominated foreign investment fund.”

Mr Kam continues: “We believe that this fund will be a diversification opportunity for Thai investors. The correlation of the three sectors, oil and alternative energy, gold and precious metals, basic materials, is quite low. Moreover, it’s an opportunity to tap into the potential for higher returns as increased industrialization and urbanization boosts the demand for commodities, especially oil. Meanwhile, we continue to see strong demand for gold with limited supply. In addition, basic materials are in demand from many countries e.g. China as the producer of steel, aluminum and pulp, Brazil, Russia, India, other countries with high population growth including Mexico, Turkey and even here in Thailand. In conclusion, we believe these 3 sectors offer investors good diversification and the potential for solid growth in the long term.” Mr. Alan Kam said.

The Manulife Global Fund-Global Resources Fund (Share Class AA) has been registered in Luxemburg since January 29, 2007 is under International Organizations of Securities Commission (IOSCO) and listed on World Federations of Exchange (WFE).

Six other investment funds are already available from MAMT . They are: the Manulife Strength-China Value FIF, mainly invested in Manulife Global Fund-China Value Fund (Class A), the Manulife Strength-Emerging Eastern Europe FIF, mainly invested in Manulife Global Fund-Emerging Eastern Europe Fund (Class A), the Manulife Strength-Core Equity fund, the Manulife

Strength-Core Long Term Equity fund, the Manulife Strength-Equity Value fund and Manulife Strength-Income Fund.

Investors who are interested in MAMT funds can contact MAMT directly at Tel. (66) 0-2354-1001, (66) 0-2246-7650 (press '2' for asset management) or via selling agents including Standard Chartered Bank (Thai) PCL., Deutsche Bank AG, Bangkok and Phatra Securities PCL, KGI (Thailand) Securities PCL, Merchant Partner Securities Co., Ltd., Phillip Securities (Thailand) Co., Ltd. and Capital Nomura Securities (Thailand) PCL.

About Manulife Financial

Manulife Financial is a leading Canadian-based financial services group serving millions of customers in 19 countries and territories worldwide. Operating as Manulife Financial in Canada and Asia, and primarily through John Hancock in the United States, the Company offers clients a diverse range of financial protection products and wealth management services through its extensive network of employees, agents and distribution partners. Funds under management by Manulife Financial and its subsidiaries were Cdn\$396 billion (US\$401 billion) as at December 31, 2007.

Manulife Financial is one of two publicly traded life insurance companies in the world whose rated life insurance subsidiaries hold Standard & Poor's Rating Services' highest "AAA" rating.

Manulife Financial Corporation trades as 'MFC' on the TSX, NYSE and PSE, and under '0945' on the SEHK. Manulife Financial can be found on the Internet at www.manulife.com.

Investments contain risks. Investors should study prospectuses before making the decision to invest. Past Performance is not a guarantee of future results.

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Notes to editors: