Asia Insurance M&A Conference 2024

11-12 Nov 2024, Regal Hongkong Hotel, Hong Kong



Asia's M&A Advantage: Navigating the Global Landscape and Harnessing Regional Growth Potential

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he Asian insurance sector is at a crossroads. While global M&A activity witnessed a temporary dip in 2023, Asia stands out as a region poised for a resurgence in mergers and acquisitions. This exciting prospect coincides with a confluence of transformative trends reshaping the insurance landscape.

A Surge in Innovation: Technological advancements are fuelling the rise of InsurTech, and M&A plays a pivotal role in this evolution. Insurance companies are actively seeking partnerships and acquisitions to stay ahead of the curve, integrating cutting-edge technologies like AI and data analytics to enhance risk management, personalize customer experiences, and drive growth.

Focus on Risk Mitigation: The insurance industry is witnessing a shift towards prevention. M&A activity is increasingly focused on acquiring expertise in areas like cybersecurity and risk management, allowing insurers to proactively mitigate claims and offer more comprehensive solutions to policyholders.

Strategic Collaborations: While traditional acquisitions remain prevalent, strategic partnerships are gaining traction. This collaborative approach allows insurers to test new markets and technologies with less risk, potentially paving the way for future acquisitions.

The Rise of Specialized Markets: M&A activity is not limited to established players. We are seeing a growing focus on mergers and acquisitions within the broking and MGA sectors, reflecting a desire to expand distribution channels and access specialized markets.

Sustainability in Focus: Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) considerations are no longer an afterthought; they are influencing M&A decisions. Companies with strong ESG practices are becoming more attractive targets, highlighting a growing commitment to sustainability within the insurance industry.

The Asian Advantage: Amidst geopolitical uncertainties and broader economic considerations, Asia stands out as a region of relative stability and significant growth potential. This makes Asian insurance companies and InsurTech firms particularly attractive targets for M&A activity.

The Asia Insurance M&A Conference 2024 is designed to be your compass in navigating this dynamic and promising landscape. Join us as we delve into the latest trends, explore best practices, and connect with industry leaders who are shaping the future of insurance M&A in Asia. This event

empowers you with the knowledge, connections, and strategies needed to capitalize on the immense opportunities that lie ahead.

Key Topics

A Transformative Landscape for Asian Insurance M&A

Understanding Market Dynamics & Opportunities: Quantifying the Surge in M&A Activity and Forecasts for Asian Insurance Markets

- Analyzing historical M&A trends in the region
- Exploring growth projections for different segments (life, health, P&C)
- Identifying key drivers influencing future M&A activity

Navigating the Evolving Regulatory Environment Successfully: Potent Strategies for Tracking, Preparing for, and Adapting to Incoming Regulatory Changes

- Discuss the impact of recent regulatory changes in key Asian insurance markets on M&A activity (e.g., Open API initiatives, data localization requirements)
- Analyze how regulatory uncertainty can affect deal structures and timelines in Asian M&A transactions
- Explore strategies for navigating complex regulatory environments to ensure successful M&A outcomes

Managing Cross-border Challenges: Cultural Considerations and Risk Mitigation in Asian M&A

- Discuss the importance of understanding cultural differences during cross-border M&A negotiations in Asia
- Analyze potential risks associated with crossborder deals, such as communication gaps and differing legal systems
- Explore strategies for mitigating cross-border M&A risks through effective communication, cultural sensitivity training, and employing experienced advisors

Technology & Innovation:

InsurTech Integration through M&A: Strategies for Acquiring Cutting-Edge Technologies

- Exploring different M&A models for acquiring InsurTech firms (e.g., full acquisition, minority stake investment)
- Analyzing successful case studies of insurers leveraging M&A to integrate AI, blockchain, and other innovative technologies
- Discussing strategies for post-merger integration to ensure successful technology adoption and cultural alignment

Data-Driven M&A: Leveraging Analytics to Identify Targets and Optimize Deals

- Exploring how big data analytics can identify potential M&A targets with strong growth prospects and technological capabilities
- Discussing the use of data analytics in deal valuation to ensure fair pricing and mitigate potential risks
- Analyzing best practices for integrating data analytics into M&A due diligence and decisionmaking processes

The Future of Insurance Distribution: M&A Strategies for Reaching New Customers in a Digital World

- Discussing the impact of InsurTech and digital platforms on how insurance products are distributed
- Analyzing M&A opportunities for acquiring or partnering with online distribution channels and digital marketing expertise
- Exploring strategies for leveraging M&A to personalize customer experiences and reach new demographics in the digital age

Risk Management & Sustainability:

Mitigating Risk and Fostering Resilience: How M&A Can Enhance Cybersecurity Resilience in Asian Insurance Industry?

- Discussing the heightened cybersecurity risks associated with M&A transactions in the digital insurance landscape
- Exploring strategies for integrating cybersecurity expertise and best practices into M&A due diligence and risk management procedures
- Analyzing how M&A can be used to acquire technology and talent to strengthen overall cyber defences

Beyond Claims: M&A Strategies for Proactive Risk Management and Loss Prevention

- Discuss the growing trend of M&A activity focused on acquiring expertise in areas like telematics, fraud detection, and risk mitigation
- Analyze case studies of insurers leveraging M&A to develop proactive risk management programs and prevent claim
- Explore how M&A can be used to expand risk management capabilities and improve riskadjusted returns

Ticking boxes or Creating Long-term Value in M&A Deals? What are Investors and Lenders Looking For?

- Analyze the growing influence of ESG considerations in M&A decision-making within the insurance industry
- Exploring Insurtech Partnerships
- Discuss strategies for integrating environmental, social, and governance practices within the framework of M&A deals
- Explore how M&A can be used to acquire companies with strong ESG track records and enhance overall sustainability performance

Strategic Partnerships & Deal Structures:

Building Bridges, Not Walls: Collaborative M&A Strategies for Shared Growth in Asia

- Discuss the rise of strategic partnerships as an alternative to traditional acquisitions in Asian insurance M&A
- Explore joint ventures, co-creation initiatives, and other collaborative structures for leveraging expertise and resources
- Analyze case studies of successful partnerships between insurers and InsurTech firms in Asia

The Rise of Strategic Partnerships: Exploring Alternative Deal Structures for Asian Insurance M&A

- Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of strategic partnerships compared to traditional acquisitions
- Explore different types of partnerships (e.g., joint ventures, minority investments, technology licensing agreements)
- Analyze how deal structures can be tailored to specific objectives and risk tolerance of M&A participants

Financing the Future: Creative Financing Solutions for M&A Deals in Asian Insurance Markets

- Discuss traditional and non-traditional financing options available for M&A transactions in Asia
- Explore the role of private equity, venture capital, and alternative lenders in financing Asian insurance M&A deals
- Analyze strategies for structuring financing arrangements to optimize deal outcomes and shareholder value

Emerging Markets & Specialized Sectors:

Untapped Potential: M&A Strategies for Entering Emerging Asian Insurance Markets

 Identify key emerging markets in Southeast and South Asia with high growth potential for insurance M&A activity

- Discuss strategies for navigating regulatory environments and cultural nuances in emerging Asian insurance markets
- Analyze M&A opportunities for entering niche markets within these regions (e.g., microinsurance, health insurance)

Beyond Life & P&C: Harnessing M&A Opportunities in Specialized Insurance Sectors Like Health and Cyber

- Explore M&A opportunities in specialized insurance sectors like health, cyber, and property & specialty lines
- Discuss the specific drivers of M&A activity within each specialized insurance sector
- Analyze strategies for identifying and acquiring expertise or technology assets in specialized insurance markets

Post-Merger Integration & Deal Success:

Ensuring Smooth Sailing and Seamless Integration: Best Practices for Post-Merger Integration and Transformation in Asian Insurance M&A

- Discuss the importance of developing a comprehensive post-merger integration plan to address cultural differences, operational complexities, and technological harmonization
- Analyze best practices for communication, change management, and talent retention during the post-merger integration process
- Explore strategies for fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing between merged entities

Extracting Maximum Value: Strategies for Measuring and Maximizing Success in Asian Insurance M&A

- Discuss key metrics for measuring the success of M&A transactions in the Asian insurance sector (e.g., synergy realization, cost savings, market share growth)
- Analyze strategies for identifying and mitigating potential value leaks after the merger or acquisition is complete

 Explore long-term value creation plans for maximizing shareholder returns and achieving strategic objectives

Practical and Real-Life Case Studies: Analyzing Successful M&A Deals in the Asian Insurance Sector

- Present in-depth case studies of successful M&A transactions in the Asian insurance market, highlighting the strategies employed and the factors contributing to their success
- Analyze the challenges faced during these deals and how they were overcome
- Provide valuable insights and lessons learned from successful M&A transactions that can be applied by participants in future deals

Who should attend by Job Title:

- Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
- Chief Financial Officer (CFO)
- Chief Investment Officer (CIO)
- Chief Operating Officer (COO)
- Chief Strategy Officer (CSO)
- Chief Risk Officer (CRO)
- Head of Mergers and Acquisitions
- Head of Corporate Development
- · Head of Strategy and Planning
- · Head of Financial Services
- Managing Director, M&A
- Director of Mergers and Acquisitions
- Director of Corporate Finance
- Director of Strategic Initiatives
- Head of Investment Banking
- Senior Vice President (SVP) of M&A
- Vice President (VP) of M&A
- Managing Director, M&A
- · Vice President (VP) of Corporate Development
- Head of Private Equity
- Investment Director
- Head of Legal and Compliance
- Senior Counsel, M&A
- Head of Regulatory Affairs
- M&A Analyst

- · Corporate Finance Manager
- · Business Development Manager
- · Director of Underwriting
- Senior Underwriter, M&A
- Head of Actuarial Services
- Senior Actuary, M&A
- Insurance Broker specializing in M&A
- · Risk Management Director
- Head of Reinsurance
- · Director of Capital Management
- Partner, Insurance Practice (Consulting Firm)
- Senior Consultant, M&A and Insurance
- · Economic Analyst, Insurance Sector
- · Head of Digital Strategy
- Director of Innovation
- Partner, Financial Advisory Services (Law Firm)
- M&A Advisor
- · Portfolio Manager
- · Head of Investor Relations
- Market Intelligence Director

Who should sponsor:

- · Insurance and Reinsurance Companies
- · Investment Banks
- · Private Equity and Venture Capital Firms
- Legal and Compliance Firms
- · Consulting and Advisory Firms
- Asset Management and Fund Management Companies
- Technology and Insurtech Companies
- · Rating Agencies
- Risk Management and Compliance Firms
- Brokerage Firms



Day One: 11 November 2024, Monday

8:00 am Registration

9:00 am



Chairperson's Welcome Remarks & Introduction to the Conference Theme
Ted Hodgkinson

Partner, Huntington Partners LLP

9:15 am



Honored Government Dignitary Keynote Speech
Tony Chan
Partner, Associate Director, Policy and Legislation Division, Insurance Authority

9:30 am



Mind the Public Gap: Long Term Impacts of Public Policy on Private Markets

Devadas will speak on several structural forces originating from the public policy space which will shape the outlook for private markets. He will cover a wide range of policy dimensions including economic and trade, security, geopolitics and climate change. The topic will inform market analysis, decision making and risk assessment within and by private markets over the long term as well shape the interaction between private markets and governments.

Devadas Krishnadas

Senior Advisor, Huntington Partners LLP

10:00 am



Leadership Address and Economic Outlook Address

Mr. Joseph Chan, Under Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury of Hong Kong, will provide an authoritative view on the regulatory, economic, and financial policies that shape the landscape for mergers and acquisitions in the insurance sector across Asia-Pacific.

Mr. Joseph H. L. Chan, JP

Under Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury, The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

10:25 am Tea Break Session / Networking Session

10:45 am Joint Plenary Session : What Do Buyers Want? Aligning Your Ambitions with M&A Market Expectations

Understanding buyer priorities is crucial to a successful merger or acquisition in the insurance industry. This plenary session will delve into what buyers are looking for in today's dynamic market and how sellers can align their ambitions to meet these expectations. Industry leaders and M&A experts will share insights on key buyer criteria, including growth potential, technological capabilities, market position, and ESG factors. The session will explore how companies can position themselves effectively to attract the right buyers and achieve mutually beneficial outcomes.



Heng Loong CheongPartner, M&A and Regulatory Specialist, DLA Piper Hong Kong



Tommy Lam Senior Associate, DLA Piper





Plenary Session - How Real World Asset (RWA) Tokenisation unlock Growth and Strategic Investment in Insurance

In the investment sector, RWA tokenisation has opened up new funding channels and increased liquidity for quality assets. These innovation are presenting new growth opportunities for asset and wealth managers. With massive asset under management by the insurance sector, there are enormous untapped opportunities for the sector as well. Attendees will gain valuable insights into innovative fund raising options, how efficient access to less liquid assets is now possible, trends in the launch of innovative financial products, etc.

King Leung

Global Head of Financial Services, Fintech & Sustainability, InvestHK, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR)

11:35 am Panel Session - M&A Leaders Spotlight: Unlocking Insights and Market Dynamics in Insurance M&A

The panel discussion, "M&A Leaders Spotlight: Unlocking Insights and Market Dynamics in Insurance M&A," brings together leading executives and experts from the insurance sector to explore the current trends, opportunities, and challenges shaping mergers and acquisitions (M&A) within the industry. This session will provide valuable insights into how insurers, reinsurers, brokers, and private equity firms are navigating the dynamic landscape of M&A in a post- pandemic era, marked by economic uncertainties, regulatory changes, and evolving consumer expectations.



Moderator:
Ted Hodgkinson
Partner, Huntington Partners LLP



Panellists:
Martin Noble
Chief Financial Officer, Zurich Insurance



Mark VT Saunders, FIA, FASHK
Senior Advisor, Blackstone Inc., Member of the Board of Directors, Prudential plc,
Council member/Co-chair of Strategy Committee, ASHK



Orchis Li General Manager, Hong Kong Branch Strategy & Cl Research, Asia Life/Health, Gen Re

12:35 pm Lunch Hosted by Huntington Partners LLP

2:15 pm



Plenary Session - Finding the Right Partner for Insurance M&A: Strategies for Successful Collaboration and Strategic Fit

In the ever-evolving insurance landscape, identifying and securing the right partner for mergers and acquisitions is crucial for achieving strategic objectives and maximizing value. This keynote will provide valuable insights into the process of selecting the ideal partner, focusing on alignment, due diligence, and long-term success.

Kevin Angelini Head of M&A and Business Development, APAC, Zurich Insurance

2:40 pm Joint Plenary Session - People Considerations in Insurance M&A: Navigating Talent Integration and Cultural Alignment for Success

In insurance mergers and acquisitions, the human element is critical to achieving a successful outcome. This keynote will delve into the essential people considerations during M&A processes, focusing on talent integration, cultural alignment, and strategies for managing the human side of M&A to drive long-term success.



Haze Zhang Senior Principal, M&A Strategy & Commercial Leader, Singapore & SEA Mercer



Arvind Usretay Regional Client Manager- Asia, Mercer



Plenary Session: Expanding Horizons – Geographic Footprint Strategies in Insurance M&A

In today's competitive insurance industry, expanding geographic footprint through mergers and acquisitions (M&A) presents a strategic pathway for growth, market diversification, and enhanced global presence. This plenary session will provide a comprehensive overview of the key strategies, opportunities, and challenges associated with geographic expansion in insurance M&A. Attendees will gain valuable insights from industry leaders on how to effectively enter new markets, navigate regional complexities, and leverage geographic diversification for business success.

Andy Xie

Partner, Asia Pacific Financial Services, Strategy and Transactions, Ernst & Young Transactions Limited

3:30 pm Fireside Chat Session - Exploring the Strategic Impact of FWD Group's Investment in BRI Life Indonesia

This session will delve into the successful journey of BRI Life, a key player in Indonesia's insurance market, had in the three years following FWD Group's initial strategic investment in the company in 2021. This Fireside Chat Session will explore the multifaceted strategic benefits of the successful execution of the investment, and the secrets to success in terms of leveraging talent, experience and cultural as well as strategic alignment to position both organizations to leverage the rapidly evolving insurance landscape.



Moderator:

John Spence

Managing Director, Asian Capital Advisors



Panellists:

Ibu Handayani

Director of Consumer Business, BRI Bank



Binayak DuttaManaging Director, FWD Group

3:55 pm



Plenary Session - ESG in M&A: Environmental, Social, and Governance considerations are now central to shaping merger and acquisition decisions

In today's rapidly evolving business environment, Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) considerations have become pivotal in shaping merger and acquisition (M&A) decisions. This session will provide a comprehensive exploration of how integrating ESG factors into M&A strategies can drive sustainable growth, mitigate risks, and enhance value creation. Industry leaders and experts will share insights on best practices, emerging trends, and practical approaches for embedding ESG principles into M&A processes

John Zheng

Chief Financial Officer/Chief Investment Officer, Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance China

4:20 pm



Closing Remarks
Ted Hodgkinson
Partner, Huntington Partners LLP

4:35 pm Networking Session and Tea Break

End of Conference for Day 1

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Day Two: 12 November 2024, Tuesday

8:00 am Registration

9:00 am



Chairperson's Welcome Remarks & Introduction to the Conference Theme
Ted Hodgkinson
Partner, Huntington Partners LLP

9:15 am



Keynote Address

Ellick Tsui

Deputy Chairman, The Hong Kong Federation of Insurers

9:30 am



Plenary Session - Reinsurance Due Diligence in Mergers & Acquisitions: A Strategic Imperative

In the world of insurance mergers and acquisitions (M&A), reinsurance due diligence is essential for securing investments, stabilizing financial health, and managing risks. Reinsurance functions as a critical safety net, absorbing potential losses that could otherwise impact an acquisition's value. Through due diligence, we assess reinsurance contracts, claims history, credit risks of reinsurers, and regulatory compliance, ensuring alignment with the acquiring company's risk tolerance and objectives.

However, common pitfalls, such as underestimating long-term liabilities, challenges in transferring reinsurance treaties, and overlooking market cycle impacts, can lead to costly surprises post-acquisition. Real-world examples show how gaps in due diligence have, at times, resulted in unforeseen expenses, directly affecting investment returns.

For investors, rigorous reinsurance due diligence is a strategic imperative. By safeguarding capital and minimizing risk exposure, it strengthens the foundation for successful acquisitions and maintains industry integrity. Prioritizing comprehensive due diligence supports a resilient, informed investment approach, ultimately contributing to the long-term success of both the acquiring and acquired entities in today's dynamic market."

Anthony Egerton

Partner, Huntington Partners LLP

10:00 am



Plenary Session - Data-Driven M&A: Leveraging Analytics to Identify Targets and Optimize Deals

In today's fast-paced insurance industry, data and analytics have become vital tools in driving successful mergers and acquisitions (M&A). This session will focus on how data-driven approaches are transforming the M&A landscape by enhancing target identification, due diligence, valuation, and post-merger integration. Industry leaders and analytics experts will share insights into the latest tools and techniques for leveraging data analytics to uncover hidden opportunities, assess risks, and maximize deal value.

Siddick Khan

Associate Director, Transaction Solutions, Asia Hong Kong, Aon

10:50 am



Plenary Session - The Role of M&A in Insurers' Ecosystem Expansion

Mergers and acquisitions (M&A) have become key strategic tools for insurers to expand their ecosystems and drive growth. By acquiring or merging with complementary businesses, insurers can diversify their product offerings, enter new markets, and integrate innovative technologies. M&A enables insurers to enhance operational efficiencies, scale their capabilities, and build holistic customer experiences by incorporating services like health, wealth management, and digital solutions. In a rapidly evolving financial landscape, M&A allows insurers to stay competitive, capitalize on synergies, and strengthen their presence across different regions and sectors. This strategy not only accelerates growth but also positions insurers to navigate emerging challenges and opportunities in the global market.

David Chan

Managing Director & Partner Hong Kong, Boston Consulting Group

11:15 am Panel Session: Leader's Playbook for M&A: Integrating Digital and Traditional – M&A Strategies in Asian Insurance Markets

This panel session will explore the strategic use of mergers and acquisitions (M&A) to integrate digital and traditional insurance models across Asian markets. As digital transformation reshapes the insurance industry, companies must balance innovation with established practices to remain competitive. Participants will learn how M&A can serve as a powerful tool for blending new digital capabilities with traditional business strengths, driving growth, and enhancing customer experiences in Asia's diverse and dynamic markets.



Moderator:

Jan Holthuis
Board Director at Global Insurance Law Connect (GILC)
and Partner at Buren Legal



Panellist:

Heng Loong Cheong
Partner, M&A and Regulatory Specialist, DLA Piper Hong Kong



Johnny Cheung

Chief Legal, Compliance & Company Secretarial Officer, CTF Life



Kevin Angelini

Head of M&A and Business Development, APAC, Zurich Insurance

1:30 pm



Plenary Session - How reinsurance can help in M&A's

Insurance-related M&A's are marked by their intricate nature, abundant uncertainties, and often slow-moving progress. Reinsurance can help by aligning sellers and bidders, reducing deal uncertainty or unlocking capital. This presentation will cover the common applications of reinsurance in M&A's and include a case study showing how reinsurance facilitated the sale of a legacy book.

Donat Piras

Vice President, Business Development L&H, Swiss Re

1:55 pm



Plenary Session - Transaction Risks in Review

William Seccombe will provide a refresher on transaction liability products and how they are used to mitigate deal risks. He will also discuss the current market for these risks and recent trends on claims and emerging coverage issues.

William Seccombe

Head of Financial Lines - Asia, Miller Insurance Services LLP

2:20 pm



Plenary Session - Value creation and strategic priorities for insurers in Asia

For any mergers and acquisitions, value creation is as important as the realization of its current value from transactions. Many levers and considerations from different perspectives, and the insurance industry has its unique development path and white space to address. I would like to share observations from actual transactions and assessments with a forward-looking view of Asia.

Jingwei Jia

Partner, Oliver Wyman

2:45 pm



Plenary Session - Navigating M&A Challenges for Distressed Insurers

This session explores the challenges of the M&A process for distressed insurers and calls for collaboration amongst insurers, policymakers, and regulators to safeguard policyholders and ensure industry stability. This session highlights the need for enhanced regulatory certainty and delves into the complexities of deal diligence and structuring.

John Spence

Managing Director, Asian Capital Advisors

3:10 pm



Plenary Session - Advancing your strategic posture with programmatic M&A

This presentation will explore how adopting a programmatic M&A approach can enhance an organization's strategic posture. In today's dynamic business environment, companies are increasingly leveraging programmatic M&A—a systematic, repeatable approach to acquisitions—as a key component of their strategic toolkit.

Bernhard Kotanko

Senior Partner, McKinsey & Company

3:35 pm



Closing Remarks
Ted Hodgkinson
Partner, Huntington Partners LLP

3:50 pm Networking Session and Tea Break

End of Conference

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Upcoming Events 2024/2

2024

November



11th Middle East Insurance Industry Awards 2024

27 November, Atlantis The Palm, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

2025

January



18th India Rendezvous (Incorporating the 2nd IFSCA-IRDAI GIFT IFSC Global Reinsurance Summit 2025)

20-22 January, JW Marriott Mumbai Juhu, Mumbai, India Theme: "Insurance 2047 - Achieving India's Vision"

February



Asia Life Insurance Summit

12-13 February, Singapore



Asia Insurance Summit on ESG & Sustainability

19-20 February, Singapore Theme: "Charting Responsible Business Strategy and Insurance Leadership'



Qatar Rendezvous

19-20 February, Qatar

March



Asia Conference on Bancassurance and **Alternative Distribution Channels**

19-20 March, Singapore

April



16th China Rendezvous

8-10 April, Crowne Plaza Beijing Chaoyang U-Town, Beijing, China

Theme: "Unlocking China's Potential, Resilience and Power in the World's Insurance Landscape'



15th Middle East Healthcare Insurance Conference

16-17 April, Muscat, Oman



13th Asia Insurance Brokers' Summit

24-25 April, Jakarta, Indonesia

May



20th Asia Conference on Healthcare and **Health Insurance**

7-8 May, Singapore



18th Asia Insurance CFO Summit

20-21 May, Hong Kong

June



Sri Lanka Insurance Summit

18-19 June, Sri Lanka

July



21th Asia Nat CAT and Climate Change Conference

9-10 July, Jakarta, Indonesia



Insurance for India Diaspora

July, Gift City, India



10th Asia Trusted Life Agents & Advisers **Awards**

25 July, Singapore

All dates are tentative | 5 November 2024