

For Immediate Release

# Mapletree Logistics Trust Extends Presence in South Korea with KRW88.5 Billion Acquisition

- Newly built, ramp-up logistics property with modern building specifications
- Strategically located within a key logistics market in close proximity to Seoul
- 100% leased to a leading e-commerce company

**Singapore, 28 February 2022 –** Mapletree Logistics Trust Management Ltd. ("MLTM"), as Manager of Mapletree Logistics Trust ("MLT"), is pleased to announce the proposed acquisition of Baeksa Logistics Centre in South Korea (the "Property") for KRW88.5 billion (~S\$100.3 million 1) (the "Acquisition").



### **About the Property**

Newly completed in December 2021, the Property is a modern 4-storey single block dry logistics facility with a total gross floor area of over 41,100 square metres ("sqm") sited on approximately 30,000 sqm of freehold land. The Property is built to high quality building specifications, including strong floor loading of over 20 KiloNewton per sqm, high floor-to-ceiling height of 9 to 10 metres and a full sprinkler system. The Property also provides direct ramp access and spacious docking yards that facilitate efficient and high flow logistics operations.

#### Rationale and Benefits of the Acquisition

Expands MLT's presence in a key logistics market serving the Seoul Metropolitan Area

The Property is strategically located in northeast Icheon, within the established Yongin-Icheon logistics hub serving the Seoul Metropolitan Area. Northeast Icheon has become the choice location for logistics development in recent years following the completion of the National Road #3 expressway in 2017, as

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Based on the exchange rate of S\$1 = KRW882.



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the expressway provides toll-free and faster connections to both Gangnam (southern Seoul) and eastern Seoul as compared to other expressways.

#### Positions MLT well to ride on the growing demand from the e-commerce industry

South Korea's e-commerce market ranks among the most developed in the world and has seen steady growth over the past few years. Online sales grew at a compound annual growth rate of 16% from 2016 to 2021<sup>2</sup>. The COVID-19 pandemic has transformed the way consumers shop, accelerating the adoption of e-commerce and providing a new source of demand for high quality warehousing facilities in prime locations. With its modern specifications and strategic location, the Property is in a favourable position to ride on positive trends from the e-commerce sector.

### 100% leased to a leading e-commerce company

The Property is fully leased to Howser, a leading e-commerce company specialising in furniture storage, delivery and installation, which has a partnership with Coupang to deliver furniture sold on its platform. The Acquisition will raise MLT's e-commerce revenue exposure in South Korea from 31% to 36%. With a weighted average lease expiry (by net lettable area) of approximately 5.1 years<sup>3</sup> and built-in annual rent escalations, the Acquisition will provide MLT with a stable and growing income stream.

The Property was independently valued by Chestertons Research Co., Ltd. at KRW91.5 billion as at 21 December 2021 based on the Market Comparison and Discounted Cash Flow methods. The Acquisition is estimated to generate a net property income yield of 4.0% based on the property purchase price and is expected to be accretive to MLT's distribution per unit.

#### **Funding of the Acquisition**

The Acquisition will be 100% funded by debt and is expected to be completed by 1Q FY22/23, subject to fulfilment of relevant conditions precedent. Transaction-related costs are estimated to be approximately KRW5.8 billion (~S\$6.6 million), including stamp duty, professional advisory fees and the acquisition fee payable to the Manager of KRW885 million (~S\$1.0 million), being 1% of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Statista, "Online retail sales growth South Korea 2016-2021", 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> As at 31 December 2021.



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purchase price of KRW88.5 billion. Upon completion, MLT's aggregate gearing ratio will be approximately 39.6%<sup>4</sup> on a *pro forma* basis.

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#### **About Mapletree Logistics Trust (MLT)**

MLT, the first Asia-focused logistics REIT in Singapore, was listed on the SGX-ST Main Board on 28 July 2005. MLT's principal strategy is to invest in a diversified portfolio of income-producing logistics real estate and real estate-related assets. As at 31 December 2021, it has a portfolio of 167 logistics assets in Singapore, Hong Kong SAR, Japan, Australia, China, Malaysia, South Korea, Vietnam and India with assets under management of S\$11.5 billion. MLT is managed by Mapletree Logistics Trust Management Ltd., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Mapletree Investments Pte Ltd. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.mapletreelogisticstrust.com">www.mapletreelogisticstrust.com</a>.

For enquiries, please contact:

Ms Lum Yuen May Director, Investor Relations

Tel: +65 6659 3671

Email: lum.yuenmay@mapletree.com.sg

#### **Important Notice**

This release is for information only and does not constitute an invitation or offer to acquire, purchase or subscribe for units in MLT ("Units"). The value of Units and the income from them may fall as well as rise. Units are not obligations of, deposits in, or guaranteed by, the Manager or any of its affiliates. An investment in Units is subject to investment risks, including the possible loss of the principal amount invested. Investors have no right to request the Manager to redeem their Units while the Units are listed. It is intended that Unitholders may only deal in their Units through trading on the SGX-ST. Listing of the Units on the SGX-ST does not guarantee a liquid market for the Units. The past performance of MLT is not necessarily indicative of its future performance. This release may contain forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Actual future performance, outcomes and results may differ materially from those expressed in forward-looking statements as a result of a number of risks, uncertainties and assumptions. Representative examples of these factors include (without limitation) general industry and economic conditions, interest rate trends, cost of capital and capital availability, competition from similar developments, shifts in expected levels of property rental income, changes in operating expenses, including employee wages, benefits and training, property expenses and governmental and public policy changes and the continued availability of financing in the amounts and the terms necessary to support future business. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward looking statements, which are based on current view of management on future events.

Based on MLT's financials as at 31 December 2021, and including the proposed acquisitions of a) a logistics property in Malaysia as announced on 20 August 2021; b) 16 logistics properties in China and Vietnam as announced on 22 November 2021; and c) two land parcels in Malaysia as announced on 15 February 2022.