EMERGING MARKETS EQUITY STRATEGY

Quarterly Investment Review

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The GMO Emerging Markets Equity Strategy seeks total return by investing primarily in emerging (non-developed) market equities. The Strategy measures its performance against the MSCI Emerging Markets Index.

The Strategy's investment approach is grounded in the Systematic Equity team's belief that, in the short term, equity markets exhibit exploitable inefficiencies as a result of irrational investor actions, the imperfect flow of information, and the participation of non-economic actors, while in the long-term returns are ultimately driven by economic reality. The Strategy aims to take advantage of these inefficiencies by utilizing a multi-factor valuation model in conjunction with other methods, such as momentum and corporate alerts, to identify undervalued equity securities.

MAJOR PERFORMANCE DRIVERS

Global equity markets continued to deliver positive absolute returns across regions, with emerging markets outperforming developed markets, amid enthusiasm for AI infrastructure. This market strength persisted despite ongoing disruptions in the trade of energy, commodities, and other critical products from the Middle East. In this environment, the Energy sector underperformed after having rallied in March amid the Iran conflict.

In the second quarter, the MSCI Emerging Markets Growth Index outperformed the MSCI Emerging Markets Value Index. In this environment, our Momentum models were the strongest performers. Value model performance was mixed, with the strongest performance from stocks we identified as only moderately cheap.

The key contributor to portfolio outperformance was the substantial, one-time proceeds from the sale of certain Russian securities. Other positive contributors to performance included an overweight toward Taiwanese Information Technology, as well as underweight positioning toward China, India, and South Africa.

In contrast, the largest detractor was stock selection in Korea, including underweight positioning in Information Technology and Industrials. The top detractor was an underweight toward SK Hynix, a semiconductor company that has seen dramatic share price appreciation amid the demand for its chips. Overweight positioning toward Thailand, Brazil, Vietnam, and Indonesia also detracted from performance.

Portfolio weights, as a percent of equity, for the positions mentioned were: SK Hynix (4.5%)

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PRELIMINARY ANNUALIZED RETURNS (USD, %) (QUARTER-END)

	Quarter-End	*YTD*	*1-Year*	*3-Year*	*5-Year*	*10-Year*	*Since Inception*
Emerging Markets Equity Strategy (net)	25.84	29.35	50.28	26.60	6.82	8.88	7.19
Emerging Markets Equity Strategy (gross)	26.11	29.90	51.56	27.68	7.74	9.83	8.32
MSCI Emerging Markets +	24.05	23.85	43.51	23.02	7.20	10.16	6.56
Value Add vs. MSCI Emerging Markets +	+1.79	+5.51	+6.77	+3.58	-0.38	-1.29	+0.63
MSCI Emerging Markets	24.05	23.85	43.51	23.02	7.20	10.08	6.05
Value Add vs. MSCI Emerging Markets	+1.79	+5.51	+6.77	+3.58	-0.38	-1.20	+1.14

RISKS

Risks associated with investing in the Strategy may include: (1) Market Risk - Equities: the market price of equities may decline due to factors affecting the issuer, its industries, or the economy and equity markets generally. Declines in stock market prices generally are likely to reduce the net asset value of the Fund's shares; (2) Non-U.S. Investment Risk: the market prices of many non-U.S. securities (particularly of companies tied economically to emerging countries) fluctuate more than those of U.S. securities. Many non-U.S. markets (particularly emerging markets) are less stable, smaller, less liquid, and less regulated than U.S. markets, and the cost of trading in those markets often is higher than it is in U.S. markets; and (3) Currency Risk: fluctuations in exchange rates can adversely affect the market value of the Fund's non-U.S. currency holdings and investments denominated in non-U.S. currencies. This is not a complete list of risks associated with investing in the Strategy. Please contact GMO for more information.

Composite Inception Date: 31-Dec-93

***Preliminary Performance: Final performance numbers are generally available on GMO's website within fifteen business days after month end. Investors should not rely on preliminary numbers to make investment decisions.**

Performance Returns: Performance for the year of inception is less than a full calendar year. Returns shown for periods greater than one year are on an annualized basis. To obtain performance information to the most recent month-end, visit www.gmo.com. **Performance data quoted represents past performance and is not indicative of future results.** Net returns are presented after the deduction of a model advisory fee and incentive fee if applicable. These returns include transaction costs, commissions and withholding taxes on foreign income and capital gains and include the reinvestment of dividends and other income, as applicable. Fees paid by accounts within the composite may be higher or lower than the model fees used. Gross returns are presented gross of management fees and any incentive fees if applicable. These returns include transaction costs, commissions, withholding taxes on foreign income and capital gains and include the reinvestment of dividends and other income, as applicable. If management and incentive fees were deducted performance would be lower. For example, if, before fees, the strategy were to achieve a 10% annual rate of return above its hurdle rate each year for ten years, and an annual advisory fee of 1% and incentive fee of 20% of net returns above the hurdle rate were charged during that period, the resulting average annual net return (after the deduction of management and incentive fees) would be approximately 7.20%. **GMO LLC claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®). A Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) Composite Report is available at www.gmo.com by clicking the GIPS® Composite Report link in the documents section of the strategy page. GIPS® is a registered trademark owned by CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein. Actual fees are disclosed in Part 2 of GMO's Form ADV and are also available in each strategy's Composite Report.** Formerly GMO Emerging Markets Strategy.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Benchmark(s): The MSCI Emerging Markets + Index is an internally maintained benchmark computed by GMO, comprised of (i) the S&P/IFCI Composite through12/31/2018 and (ii) the MSCI Emerging Markets Index (MSCI Standard Index Series, net of withholding tax) thereafter. S&P does not guarantee the accuracy, adequacy, completeness or availability of any data or information and is not responsible for any errors or omissions from the use of such data or information. Reproduction of the data or information in any form is prohibited except with the prior written permission of S&P or its third party licensors. MSCI data may not be reproduced or used for any other purpose. MSCI provides no warranties, has not prepared or approved this report, and has no liability hereunder.The MSCI Emerging Markets Index (MSCI Standard Index Series, net of withholding tax) is an independently maintained and widely published index comprised of global emerging markets large and mid capitalization stocks. MSCI data may not be reproduced or used for any other purpose. MSCI provides no warranties, has not prepared or approved this report, and has no liability hereunder.

The above information is based on a representative account in the Strategy selected because it has the fewest restrictions and best represents the implementation of the Strategy.

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