

QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REVIEW

Emerging Markets ex-China Strategy

Performance returns (USD)

ANNUALIZED RETURNS (QUARTER-END)	Quarter-End	YTD	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year	Since Inception
Emerging Markets ex-China Strategy (net)	6.33	20.09	10.07	20.18	-	-	1.35
Emerging Markets ex-China Strategy (gross)	6.52	20.72	10.85	21.05	-	-	2.09
MSCI Emerging Markets ex-China	6.64	22.13	12.22	17.91	-	-	5.68
Value Add	-0.31	-2.05	-2.14	+2.27	-	-	-4.33

MAJOR PERFORMANCE DRIVERS

Global equity markets performed well again in the third quarter, despite the fluid global tariff environment and geopolitical uncertainties. Emerging market returns were positive overall, although results varied widely by country. South Africa and Peru were among the strongest performers with returns over 20% in USD on the back of their exposure to the materials sector. In contrast, India posted negative returns as initial U.S. tariff levels were increased further to penalize its purchases of Russian oil, resulting in a total tariff rate of 50% by quarter end.

The portfolio modestly underperformed the MSCI Emerging Markets ex China Index in a quarter where value struggled. While Value, Momentum, and Alerts each did well on a stand-alone basis, selecting stocks that had the combination of attractive Value, good Momentum, and few Alerts, detracted.

Taiwan and Korea were two of the biggest detractors, primarily due to stock selection. Challenges included overweights in Taiwanese Industrials and Information Technology, as well as a mix of underweight positioning in Korean Information Technology and an overweight in Korean Consumer Discretionary. An underweight toward South African Materials also detracted.

Stock selection in Financials and an underweight toward India were the biggest contributors. In Financials, value was added across a range of positions, including overweights in Thailand and Mexico, and underweight positioning in India.

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-Oct-21

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 predictive of future performance.** 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.

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PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The GMO Emerging Markets ex-China 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.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Benchmark(s): The MSCI Emerging Markets ex China Index is an independently maintained and widely published index which captures large and mid cap representation within Emerging Markets (EM) countries, excluding China. 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.

For private bank intermediaries in Singapore and Hong Kong, these materials are intended for institutional and Accredited/Professional Investors Use Only.

ABOUT GMO

Founded in 1977, GMO is a global asset manager committed to delivering superior performance and advice to our clients. We are privately owned, which allows us to singularly focus on our sole business – achieving outstanding long-term client investment outcomes. Offering multi-asset, equity, fixed income, and alternative strategies, we invest with a long-term, valuation-based philosophical approach.

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