

# QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REVIEW

## Global Developed Equity Allocation Strategy

### Performance returns (USD)

ANNUALIZED RETURNS (QUARTER-END)	Quarter-End	YTD	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year	Since Inception
Global Developed Equity Allocation Strategy (net)	2.87	2.87	6.82	8.77	15.65	7.97	9.00
Global Developed Equity Allocation Strategy (gross)	3.00	3.00	7.39	9.41	16.36	8.67	9.67
MSCI World +	-1.79	-1.79	7.07	7.58	16.13	9.50	8.00
Value Add vs. MSCI World +	+4.66	+4.66	-0.25	+1.19	-0.48	-1.52	+1.00
MSCI World	-1.79	-1.79	7.07	7.58	16.13	9.50	7.60
Value Add vs. MSCI World	+4.66	+4.66	-0.25	+1.19	-0.48	-1.52	+1.40

### MAJOR PERFORMANCE DRIVERS

– Top-down asset allocation significantly contributed to relative performance for the quarter as the portfolio is biased away from the U.S. market, which badly underperformed.

– Security selection was also strongly positive as a combination of Quality and Value performed well.

U.S. equities accounted for 46.9% of the total portfolio on average through the quarter, comprising 3.0% in U.S. Small Cap Value equity, 4.8% in U.S. Small Cap Quality equity, 9.1% in broad U.S. equity, 15.1% in U.S. Opportunistic Value equity, and the remainder in the Quality, Quality Cyclical, and Resources strategies. This leaves the portfolio 26.0% underweight U.S. equities in total, and this had a positive impact on relative performance for the quarter as the MSCI USA index returned -4.6%, trailing MSCI World. Security selection in the U.S. was solid as, in aggregate, our U.S. portfolio returned -3.5%. We removed the exposure to Quality Cyclical toward the end of the quarter. Underweight positions in Tesla (Consumer Discretionary), NVIDIA (Information Technology), Broadcom (Information Technology), and Apple (Information Technology) featured in the top five biggest individual contributors to relative performance for the quarter. On the flipside, underweight positions in AbbVie (Health Care), Philip Morris (Consumer Staples), and Berkshire Hathaway (Financials) featured in the top five biggest individual detractors from relative performance at the total portfolio level.

### 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) Management and Operational Risk: the risk that GMO's investment techniques will fail to produce desired results, including annualized returns and annualized volatility; and (3) 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. This is not a complete list of risks associated with investing in the Strategy. Please contact GMO for more information.

Composite Inception Date: 31-Mar-87

**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](http://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](http://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.** Returns include a substantial, one-time litigation settlement recovery received on December 16, 2024. This event contributed 1.42% to 2024 annual performance, based on a representative account. Performance for other periods, including this date, was also positively impacted, sometimes materially. Without this recovery, performance would have been lower in both absolute terms and relative to the benchmark. Additional information is available upon request.

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## MAJOR PERFORMANCE DRIVERS CONT.

Developed ex-U.S. equities accounted for an average weight of 48.7% of the portfolio for the quarter, including the dedicated Japan Value position and some exposure from the Quality, Resources and Quality Cyclical strategies. This overweight position in Developed ex-U.S. had a positive impact on relative performance as the MSCI World ex-U.S. index returned 6.2%, well ahead of the MSCI World index. Security selection within Developed Markets was strong for the quarter and the portfolio returned 8.4% in aggregate. As noted above, we removed the exposure to Quality Cyclical toward the end of the quarter. An overweight position in Recruit Holdings (Japan Industrials) featured in the top five biggest individual detractors, while an overweight to Banco de Sabadell (Spain Financials) featured in the top five biggest individual contributors to relative performance for the quarter.

The exposure to Emerging Markets has reduced considerably and represented 3.3% of the total portfolio weight on average during the quarter. This had a small positive impact on performance as the MSCI Emerging Market index returned 2.9%, beating the MSCI World index return of -1.8%, although security selection negated this as the portfolio returned -1.9%. An overweight position in TSMC (Taiwan Information Technology) featured in the top five biggest individual detractors from relative performance at the total portfolio level, while no Emerging Market names featured in the top five biggest individual contributors.

Portfolio weights, as a percent of equity, for the positions mentioned were: TSMC (0.7%), Berkshire Hathaway (0.0%), Broadcom (0.0%), Tesla (0.0%), Apple (1.4%), Philip Morris (0.0%), NVIDIA (0.4%), Abbvie (0.0%), Banco de Sabadell (0.7%), and Recruit Holdings (0.6%).

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## PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The GMO Global Developed Equity Allocation Strategy seeks to generate total return greater than that of the MSCI World Index.

The philosophy that underlies all of GMO's Asset Allocation investment strategies is the belief that, at times and in the short term, the pricing of asset classes can deviate from true intrinsic value but mean reverts to appropriate valuation levels over a complete market cycle. Using GMO's 7-Year Asset Class Forecasts, the Strategy seeks to allocate to areas of the global equity markets we believe are most attractively valued. Our approach combines the best of GMO's top-down Asset Allocation views and bottom-up equity research to identify mispricings at both the asset class and individual security levels. The Strategy allocates to equity strategies that are actively managed by other GMO investment teams with expertise and experience in security selection within their respective markets. The Strategy is allowed to invest up to 10% (at time of purchase) in emerging market equities.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**Benchmark(s):** The MSCI World + Index is an internally maintained benchmark computed by GMO, comprised of (i) GMO blended benchmark of Global Developed Equity Allocation Composite through 06/30/2014 and (ii) MSCI World Index (MSCI Standard Index Series, net of withholding tax) thereafter. The GMO blended benchmark of Global Developed Equity Allocation Composite is comprised of a weighted average of account benchmarks; many of the account benchmarks consist of MSCI World (MSCI Standard Index Series, net of withholding tax) or some like proxy for each market exposure they have. For each underlying account benchmark, the weighting of each market index will vary slightly. The index is internally blended by GMO and maintained on a monthly basis. 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 World Index (MSCI Standard Index Series, net of withholding tax) is an independently maintained and widely published index comprised of global developed markets. 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.

## 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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\*GMO's West Coast Hub is comprised of members of Investment, Global Client Relations, and other teams located in and around the Greater San Francisco area

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