

# 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)	7.46	7.46	23.22	6.78	10.79	7.35	9.05
Global Developed Equity Allocation Strategy (gross)	7.62	7.62	23.99	7.46	11.50	8.05	9.73
MSCI World +	8.85	8.85	25.07	8.59	12.06	9.39	8.02
Value Add vs. MSCI World +	-1.39	-1.39	-1.85	-1.81	-1.27	-2.04	+1.03
MSCI World	8.85	8.85	25.07	8.59	12.06	9.39	7.61
Value Add vs. MSCI World	-1.39	-1.39	-1.85	-1.81	-1.27	-2.04	+1.44

### Major Performance Drivers

– Top-down asset allocation detracted from relative performance for the quarter, as the portfolio is overweight to emerging equities, which lagged, and biased away from the U.S., which led the way in developed equities.

– Security selection was mildly positive, driven by good relative return in Developed ex-U.S. which was partly offset by modest underperformance in the U.S.

Emerging equities, with an emphasis on undervalued stocks within attractively valued countries/sectors, represented 8.4% of the total portfolio weight on average during the quarter. Our overweight position in emerging equities detracted from relative performance as the MSCI Emerging Market index returned 2.1%, well behind the MSCI World index return of 8.9%, although the MSCI Emerging Market ex-China index returned a better 3.7%. Security selection was also modestly negative, as the Emerging Market ex-China portfolio returned 2.3%. An overweight position in Taiwan Semiconductor (Taiwan Information Technology) featured in the top five biggest individual contributors to relative performance at total portfolio level.

U.S. equities accounted for 44.1% of the total portfolio on average through the quarter, made up of 3.1% in U.S. Small Cap Value equity, 5.0% in U.S. Small Cap Quality equity, 6.2% in broad U.S. equity, 15.3% in U.S. Opportunistic Value equity, and the remainder in the Quality, Quality Cyclical, and Resources strategies. This leaves the portfolio 26.4% underweight U.S. equities in total, and this had a negative impact on relative performance for the quarter as the MSCI USA index returned 10.3%, ahead of the MSCI World index. Security selection in the U.S. was a little negative as Value lagged; in aggregate, our U.S. portfolio returned 9.8%. An underweight position in Tesla (Consumer Discretionary) and Apple (Information Technology) featured in the top five biggest individual contributors to relative performance at total portfolio level. On the flipside, underweight positions in NVIDIA (Information Technology) and Amazon (Consumer Discretionary) featured in the five biggest individual detractors from relative performance for the quarter.

Developed ex-U.S. equities accounted for an average weight of 45.3% 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 negative impact on relative performance as the MSCI World ex-U.S. index returned 5.5%, lagging MSCI World. Security selection within Developed was solid for the quarter and the portfolio returned 6.7% in aggregate. Overweight positions in Banco Bilbao (Spain Financials) and SAP (Germany Information Technology) featured in the top five biggest individual contributors to relative performance at total portfolio level. On the flipside, an overweight position in Equinor (Norway Energy), STMicroelectronics (France Information Technology), and Roche (Switzerland Health Care) featured in the five biggest individual detractors from relative performance for the quarter.

Portfolio weights, as a percent of equity, for the positions mentioned were: STMicroelectronics (0.55%), Roche (1.03%), SAP (1.14%), Taiwan Semiconductor (1.02%), Apple (0.75%), Tesla (0.0%), NVIDIA (0.17%), Amazon (0.76%), Banco Bilbao (0.99%), and Equinor (0.64%).

Inception Date: 31-Mar-87

Performance for the year of inception is less than a full calendar year. Returns shown for periods less than one year are not annualized.

**Risks:** Risks associated with investing in the Strategy may include Market Risk - Equities, Management and Operational Risk, Non-U.S. Investment Risk, Derivatives and Short Sales Risk, and Fund of Funds Risk. 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 Returns:** 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. **GMO LLC claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®).** A Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) Composite Report is available on [GMO.com](http://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. The local market in which some accounts in the composite are priced was closed for Good Friday on March 29, 2024. Therefore, the performance for the strategy and corresponding benchmark will utilize March 28 for purposes of the ending valuation for the March return and the starting valuation for the April return. 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%.

# QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REVIEW

## PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The 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 the long term. 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.

## 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.

AMSTERDAM

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SYDNEY

TOKYO\*\*

\*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

\*\*Representative Office