

# QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REVIEW

## International All Country Equity Allocation Strategy

### Performance returns (USD)

ANNUALIZED RETURNS (QUARTER-END)	Quarter-End	YTD	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year	Since Inception
International All Country Equity Allocation Strategy (net)	7.98	14.35	26.28	4.14	7.42	4.32	6.55
International All Country Equity Allocation Strategy (gross)	8.16	14.93	27.15	4.87	8.20	5.08	7.35
MSCI ACWI ex USA +	8.06	14.21	25.35	4.14	7.58	5.22	5.62
Value Add vs. MSCI ACWI ex USA +	-0.09	+0.14	+0.93	+0.00	-0.17	-0.90	+0.93
MSCI ACWI ex USA	8.06	14.21	25.35	4.14	7.58	5.22	5.41
Value Add vs. MSCI ACWI ex USA	-0.09	+0.14	+0.93	+0.00	-0.17	-0.90	+1.14

### MAJOR PERFORMANCE DRIVERS

– The overweight exposure to Emerging Market equities has been reduced over the course of 2024 and the portfolio is now reasonably aligned with the benchmark from a top-down regional perspective. The portfolio does have a notable overweight to Japan, however, and this had a small negative impact for the quarter as MSCI Japan lagged MSCI ACWI ex USA.

– Security selection was positive as good selection in Developed Market equities, including the dedicated Japan position, more than offset negative selection in Emerging Markets, driven by a failure to keep pace with the incredible 23.5% rebound in China.

Emerging Market equities, with an emphasis on undervalued stocks within attractively valued countries/sectors, represented 28.4% of the total portfolio weight on average during the quarter. Our position in Emerging Market equities is broadly in line with the benchmark and so had no impact on relative performance. Security selection was negative as the portfolio was not directly dialed into the China resurgence and returned 6.3%, lagging the MSCI Emerging Market index return of 8.7%. An overweight position in China Feihe (China Consumer Staples) and an underweight position in Samsung (Korea Information Technology) featured in the top five biggest individual contributors to relative performance at the total portfolio level. On the flipside, an underweight position in Alibaba (China Consumer Discretionary) featured in the top five biggest individual detractors from relative performance at the total portfolio level.

Developed ex-U.S. equities accounted for an average weight of 70.7% of the portfolio for the quarter, including the dedicated Japan Value position. This is a broadly neutral position in Developed ex-U.S. and so had no impact on relative performance. Security selection within Developed was strong for the quarter and the portfolio returned 9.4% in aggregate, well ahead of the MSCI World ex USA index return of 7.8%. An underweight position in Novo Nordisk (Denmark Health Care) and ASML (Netherlands Information Technology), along with an overweight position in Sumitomo Forestry (Japan Consumer Discretionary) featured in the top five biggest individual contributors at the total portfolio level. On the flipside, overweight positions in STMicroelectronics (France Information Technology), Stellantis (Italy Consumer Discretionary), Equinor (Norway Energy), and Logitech (Switzerland Information Technology) featured in the top five biggest detractors.

Portfolio weights, as a percent of equity, for the positions mentioned were: China Feihe (0.6%), Samsung (0.2%), Alibaba (0.0%), Stellantis (0.6%), ASML (0.1%), Sumitomo Forestry (0.8%), STMicroelectronics (0.8%), Novo Nordisk (0.1%), Equinor (1.1%), Logitech (0.9%).

Composite Inception Date: 28-Feb-94

**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. (3) Management and Operational Risk: The risk that GMO's investment techniques will fail to produce desired results, including annualized returns and annualized volatility. For a more complete discussion of these risks and others, please consult the Fund's offering documents. This is not a complete list of risks associated with investing in the Strategy. Please contact GMO for more information. **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 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.

# QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REVIEW

## PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Strategy seeks to generate total return greater than that of the MSCI All Country World ex-U.S. 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 ACWI ex USA + Index is an internally maintained benchmark computed by GMO, comprised of (i) GMO blended benchmark of International All Country Equity Allocation Composite through 6/30/2014 and (ii) MSCI ACWI ex USA Index (MSCI Standard Index Series, net of withholding tax) thereafter. The GMO blended benchmark of International All Country Equity Allocation Composite is comprised of a weighted average of account benchmarks; many of the account benchmarks consist of MSCI ACWI (All Country World) ex-U.S. Index (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 ACWI ex USA Index (MSCI Standard Index Series, net of withholding tax) is an independently maintained and widely published index comprised of international (excluding U.S. and including emerging) 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.

## 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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