

TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND  
Form N-CSR  
October 31, 2018

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, DC 20549**

**FORM N-CSR**

**CERTIFIED SHAREHOLDER REPORT OF REGISTERED**  
**MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES**  
**Investment Company Act file number 811-04985**

**Templeton Emerging Markets Fund**  
**(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)**

**300 S.E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301-1923**  
**(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)**

**Craig S. Tyle, One Franklin Parkway, San Mateo, CA 94403-1906**

**(Name and address of agent for service)**

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (954) 527-7500**

**Date of fiscal year end: 8/31**

**Date of reporting period: 8/31/18**

**Item 1. Reports to Stockholders.**

**Annual Report**

August 31, 2018

Franklin Templeton Investments

Why choose Franklin Templeton Investments?

Successful investing begins with ambition. And achievement only comes when you reach for it. That's why we continually strive to deliver better outcomes for investors. No matter what your goals are, our deep, global investment expertise allows us to offer solutions that can help.

During our more than 70 years of experience, we've managed through all kinds of markets—up, down and those in between. We're always preparing for what may come next. It's because of this, combined with our strength as one of the world's largest asset managers that we've earned the trust of millions of investors around the world.

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## Annual Report

### Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

Dear Shareholder:

This annual report for Templeton Emerging Markets Fund covers the fiscal year ended August 31, 2018.

#### **Your Fund's Goal and Main Investments**

The Fund seeks long-term capital appreciation by investing, under normal market conditions, at least 80% of its net assets in emerging country equity securities.

#### **Performance Overview**

The Fund had cumulative total returns of -5.14% based on market price and -2.11% based on net asset value for the 12 months under review. You can find the Fund's long-term performance data in the Performance Summary on page 6.

*Performance data represent past performance, which does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate, and you may have a gain or loss when you sell your shares. Current performance may differ from figures shown.*

#### **Economic and Market Overview**

Emerging market economies in general continued to grow faster than developed market economies during the 12 months under review. China's economy continued to grow in 2018's second quarter, though at a slightly slower annualized pace than the prior three quarters. The country saw faster growth in consumer spending and slower growth in industrial production, the service industry and fixed-asset investment, as well as indicators that international trade tensions, including the imposition of tariffs, have begun to negatively affect the economy. India's annualized growth rate in 2018's second quarter was its highest since 2016's first quarter, driven by growth in household spending, financials, real estate and manufacturing. Russia's economy grew in 2018's second quarter at a faster annualized rate than the prior two quarters, primarily due to increased tourism during the World Cup as well as growth in manufacturing and mining. Brazil's economy continued to expand, though its annualized growth rate in 2018's second quarter was the lowest since 2017's second quarter amid a nationwide truckers' strike, which negatively impacted exports. Turkey's economy grew in 2018's second quarter at its slowest annualized rate since 2016's fourth

#### **Geographic Composition**

Based on Total Net Assets as of 8/31/18

quarter, as stocks fell sharply amid the plunging value of the lira against the U.S. dollar and President Tayyip Erdogan's repeated calls for lower interest rates. Among other emerging markets, South Korea's and Poland's economies continued to grow.

Monetary policies varied among emerging market central banks. Brazil's and Russia's central banks cut their benchmark interest rates multiple times during the 12-month period, while some, including those of India, Turkey and the Czech Republic, raised their benchmark rates. Mexico's central bank raised its benchmark rate three times during the period to ameliorate risk factors for inflation amid uncertainty around the ultimately successful trade renegotiations with the U.S. South Korea's central bank also raised its benchmark rate, while those of China, Taiwan and Chile left their benchmark rates unchanged during the period.

Emerging market stocks declined during the 12 months under review due to investor concerns about rising U.S. interest rates, a strengthening U.S. dollar and rising global trade tensions that have included the imposition of higher tariffs, particularly between the U.S. and China. Investors were somewhat assured near period-end by successful trade renegotiations between the U.S. and Mexico. Emerging market European stocks were also pressured by political instability in Italy and Turkey's economic crisis, and Asian stocks were also hurt by increased tensions in the Korean peninsula, although tensions eased later

**The dollar value, number of shares or principal amount, and names of all portfolio holdings are listed in the Fund's Statement of Investments (SOI).**

**The SOI begins on page 11.**



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 TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

in the period. However, continued solid earnings performance by many emerging market companies, MSCI's addition of Chinese A-share companies to the MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) Index and MSCI's decision to add Saudi Arabia to the same index in 2019 which could boost investment across the Middle East offered some encouragement to investors. In this environment, emerging market stocks, as measured by the MSCI EM Index, had a -0.32% total return for the 12 months ended August 31, 2018.<sup>1</sup>

### Investment Strategy

Our investment strategy employs a fundamental, value-oriented, long-term approach. We focus on the market price of a company's securities relative to our evaluation of the company's long-term earnings, asset value and cash flow potential. As we look for investments, we focus on specific companies and undertake in-depth research to construct an action list from which we make our buy decisions. Before we make a purchase, we look at the company's potential for earnings and growth over a five-year horizon. During our analysis, we also consider the company's position in its sector, the economic framework and political environment.

### Manager's Discussion

During the 12 months under review, key contributors to the Fund's absolute performance included LUKOIL, Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. (TSMC) and Samsung Electronics.

LUKOIL is one of Russia's largest vertically integrated energy companies. It is engaged in oil and gas exploration and production, oil refining, as well as the marketing and distribution of crude oil products. It is also among the world's largest energy companies by reserves. Rebounding oil prices benefited LUKOIL, which reported sharply higher sales and earnings for the three months ended June 30, 2018. It also started a US\$3 billion share buyback program lasting five years and approved the cancellation of 100 million of its treasury shares, as it looked to improve shareholder value and corporate governance. LUKOIL's share price rallied in the period under review.

TSMC is among the world's leading semiconductor makers. It manufactures chips that are used in a wide variety of devices and machines, including computers, smartphones and automobiles. Shares of TSMC advanced as the company

### Top 10 Countries

8/31/18

|       | <b>% of Total</b> |
|-------|-------------------|
|       | <b>Net Assets</b> |
| China | 22.4%             |

|              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| South Korea  | 16.0% |
| Taiwan       | 11.5% |
| Russia       | 8.8%  |
| South Africa | 7.0%  |
| India        | 5.8%  |
| Brazil       | 5.2%  |
| Thailand     | 3.4%  |
| Indonesia    | 3.1%  |
| U.K.         | 3.1%  |

reported strong demand for its latest high-performance chips from smartphone, server and artificial intelligence companies, among others. News of a competitor halting its development of advanced production technology also lifted the market's confidence in TSMC's lead over its peers.

Samsung Electronics is a South Korea-based consumer electronics and semiconductor manufacturer. It is one of the largest smartphone and memory chip producers globally, as well as a key supplier of organic light-emitting diode (OLED) displays. Samsung's memory chip business was an area of strength in the period under review, partly due to robust demand from data centers. The company also took steps to enhance shareholder returns, such as repurchasing its shares and proposing higher dividends.

Conversely, key detractors from the Fund's absolute performance included Brilliance China Automotive Holdings, Hon Hai Precision Industry and Cia Hering.

Brilliance China manufactures and sells automobiles for the Chinese domestic market, predominantly through its joint venture with German luxury car maker BMW. Shares of Brilliance China were held back by China's plans to open up its auto industry further by removing foreign ownership limits and reducing import tariffs. The potential changes raised questions around the future of Brilliance China's partnership with BMW. Nevertheless, Brilliance China's business remained strong. It posted a jump in net profit for the six months ended June 30, 2018, as sales of BMW vehicles increased.

1. Source: Morningstar.

The index is unmanaged and includes reinvestment of any income or distributions. It does not reflect any fees, expenses or sales charges. One cannot invest directly in an index, and an index is not representative of the Fund's portfolio.

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**TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND**

Hon Hai Precision, based in Taiwan, is one of the world's largest electronics manufacturing service companies. It produces electronics components and assembles consumer electronics products, such as smartphones. Its customers include Apple and other major technology companies. Hon Hai's share price was hampered by the company's weaker-than-expected earnings for the quarter ended June 30, 2018. Although sales increased, lower margins led to a drop in its bottom line. Lackluster global smartphone shipments also drove investor caution.

Cia Hering is a major apparel manufacturer and retailer in Brazil. It adopts a multi-channel distribution model and sells its products through its own stores, other multi-brand retailers and the internet. It also operates in other Latin American countries, such as Uruguay. The company's earnings fell in the quarter ended June 30, 2018, as poor weather and a nationwide truckers' strike in Brazil disrupted its business activities. Cia Hering's share price finished the reporting period lower.

It is important to recognize the effect of currency movements on the Fund's performance. In general, if the value of the U.S. dollar goes up compared with a foreign currency, an investment traded in that foreign currency will go down in value because it will be worth fewer U.S. dollars. This can have a negative effect on Fund performance. Conversely, when the U.S. dollar weakens in relation to a foreign currency, an investment traded in that foreign currency will increase in value, which can contribute to Fund performance. For the 12 months ended August 31, 2018, the U.S. dollar rose in value relative to most currencies. As a result, the Fund's performance was negatively affected by the portfolio's investment predominantly in securities with non-U.S. currency exposure.

In the past 12 months, we increased the Fund's holdings in Mexico and China as we found investment opportunities we considered attractive. By sector, we added to investments in financials and telecommunication services.<sup>2</sup> Among key purchases were new positions in China Construction Bank and China Mobile, which are among the country's leaders in their industries (banks and wireless telecommunication services, respectively). We also increased the Fund's holdings in South Korea-based online search and mobile messenger company Naver.

**Top 10 Holdings**

8/31/18

| <b>Company</b>   | <b>% of Total</b> |
|--|-------------------|
| <b>Sector/Industry, Country</b>                                    | <b>Net Assets</b> |
| Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd.                                       | 8.1%              |
| <i>Technology Hardware, Storage &amp; Peripherals, South Korea</i> |                   |
| Naspers Ltd.   | 6.4%              |
| <i>Media, South Africa</i>   |                   |
| Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. Ltd.                        | 6.3%              |
| <i>Semiconductors &amp; Semiconductor Equipment, Taiwan</i>        |                   |
| Alibaba Group Holding Ltd.   | 4.9%              |
| <i>Internet Software &amp; Services, China</i>                     |                   |
| LUKOIL PJSC  | 4.6%              |
| <i>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels, Russia</i>                     |                   |
| Brilliance China Automotive Holdings Ltd.                          | 4.5%              |

|  |      |
|--|------|
| <i>Automobiles, China</i>                      |      |
| Unilever PLC                                   | 3.1% |
| <i>Personal Products, U.K.</i>                 |      |
| ICICI Bank Ltd.                                | 2.9% |
| <i>Banks, India</i>                            |      |
| Tencent Holdings Ltd.                          | 2.9% |
| <i>Internet Software &amp; Services, China</i> |      |
| Compania de Minas Buenaventura SA              | 2.6% |
| <i>Metals &amp; Mining, Peru</i>               |      |

Meanwhile, we reduced the Fund's investments in certain countries and sectors in favor of opportunities that we found more compelling, and also to raise funds for income and capital gain distributions during the reporting period. Sales were made largely in South Korea, Russia and Thailand from a country perspective, and consumer discretionary, energy and information technology (IT) from a sector perspective.<sup>3</sup> In terms of key sales, we reduced positions in Brilliance China, South Korea-based memory chip maker SK Hynix and Unilever, a U.K.-listed global consumer goods company that derives significant sales from emerging markets.

2. The financials sector comprises banks, diversified financial services and insurance in the SOI. The telecommunication services sector comprises wireless telecommunication services in the SOI.

3. The consumer discretionary sector comprises auto components; automobiles; hotels, restaurants and leisure; internet and direct marketing retail; media; multiline retail; specialty retail; and textiles, apparel and luxury goods in the SOI. The energy sector comprises oil, gas and consumable fuels in the SOI. The IT sector comprises electronic equipment, instruments and components; internet software and services; IT services; semiconductors and semiconductor equipment; software; and technology hardware, storage and peripherals in the SOI.

See [www.franklintempletondatasources.com](http://www.franklintempletondatasources.com) for additional data provider information.

Thank you for your continued participation in Templeton Emerging Markets Fund. We look forward to serving your future investment needs.

Sincerely,

Chetan Sehgal, CFA

Portfolio Manager

*The foregoing information reflects our analysis, opinions and portfolio holdings as of August 31, 2018, the end of the reporting period. The way we implement our main investment strategies and the resulting portfolio holdings may change depending on factors such as market and economic conditions. These opinions may not be relied upon as investment advice or an offer for a particular security. The information is not a complete analysis of every aspect of any market, country, industry, security or the Fund. Statements of fact are from sources considered reliable, but the investment manager makes no representation or warranty as to their completeness or accuracy. Although historical performance is no guarantee of future results, these insights may help you understand our investment management philosophy.*

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**TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND**
**Performance Summary as of August 31, 2018**

Total return reflects reinvestment of the Fund's dividends and capital gain distributions, if any, and any unrealized gains or losses. Total returns do not reflect any sales charges paid at inception or brokerage commissions paid on secondary market purchases. The performance table does not reflect any taxes that a shareholder would pay on Fund dividends, capital gain distributions, if any, or any realized gains on the sale of Fund shares. Your dividend income will vary depending on dividends or interest paid by securities in the Fund's portfolio, adjusted for operating expenses. Capital gain distributions are net profits realized from the sale of portfolio securities.

**Performance as of 8/31/18<sup>1</sup>**

|         | <b>Cumulative Total Return<sup>2</sup></b> |                                 | <b>Average Annual Total Return<sup>2</sup></b> |                                 |
|---------|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
|         | <b>Based on</b>                            | <b>Based on</b>                 | <b>Based on</b>                                | <b>Based on</b>                 |
|         | <b>NAV<sup>3</sup></b>                     | <b>market price<sup>4</sup></b> | <b>NAV<sup>3</sup></b>                         | <b>market price<sup>4</sup></b> |
| 1-Year  | -2.11%                                     | -5.14%                          | -2.11%   | -5.14%                          |
| 5-Year  | +24.90%                                    | +22.30%                         | +4.55%   | +4.11%                          |
| 10-Year | +50.43%                                    | +46.62%                         | +4.17%   | +3.90%                          |

*Performance data represent past performance, which does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate, and you may have a gain or loss when you sell your shares. Current performance may differ from figures shown.*

**Distributions (9/1/17 - 8/31/18)****Net Investment**

|               | <b>Long-Term Capital Gain</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|---------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Income</b> |                               |              |
| \$0.2491      | \$0.8687                      | \$1.1178     |

See page 7 for Performance Summary footnotes.

## TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

## PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

All investments involve risks, including possible loss of principal. Special risks are associated with foreign investing, including currency volatility, economic instability, and social and political developments of countries where the Fund invests. Emerging markets are subject to all of the risks of foreign investing generally and involve heightened risks due to these markets' smaller size and lesser liquidity, and lack of established legal, political, business and social frameworks to support securities markets. Some of these heightened risks may include political and social uncertainty (for example, regional conflicts and risk of war); pervasiveness of corruption and crime in these countries' economic systems; delays in settling portfolio securities transactions; risk of loss arising out of the system of share registration and custody used in these countries; greater sensitivity to interest rate changes; currency and capital controls; currency exchange rate volatility; and inflation, deflation or currency devaluation. The Fund is actively managed but there is no guarantee that the manager's investment decisions will produce the desired results.

The Fund may invest in eligible China A shares ( Stock Connect Securities ) listed and traded on the Shanghai Stock Exchange through the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect program, as well as eligible China A shares listed and traded on the Shenzhen Stock Exchange through the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect program (collectively, Stock Connect ) and may invest in China Interbank bonds traded on the China Interbank Bond Market ( CIBM ) through the China-Hong Kong Bond Connect program ( Bond Connect ).

Trading through Stock Connect is subject to a number of restrictions that may affect the Fund's investments and returns. For example, investors in Stock Connect Securities are generally subject to Chinese securities regulations and the listing rules of the respective Exchange, among other restrictions. In addition, Stock Connect Securities generally may not be sold, purchased or otherwise transferred other than through Stock Connect in accordance with applicable rules. While Stock Connect is not subject to individual investment quotas, daily and aggregate investment quotas apply to all Stock Connect participants, which may restrict or preclude the Fund's ability to invest in Stock Connect Securities. Trading in the Stock Connect program is subject to trading, clearance and settlement procedures that are untested in China, which could pose risks to the Fund. Finally, the withholding tax treatment of dividends and capital gains payable to overseas investors currently is unsettled. In China, the Hong Kong Monetary Authority Central Money Markets Unit holds Bond Connect securities on behalf of ultimate investors (such as the Fund) in accounts maintained with a China-based custodian (either the China Central Depository & Clearing Co. or the Shanghai Clearing House). This recordkeeping system subjects the Fund to various risks, including the risk that the Fund may have a limited ability to enforce rights as a bondholder and the risks of settlement delays and counterparty default of the Hong Kong sub-custodian. In addition, enforcing the ownership rights of a beneficial holder of Bond Connect securities is untested and courts in China have limited experience in applying the concept of beneficial ownership. Bond Connect uses the trading infrastructure of both Hong Kong and China and is not available on trading holidays in Hong Kong. As a result, prices of securities purchased through Bond Connect may fluctuate at times when a Fund is unable to add to or exit its position. Securities offered through Bond Connect may lose their eligibility for trading through the program at any time. If Bond Connect securities lose their eligibility for trading through the program, they may be sold but can no longer be purchased through Bond Connect.

The application and interpretation of the laws and regulations of Hong Kong and China, and the rules, policies or guidelines published or applied by relevant regulators and exchanges in respect of the Stock Connect and Bond Connect programs, are uncertain, and they may have a detrimental effect on the Fund's investments and returns.



**The Fund may also invest a portion of its assets in Russian securities. The U.S. and other nations have imposed and could impose additional sanctions on certain issuers in Russia due to regional conflicts. These sanctions could result in the devaluation of Russia's currency, a downgrade in Russian issuers' credit ratings, or a decline in the value and liquidity of Russian stocks or other securities. The Fund may be prohibited from investing in securities issued by companies subject to such sanctions. In addition, if the Fund holds the securities of an issuer that is subject to such sanctions, an immediate freeze of that issuer's securities could result, impairing the ability of the Fund to buy, sell, receive or deliver those securities. There is also the risk that countermeasures could be taken by Russia's government, which could involve the seizure of the Fund's assets. Such sanctions could adversely affect Russia's economy, possibly forcing the economy into a recession. These risks could affect the value of the Fund's portfolio.**

1. The Fund has a fee waiver associated with any investment it makes in a Franklin Templeton money fund and/or other Franklin Templeton fund, contractually guaranteed through 10/31/19. Fund investment results reflect the fee waiver; without this waiver, the results would have been lower.
2. Total return calculations represent the cumulative and average annual changes in value of an investment over the periods indicated. Return for less than one year, if any, has not been annualized.
3. Assumes reinvestment of distributions based on net asset value.
4. Assumes reinvestment of distributions based on the dividend reinvestment and cash purchase plan.

TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

Important Notice to Shareholders

**Share Repurchase Program**

The Fund's Board previously authorized the Fund to repurchase up to 10% of the Fund's outstanding shares in open-market transactions, at the discretion of management. This authorization remains in effect.

In exercising its discretion consistent with its portfolio management responsibilities, the investment manager will take into account various other factors, including, but not limited to, the level of the discount, the Fund's performance, portfolio holdings, dividend history, market conditions, cash on hand, the availability of other attractive investments and whether the sale of certain portfolio securities would be undesirable because of liquidity concerns or because the sale might subject the Fund to adverse tax consequences. Any repurchases would be made on a national securities exchange at the prevailing market price, subject to exchange requirements, Federal securities laws and rules that restrict repurchases, and the terms of any outstanding leverage or borrowing of the Fund. If and when the Fund's 10% threshold is reached, no further repurchases could be completed until authorized by the Board. Until the 10% threshold is reached, Fund management will have the flexibility to commence share repurchases if and when it is determined to be appropriate in light of prevailing circumstances.

In the Notes to Financial Statements section, please see note 2 (Shares of Beneficial Interest) for additional information regarding shares repurchased.

**Approval of Borrowing Arrangements**

On May 18, 2018 the Board approved the Fund to enter into a committed, senior, secured revolving line of credit facility with The Bank of Nova Scotia in an aggregate amount of up to \$30 million for an initial one year term. The purpose of the credit facility is to provide the Fund with a source of funds to purchase additional investments as part of its investment strategy. Given the permanent capital structure and lack of daily liquidity requirements, a closed-end fund structure is particularly well-suited for leverage. Management believes that it would benefit the Fund to use low cost debt capital to invest in higher return equity assets over the long-term. Management believes that now is an appropriate time to initiate this strategy as the outlook for emerging markets is positive and interest rates remain relatively low, so potential long-term returns could

significantly exceed the interest expense and other costs of the debt. Further, while leverage has the potential to increase volatility, Management believes that the Fund's ongoing accretive buyback program will serve to mitigate the market price volatility of the Fund.

**Amended Fundamental Investment Restriction Regarding Investments in Commodities**

At the Fund's reconvened Annual Meeting of Shareholders held on March 29, 2018, shareholders approved a proposal to amend the Fund's fundamental investment restriction regarding investments in commodities as follows: [The Fund may not:] Purchase or sell commodities, except to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act or any rules, exemptions or interpretations thereunder that may be adopted, granted or issued by the SEC.

**Amended Fundamental Investment Restriction Regarding Lending**

At the Fund's reconvened Annual Meeting of Shareholders held on March 29, 2018, shareholders approved a proposal to amend the Fund's fundamental investment restriction regarding investments in lending as follows: [The Fund may not:] Make loans if, as a result, more than 33 1/3% of its total assets would be lent to other persons, including other investment companies to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act or any rules, exemptions or interpretations thereunder that may be adopted, granted or issued by the SEC. This limitation does not apply to (i) the lending of portfolio securities, (ii) the purchase of debt securities, other debt instruments, loan participations and/or engaging in direct corporate loans in accordance with its investment goals and policies, and (iii) repurchase agreements to the extent the entry into a repurchase agreement is deemed to be a loan.

**Approval of a change to the Fund's Status from Diversified to Non-Diversified**

At the Fund's reconvened Annual Meeting of Shareholders held on March 29, 2018, shareholders approved a proposal to change the Fund's status from diversified to non-diversified. As a non-diversified fund, the Fund could invest a greater portion of its assets in any one issuer and invest overall in a

TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

smaller number of issuers than a diversified fund. The Investment Manager and the Board believe that the flexibility of the Fund to make more concentrated investments (i.e., to be able to invest to a greater extent in the securities of one or more issuers than if the Fund remained diversified) will benefit the Fund.

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**TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND**
**Financial Highlights**

|  | <b>Year Ended August 31,</b> |             |             |             |                   |
|--|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
|  | <b>2018</b>                  | <b>2017</b> | <b>2016</b> | <b>2015</b> | <b>2014</b>       |
| <b>Per share operating performance</b>         |                              |             |             |             |                   |
| (for a share outstanding throughout the year)  |                              |             |             |             |                   |
| Net asset value, beginning of year             | \$18.32                      | \$13.92     | \$13.34     | \$20.91     | \$18.98           |
| Income from investment operations:             |                              |             |             |             |                   |
| Net investment income <sup>a</sup>             | 0.14                         | 0.16        | 0.19        | 0.21        | 0.29 <sup>b</sup> |
| Net realized and unrealized gains (losses)     | (0.51)                       | 4.39        | 1.67        | (6.60)      | 3.33              |
| Total from investment operations               | (0.37)                       | 4.55        | 1.86        | (6.39)      | 3.62              |
| Less distributions from:                       |                              |             |             |             |                   |
| Net investment income                          | (0.25)                       | (0.20)      | (0.31)      | (0.31)      | (0.44)            |
| Net realized gains                             | (0.87)                       |             | (0.97)      | (0.87)      | (1.25)            |
| Total distributions                            | (1.12)                       | (0.20)      | (1.28)      | (1.18)      | (1.69)            |
| Repurchase of shares                           | 0.07                         | 0.05        |             |             | <sup>c</sup>      |
| Net asset value, end of year.                  | \$16.90                      | \$18.32     | \$13.92     | \$13.34     | \$20.91           |
| Market value, end of year <sup>d</sup>         | \$14.61                      | \$16.45     | \$12.56     | \$11.56     | \$19.13           |
| Total return (based on market value per share) | (5.14)%                      | 33.10%      | 22.57%      | (34.94)%    | 21.47%            |

**Ratios to average net assets**

|   |                    |                      |       |                    |                    |
|---|--------------------|----------------------|-------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Expenses before waiver and payments by affiliates | 1.38%              | 1.37%                | 1.39% | 1.37%              | 1.36%              |
| Expenses net of waiver and payments by affiliates | 1.38% <sup>e</sup> | 1.37% <sup>e,f</sup> | 1.38% | 1.37% <sup>e</sup> | 1.36% <sup>e</sup> |
| Net investment income                             | 0.79%              | 1.03%                | 1.49% | 1.19%              | 1.49% <sup>b</sup> |

**Supplemental data**

|                                  |           |           |           |           |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Net assets, end of year (000 \$) | \$287,115 | \$321,004 | \$250,642 | \$240,289 | \$376,574 |
| Portfolio turnover rate          | 11.69%    | 20.38%    | 42.16%    | 18.92%    | 12.42%    |

<sup>a</sup>Based on average daily shares outstanding.

<sup>b</sup>Net investment income per share includes approximately \$0.04 per share related to income received in the form of special dividends in connection with certain Fund holdings. Excluding this amount, the ratio of net investment income to average net assets would have been 1.27%.

<sup>c</sup>Amount rounds to less than \$0.01 per share.

<sup>d</sup>Based on the last sale on the New York Stock Exchange.

<sup>e</sup>Benefit of waiver and payments by affiliates rounds to less than 0.01%.

<sup>f</sup>Benefit of expense reduction rounds to less than 0.01%.

10 | The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial  
Annual Report statements.

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## TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

## Statement of Investments, August 31, 2018

|  | Industry                      | Shares    | Value      |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| <b>Common Stocks 93.5%</b>                     |                               |           |            |
| <b>Brazil 2.2%</b>                             |                               |           |            |
| <sup>a</sup> B2W Cia Digital                   | Internet & Direct Marketing   |           |            |
|  | Retail                        | 131,700   | \$ 856,064 |
| B3 SA - Brasil Bolsa Balcao                    | Capital Markets               | 35,300    | 188,983    |
| Cia Hering                                     | Specialty Retail              | 414,700   | 1,674,288  |
| Lojas Americanas SA                            | Multiline Retail              | 395,760   | 1,104,161  |
| M. Dias Branco SA                              | Food Products                 | 109,200   | 1,136,719  |
| Mahle-Metal Leve SA                            | Auto Components               | 104,000   | 645,562    |
| Totvs SA                                       | Software                      | 94,300    | 618,064    |
|  |                               |           | 6,223,841  |
| <b>Cambodia 0.3%</b>                           |                               |           |            |
| NagaCorp Ltd.                                  | Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure | 730,000   | 765,416    |
| <b>China 22.4%</b>                             |                               |           |            |
| <sup>a</sup> Alibaba Group Holding Ltd., ADR   | Internet Software & Services  | 79,668    | 13,942,697 |
| BAIC Motor Corp. Ltd., H                       | Automobiles                   | 360,000   | 302,706    |
| <sup>a</sup> Baidu Inc., ADR                   | Internet Software & Services  | 8,019     | 1,816,143  |
| Brilliance China Automotive Holdings Ltd.      | Automobiles                   | 8,166,900 | 12,943,515 |
| China Construction Bank Corp., H               | Banks                         | 5,130,400 | 4,542,664  |
| China Mobile Ltd.                              | Wireless Telecommunication    |           |            |
|  | Services                      | 360,500   | 3,389,505  |
| China Petroleum & Chemical Corp., H            | Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels   | 3,673,000 | 3,692,092  |
| CNOOC Ltd.                                     | Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels   | 1,885,000 | 3,333,308  |
| COSCO Shipping Ports Ltd.                      | Transportation Infrastructure | 441,788   | 467,724    |
| Inner Mongolia Yitai Coal Co. Ltd., B          | Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels   | 230,200   | 276,930    |
| NetEase Inc., ADR                              | Internet Software & Services  | 6,522     | 1,289,465  |
| Ping An Bank Co. Ltd., A                       | Banks                         | 2,615,200 | 3,877,915  |
| Ping An Insurance (Group) Co. of China Ltd., A | Insurance                     | 376,474   | 3,470,736  |
| Tencent Holdings Ltd.                          | Internet Software & Services  | 195,700   | 8,477,042  |
| Uni-President China Holdings Ltd.              | Food Products                 | 1,936,400 | 1,906,993  |
| Weifu High-Technology Co. Ltd., B              | Auto Components               | 294,712   | 585,729    |
|  |                               |           | 64,315,164 |
| <b>Czech Republic 0.3%</b>                     |                               |           |            |
| Moneta Money Bank AS                           | Banks                         | 243,000   | 849,753    |
| <b>Hong Kong 1.0%</b>                          |                               |           |            |

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|  |                                  |            |            |
|--|----------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Dairy Farm International Holdings Ltd. | Food & Staples Retailing         | 122,900    | 1,139,283  |
| MGM China Holdings Ltd.                | Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure    | 426,000    | 803,241    |
| Win Hanverky Holdings Ltd.             | Textiles, Apparel & Luxury Goods | 11,592,800 | 1,019,089  |
|  |                                  |            | 2,961,613  |
| <b>Hungary 1.0%</b>                    |                                  |            |            |
| Richter Gedeon Nyrt                    | Pharmaceuticals                  | 141,930    | 2,788,280  |
| <b>India 5.8%</b>                      |                                  |            |            |
| Bajaj Holdings & Investment Ltd.       | Diversified Financial Services   | 27,729     | 1,217,354  |
| Coal India Ltd.                        | Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels      | 218,098    | 878,320    |
| Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Ltd.          | Pharmaceuticals                  | 246,607    | 2,311,865  |
| ICICI Bank Ltd.                        | Banks                            | 1,757,254  | 8,478,772  |
| Infosys Ltd.                           | IT Services                      | 124,596    | 2,528,770  |
| Reliance Industries Ltd.               | Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels      | 35,410     | 619,207    |
| <sup>a</sup> Tata Motors Ltd., A       | Automobiles                      | 333,003    | 666,194    |
|  |                                  |            | 16,700,482 |
| <b>Indonesia 3.1%</b>                  |                                  |            |            |
| Astra International Tbk PT             | Automobiles                      | 9,475,800  | 4,663,920  |
| Bank Danamon Indonesia Tbk PT          | Banks                            | 9,267,385  | 4,278,223  |
|  |                                  |            | 8,942,143  |



## TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

## STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS

|   | Industry                     | Shares    | Value      |
|---|------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| <b>Common Stocks (continued)</b>                      |                              |           |            |
| <b>Kenya 0.3%</b>                                     |                              |           |            |
| Equity Group Holdings Ltd.                            | Banks                        | 1,946,807 | \$ 869,973 |
| <b>Mexico 2.2%</b>                                    |                              |           |            |
| Banco Santander Mexico SA Institucion de Banca        |                              |           |            |
| Multiple Grupo Financiero Santander, ADR              | Banks                        | 694,741   | 5,453,717  |
| Nemak SAB de CV                                       | Auto Components              | 1,119,700 | 931,863    |
|   |                              |           | 6,385,580  |
| <b>Nigeria 0.0%</b>                                   |                              |           |            |
| Nigerian Breweries PLC                                | Beverages                    | 132,031   | 35,018     |
| <b>Pakistan 0.9%</b>                                  |                              |           |            |
| MCB Bank Ltd.   | Banks                        | 1,637,910 | 2,663,593  |
| <b>Peru 3.0%</b>                                      |                              |           |            |
| Compania de Minas Buenaventura SA, ADR                | Metals & Mining              | 583,061   | 7,340,738  |
| <sup>b</sup> Intercorp Financial Services Inc., Reg S | Banks                        | 34,920    | 1,389,816  |
|   |                              |           | 8,730,554  |
| <b>Philippines 0.2%</b>                               |                              |           |            |
| BDO Unibank Inc.                                      | Banks                        | 260,750   | 634,234    |
| <b>Russia 8.8%</b>                                    |                              |           |            |
| Gazprom PJSC, ADR.                                    | Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels  | 556,944   | 2,456,123  |
| LUKOIL PJSC, ADR.                                     | Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels  | 190,666   | 13,155,954 |
| <sup>a,b</sup> Mail.Ru Group Ltd., GDR, Reg S         | Internet Software & Services | 99,578    | 2,140,927  |
| MMC Norilsk Nickel PJSC, ADR                          | Metals & Mining              | 55,200    | 914,112    |
| Sberbank of Russia PJSC, ADR                          | Banks                        | 275,408   | 2,989,554  |
| <sup>a</sup> Yandex NV, A                             | Internet Software & Services | 109,621   | 3,522,123  |
|   |                              |           | 25,178,793 |
| <b>South Africa 7.0%</b>                              |                              |           |            |

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|                        |                          |         |            |
|------------------------|--------------------------|---------|------------|
| Massmart Holdings Ltd. | Food & Staples Retailing | 247,733 | 1,868,753  |
| Naspers Ltd., N        | Media                    | 82,414  | 18,330,394 |

20,199,147

**South Korea 16.0%**

|  |  |         |            |
|--|--|---------|------------|
| Daelim Industrial Co. Ltd.   | Construction & Engineering                 | 29,871  | 2,192,933  |
| Fila Korea Ltd.  | Textiles, Apparel & Luxury Goods           | 40,950  | 1,532,505  |
| Hankook Tire Co. Ltd.  | Auto Components                            | 17,600  | 735,963    |
| Hanon Systems  | Auto Components                            | 105,643 | 1,136,354  |
| <sup>a</sup> HDC Hyundai Development Co-Engineering & Construction | Construction & Engineering                 | 41,754  | 2,092,191  |
| Hite Jinro Co. Ltd.  | Beverages                                  | 51,520  | 775,848    |
| Interpark Holdings Corp.   | Internet & Direct Marketing Retail         | 110,746 | 255,621    |
| KT Skylife Co. Ltd.  | Media                                      | 59,360  | 707,680    |
| LG Corp.   | Industrial Conglomerates                   | 21,505  | 1,378,278  |
| Naver Corp.  | Internet Software & Services               | 5,673   | 3,824,037  |
| POSCO  | Metals & Mining                            | 14,899  | 4,360,455  |
| Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd.                                       | Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals | 534,950 | 23,232,635 |
| SK Hynix Inc.  | Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment   | 34,540  | 2,569,756  |
| SK Innovation Co. Ltd.   | Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels                | 6,530   | 1,129,697  |

45,923,953

**Taiwan 11.5%**

|                                 |  |           |           |
|---------------------------------|--|-----------|-----------|
| Catcher Technology Co. Ltd.     | Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals     | 265,000   | 3,253,628 |
| CTBC Financial Holding Co. Ltd. | Banks  | 971,000   | 683,959   |
| FIT Hon Teng Ltd.               | Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components | 1,173,700 | 599,620   |

## TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

## STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS

|  | Industry  | Shares    | Value        |
|--|---|-----------|--------------|
| <b>Common Stocks (continued)</b>                               |   |           |              |
| <b>Taiwan (continued)</b>                                      |   |           |              |
| Hon Hai Precision Industry Co. Ltd.                            | Electronic Equipment,<br>Instruments & Components | 2,110,140 | \$ 5,539,419 |
| Largan Precision Co. Ltd.                                      | Electronic Equipment,<br>Instruments & Components | 11,400    | 1,749,128    |
| <sup>a</sup> PCHome Online Inc.                                | Internet Software & Services                      | 400,282   | 1,853,580    |
| Pegatron Corp.   | Technology Hardware,<br>Storage & Peripherals     | 486,000   | 1,049,183    |
| Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. Ltd.                    | Semiconductors &<br>Semiconductor Equipment       | 2,177,000 | 18,174,205   |
|  |   |           | 32,902,722   |
| <b>Thailand 3.4%</b>   |   |           |              |
| Kasikornbank PCL, fgn.   | Banks   | 583,800   | 3,776,796    |
| Kiatnakin Bank PCL, fgn.                                       | Banks   | 893,200   | 2,105,575    |
| PTT Exploration and Production PCL, fgn.                       | Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels                       | 210,847   | 916,866      |
| Siam Commercial Bank PCL, fgn.                                 | Banks   | 341,900   | 1,544,132    |
| Thai Beverage PCL, fgn.  | Beverages   | 2,347,000 | 1,059,941    |
| Univanich Palm Oil PCL, fgn.                                   | Food Products                                     | 1,664,500 | 340,316      |
|  |   |           | 9,743,626    |
| <b>United Kingdom 3.1%</b>                                     |   |           |              |
| Unilever PLC   | Personal Products                                 | 155,110   | 8,828,570    |
| <b>United States 1.0%</b>                                      |   |           |              |
| <sup>a</sup> IMAX Corp.  | Media   | 125,690   | 2,953,715    |
| <b>Total Common Stocks (Cost \$191,229,207)</b>                |   |           |              |
|  |   |           | 268,596,170  |
| <b><sup>c</sup>Participatory Notes (Cost \$1,281,540) 0.6%</b> |   |           |              |
| <b>Saudi Arabia 0.6%</b>                                       |   |           |              |
| HSBC Bank PLC, Saudi Basic Industries Corp.,<br>1/19/21        | Chemicals   | 47,301    | 1,589,102    |

**Preferred Stocks 3.0%****Brazil 3.0%**

|  |       |         |           |
|--|-------|---------|-----------|
| <sup>d</sup> Banco Bradesco SA, 5.295%, ADR, pfd.        | Banks | 598,867 | 4,156,137 |
| <sup>d</sup> Itau Unibanco Holding SA, 9.306%, ADR, pfd. | Banks | 434,798 | 4,530,595 |

**Total Preferred Stocks (Cost \$4,149,432)**

8,686,732

**Total Investments before Short Term  
Investments (Cost \$196,660,179)**

278,872,004

**Short Term Investments (Cost \$8,367,054) 2.9%****Money Market Funds 2.9%****United States 2.9%**

|   |  |           |           |
|---|--|-----------|-----------|
| <sup>e,f</sup> Institutional Fiduciary Trust Money Market<br>Portfolio, 1.64% |  | 8,367,054 | 8,367,054 |
|---|--|-----------|-----------|

**Total Investments (Cost \$205,027,233) 100.0%**

287,239,058

**Other Assets, less Liabilities (0.0)%**

(124,424)

**Net Assets 100.0%**

\$ 287,114,634

TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS

See Abbreviations on page 23.

Rounds to less than 0.1% of net assets.

<sup>a</sup>Non-income producing.

<sup>b</sup>Security was purchased pursuant to Regulation S under the Securities Act of 1933, which exempts from registration securities offered and sold outside of the United States. Such a security cannot be sold in the United States without either an effective registration statement filed pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, or pursuant to an exemption from registration. These securities have been deemed liquid under guidelines approved by the Fund's Board of Trustees. At August 31, 2018, the aggregate value of these securities was \$3,530,743, representing 1.2% of net assets.

<sup>c</sup>See Note 1(c) regarding Participatory Notes.

<sup>d</sup>Variable rate security. The rate shown represents the yield at period end.

<sup>e</sup>See Note 3(c) regarding investments in affiliated management investment companies.

<sup>f</sup>The rate shown is the annualized seven-day effective yield at period end.

14 Annual Report | The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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 TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND
**Financial Statements****Statement of Assets and Liabilities**

August 31, 2018

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| <b>Assets:</b>                                   |               |
| Investments in securities:                       |               |
| Cost - Unaffiliated issuers                      | \$196,660,179 |
| Cost - Non-controlled affiliates (Note 3c)       | 8,367,054     |
| Value - Unaffiliated issuers                     | \$278,872,004 |
| Value - Non-controlled affiliates (Note 3c)      | 8,367,054     |
| Cash   | 3,962         |
| Receivables:                                     |               |
| Investment securities sold                       | 36,704        |
| Dividends  | 417,875       |
| Foreign tax refund                               | 8,132         |
| Total assets                                     | 287,705,731   |
| <b>Liabilities:</b>                              |               |
| Payables:  |               |
| Fund shares repurchased                          | 52,756        |
| Management fees                                  | 300,720       |
| Custodian fees                                   | 30,371        |
| Professional fees                                | 53,370        |
| Deferred tax                                     | 136,973       |
| Accrued expenses and other liabilities           | 16,907        |
| Total liabilities                                | 591,097       |
| Net assets, at value                             | \$287,114,634 |
| Net assets consist of:                           |               |
| Paid-in capital                                  | \$196,181,218 |
| Distributions in excess of net investment income | (293,826)     |
| Net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)       | 82,068,836    |
| Accumulated net realized gain (loss)             | 9,158,406     |
| Net assets, at value                             | \$287,114,634 |
| Shares outstanding                               | 16,987,774    |

Net asset value per share.

\$16.90

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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements. | Annual

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 TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**Statement of Operations**

for the year ended August 31, 2018

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Investment income:                           |                   |
| Dividends: (net of foreign taxes)*           |                   |
| Unaffiliated issuers                         | \$ 6,810,209      |
| Non-controlled affiliates (Note 3c)          | 48,949            |
| <b>Total investment income</b>               | <b>6,859,158</b>  |
| Expenses:                                    |                   |
| Management fees (Note 3a)                    | 3,958,780         |
| Transfer agent fees                          | 71,681            |
| Custodian fees (Note 4)                      | 101,118           |
| Reports to shareholders                      | 31,619            |
| Registration and filing fees                 | 24,414            |
| Professional fees                            | 119,086           |
| Trustees fees and expenses                   | 37,035            |
| Other  | 36,372            |
| <b>Total expenses</b>                        | <b>4,380,105</b>  |
| Expenses waived/paid by affiliates (Note 3c) | (15,293)          |
| <b>Net expenses</b>                          | <b>4,364,812</b>  |
| <b>Net investment income</b>                 | <b>2,494,346</b>  |
| Realized and unrealized gains (losses):      |                   |
| Net realized gain (loss) from:               |                   |
| Investments:                                 |                   |
| Unaffiliated issuers                         | 16,545,295        |
| Foreign currency transactions                | (51,683)          |
| <b>Net realized gain (loss)</b>              | <b>16,493,612</b> |



|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:                      |               |
| Investments:  |               |
| Unaffiliated issuers  | (24,696,128)  |
| Translation of other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies | (5,986)       |
| Change in deferred taxes on unrealized appreciation                           | (116,854)     |
| Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation)                          | (24,818,968)  |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)                                       | (8,325,356)   |
| Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations               | \$(5,831,010) |
| *Foreign taxes withheld on dividends  | \$ 950,886    |

16 Annual Report | The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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## TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Statements of Changes in Net Assets

|  | Year Ended August 31, |                |
|--|-----------------------|----------------|
|  | 2018                  | 2017           |
| Increase (decrease) in net assets:                                       |                       |                |
| Operations:  |                       |                |
| Net investment income  | \$ 2,494,346          | \$ 2,822,153   |
| Net realized gain (loss)   | 16,493,612            | 16,242,150     |
| Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation)                     | (24,818,968)          | 61,124,634     |
| Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations          | (5,831,010)           | 80,188,937     |
| Distributions to shareholders from:                                      |                       |                |
| Net investment income  | (4,345,445)           | (3,501,659)    |
| Net realized gains   | (15,154,108)          |                |
| Total distributions to shareholders                                      | (19,499,553)          | (3,501,659)    |
| Capital share transactions from - repurchase of shares (Note 2)          | (8,558,881)           | (6,324,882)    |
| Net increase (decrease) in net assets                                    | (33,889,444)          | 70,362,396     |
| Net assets:  |                       |                |
| Beginning of year  | 321,004,078           | 250,641,682    |
| End of year  | \$ 287,114,634        | \$ 321,004,078 |
| Undistributed net investment income included in net assets:              |                       |                |
| End of year  | \$                    | \$ 1,471,589   |
| Distributions in excess of net investment income included in net assets: |                       |                |
| End of year  | \$ (293,826)          | \$             |

TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

**Notes to Financial Statements**

**1. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies**

Templeton Emerging Markets Fund (Fund) is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (1940 Act) as a closed-end management investment company and applies the specialized accounting and reporting guidance in U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (U.S. GAAP).

The following summarizes the Fund's significant accounting policies.

**a. Financial Instrument Valuation**

The Fund's investments in financial instruments are carried at fair value daily. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. The Fund calculates the net asset value (NAV) per share each business day as of 4 p.m. Eastern time or the regularly scheduled close of the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), whichever is earlier. Under compliance policies and procedures approved by the Fund's Board of Trustees (the Board), the Fund's administrator has responsibility for oversight of valuation, including leading the cross-functional Valuation Committee (VC). The VC provides administration and oversight of the Fund's valuation policies and procedures, which are approved annually by the Board. Among other things, these procedures allow the Fund to utilize independent pricing services, quotations from securities and financial instrument dealers, and other market sources to determine fair value.

Equity securities listed on an exchange or on the NASDAQ National Market System are valued at the last quoted sale price or the official closing price of the day, respectively. Foreign equity securities are valued as of the close of trading on the foreign stock exchange on which the security is primarily traded, or as of 4 p.m. Eastern time. The value is then converted into its U.S. dollar equivalent at the foreign exchange rate in effect at 4 p.m. Eastern time on the day that the value of the security is determined. Over-the-counter (OTC) securities are valued within the range of the most recent quoted bid and ask prices. Securities that trade in multiple markets or on multiple exchanges are valued according to the broadest and most representative market. Certain equity securities are valued based upon fundamental characteristics or relationships to similar securities.

Investments in open-end mutual funds are valued at the closing NAV.

The Fund has procedures to determine the fair value of financial instruments for which market prices are not reliable or readily available. Under these procedures, the VC convenes on a regular basis to review such financial instruments and considers a number of factors, including significant unobservable valuation inputs, when arriving at fair value. The VC primarily employs a market-based approach which may use related or comparable assets or liabilities, recent transactions, market multiples, book values, and other relevant information for the investment to determine the fair value of the investment. An income-based valuation approach may also be used in which the anticipated future cash flows of the investment are discounted to calculate fair value. Discounts may also be applied due to the nature or duration of any restrictions on the disposition of the investments. Due to the inherent uncertainty of valuations of such investments, the fair values may differ significantly from the values that would have been used had an active market existed. The VC employs various methods for calibrating these valuation approaches including a regular review of key inputs and assumptions, transactional back-testing or disposition analysis, and reviews of any related market activity.

Trading in securities on foreign securities stock exchanges and OTC markets may be completed before 4 p.m. Eastern time. In addition, trading in certain foreign markets may not take place on every Fund's business day. Occasionally, events occur between the time at which trading in a foreign security is completed and 4 p.m. Eastern time that might call into question the reliability of the value of a portfolio security held by the Fund. As a result, differences may arise between the value of the Fund's portfolio securities as determined at the foreign market close and the latest indications of value at 4 p.m. Eastern time. In order to minimize the potential for these differences, the VC monitors price movements following the close of trading in foreign stock markets through a series of country specific market proxies (such as baskets of American Depositary Receipts, futures contracts and exchange traded funds). These price movements are measured against established trigger thresholds for each specific market proxy to assist in determining if an event has occurred that may call into question the reliability of the values of the foreign securities held by the Fund. If such an event occurs, the securities may be valued using fair value procedures, which may include the use of independent pricing services.

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TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

When the last day of the reporting period is a non-business day, certain foreign markets may be open on those days that the Fund's NAV is not calculated, which could result in differences between the value of the Fund's portfolio securities on the last business day and the last calendar day of the reporting period. Any significant security valuation changes due to an open foreign market are adjusted and reflected by the Fund for financial reporting purposes.

**b. Foreign Currency Translation**

Portfolio securities and other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollars based on the exchange rate of such currencies against U.S. dollars on the date of valuation. The Fund may enter into foreign currency exchange contracts to facilitate transactions denominated in a foreign currency. Purchases and sales of securities, income and expense items denominated in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollars at the exchange rate in effect on the transaction date. Portfolio securities and assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies contain risks that those currencies will decline in value relative to the U.S. dollar. Occasionally, events may impact the availability or reliability of foreign exchange rates used to convert the U.S. dollar equivalent value. If such an event occurs, the foreign exchange rate will be valued at fair value using procedures established and approved by the Board.

The Fund does not separately report the effect of changes in foreign exchange rates from changes in market prices on securities held. Such changes are included in net realized and unrealized gain or loss from investments in the Statement of Operations.

Realized foreign exchange gains or losses arise from sales of foreign currencies, currency gains or losses realized between the trade and settlement dates on securities transactions and the difference between the recorded amounts of dividends, interest, and foreign withholding taxes and the U.S. dollar equivalent of the amounts actually received or paid. Net unrealized foreign exchange gains and losses arise from changes in foreign exchange rates on foreign denominated assets and liabilities other than investments in securities held at the end of the reporting period.

**c. Participatory Notes**

The Fund invests in Participatory Notes (P-Notes). P-Notes are promissory notes that are designed to offer a return linked to the performance of a particular underlying equity security or

market. P-Notes are issued by banks or broker-dealers and allow the Fund to gain exposure to common stocks in certain foreign markets without registering with the market regulator. Income received from P-Notes is recorded as dividend income in the Statement of Operations. P-Notes may contain various risks including the potential inability of the counterparty to fulfill their obligations under the terms of the contract. These securities may be more volatile and less liquid than other investments held by the Fund.

**d. Income and Deferred Taxes**

It is the Fund's policy to qualify as a regulated investment company under the Internal Revenue Code. The Fund intends to distribute to shareholders substantially all of its taxable income and net realized gains to relieve it from federal income and excise taxes. As a result, no provision for U.S. federal income taxes is required.

The Fund may be subject to foreign taxation related to income received, capital gains on the sale of securities and certain foreign currency transactions in the foreign jurisdictions in which it invests. Foreign taxes, if any, are recorded based on the tax regulations and rates that exist in the foreign markets in which the Fund invests. When a capital gain tax is determined to apply, the Fund records an estimated deferred tax liability in an amount that would be payable if the securities were disposed of on the valuation date.

The Fund may recognize an income tax liability related to its uncertain tax positions under U.S. GAAP when the uncertain tax position has a less than 50% probability that it will be sustained upon examination by the tax authorities based on its technical merits. As of August 31, 2018, the Fund has determined that no tax liability is required in its financial statements related to uncertain tax positions for any open tax years (or expected to be taken in future tax years). Open tax years are those that remain subject to examination and are based on the statute of limitations in each jurisdiction in which the Fund invests.

**e. Security Transactions, Investment Income, Expenses and Distributions**

Security transactions are accounted for on trade date. Realized gains and losses on security transactions are determined on a specific identification basis. Estimated expenses are accrued daily. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date except for certain dividends from securities where the dividend

TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**1. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies** (continued)

**e. Security Transactions, Investment Income, Expenses and Distributions** (*continued*)

rate is not available. In such cases, the dividend is recorded as soon as the information is received by the Fund. Distributions to shareholders are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Distributable earnings are determined according to income tax regulations (tax basis) and may differ from earnings recorded in accordance with U.S. GAAP. These differences may be permanent or temporary. Permanent differences are reclassified among capital accounts to reflect their tax character. These reclassifications have no impact on net assets or the results of operations. Temporary differences are not reclassified, as they may reverse in subsequent periods.

**f. Accounting Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and

liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the amounts of income and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**g. Guarantees and Indemnifications**

Under the Fund's organizational documents, its officers and trustees are indemnified by the Fund against certain liabilities arising out of the performance of their duties to the Fund. Additionally, in the normal course of business, the Fund enters into contracts with service providers that contain general indemnification clauses. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet occurred. Currently, the Fund expects the risk of loss to be remote.

**2. Shares of Beneficial Interest**

At August 31, 2018, there were an unlimited number of shares authorized (without par value). During the years ended August 31, 2018 and 2017 there were no shares issued; all reinvested distributions were satisfied with previously issued shares purchased in the open market.

Under the Board approved open-market share repurchase program, the Fund may purchase, from time to time, Fund shares in open-market transactions, at the discretion of management. Since the inception of the program, the Fund has repurchased a total of 1,097,333 shares. Transactions in the Fund's shares were as follows:

| Year Ended August 31, |      |
|-----------------------|------|
| 2018                  | 2017 |

|                    | Shares    | Amount        | Shares    | Amount        |
|--------------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|---------------|
| Shares repurchased | (538,586) | \$(8,558,881) | (483,100) | \$(6,324,882) |

Weighted average discount of market price to net asset value of shares repurchased 12.11% 11.99%

**3. Transactions with Affiliates**

Franklin Resources, Inc. is the holding company for various subsidiaries that together are referred to as Franklin Templeton Investments. Certain officers and trustees of the Fund are also officers and/or directors of the following subsidiaries:

| Subsidiary                                     | Affiliation            |
|--|------------------------|
| Templeton Asset Management Ltd. (TAML)         | Investment manager     |
| Franklin Templeton Services, LLC (FT Services) | Administrative manager |



## TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**a. Management Fees**

The Fund pays an investment management fee to TAML based on the average daily net assets of the Fund as follows:

| <b>Annualized Fee Rate</b> | <b>Net Assets</b>                                   |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1.250%                     | Up to and including \$1 billion                     |
| 1.200%                     | Over \$1 billion, up to and including \$5 billion   |
| 1.150%                     | Over \$5 billion, up to and including \$10 billion  |
| 1.100%                     | Over \$10 billion, up to and including \$15 billion |
| 1.050%                     | Over \$15 billion, up to and including \$20 billion |
| 1.000%                     | In excess of \$20 billion                           |

For the year ended August 31, 2018, the gross effective investment management fee rate was 1.250% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

**b. Administrative Fees**

Under an agreement with TAML, FT Services provides administrative services to the Fund. The fee is paid by TAML based on the Fund's average daily net assets, and is not an additional expense of the Fund.

**c. Investments in Affiliated Management Investment Companies**

The Fund invests in one or more affiliated management investment companies for purposes other than exercising a controlling influence over the management or policies. Management fees paid by the Fund are waived on assets invested in the affiliated management investment companies, as noted in the Statement of Operations, in an amount not to exceed the management and administrative fees paid directly or indirectly by each affiliate. During the year ended August 31, 2018, the Fund held investments in affiliated management investment companies as follows:

|                                      | Number of<br>Shares Held<br>at Beginning<br>of Year | Gross<br>Additions | Gross<br>Reductions | Number of<br>Shares<br>Held at End<br>of Year | Value             | Dividend<br>Income | Realized<br>Gain<br>(Loss) | Net Change in<br>Unrealized<br>Appreciation<br>(Depreciation) |
|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|---|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|---|
|                                      |   |                    |                     |   | at End<br>of Year |                    |                            |   |
| <b>Non-Controlled<br/>Affiliates</b> |   |                    |                     |   |                   |                    |                            |   |

Institutional  
 Fiduciary Trust  
 Money Market

Portfolio, 1.64% 3,296,567 52,572,693 (47,502,206) 8,367,054 \$ 8,367,054 \$48,949 \$ \$

**4. Expense Offset Arrangement**

The Fund has entered into an arrangement with its custodian whereby credits realized as a result of uninvested cash balances are used to reduce a portion of the Fund's custodian expenses. During the year ended August 31, 2018, there were no credits earned.

**5. Income Taxes**

The tax character of distributions paid during the years ended August 31, 2018 and 2017, was as follows:

|                          | <b>2018</b>   | <b>2017</b>  |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Distributions paid from: |               |              |
| Ordinary income          | \$ 4,345,445  | \$ 3,501,659 |
| Long term capital gain   | 15,154,108    |              |
|                          | \$ 19,499,553 | \$ 3,501,659 |

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 TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**5. Income Taxes** (continued)

At August 31, 2018, the cost of investments, net unrealized appreciation (depreciation), undistributed ordinary income and undistributed long term capital gains for income tax purposes were as follows:

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| Cost of investments                           | \$ 207,288,563 |
| Unrealized appreciation                       | \$ 94,868,007  |
| Unrealized depreciation                       | (14,917,512)   |
| Net unrealized appreciation<br>(depreciation) | \$ 79,950,495  |
| Distributable earnings:                       |                |
| Undistributed ordinary income                 | \$ 2,832,121   |
| Undistributed long term capital gains         | 8,293,795      |
| Total distributable earnings                  | \$ 11,125,916  |

Differences between income and/or capital gains as determined on a book basis and a tax basis are primarily due to differing treatment of corporate actions.

**6. Investment Transactions**

Purchases and sales of investments (excluding short term securities) for the year ended August 31, 2018, aggregated \$36,335,592 and \$56,850,974, respectively.

**7. Concentration of Risk**

Investing in foreign securities may include certain risks and considerations not typically associated with investing in U.S. securities, such as fluctuating currency values and changing local and regional economic, political and social conditions, which may result in greater market volatility. In addition, certain foreign securities may not be as liquid as U.S. securities.

The United States and other nations have imposed and could impose additional sanctions on certain issuers in Russia due to regional conflicts. These sanctions could result in the devaluation of Russia's currency, a downgrade in Russian issuers' credit ratings, or a decline in the value and liquidity of Russian stocks or other securities. Such sanctions could also adversely affect Russia's economy, possibly forcing the economy into a recession. The Fund may be prohibited

from investing in securities issued by companies subject to such sanctions. In addition, if the Fund holds the securities of an issuer that is subject to such sanctions, an immediate freeze of that issuer's securities could result, impairing the ability of the Fund to buy, sell, receive or deliver those securities. There is also the risk that countermeasures could be taken by Russia's government, which could involve the seizure of the Fund's assets. These risks could affect the value of the Fund's portfolio. While the Fund holds securities of certain issuers impacted by the sanctions, existing investments do not presently violate the applicable terms and conditions of the sanctions. The sanctions currently do not affect the Fund's ability to sell these securities. At August 31, 2018, the Fund had 8.8% of its net assets invested in Russia.

## **8. Fair Value Measurements**

The Fund follows a fair value hierarchy that distinguishes between market data obtained from independent sources (observable inputs) and the Fund's own market assumptions (unobservable inputs). These inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's financial instruments and are summarized in the following fair value hierarchy:

Level 1 quoted prices in active markets for identical financial instruments

Level 2 other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar financial instruments, interest rates, prepayment speed, credit risk, etc.)

## TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Level 3 significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of financial instruments)

The input levels are not necessarily an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with financial instruments at that level.

For movements between the levels within the fair value hierarchy, the Fund has adopted a policy of recognizing the transfers as of the date of the underlying event which caused the movement.

A summary of inputs used as of August 31, 2018, in valuing the Fund's assets carried at fair value, is as follows:

|   | Level 1        | Level 2      | Level 3        | Total          |
|---|----------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Assets:</b>                          |                |              |                |                |
| Investments in Securities: <sup>a</sup> |                |              |                |                |
| Equity Investments <sup>b</sup>         | \$ 277,282,902 | \$           | \$ 277,282,902 | \$ 277,282,902 |
| Participatory Notes                     |                | 1,589,102    |                | 1,589,102      |
| Short Term Investments                  | 8,367,054      |              |                | 8,367,054      |
| <br>Total Investments in Securities     |                |              |                |                |
|   | \$ 285,649,956 | \$ 1,589,102 | \$             | \$ 287,239,058 |

<sup>a</sup>For detailed categories, see the accompanying Statement of Investments.

<sup>b</sup>Includes common and preferred stocks.

## 9. New Accounting Pronouncements

In August 2018, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2018-13, Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820): Disclosure Framework - Changes to the Disclosure Requirements for Fair Value Measurements. The amendments in the ASU modify the disclosure requirements on fair value measurements in Topic 820. The ASU is effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2019. Management is currently evaluating the impact, if any, of applying this provision.

## 10. Subsequent Events

The Fund has evaluated subsequent events through the issuance of the financial statements and determined that no events have occurred that require disclosure.

**Abbreviations**

**Selected Portfolio**

**ADR** American Depositary  
Receipt

**GDR** Global Depositary Receipt

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TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

**Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

To the Board of Trustees and Shareholders of Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

*Opinion on the Financial Statements*

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities, including the statement of investments, of Templeton Emerging Markets Fund (the Fund ) as of August 31, 2018, the related statement of operations for the year ended August 31, 2018, the statement of changes in net assets for each of the two years in the period ended August 31, 2018, including the related notes, and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period ended August 31, 2018 (collectively referred to as the financial statements ). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund as of August 31, 2018, the results of its operations for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the two years in the period ended August 31, 2018 and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period ended August 31, 2018 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

*Basis for Opinion*

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Fund s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Fund s financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) ( PCAOB ) and are required to be independent with respect to the Fund in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits of these financial statements in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of August 31, 2018 by correspondence with the custodian, transfer agent, and brokers; when replies were not received from brokers, we performed other auditing procedures. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

San Francisco, California

October 16, 2018

We have served as the auditor of one or more investment companies in the Franklin Templeton funds since 1948.





**Tax Information (unaudited)**

Under Section 852(b)(3)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code, the Fund hereby reports the maximum amount allowable but no less than \$15,154,108 as a long term capital gain dividend for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2018.

Under Section 854(b)(1)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code, the Fund hereby reports the maximum amount allowable but no less than \$3,679,939 as qualified dividends for purposes of the maximum rate under Section 1(h)(11) of the Internal Revenue Code for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2018. Distributions, including qualified dividend income, paid during calendar year 2018 will be reported to shareholders on Form 1099-DIV by mid-February 2019. Shareholders are advised to check with their tax advisors for information on the treatment of these amounts on their individual income tax returns.

At August 31, 2017, more than 50% of the Fund's total assets were invested in securities of foreign issuers. In most instances, foreign taxes were withheld from income paid to the Fund on these investments. As shown in the table below, the Fund hereby reports to shareholders the foreign source income and foreign taxes paid, pursuant to Section 853 of the Internal Revenue Code. This written statement will allow shareholders of record on December 15, 2017, to treat their proportionate share of foreign taxes paid by the Fund as having been paid directly by them. The shareholder shall consider these amounts as foreign taxes paid in the tax year in which they receive the Fund distribution.

The following table provides a detailed analysis of foreign tax paid, foreign source income, and foreign source qualified dividends as reported by the Fund, to shareholders of record.

|  | <b>Foreign Tax Paid<br/>Per Share</b> | <b>Foreign Source<br/>Income Per Share</b> | <b>Foreign Source Qualified<br/>Dividends Per<br/>Share</b> |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---|
|  | \$0.0498                              | \$0.2852                                   | \$0.1801  |

Foreign Tax Paid Per Share (Column 1) is the amount per share available to you, as a tax credit (assuming you held your shares in the Fund for a minimum of 16 days during the 31-day period beginning 15 days before the ex-dividend date of the Fund's distribution to which the foreign taxes relate), or, as a tax deduction.

Foreign Source Income Per Share (Column 2) is the amount per share of income dividends attributable to foreign securities held by the Fund, plus any foreign taxes withheld on these dividends. The amounts reported include foreign source qualified dividends that have not been adjusted for the rate differential applicable to such dividend income.<sup>1</sup>

Foreign Source Qualified Dividends Per Share (Column 3) is the amount per share of foreign source qualified dividends, plus any foreign taxes withheld on these dividends. These amounts represent the portion of the Foreign Source Income reported to you in column 2 that were derived from qualified foreign securities held by the Fund.<sup>1</sup>

In February 2018, shareholders received Form 1099-DIV which included their share of taxes paid and foreign source income distributed during the calendar year 2017. The Foreign Source Income reported on Form 1099-DIV was not adjusted for the rate differential on foreign source qualified dividend income. Shareholders are advised to check with their tax advisors for information on the treatment of these amounts on their 2017 individual income tax returns.

<sup>1</sup>Qualified dividends are taxed at reduced long term capital gains tax rates. In determining the amount of foreign tax credit that may be applied against the U.S. tax liability of individuals receiving foreign source qualified dividends, adjustments may be required to the foreign tax credit limitation calculation to reflect the rate differential applicable to such dividend income. The rules however permit certain individuals to elect not to apply the rate differential adjustments for capital gains and/or dividends for any taxable year. Please consult your tax advisor and the instructions to Form 1116 for more information.

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**TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND**

## Annual Meeting of Shareholders

**March 1, 2018 and Reconvened on March 15, 2018 and March 29, 2018 (unaudited)**

The Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Templeton Emerging Markets Fund (the Fund) was held at the Fund's offices, 300 S.E. 2nd Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on March 1, 2018 and reconvened on March 15, 2018 and March 29, 2018. The purpose of the meeting was to elect four Trustees of the Fund, to approve an amended fundamental investment restriction regarding investments in commodities, to approve an amended fundamental investment restriction regarding lending, to approve a change to the Fund's status from diversified to non-diversified and to ratify the selection of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm for the Fund for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2018. At the reconvened meeting held on March 29, 2018, the following persons were elected by the shareholders to serve as Trustees of the Fund: Ann Torre Bates, David W. Niemiec, Larry D. Thompson and Robert E. Wade.\* The proposals to approve an amended fundamental investment restriction regarding investments in commodities, to approve an amended fundamental investment restriction regarding lending, to approve a change to the Fund's status from diversified to non-diversified and the ratification of the selection of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm for the Fund for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2018 were approved by shareholders. No other business was transacted at the meeting with respect to the Fund.

The results of the voting at the Annual Meeting are as follows:

## 1. Election of four Trustees:

| Term Expiring 2021 | % of Outstanding Shares |         | % of Outstanding Shares |           | % of Outstanding Shares |         |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------|-------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|---------|
|                    | For                     | Present | Present                 | Withheld  | Present                 | Present |
| Ann Torre Bates    | 11,466,302              | 65.73%  | 85.61%                  | 1,926,877 | 11.05%                  | 14.39%  |
| David W. Niemiec   | 11,456,749              | 65.68%  | 85.54%                  | 1,936,430 | 11.10%                  | 14.46%  |
| Larry D. Thompson  | 11,507,425              | 65.97%  | 85.92%                  | 1,885,755 | 10.81%                  | 14.08%  |
| Robert E. Wade     | 11,460,529              | 65.70%  | 85.57%                  | 1,932,651 | 11.08%                  | 14.43%  |

There were no broker non-votes received with respect to this item.

## 2. To approve an amended fundamental investment restriction regarding investments in commodities:

|         | <b>% of</b>        | <b>% of</b>    |                |
|---------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|
|         | <b>Shares</b>      | <b>Shares</b>  |                |
|         | <b>Outstanding</b> | <b>Present</b> |                |
|         | <b>Voted</b>       | <b>Shares</b>  | <b>Present</b> |
| For     | 9,617,320          | 55.13%         | 71.81%         |
| Against | 1,989,944          | 11.41%         | 14.86%         |
| Abstain | 154,662            | 0.89%          | 1.15%          |

There were 1,631,254 broker non-votes received with respect to this item.

\*Harris J. Ashton, Mary C. Choksi, Edith E. Holiday, Gregory E. Johnson, Rupert H. Johnson, Jr., J. Michael Luttig and Constantine D. Tseretopoulos are Trustees of the Fund who are currently serving and whose terms of office continued after the Annual Meeting of Shareholders.

## TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

## ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

3. To approve an amended fundamental investment restriction regarding lending:

|         | <b>Shares Voted</b> | <b>% of<br/>Shares<br/>Outstanding</b> | <b>% of<br/>Shares<br/>Present</b> |
|---------|---------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| For     | 9,519,457           | 54.57%                                 | 71.08%                             |
| Against | 2,070,056           | 11.87%                                 | 15.46%                             |
| Abstain | 172,411             | 0.99%                                  | 1.29%                              |

There were 1,631,254 broker non-votes received with respect to this item.

4. To approve a change to the Fund's status from diversified to non-diversified:

|         | <b>Shares Voted</b> | <b>% of<br/>Shares<br/>Outstanding</b> | <b>% of<br/>Shares<br/>Present</b> |
|---------|---------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| For     | 9,029,564           | 51.76%                                 | 67.42%                             |
| Against | 2,574,931           | 14.76%                                 | 19.23%                             |
| Abstain | 157,430             | 0.90%                                  | 1.18%                              |

There were 1,631,254 broker non-votes received with respect to this item.

5. Ratification of the selection of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm for the Fund for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2018:

|  | <b>Shares Voted</b> | <b>% of<br/>Shares<br/>Outstanding</b> | <b>% of<br/>Shares<br/>Present</b> |
|--|---------------------|--|------------------------------------|
|  | 12,960,694          | 74.30%                                 | 96.77%                             |

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|         |         |       |       |
|---------|---------|-------|-------|
| For     |         |       |       |
| Against | 302,725 | 1.74% | 2.26% |
| Abstain | 129,751 | 0.74% | 0.97% |

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## TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

### Dividend Reinvestment and Cash Purchase Plan

The Fund offers a Dividend Reinvestment and Cash Purchase Plan (the Plan) with the following features:

Shareholders must affirmatively elect to participate in the Plan. If you decide to use this service, share dividends and capital gains distributions will be reinvested automatically in shares of the Fund for your account.

Whenever the Fund declares dividends in either cash or shares of the Fund, if the market price is equal to or exceeds net asset value at the valuation date, the participant will receive the dividends entirely in new shares at a price equal to the net asset value, but not less than 95% of the then current market price of the Fund's shares. If the market price is lower than net asset value or if dividends and/or capital gains distributions are payable only in cash, the participant will receive shares purchased on the New York Stock Exchange or otherwise on the open market.

A participant has the option of submitting additional cash payments to the Plan Administrator, in any amounts of at least \$100, up to a maximum of \$5,000 per month, for the purchase of Fund shares for his or her account. These payments can be made by check payable to American Stock Transfer and Trust Company, LLC (the Plan Administrator) and sent to American Stock Transfer and Trust Company, LLC, P.O. Box 922, Wall Street Station, New York, NY 10269-0560 Attention: Templeton Emerging Markets Fund. The Plan Administrator will apply such payments (less a \$5.00 service charge and less a pro rata share of trading fees) to purchases of Fund shares on the open market.

The automatic reinvestment of dividends and/or capital gains does not relieve the participant of any income tax that may be payable on dividends or distributions.

Whenever shares are purchased on the New York Stock Exchange or otherwise on the open market, each participant will pay a pro rata portion of trading fees. Trading fees will be deducted from amounts to be invested. The Plan Administrator's fee for a sale of shares through the Plan is \$15.00 per transaction plus a \$0.12 per share trading fee.

A participant may withdraw from the Plan without penalty at any time by written notice to the Plan Administrator sent to American Stock Transfer and Trust Company, LLC, P.O. Box 922, Wall Street Station, New York, NY 10269-0560. Upon withdrawal, the participant will receive, without charge, share certificates issued in the participant's name for all full shares held by the Plan Administrator; or, if the participant wishes, the Plan Administrator will sell the participant's shares and send the proceeds to the participant, less a service charge of \$15.00 and less trading fees of \$0.12 per share. The Plan Administrator will convert any fractional shares held at the time of withdrawal to cash at the current market price and send a check to the participant for the net proceeds.

For more information, please see the Plan's Terms & Conditions located at the back of this report.

### **Transfer Agent**

American Stock Transfer and Trust Company, LLC

P.O. Box 922, Wall Street Station

New York, NY 10269-560

(800) 416-5585

[www.astfinancial.com](http://www.astfinancial.com)

### **Direct Deposit Service for Registered Shareholders**

Cash distributions can now be electronically credited to a checking or saving account at any financial institution that participates in the Automated Clearing House ( ACH ) system. The Direct Deposit service is provided for registered shareholders at no charge. To enroll in the service, access your account online by going to [www.astfinancial.com](http://www.astfinancial.com) or dial (800) 416-5585 (toll free) and follow the instructions. Direct Deposit will begin with the next scheduled distribution payment date following enrollment in the service.

### **Direct Registration**

If you are a registered shareholder of the Fund, purchases of shares of the Fund can be electronically credited to your Fund account at American Stock Transfer and Trust Company, LLC through Direct Registration. This service provides shareholders with a convenient way to keep track of shares through book entry transactions, electronically move book-entry shares between broker-dealers, transfer agents and DRS eligible issuers, and eliminate the possibility of lost certificates. For additional information, please contact American Stock Transfer and Trust Company, LLC at (800) 416-5585.

### **Shareholder Information**

Shares of Templeton Emerging Markets Fund are traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol EMF. Information about the net asset value and the market price is available at [franklintempleton.com](http://franklintempleton.com).

For current information about dividends and shareholder accounts, call (800) 416-5585. Registered shareholders can access their Fund account on-line. For information go to American Stock Transfer and Trust Company, LLC's web site at [www.astfinancial.com](http://www.astfinancial.com) and follow the instructions.

The daily closing net asset value as of the previous business day may be obtained when available by calling Franklin Templeton Fund Information after 7 a.m. Pacific time any business day at (800) DIAL BEN/342-5236. The Fund's net asset value and dividends are also listed on the NASDAQ Stock Market, Inc.'s Mutual Fund Quotation Service ( NASDAQ MFQS ).



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Shareholders not receiving copies of reports to shareholders because their shares are registered in the name of a broker or a custodian can request that they be added to the Fund's mailing list, by writing Templeton Emerging Markets Fund, 100 Fountain Parkway, P.O. Box 33030, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-8030.

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 TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

## Board Members and Officers

The name, year of birth and address of the officers and board members, as well as their affiliations, positions held with the Fund, principal occupations during at least the past five years and number of U.S. registered portfolios overseen in the Franklin Templeton Investments fund complex are shown below. Generally, each board member serves a three-year term that continues until that person's successor is elected and qualified.

**Independent Board Members**

| <b>Name, Year of Birth<br/>and Address</b>   | <b>Position</b> | <b>Length of<br/>Time Served</b> | <b>Number of Portfolios in<br/>Fund Complex Overseen<br/>by Board Member*</b> | <b>Other Directorships Held<br/>During at Least the Past 5<br/>Years</b> |
|--|-----------------|----------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Harris J. Ashton (1932)</b><br><br>300 S.E. 2nd Street<br><br>Fort Lauderdale, FL<br>33301-1923 | Trustee         | Since 1992                       | 136   | Bar-S Foods (meat packing company) (1981-2010).                          |

**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

Director of various companies; and **formerly**, Director, RBC Holdings, Inc. (bank holding company) (until 2002); and President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board, General Host Corporation (nursery and craft centers) (until 1998).

|   |         |            |    |  |
|---|---------|------------|----|--|
| <b>Ann Torre Bates (1958)</b><br><br>300 S.E. 2nd Street<br><br>Fort Lauderdale, FL<br>33301-1923 | Trustee | Since 2008 | 38 | Ares Capital Corporation (specialty finance company) (2010-present), United Natural Foods, Inc. (distributor of natural, organic and specialty foods) (2013-present), Allied Capital Corporation (financial services) (2003-2010), SLM Corporation (Sallie Mae) (1997-2014) and Navient Corporation (loan management, servicing and asset recovery) (2014-2016). |
|---|---------|------------|----|--|

**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

Director of various companies; and **formerly**, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, NHP Incorporated (manager of multifamily housing) (1995-1997); and Vice President and Treasurer, US Airways, Inc. (until 1995).

**Mary C. Choksi (1950)** Trustee Since 2016 136

300 S.E. 2nd Street

Fort Lauderdale, FL  
33301-1923

Avis Budget Group Inc. (car rental) (2007-present), Omnicom Group Inc. (advertising and marketing communications services) (2011-present) and White Mountains Insurance Group, Ltd. (holding company) (2017-present).

**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

Director of various companies; and **formerly**, Founder and Senior Advisor, Strategic Investment Group (investment management group) (2015-2017); Founding Partner and Senior Managing Director, Strategic Investment Group (1987-2015); Founding Partner and Managing Director, Emerging Markets Management LLC (investment management firm) (1987-2011); and Loan Officer/Senior Loan Officer/Senior Pension Investment Officer, World Bank Group (international financial institution) (1977-1987).

**Edith E. Holiday (1952)** Lead Trustee since 136

300 S.E. 2nd Street

Fort Lauderdale, FL  
33301-1923

Independent 1996 and Lead Trustee since 2007

Hess Corporation (exploration of oil and gas) (1993-present), Canadian National Railway (railroad) (2001-present), White Mountains Insurance Group, Ltd. (holding company) (2004-present), Santander Consumer USA Holdings, Inc. (consumer finance) (2016-present), RTI International Metals, Inc. (manufacture and distribution of titanium) (1999-2015) and H.J. Heinz Company (processed foods and allied products) (1994-2013).

**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

Director or Trustee of various companies and trusts; and **formerly**, Assistant to the President of the United States and Secretary of the Cabinet

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(1990-1993); General Counsel to the United States Treasury Department (1989-1990); and Counselor to the Secretary and Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs and Public Liaison United States Treasury Department (1988-1989).

## TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

**Independent Board Members** (continued)

| <b>Name, Year of Birth<br/>and Address</b>  | <b>Position</b> | <b>Length of<br/>Time Served</b> | <b>Number of Portfolios in<br/>Fund Complex Overseen<br/>by Board Member*</b> | <b>Other Directorships Held<br/>During at Least the Past 5<br/>Years</b> |
|---|-----------------|----------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>J. Michael Luttig (1954)</b><br><br>300 S.E. 2nd Street<br><br>Fort Lauderdale, FL<br>33301-1923 | Trustee         | Since 2009                       | 136   | Boeing Capital Corporation<br>(aircraft financing)<br>(2006-2013).       |

**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

Executive Vice President, General Counsel and member of the Executive Council, The Boeing Company (aerospace company) (2006-present); and **formerly**, Federal Appeals Court Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit (1991-2006).

|  |         |            |    |  |
|--|---------|------------|----|--|
| <b>David W. Niemiec (1949)</b><br><br>300 S.E. 2nd Street<br><br>Fort Lauderdale, FL<br>33301-1923 | Trustee | Since 2005 | 38 | Hess Midstream Partners<br>LP (oil and gas midstream<br>infrastructure)<br>(2017-present). |
|--|---------|------------|----|--|

**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

Advisor, Saratoga Partners (private equity fund); and **formerly**, Managing Director, Saratoga Partners (1998-2001) and SBC Warburg Dillon Read (investment banking) (1997-1998); Vice Chairman, Dillon, Read & Co. Inc. (investment banking) (1991-1997); and Chief Financial Officer, Dillon, Read & Co. Inc. (1982-1997).

|   |         |            |     |   |
|---|---------|------------|-----|---|
| <b>Larry D. Thompson (1945)</b><br><br>300 S.E. 2nd Street<br><br>Fort Lauderdale, FL<br>33301-1923 | Trustee | Since 2005 | 136 | The Southern Company<br>(energy company)<br>(2014-present; previously<br>2010-2012), Graham<br>Holdings Company<br>(education and media<br>organization)<br>(2011-present) and<br>Cbeyond, Inc. (business<br>communications provider)<br><br>(2010-2012). |
|---|---------|------------|-----|---|

**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

Director of various companies; Counsel, Finch McCranie, LLP (law firm) (2015-present); Independent Compliance Monitor and Auditor, Volkswagen AG (manufacturer of automobiles and commercial vehicles) (2017 present); John A. Sibley Professor of Corporate and Business Law, University of Georgia School of Law (2015-present; previously 2011-2012); and **formerly**, Executive Vice President Government Affairs, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary, PepsiCo, Inc. (consumer products) (2012-2014); Senior Vice President Government Affairs, General Counsel and Secretary, PepsiCo, Inc. (2004-2011); Senior Fellow of The Brookings Institution (2003-2004); Visiting Professor, University of Georgia School of Law (2004); and Deputy Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice (2001-2003).

|                                     |         |            |    |      |
|-------------------------------------|---------|------------|----|------|
| <b>Constantine D. Tseretopoulos</b> | Trustee | Since 1999 | 24 | None |
|-------------------------------------|---------|------------|----|------|

(1954)

300 S.E. 2nd Street

Fort Lauderdale, FL  
33301-1923

**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

Physician, Chief of Staff, owner and operator of the Lyford Cay Hospital (1987-present); director of various nonprofit organizations; and **formerly**, Cardiology Fellow, University of Maryland (1985-1987); and Internal Medicine Resident, Greater Baltimore Medical Center (1982-1985).

|                              |         |            |    |                          |
|------------------------------|---------|------------|----|--------------------------|
| <b>Robert E. Wade (1946)</b> | Trustee | Since 2006 | 38 | El Oro Ltd (investments) |
|------------------------------|---------|------------|----|--------------------------|

300 S.E. 2nd Street

(2003-present).

Fort Lauderdale, FL  
33301-1923

**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

Attorney at law engaged in private practice as a sole practitioner (1972-2008) and member of various boards.

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 TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND
**Interested Board Members and Officers**

| <b>Name, Year of Birth<br/>and Address</b> | <b>Position</b> | <b>Length of<br/>Time Served</b> | <b>Number of Portfolios in<br/>Fund Complex Overseen<br/>by Board Member*</b> | <b>Other Directorships Held<br/>During at Least the Past<br/>5 Years</b> |
|--|-----------------|----------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>**Gregory E. Johnson<br/>(1961)</b>     | Trustee         | Since 2007                       | 150   | None   |

One Franklin Parkway

San Mateo, CA  
94403-1906**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

Chairman of the Board, Member Office of the Chairman, Director and Chief Executive Officer, Franklin Resources, Inc.; officer and/or director or trustee, as the case may be, of some of the other subsidiaries of Franklin Resources, Inc. and of 42 of the investment companies in Franklin Templeton Investments; Vice Chairman, Investment Company Institute; and **formerly**, President, Franklin Resources, Inc. (1994-2015).

|  |  |   |     |      |
|--|--|---|-----|------|
| <b>**Rupert H. Johnson, Jr.<br/>(1940)</b> | Chairman of<br>the Board,<br>Trustee and<br>Vice President | Chairman of<br>the Board and<br>Trustee since<br>2013 and Vice<br>President since<br>1996 | 136 | None |
|--|--|---|-----|------|

One Franklin Parkway

San Mateo, CA  
94403-1906**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

Vice Chairman, Member Office of the Chairman and Director, Franklin Resources, Inc.; Director, Franklin Advisers, Inc.; Senior Vice President, Franklin Advisory Services, LLC; and officer and/or director or trustee, as the case may be, of some of the other subsidiaries of Franklin Resources, Inc. and of 40 of the investment companies in Franklin Templeton Investments.

|                              |                |            |                |                |
|------------------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Alison E. Baur (1964)</b> | Vice President | Since 2012 | Not Applicable | Not Applicable |
|------------------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|----------------|

One Franklin Parkway

San Mateo, CA  
94403-1906

**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

Deputy General Counsel, Franklin Templeton Investments; and officer of some of the other subsidiaries of Franklin Resources, Inc. and of 44 of the investment companies in Franklin Templeton Investments.

**Aliya S. Gordon (1973)** Vice President Since 2009 Not Applicable Not Applicable

One Franklin Parkway

San Mateo, CA  
94403-1906

**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

Senior Associate General Counsel, Franklin Templeton Investments; and officer of 44 of the investment companies in Franklin Templeton Investments.

**Steven J. Gray (1955)** Vice President Since 2009 Not Applicable Not Applicable

One Franklin Parkway

San Mateo, CA  
94403-1906

**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

Senior Associate General Counsel, Franklin Templeton Investments; Vice President, Franklin Templeton Distributors, Inc. and FASA LLC; and officer of 44 of the investment companies in Franklin Templeton Investments.

**Matthew T. Hinkle (1971)** Chief Executive Since 2017 Not Applicable Not Applicable

One Franklin Parkway

San Mateo, CA  
94403-1906

Officer  
Finance and  
Administration

**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

Senior Vice President, Franklin Templeton Services, LLC; officer of 44 of the investment companies in Franklin Templeton Investments; and **formerly**, Vice President, Global Tax (2012-April 2017) and Treasurer/Assistant Treasurer, Franklin Templeton Investments (2009-2017).

**Robert G. Kubilis (1973)** Chief Financial Officer, Chief Accounting Officer and Treasurer Since 2017 Not Applicable Not Applicable

300 S.E. 2nd Street

Fort Lauderdale, FL  
33301-1923



**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

Treasurer, U.S. Fund Administration & Reporting, Franklin Templeton Investments; and officer of 16 of the investment companies in Franklin Templeton Investments.

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 TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND
**Interested Board Members and Officers** (continued)

| <b>Name, Year of Birth<br/>and Address</b>  | <b>Position</b>                     | <b>Length of<br/>Time Served</b> | <b>Number of Portfolios in<br/>Fund Complex Overseen<br/>by Board Member*</b> | <b>Other Directorships<br/>Held<br/>During at Least the Past<br/>5 Years</b> |
|---|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Robert Lim (1948)</b><br>One Franklin Parkway<br><br>San Mateo, CA<br>94403-1906 | Vice President<br>AML<br>Compliance | Since 2016                       | Not Applicable  | Not Applicable   |

**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

Vice President, Franklin Templeton Companies, LLC; Chief Compliance Officer, Franklin Templeton Distributors, Inc. and Franklin Templeton Investor Services, LLC; and officer of 44 of the investment companies in Franklin Templeton Investments.

|   |                |            |                |                |
|---|----------------|------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Kimberly H. Novotny (1972)</b><br>300 S.E. 2nd Street<br><br>Fort Lauderdale, FL<br>33301-1923 | Vice President | Since 2013 | Not Applicable | Not Applicable |
|---|----------------|------------|----------------|----------------|

**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

Associate General Counsel, Franklin Templeton Investments; Vice President and Corporate Secretary, Fiduciary Trust International of the South; Vice President, Templeton Investment Counsel, LLC; Assistant Secretary, Franklin Resources, Inc.; and officer of 44 of the investment companies in Franklin Templeton Investments.

|  |                                |            |                |                |
|--|--------------------------------|------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Robert C. Rosselot (1960)</b><br>300 S.E. 2nd Street<br><br>Fort Lauderdale, FL<br>33301-1923 | Chief<br>Compliance<br>Officer | Since 2013 | Not Applicable | Not Applicable |
|--|--------------------------------|------------|----------------|----------------|

**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

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Director, Global Compliance, Franklin Templeton Investments; Vice President, Franklin Templeton Companies, LLC; officer of 44 of the investment companies in Franklin Templeton Investments; and **formerly**, Senior Associate General Counsel, Franklin Templeton Investments (2007-2013); and Secretary and Vice President, Templeton Group of Funds (2004-2013).

|                                |   |                   |                |                |
|--------------------------------|---|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Manraj S. Sekhon (1969)</b> | President and Chief Executive Officer - Investment Management | Since August 2018 | Not Applicable | Not Applicable |
|--------------------------------|---|-------------------|----------------|----------------|

7 Temasek Blvd.,  
Suntec Tower 1, #38-03  
Singapore 038987

**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

Chief Investment Officer, Franklin Templeton Emerging Markets Equity; officer of four of the investment companies in Franklin Templeton Investments; and **formerly**, Chief Executive and Chief Investment Officer, Fullerton Fund Management Company Ltd. (2011-2016).

|                                 |                |            |                |                |
|---------------------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Karen L. Skidmore (1952)</b> | Vice President | Since 2009 | Not Applicable | Not Applicable |
|---------------------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|----------------|

One Franklin Parkway

San Mateo, CA  
94403-1906

**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

Senior Associate General Counsel, Franklin Templeton Investments; and officer of 44 of the investment companies in Franklin Templeton Investments.

|                               |                |            |                |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Navid J. Tofigh (1972)</b> | Vice President | Since 2015 | Not Applicable | Not Applicable |
|-------------------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|----------------|

One Franklin Parkway

San Mateo, CA  
94403-1906

**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

Associate General Counsel, Franklin Templeton Investments; and officer of 44 of the investment companies in Franklin Templeton Investments.

|                             |                |            |                |                |
|-----------------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Craig S. Tyle (1960)</b> | Vice President | Since 2005 | Not Applicable | Not Applicable |
|-----------------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|----------------|

One Franklin Parkway

San Mateo, CA  
94403-1906

**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

General Counsel and Executive Vice President, Franklin Resources, Inc.; and officer of some of the other subsidiaries of Franklin Resources, Inc. and of 44 of the investment companies in Franklin Templeton Investments.

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 TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

## Interested Board Members and Officers (continued)

| Name, Year of Birth   | Position                              | Length of   | Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Board Member* | Other Directorships Held During at Least the Past 5 Years |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| <b>Lori A. Weber (1964)</b><br><br>300 S.E. 2nd Street<br><br>Fort Lauderdale, FL<br>33301-1923 | Vice<br>President<br>and<br>Secretary | Vice President<br>since 2011 and<br>Secretary since<br>2013 | Not Applicable   | Not Applicable  |

**Principal Occupation During at Least the Past 5 Years:**

Senior Associate General Counsel, Franklin Templeton Investments; Assistant Secretary, Franklin Resources, Inc.; Vice President and Secretary, Templeton Investment Counsel, LLC; and officer of 44 of the investment companies in Franklin Templeton Investments.

\*We base the number of portfolios on each separate series of the U.S. registered investment companies within the Franklin Templeton Investments fund complex. These portfolios have a common investment manager or affiliated investment managers.

\*\*Gregory E. Johnson is considered to be an interested person of the Fund under the federal securities laws due to his position as an officer and director of Franklin Resources, Inc. (Resources), which is the parent company of the Fund's investment manager and distributor. Rupert H. Johnson, Jr. is considered to be an interested person of the Fund under the federal securities laws due to his position as an officer and director and major shareholder of Resources.

Note 1: Rupert H. Johnson, Jr. is the uncle of Gregory E. Johnson.

Note 2: Officer information is current as of the date of this report. It is possible that after this date, information about officers may change.

**The Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and Rules adopted by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission require the Fund to disclose whether the Fund's Audit Committee includes at least one member who is an audit committee financial expert within the meaning of such Act and Rules. The Fund's Board has determined that there is at least one such financial expert on the Audit Committee and has designated each of Ann Torre Bates and David W. Niemiec as an audit committee financial expert. The Board believes that Ms. Bates and Mr. Niemiec qualify as such an expert in view of their extensive business background and experience. Ms. Bates has served as a member of the Fund Audit Committee since 2008. She currently serves as a director of Ares Capital Corporation (2010-present) and United Natural Foods, Inc. (2013-present) and was formerly a director of Navient Corporation from 2014 to 2016, SLM Corporation from 1997 to 2014 and Allied Capital Corporation from 2003 to 2010, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of NHP Incorporated from 1995 to 1997 and Vice President and Treasurer of US Airways, Inc. until 1995. Mr. Niemiec has served as a member of the Fund Audit Committee since 2005, currently serves as an Advisor to Saratoga Partners and**

was formerly its Managing Director from 1998 to 2001 and serves as a director of Hess Midstream Partners LP (April 2017). Mr. Niemiec was formerly a director of Emeritus Corporation from 1999 to 2010 and OSI Pharmaceuticals, Inc. from 2006 to 2010, Managing Director of SBC Warburg Dillon Read from 1997 to 1998, and was Vice Chairman from 1991 to 1997 and Chief Financial Officer from 1982 to 1997 of Dillon, Read & Co. Inc. As a result of such background and experience, the Board believes that Ms. Bates and Mr. Niemiec have each acquired an understanding of generally accepted accounting principles and financial statements, the general application of such principles in connection with the accounting estimates, accruals and reserves, and analyzing and evaluating financial statements that present a breadth and level of complexity of accounting issues generally comparable to those of the Fund, as well as an understanding of internal controls and procedures for financial reporting and an understanding of audit committee functions. Ms. Bates and Mr. Niemiec are independent Board members as that term is defined under the applicable U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission Rules and Releases or the listing standards applicable to the Fund.

Shareholder Information

**Board Approval of Investment Management Agreements**

**TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND**

(Fund)

At an in-person meeting held on May 18, 2018 (Meeting), the Board of Trustees (Board) of the Fund, including a majority of the trustees who are not interested persons as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940 (Independent Trustees), reviewed and approved the continuance of the investment management agreement between Templeton Asset Management Ltd. (Manager) and the Fund (Management Agreement) for an additional one-year period. The Independent Trustees received advice from and met separately with Independent Trustee counsel in considering whether to approve the continuation of the Management Agreement.

In considering the continuation of the Management Agreement, the Board reviewed and considered information provided by the Manager at the Meeting and throughout the year at meetings of the Board and its committees. The Board also reviewed and considered information provided in response to a detailed set of requests for information submitted to the Manager by Independent Trustee counsel on behalf of the Independent Trustees in connection with the annual contract renewal process. In addition, prior to the Meeting, the Independent Trustees held a telephonic contract renewal meeting at which the Independent Trustees conferred amongst themselves and Independent Trustee counsel about contract renewal matters. The Board reviewed and considered all of the factors it deemed relevant in approving the continuance of the Management Agreement, including, but not limited to: (i) the nature, extent and quality of the services provided by the Manager; (ii) the investment performance of the Fund; (iii) the costs of the services provided and profits realized by the Manager and its affiliates from the relationship with the Fund; (iv) the extent to which economies of scale are realized as the Fund grows; and (v) whether fee levels reflect these economies of scale for the benefit of Fund investors.

In approving the continuance of the Management Agreement, the Board, including a majority of the Independent Trustees, determined that the terms of the Management Agreement are fair and reasonable and that the continuance of such Management Agreement is in the interests of the Fund and its shareholders. While attention was given to all information furnished, the following discusses some primary factors relevant to the Board's determination.

**Nature, Extent and Quality of Services**

The Board reviewed and considered information regarding the nature, extent and quality of investment management services provided by the Manager and its affiliates to the Fund and its shareholders. This information included, among other things, the qualifications, background and experience of the senior management and investment personnel of the Manager; the structure of investment personnel compensation; oversight of third-party service providers; investment performance reports and related financial information for the Fund (including its share price discount to net asset value); reports on expenses and shareholder services; legal and compliance matters; risk controls; pricing and other services provided by the Manager and its affiliates; and management fees charged by the Manager and its affiliates to U.S. funds and other accounts, including management's explanation of differences among accounts where relevant. The Board noted management's continuing efforts and expenditures in establishing effective business continuity plans and developing strategies to address areas of heightened concern in the mutual fund industry, such as cybersecurity and liquidity risk management. The Board also recognized management's commitment to facilitating Board oversight

of particular areas, including derivatives, by enhanced reporting.

The Board also reviewed and considered the benefits provided to Fund shareholders of investing in a fund that is part of the Franklin Templeton family of funds. The Board noted the financial position of Franklin Resources, Inc. (FRI), the Manager's parent, and its commitment to the mutual fund business as evidenced by its continued introduction of new funds, reassessment of the fund offerings in response to the market environment and project initiatives and capital investments relating to the services provided to the Fund by the Franklin Templeton Investments (FTI) organization.

Following consideration of such information, the Board was satisfied with the nature, extent and quality of services provided by the Manager and its affiliates to the Fund and its shareholders.

### **Fund Performance**

The Board reviewed and considered the performance results of the Fund over various time periods ended February 28, 2018. The Board considered the performance returns for the Fund in comparison to the performance returns of mutual funds deemed comparable to the Fund included in a universe (Performance Universe) selected by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. (Broadridge), an independent provider of investment company



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**TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND****SHAREHOLDER INFORMATION**

data. The Board received a description of the methodology used by Broadridge to select the mutual funds included in a Performance Universe. The Board also reviewed and considered Fund performance reports provided and discussions that occurred with portfolio managers at Board meetings throughout the year. A summary of the Fund's performance results is below. Such results are based on net asset value without regard to market discounts or premiums.

The Performance Universe for the Fund included the Fund and all closed-end non-leveraged emerging markets funds. The Board noted that the Fund's annualized income return for the one-, three-, five- and 10-year periods was above the median of its Performance Universe. The Board also noted that the Fund's annualized total return for the one- and 10-year periods was above the median of its Performance Universe, for the three-year period was below the median of its Performance Universe, and for the five-year period was equal to the median of its Performance Universe. The Broadridge report also contained a performance supplement, provided at the request of the Manager, with a Performance Universe which included the Fund and all retail and institutional emerging markets funds. The Board noted management's explanation that the standard Performance Universe was very small and consisted of approximately 20 closed end funds, many with highly variable investment scope such as funds focused on China, Russia, Taiwan, Mexico or funds with specific capitalization focus such as small cap. The Board noted management's further explanation that the supplemental Performance Universe included approximately 800 funds and offered a more comprehensive comparison in terms of like funds. The Fund's annualized total return for the one-, three- and 10-year periods was above the median of its supplemental Performance Universe, and for the five-year period was below the median of its supplemental Performance Universe. The Board concluded that the Fund's performance was satisfactory, noting that the Fund's annualized total return for the one-year period exceeded 31.8%. The Board further noted that Fund shareholders approved a change in the Fund's status from diversified to non-diversified on March 29, 2018, which enables the Fund to invest a greater portion of its assets in any one issuer and to invest overall in a smaller number of issuers. Management explained that the flexibility to make more concentrated investments should benefit Fund performance.

**Comparative Fees and Expenses**

The Board reviewed and considered information regarding the Fund's actual total expense ratio and its various components, including, as applicable, management fees; underlying fund

expenses; investment-related expenses; and other non-management fees. The Board considered the actual total expense ratio and, separately, the contractual management fee rate, without the effect of fee waivers (Management Rate), if any, of the Fund in comparison to the median expense ratio and median Management Rate, respectively, of other mutual funds deemed comparable to and with a similar expense structure as the Fund selected by Broadridge (Expense Group). Broadridge fee and expense data is based upon information taken from each fund's most recent annual report, which reflects historical asset levels. While recognizing such inherent limitation and the fact that expense ratios and Management Rates generally increase as assets decline and decrease as assets grow, the Board believed the independent analysis conducted by Broadridge to be an appropriate measure of comparative fees and expenses. The Broadridge Management Rate includes administrative charges. The Board received a description of the methodology used by Broadridge to select the mutual funds included in the Expense Group.

The Expense Group for the Fund included the Fund and seven other closed-end non-leveraged emerging markets funds. The Board noted that while the Management Rate for the Fund was slightly above the median of its Expense Group, its actual total expense ratio was below the median of its Expense Group. The Board concluded that the

Management Rate charged to the Fund is reasonable. In doing so, the Board noted management's explanation that the above median Management Rate is due to cost factors relating to the Fund's operations, such as the quality and experience of its portfolio manager and research staff, and the depth of the Manager's physical presence and coverage in the geographical area in which the Fund invests.

### **Profitability**

The Board reviewed and considered information regarding the profits realized by the Manager and its affiliates in connection with the operation of the Fund. In this respect, the Board considered the Fund profitability analysis provided by the Manager that addresses the overall profitability of FTI's U.S. fund business, as well as its profits in providing investment management and other services to each of the individual funds during the 12-month period ended September 30, 2017, being the most recent fiscal year-end for FRI. The Board noted that although management continually makes refinements to its methodologies used in calculating profitability in response to organizational and product-related changes, the overall methodology has remained consistent with that used in the Fund's profitability report presentations from prior years. Additionally, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, auditor to Franklin

TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

SHAREHOLDER INFORMATION

Resources, Inc. and certain Franklin Templeton funds, has been engaged by the Manager to periodically review and assess the allocation methodologies to be used solely by the Fund's Board with respect to the profitability analysis.

The Board noted management's belief that costs incurred in establishing the infrastructure necessary for the type of mutual fund operations conducted by the Manager and its affiliates may not be fully reflected in the expenses allocated to the Fund in determining its profitability, as well as the fact that the level of profits, to a certain extent, reflected operational cost savings and efficiencies initiated by management. The Board also noted management's expenditures in improving shareholder services provided to the Fund, as well as the need to implement systems and meet additional regulatory and compliance requirements resulting from recent SEC and other regulatory requirements.

The Board also considered the extent to which the Manager and its affiliates might derive ancillary benefits from fund operations, potential benefits resulting from personnel and systems enhancements necessitated by fund growth, as well as increased leverage with service providers and counterparties. Based upon its consideration of all these factors, the Board concluded that the level of profits realized by the Manager and its affiliates from providing services to the Fund was not excessive in view of the nature, extent and quality of services provided to the Fund.

### **Economies of Scale**

The Board reviewed and considered the extent to which the Manager may realize economies of scale, if any, as the Fund grows larger and whether the Fund's management fee structure reflects any economies of scale for the benefit of shareholders. The Board believes that the Manager's ability to realize economies of scale and the sharing of such benefit is a more relevant consideration in the case of an open-end fund whose size increases as a result of the continuous sale of its shares. A closed-end fund such as the Fund does not continuously offer shares, and growth following its initial public offering will primarily result from market appreciation, which benefits its shareholders. While believing economies of scale to be less of a factor in the context of a closed-end fund, the Board believes at some point an increase in size may lead to economies of scale that should be shared with the Fund and its shareholders. The Board noted the existence of management fee breakpoints, which operate generally to share any economies of scale with the Fund's shareholders by reducing the Fund's effective management fees as the Fund grows in size. The Board considered the Manager's view that any analyses of potential

economies of scale in managing a particular fund are inherently limited in light of the joint and common costs and investments the Manager incurs across the Franklin Templeton family of funds as a whole. The Board concluded that given the Fund's decline in assets over the past three calendar years, the Fund is not expected to experience additional economies of scale in the foreseeable future.

### **Conclusion**

Based on its review, consideration and evaluation of all factors it believed relevant, including the above-described factors and conclusions, the Board unanimously approved the continuation of the Management Agreement for an additional one-year period.

### **Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures**

The Fund's investment manager has established Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures (Policies) that the Fund uses to determine how to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities. Shareholders may view the Fund's complete Policies online at [franklintempleton.com](http://franklintempleton.com). Alternatively, shareholders may request copies of the Policies free of charge by calling the Proxy Group collect at (954) 527-7678 or by sending a written request to: Franklin Templeton Companies, LLC, 300 S.E. 2nd Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301, Attention: Proxy Group. Copies of the Fund's proxy voting records are also made available online at [franklintempleton.com](http://franklintempleton.com) and posted on the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's website at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov) and reflect the most recent 12-month period ended June 30.

### **Quarterly Statement of Investments**

The Fund files a complete statement of investments with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission for the first and third quarters for each fiscal year on Form N-Q. Shareholders may view the filed Form N-Q by visiting the Commission's website at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). The filed form may also be viewed and copied at the Commission's Public Reference Room in Washington, DC. Information regarding the operations of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling (800) SEC-0330.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT AND CASH PURCHASE PLAN

1. American Stock Transfer and Trust Company, LLC ( AST ), will act as Plan Administrator and will open an account for participating shareholders ( participant ) under the Dividend Reinvestment and Cash Purchase Plan (the Plan ) in the same name as that in which the participant s present shares are registered, and put the Plan into effect as of the first record date for a dividend or capital gains distribution after AST receives the authorization duly executed by such participant.

2. Whenever Templeton Emerging Markets Fund (the Fund ) declares a distribution from capital gains or an income dividend payable in either cash or shares of the Fund ( Fund shares ), if the market price per share on the valuation date equals or exceeds the net asset value per share, participants will receive such dividend or distribution entirely in Fund shares, and AST shall automatically receive such Fund shares for participant accounts including aggregate fractions. The number of additional Fund shares to be credited to participant accounts shall be determined by dividing the equivalent dollar amount of the capital gains distribution or dividend payable to participating holders by the net asset value per share of the Fund shares on the valuation date, provided that the Fund shall not issue such shares at a price lower than 95% of the current market price per share. The valuation date will be the payable date for such distribution or dividend.

3. Whenever the Fund declares a distribution from capital gains or an income dividend payable only in cash, or if the Fund s net asset value per share exceeds the market price per share on the valuation date, AST shall apply the amount of such dividend or distribution payable to participants to the purchase of Fund shares on the open market (less their pro rata share of trading fees incurred with respect to open market purchases in connection with the reinvestment of such dividend or distribution). If, before AST has completed its purchases, the market price exceeds the net asset value per share, the average per share purchase price paid by AST may exceed the net asset value of the Fund s shares, resulting in the acquisition of fewer shares than if the dividend or capital gains distribution had been paid in shares issued by the Fund at net asset value per share. Such purchases will be made promptly after the payable date for such dividend or distribution, and in no event more than 30 days after such date except where temporary curtailment or suspension of purchase is necessary to comply with applicable provisions of the Federal securities laws.

4. A participant has the option of submitting additional payments to AST, in any amounts of at least \$100, up to a maximum of \$5,000 per month, for the purchase of Fund shares for his or her account. These payments may be made electronically through AST at [www.astfinancial.com](http://www.astfinancial.com) or by check payable to American Stock Transfer and Trust Company, LLC and sent to American Stock Transfer and Trust Company, LLC, P.O. Box 922, Wall Street Station, New York, NY 10269-0560, Attention: Templeton Emerging Markets Fund. AST shall apply such payments (less a \$5.00 service charge and less a pro rata share of trading fees) to purchases of Fund shares on the open market, as discussed below in paragraph 6. AST shall make such purchases promptly on approximately the 15th of each month or, during a month in which a dividend or distribution is paid, beginning on the dividend payment date, and in no event more than 30 days after receipt, except where necessary to comply with provisions of the Federal securities laws. Any voluntary payment received less than two business days before an investment date shall be invested during the following month unless there are more than 30 days until the next investment date, in which case such payment will be returned to the participant. AST shall return to the participant his or her entire voluntary cash payment upon written notice of withdrawal received by AST not less than 48 hours before such payment is to be invested. Such written notice shall be sent to AST by the participant, as discussed below in paragraph 14.

5. For all purposes of the Plan: (a) the market price of the Fund s shares on a particular date shall be the last sale price on the New York Stock Exchange on that date if a business day and if not, on the preceding business day, or if there is no sale on such Exchange on such date, then the mean between the closing bid and asked quotations for such shares on such Exchange on such date, and (b) net asset value per share of the Fund s shares on a particular date shall be as

determined by or on behalf of the Fund.

6. Open market purchases provided for above may be made on any securities exchange where Fund shares are traded, in the over-the-counter market or in negotiated transactions and may be on such terms as to price, delivery and otherwise as AST shall determine. Participant funds held by AST uninvested will not bear interest, and it is understood that, in any event, AST shall have no liability in connection with any inability to purchase Fund shares within 30 days after the payable date for any dividend or distribution as herein provided, or with the timing of any purchases effected. AST shall have no responsibility as to the value of the Fund shares acquired for participant accounts. For the purposes of purchases in the open market, AST may aggregate purchases with those of other participants, and the average price (including trading fees) of all shares purchased by AST shall be the price per share allocable to all participants.

7. AST will hold shares acquired pursuant to this Plan, together with the shares of other participants acquired pursuant to this Plan, in its name or that of its nominee. AST will forward to participants any proxy solicitation material and will vote any shares so held for participants only in accordance with the proxies returned by participants to the Fund. Upon written request, AST will deliver to participants, without charge, a certificate or certificates for all or a portion of the full shares held by AST.

8. AST will confirm to participants each acquisition made for an account as soon as practicable but not later than ten business days after the date thereof. AST will send to participants a detailed account statement showing total dividends and distributions, date of investment, shares acquired and price per share, and total shares of record for the account. Although participants may from time to time have an undivided fractional interest (computed to three decimal places) in a share of the Fund, no certificates for a fractional share will be issued. However, dividends and distributions on fractional shares will be credited to participant accounts. In the event of termination of an account under the Plan, AST will adjust for any such undivided fractional interest in cash at the market price of the Fund's shares on the date of termination.

9. Any share dividends or split shares distributed by the Fund on shares held by AST for participants will be credited to participant accounts. In the event that the Fund makes available to its shareholders transferable rights to purchase additional Fund shares or other securities, AST will sell such rights and apply the proceeds of the sale to the purchase of additional Fund shares for the participant accounts. The shares held for participants under the Plan will be added to underlying shares held by participants in calculating the number of rights to be issued.

10. AST's service charge for capital gains or income dividend purchases will be paid by the Fund when shares are issued by the Fund or purchased on the open market. AST will deduct a \$5.00 service charge from each voluntary cash payment. Participants will be charged a pro rata share of trading fees on all open market purchases.

11. Participants may withdraw shares from such participant's account or terminate their participation under the Plan by notifying AST in writing. Such withdrawal or termination will be effective immediately if notice is

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**TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT AND CASH PURCHASE PLAN** (continued)

received by AST not less than two days prior to any dividend or distribution record date; otherwise such withdrawal or termination will be effective after the investment of any current dividend or distribution or voluntary cash payment. The Plan may be terminated by AST or the Fund upon 90 days' notice in writing mailed to participants. Upon any withdrawal or termination, AST will cause a certificate or certificates for the full shares held by AST for participants and cash adjustment for any fractional shares (valued at the market value of the shares at the time of withdrawal or termination) to be delivered to participants, less any trading fees. Alternatively, a participant may elect by written notice to AST to have AST sell part or all of the shares held for him and to remit the proceeds to him. AST is authorized to deduct a \$15.00 service charge and a \$0.12 per share trading fee for this transaction from the proceeds. If a participant disposes of all shares registered in his name on the books of the Fund, AST may, at its option, terminate the participant's account or determine from the participant whether he wishes to continue his participation in the Plan.

12. These terms and conditions may be amended or supplemented by AST or the Fund at any time or times, except when necessary or appropriate to comply with applicable law or the rules or policies of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission or any other regulatory authority, only by mailing to participants appropriate written notice at least 90 days prior to the effective date thereof. The amendment or supplement shall be deemed to be accepted by participants unless, prior to the effective date thereof, AST receives written notice of the termination of a participant account under the Plan. Any such amendment may include an appointment by AST in its place and stead of a successor Plan Administrator under these terms and conditions, with full power and authority to perform all or any of the acts to be performed by AST under these terms and conditions. Upon any such appointment of a Plan Administrator for the purpose of receiving dividends and distributions, the Fund will be authorized to pay to such successor Plan Administrator, for a participant's account, all dividends and distributions payable on Fund shares held in a participant's name or under the Plan for retention or application by such successor Plan Administrator as provided in these terms and conditions.

13. AST shall at all times act in good faith and agree to use its best efforts within reasonable limits to ensure the accuracy of all services performed under this Agreement and to comply with applicable law, but shall assume no responsibility and shall not be liable for loss or damage due to errors unless such error is caused by AST's negligence, bad faith or willful misconduct or that of its employees.

14. Any notice, instruction, request or election which by any provision of the Plan is required or permitted to be given or made by the participant to AST shall be in writing addressed to American Stock Transfer and Trust Company, LLC, P.O. Box 922, Wall Street Station, New York, NY 10269-0560, Attention: Templeton Emerging Markets Fund, or [www.astfinancial.com](http://www.astfinancial.com) or such other address as AST shall furnish to the participant, and shall have been deemed to be given or made when received by AST.

15. Any notice or other communication which by any provision of the Plan is required to be given by AST to the participant shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been sufficiently given for all purposes by being deposited postage prepaid in a post office letter box addressed to the participant at his or her address as it shall last appear on AST's records. The participant agrees to notify AST promptly of any change of address.

16. These terms and conditions shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, as they may be amended from time to time.

franklintempleton.com

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report 39



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**Annual Report**  
**Templeton Emerging Markets Fund**  
**Investment Manager**

Templeton Asset Management Ltd.

**Transfer Agent**

American Stock Transfer & Trust Co., LLC

6201 15th Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11219  
Toll Free Number: (800) 416-5585  
Hearing Impaired Number: (866) 703-9077  
International Phone Number: (718) 921-8124

[www.astfinancial.com](http://www.astfinancial.com)

**Fund Information**

(800) DIAL BEN® / 342-5236

Investors should be aware that the value of investments made for the Fund may go down as well as up. Like any investment in securities, the value of the Fund's portfolio will be subject to the risk of loss from market, currency, economic, political and other factors. The Fund and its investors are not protected from such losses by the investment manager. Therefore, investors who cannot accept this risk should not invest in shares of the Fund.

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To help ensure we provide you with quality service, all calls to and from our service areas are monitored and/or recorded.

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**Item 2. Code of Ethics.**

- (a) The Registrant has adopted a code of ethics that applies to its principal executive officers and principal financial and accounting officer.
- (c) N/A
- (d) N/A
- (f) Pursuant to Item 12 (a) (1), the Registrant is attaching as an exhibit a copy of its code of ethics that applies to its principal executive officers and principal financial and accounting officer.

**Item 3. Audit Committee Financial Expert.**

- (a) (1) The Registrant has an audit committee financial expert serving on its audit committee.
- (2) The audit committee financial expert is David W. Niemiec and he is independent as defined under the relevant Securities and Exchange Commission Rules and Releases.

**Item 4. Principal Accountant Fees and Services.**

(a) Audit Fees

The aggregate fees paid to the principal accountant for professional services rendered by the principal accountant for the audit of the registrant's annual financial statements or for services that are normally provided by the principal accountant in connection with statutory and regulatory filings or engagements were \$45,273 for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2018 and \$45,203 for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2017.

(b) Audit-Related Fees

There were no fees paid to the principal accountant for assurance and related services rendered by the principal accountant to the registrant that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit of the registrant's financial statements and are not reported under paragraph (a) of Item 4.

There were no fees paid to the principal accountant for assurance and related services rendered by the principal accountant to the registrant's investment adviser and any entity controlling, controlled by or under common control with the investment adviser that provides ongoing services to the registrant that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit of their financial statements.

(c) Tax Fees

There were no fees paid to the principal accountant for professional services rendered by the principal accountant to the registrant for tax compliance, tax advice and tax planning.

There were no fees paid to the principal accountant for professional services rendered by the principal accountant to the registrant's investment adviser and any entity controlling, controlled by or under common control with the investment adviser that provides ongoing services to the registrant for tax compliance, tax advice and tax planning.

(d) All Other Fees

The aggregate fees paid to the principal accountant for products and services rendered by the principal accountant to the registrant, other than the services reported in paragraphs (a)-(c) of Item 4 were \$113 for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2018 and \$0 for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2017. The services for which these fees were paid included review of materials provided to the fund Board in connection with the investment management contract renewal process.

There were no fees paid to the principal accountant for products and services rendered by the principal accountant to the registrant's investment adviser and any entity controlling, controlled by or under common control with the investment adviser that provides ongoing services to the registrant not reported in paragraphs (a)-(c) of Item 4.

(e) (1) The registrant's audit committee is directly responsible for approving the services to be provided by the auditors, including:

- (i) pre-approval of all audit and audit related services;
- (ii) pre-approval of all non-audit related services to be provided to the Fund by the auditors;

(iii) pre-approval of all non-audit related services to be provided to the registrant by the auditors to the registrant's investment adviser or to any entity that controls, is controlled by or is under common control with the registrant's investment adviser and that provides ongoing services to the registrant where the non-audit services relate directly to the operations or financial reporting of the registrant; and

(iv) establishment by the audit committee, if deemed necessary or appropriate, as an alternative to committee pre-approval of services to be provided by the auditors, as required by paragraphs (ii) and (iii) above, of policies and procedures to permit such services to be pre-approved by other means, such as through establishment of guidelines or by action of a designated member or members of the committee; provided the policies and procedures are detailed as to the particular service and the committee is informed of each service and such policies and procedures do not include delegation of audit committee responsibilities, as contemplated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, to management; subject, in the case of (ii) through (iv), to any waivers, exceptions or exemptions that may be available under applicable law or rules.

(e) (2) None of the services provided to the registrant described in paragraphs (b)-(d) of Item 4 were approved by the audit committee pursuant to paragraph (c)(7)(i)(C) of Rule 2-01 of regulation S-X.

(f) No disclosures are required by this Item 4(f).

(g) The aggregate non-audit fees paid to the principal accountant for services rendered by the principal accountant to the registrant and the registrant's investment adviser and any entity controlling, controlled by or under common control with the investment adviser that provides ongoing services to the registrant were \$113 for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2018 and \$0 for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2017.

(h) The registrant's audit committee of the board has considered whether the provision of non-audit services that were rendered to the registrant's investment adviser (not including any sub-adviser whose role is primarily portfolio management and is subcontracted with or overseen by another investment adviser), and any entity controlling, controlled by, or under common control with the investment adviser that provides ongoing services to the registrant that were not pre-approved pursuant to paragraph (c)(7)(ii) of Rule 2-01 of Regulation S-X is compatible with maintaining the principal accountant's independence.

**Item 5. Audit Committee of Listed Registrants.**

Members of the Audit Committee are: Ann Torre Bates, David W. Niemiec and Constantine D. Tseretopoulos.

**Item 6. Schedule of Investments. N/A**

**Item 7. Disclosure of Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures for Closed-End Management Investment Companies.**

The board of trustees of the Fund has delegated the authority to vote proxies related to the portfolio securities held by the Fund to the Fund's investment manager Templeton Asset Management Ltd. (Asset Management) in accordance with the Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures (Policies) adopted by the investment manager.

The investment manager has delegated its administrative duties with respect to the voting of proxies for securities to the Proxy Group within Franklin Templeton Companies, LLC (Proxy Group), an affiliate and wholly owned subsidiary of Franklin Resources, Inc. All proxies received by the Proxy Group will be voted based upon the investment manager's instructions and/or policies. The investment manager votes proxies solely in the best interests of the Fund and its shareholders.

To assist it in analyzing proxies of equity securities, the investment manager subscribes to Institutional Shareholder Services, Inc. (ISS), an unaffiliated third-party corporate governance research service that provides in-depth analyses of shareholder meeting agendas, vote recommendations, vote execution services, ballot reconciliation services, recordkeeping and vote disclosure services. In addition, the investment manager subscribes to Glass, Lewis & Co., LLC (Glass Lewis), an unaffiliated third-party analytical research firm, to receive analyses and vote recommendations on the shareholder meetings of publicly held U.S. companies, as well as a limited subscription to its international research. Also, the investment manager has a supplemental subscription to Egan-Jones Proxy Services (Egan-Jones), an unaffiliated third party proxy advisory firm, to receive analyses and vote recommendations. Although analyses provided by ISS, Glass Lewis, Egan-Jones, and/or another independent third party proxy service provider (each a Proxy Service) are thoroughly reviewed and considered in making a final voting decision, the investment manager does not consider recommendations from a Proxy Service or any third party to be determinative of the investment manager's ultimate decision. Rather, the investment manager exercises its independent judgment in making voting decisions. For most proxy proposals, the investment manager's evaluation should result in the same position being taken for all Funds. In some cases, however, the evaluation may result in a Fund voting differently, depending upon the nature and objective of the Fund, the composition of its portfolio and other factors. As a matter of policy, the officers, directors/trustees and employees of the investment manager and the Proxy Group will not be influenced by outside sources whose interests conflict with the interests of the Fund and its shareholders. Efforts are made to resolve all conflicts in the best interests of the investment manager's clients. Material conflicts of interest are identified by the Proxy Group based upon analyses of client, distributor, broker-dealer and vendor lists, information periodically gathered from directors and officers, and information derived from other sources, including public filings. In situations where a material conflict of interest is identified, the Proxy Group may vote consistent with the voting recommendation of a Proxy Service; or send the proxy directly to the Fund's board or a committee of the board with the investment manager's recommendation regarding the vote for approval.

Where a material conflict of interest has been identified, but the items on which the investment manager's vote recommendations differ from a Proxy Service and relate specifically to (1) shareholder proposals regarding social or environmental issues, (2) Other Business without describing the matters that might be considered, or (3) items the investment manager wishes to vote in opposition to the recommendations of an issuer's management, the Proxy Group may

defer to the vote recommendations of the investment manager rather than sending the proxy directly to the Fund's board or a board committee for approval.

To avoid certain potential conflicts of interest, the investment manager will employ echo voting, if possible, in the following instances: (1) when the Fund invests in an underlying fund in reliance on any one of Sections 12(d) (1) (E), (F), or (G) of the 1940 Act, the rules thereunder, or pursuant to a SEC exemptive order thereunder; (2) when the Fund invests uninvested cash in affiliated money market funds pursuant to the rules under the 1940 Act or any exemptive orders thereunder ( cash sweep arrangement ); or (3) when required pursuant to the Fund's governing documents or applicable law. Echo voting means that the investment manager will vote the shares in the same proportion as the vote of all of the other holders of the underlying fund's shares.

The recommendation of management on any issue is a factor that the investment manager considers in determining how proxies should be voted. However, the investment manager does not consider recommendations from management to be determinative of the investment manager's ultimate decision. As a matter of practice, the votes with respect to most issues are cast in accordance with the position of the company's management. Each issue, however, is considered on its own merits, and the investment manager will not support the position of the company's management in any situation where it deems that the ratification of management's position would adversely affect the investment merits of owning that company's shares.

**Engagement with issuers.** The investment manager believes that engagement with issuers is important to good corporate governance and to assist in making proxy voting decisions. The investment manager may engage with issuers to discuss specific ballot items to be voted on in advance of an annual or special meeting to obtain further information or clarification on the proposals. The investment manager may also engage with management on a range of environmental, social or corporate governance issues throughout the year.

**Investment manager's proxy voting policies and principles** The investment manager has adopted general proxy voting guidelines, which are summarized below. These guidelines are not an exhaustive list of all the issues that may arise and the investment manager cannot anticipate all future situations. In all cases, each proxy and proposal (including both management and shareholder proposals) will be considered based on the relevant facts and circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

*Board of directors.* The investment manager supports an independent, diverse board of directors, and prefers that key committees such as audit, nominating, and compensation committees be comprised of independent directors. The investment manager supports boards with strong risk management oversight. The investment manager will generally vote against management efforts to classify a board and will generally support proposals to declassify the board of directors. The investment manager will consider withholding votes from directors who have attended less than 75% of meetings without a valid reason. While generally in favor of separating Chairman and CEO positions, the investment manager will review this issue as well as proposals to restore or provide for cumulative voting on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration factors such as the company's corporate governance guidelines or provisions and performance. The investment manager generally will support non-binding shareholder proposals to require a majority vote standard for the election of directors; however, if these proposals are binding, the investment manager will give careful review on a case-by-case basis of the potential ramifications of such implementation.

In the event of a contested election, the investment manager will review a number of factors in making a decision including management's track record, the



company's financial performance, qualifications of candidates on both slates, and the strategic plan of the dissidents and/or shareholder nominees.

*Ratification of auditors of portfolio companies.* The investment manager will closely scrutinize the independence, role and performance of auditors. On a case-by-case basis, the investment manager will examine proposals relating to non-audit relationships and non-audit fees. The investment manager will also consider, on a case-by-case basis, proposals to rotate auditors, and will vote against the ratification of auditors when there is clear and compelling evidence of a lack of independence, accounting irregularities or negligence. The investment manager may also consider whether the ratification of auditors has been approved by an appropriate audit committee that meets applicable composition and independence requirements.

*Management and director compensation.* A company's equity-based compensation plan should be in alignment with the shareholders' long-term interests. The investment manager believes that executive compensation should be directly linked to the performance of the company. The investment manager evaluates plans on a case-by-case basis by considering several factors to determine whether the plan is fair and reasonable, including the ISS quantitative model utilized to assess such plans and/or the Glass Lewis evaluation of the plans. The investment manager will generally oppose plans that have the potential to be excessively dilutive, and will almost always oppose plans that are structured to allow the repricing of underwater options, or plans that have an automatic share replenishment "evergreen" feature. The investment manager will generally support employee stock option plans in which the purchase price is at least 85% of fair market value, and when potential dilution is 10% or less.

Severance compensation arrangements will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, although the investment manager will generally oppose "golden parachutes" that are considered to be excessive. The investment manager will normally support proposals that require a percentage of directors' compensation to be in the form of common stock, as it aligns their interests with those of shareholders.

The investment manager will review non-binding say-on-pay proposals on a case-by-case basis, and will generally vote in favor of such proposals unless compensation is misaligned with performance and/or shareholders' interests, the company has not provided reasonably clear disclosure regarding its compensation practices, or there are concerns with the company's remuneration practices.

*Anti-takeover mechanisms and related issues.* The investment manager generally opposes anti-takeover measures since they tend to reduce shareholder rights. However, as with all proxy issues, the investment manager conducts an independent review of each anti-takeover proposal. On occasion, the investment manager may vote with management when the research analyst has concluded that the proposal is not onerous and would not harm the Fund or its shareholders' interests. The investment manager generally supports proposals that require shareholder rights plans ("poison pills") to be subject to a shareholder vote and will closely evaluate such plans on a case-by-case basis to determine whether or not they warrant support. In addition, the investment manager will generally vote against any proposal to issue stock that has unequal or subordinate voting rights. The investment manager generally opposes any supermajority voting requirements as well as the payment of "greenmail." The investment manager generally supports "fair price" provisions and confidential voting. The investment manager will review a company's proposal to reincorporate to a different state or country on a case-by-case basis taking into consideration financial benefits such as tax treatment as well as comparing

corporate governance provisions and general business laws that may result from the change in domicile.

*Changes to capital structure.* The investment manager realizes that a company's financing decisions have a significant impact on its shareholders, particularly when they involve the issuance of additional shares of common or preferred stock or the assumption of additional debt. The investment manager will review, on a case-by-case basis, proposals by companies to increase authorized shares and the purpose for the increase. The investment manager will generally not vote in favor of dual-class capital structures to increase the number of authorized shares where that class of stock would have superior voting rights. The investment manager will generally vote in favor of the issuance of preferred stock in cases where the company specifies the voting, dividend, conversion and other rights of such stock and the terms of the preferred stock issuance are deemed reasonable. The investment manager will review proposals seeking preemptive rights on a case-by-case basis.

*Mergers and corporate restructuring.* Mergers and acquisitions will be subject to careful review by the research analyst to determine whether they would be beneficial to shareholders. The investment manager will analyze various economic and strategic factors in making the final decision on a merger or acquisition. Corporate restructuring proposals are also subject to a thorough examination on a case-by-case basis.

*Environmental and social issues.* The investment manager considers environmental and social issues alongside traditional financial measures to provide a more comprehensive view of the value, risk and return potential of an investment. Companies may face significant financial, legal and reputational risks resulting from poor environmental and social practices, or negligent oversight of environmental or social issues. Franklin Templeton's Responsible Investment Principles and Policies describes the investment manager's approach to consideration of environmental, social and governance issues within the investment manager's processes and ownership practices.

In the investment manager's experience, those companies that are managed well are often effective in dealing with the relevant environmental and social issues that pertain to their business. As such, the investment manager will generally give management discretion with regard to environmental and social issues. However, in cases where management and the board have not demonstrated adequate efforts to mitigate material environmental or social risks, have engaged in inappropriate or illegal conduct, or have failed to adequately address current or emergent risks that threaten shareholder value, the investment manager may choose to support well-crafted shareholder proposals that serve to promote or protect shareholder value. This may include seeking appropriate disclosure regarding material environmental and social issues. The investment manager will review shareholder proposals on a case-by-case basis and may support those that serve to enhance value or mitigate risk, are drafted appropriately, and do not disrupt the course of business or require a disproportionate or inappropriate use of company resources.

The investment manager will consider supporting a shareholder proposal seeking disclosure and greater board oversight of lobbying and corporate political contributions if the investment manager believes that there is evidence of inadequate oversight by the company's board, if the company's current disclosure is significantly deficient, or if the disclosure is notably lacking in comparison to the company's peers.

*Governance matters.* The investment manager generally supports the right of shareholders to call special meetings and act by written consent. However, the investment manager will review such shareholder proposals on a case-by-case basis in an effort to ensure that such proposals do not disrupt the course of business or require a disproportionate or inappropriate use of company resources.

*Proxy access.* In cases where the investment manager is satisfied with company performance and the responsiveness of management, it will generally vote against shareholder proxy access proposals not supported by management. In other instances, the investment manager will consider such proposals on a case-by-case basis, taking into account factors such as the size of the company, ownership thresholds and holding periods, nomination limits (e.g., number of candidates that can be nominated), the intentions of the shareholder proponent, and shareholder base.

*Global corporate governance.* Many of the tenets discussed above are applied to the investment manager's proxy voting decisions for international investments. However, the investment manager must be flexible in these worldwide markets. Principles of good corporate governance may vary by country, given the constraints of a country's laws and acceptable practices in the markets. As a result, it is on occasion difficult to apply a consistent set of governance practices to all issuers. As experienced money managers, the investment manager's analysts are skilled in understanding the complexities of the regions in which they specialize and are trained to analyze proxy issues germane to their regions.

The investment manager will generally attempt to process every proxy it receives for all domestic and foreign securities. However, there may be situations in which the investment manager may be unable to successfully vote a proxy, or may choose not to vote a proxy, such as where: (i) a proxy ballot was not received from the custodian bank; (ii) a meeting notice was received too late; (iii) there are fees imposed upon the exercise of a vote and it is determined that such fees outweigh the benefit of voting; (iv) there are legal encumbrances to voting, including blocking restrictions in certain markets that preclude the ability to dispose of a security if the investment manager votes a proxy or where the investment manager is prohibited from voting by applicable law, economic or other sanctions, or other regulatory or market requirements, including but not limited to, effective Powers of Attorney; (v) additional documentation or the disclosure of beneficial owner details is required; (vi) the investment manager held shares on the record date but has sold them prior to the meeting date; (vii) a proxy voting service is not offered by the custodian in the market; (viii) due to either system error or human error, the investment manager's intended vote is not correctly submitted; (ix) the investment manager believes it is not in the best interest of the Fund or its shareholders to vote the proxy for any other reason not enumerated herein; or (x) a security is subject to a securities lending or similar program that has transferred legal title to the security to another person.

In some non-U.S. jurisdictions, even if the investment manager uses reasonable efforts to vote a proxy on behalf of the Fund, such vote or proxy may be rejected because of (a) operational or procedural issues experienced by one or more third parties involved in voting proxies in such jurisdictions; (b) changes in the process or agenda for the meeting by the issuer for which the investment manager does not have sufficient notice; or (c) the exercise by the issuer of its discretion to reject the vote of the investment manager. In addition, despite the best efforts of the Proxy Group and its agents, there may be

situations where the investment manager's votes are not received, or properly tabulated, by an issuer or the issuer's agent.

The investment manager or its affiliates may, on behalf of one or more of the proprietary registered investment companies advised by the investment manager or its affiliates, determine to use its best efforts to recall any security on loan where the investment manager or its affiliates (a) learn of a vote on a material event that may affect a security on loan and (b) determine that it is in the best interests of such proprietary registered investment companies to recall the security for voting purposes.

*Procedures for meetings involving fixed income securities.* From time to time, certain custodians may process events for fixed income securities through their proxy voting channels rather than corporate action channels for administrative convenience. In such cases, the Proxy Group will receive ballots for such events on the ISS voting platform. The Proxy Group will solicit voting instructions from the investment manager for each Fund involved. If the Proxy Group does not receive voting instructions from the investment manager, the Proxy Group will take no action on the event. The investment manager may be unable to vote a proxy for a fixed income security, or may choose not to vote a proxy, for the reasons described under the section entitled Proxy Procedures.

The Proxy Group will monitor such meetings involving fixed income securities for conflicts of interest in accordance with these procedures for fixed income securities. If a fixed income issuer is flagged as a potential conflict of interest, the investment manager may nonetheless vote as it deems in the best interests of the Fund. The investment manager will report such decisions on an annual basis to the Fund board as may be required.

Shareholders may view the complete Policies online at [franklintempleton.com](http://franklintempleton.com). Alternatively, shareholders may request copies of the Policies free of charge by calling the Proxy Group collect at (954) 527-7678 or by sending a written request to: Franklin Templeton Companies, LLC, 300 S.E. 2nd Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301-1923, Attention: Proxy Group. Copies of the Fund's proxy voting records are available online at [franklintempleton.com](http://franklintempleton.com) and posted on the SEC website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). The proxy voting records are updated each year by August 31 to reflect the most recent 12-month period ended June 30.

#### **Item 8. Portfolio Managers of Closed-End Management Investment Companies.**

(a) (1) As of October 25, 2018, the portfolio manager of the Fund is as follows:

**Chetan Sehgal CFA**, *Director of Global Emerging Markets/Small Cap Strategies of the Templeton Emerging Markets Group and portfolio manager of Asset Management* Mr. Sehgal has been a portfolio manager of the emerging markets equity portion of the Fund since March 2017. He has primary responsibility for the investments of the Fund. He has final authority over all aspects of the Fund's investment portfolio, including but not limited to, purchases and sales of individual securities, portfolio risk assessment, and the management of daily cash balances in accordance with anticipated investment management requirements. The degree to which he may perform these functions, and the nature of these functions, may change from time to time. He joined Franklin Templeton Investments in 1995.

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(a) (2) This section reflects information about the portfolio manager as of the fiscal year ended August 31, 2018.

The following table shows the number of other accounts managed by each portfolio manager and the total assets in the accounts managed within each category:

| Name          | Assets of<br>Other  |  | Assets of<br>Other Pooled  |  | Assets of<br>Other                                     |  |
|---------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|
|               | Number of<br>Other<br>Registered<br>Investment<br>Companies<br>Managed <sup>1</sup> | Registered<br>Investment<br>Managed<br>(x \$1<br>million) <sup>1</sup> | Number of<br>Other<br>Pooled<br>Investment<br>Vehicles<br>Managed <sup>1</sup> | Other Pooled<br>Investment<br>Managed<br>(x \$1<br>million) <sup>1</sup> | Number of<br>Other<br>Accounts<br>Managed <sup>1</sup> | Accounts<br>Managed<br>(x \$1<br>million) <sup>1</sup> |
| Chetan Sehgal | 4   | 2,750.7  | 10   | 4,815.1  | 1  | 2,769.9  |

1. The various pooled investment vehicles and accounts listed are managed by a team of investment professionals. Accordingly, the individual manager listed would not be solely responsible for managing such listed amounts. Portfolio managers that provide investment services to the Fund may also provide services to a variety of other investment products, including other funds, institutional accounts and private accounts. The advisory fees for some of such other products and accounts may be different than that charged to the Fund and may include performance based compensation (as noted, in the chart above, if any). This may result in fees that are higher (or lower) than the advisory fees paid by the Fund. As a matter of policy, each fund or account is managed solely for the benefit of the beneficial owners thereof. As discussed below, the separation of the trading execution function from the portfolio management function and the application of objectively based trade allocation procedures help to mitigate potential conflicts of interest that may arise as a result of the portfolio managers managing accounts with different advisory fees.

*Conflicts.* The management of multiple funds, including the Fund, and accounts may also give rise to potential conflicts of interest if the funds and other accounts have different objectives, benchmarks, time horizons, and fees as the portfolio manager must allocate his or her time and investment ideas across multiple funds and accounts. The investment manager seeks to manage such competing interests for the time and attention of portfolio managers by having portfolio managers focus on a particular investment discipline. Most other accounts managed by a portfolio manager are managed using the same investment strategies that are used in connection with the management of the Fund. Accordingly, portfolio holdings, position sizes, and industry and sector exposures tend to be similar across similar portfolios, which may minimize the potential for conflicts of interest. As noted above, the separate management of the trade execution and valuation functions from the portfolio management process also helps to reduce potential conflicts of interest. However, securities selected for funds or accounts other than the Fund may outperform the securities selected for the Fund. Moreover, if a portfolio manager identifies a limited investment opportunity that may be suitable for more than one fund or other account, the Fund may not be able to take full advantage of

that opportunity due to an allocation of that opportunity across all eligible funds and other accounts. The investment manager seeks to manage such potential conflicts by using procedures intended to provide a fair allocation of buy and sell opportunities among funds and other accounts.

The structure of a portfolio manager's compensation may give rise to potential conflicts of interest. A portfolio manager's base pay and bonus tend to increase with additional and more complex responsibilities that include increased assets under management. As such, there may be a relationship between a portfolio manager's marketing or sales efforts and his or her bonus.

Finally, the management of personal accounts by a portfolio manager may give rise to potential conflicts of interest. While the funds and the manager have adopted a code of ethics which they believe contains provisions reasonably necessary to prevent a wide range of prohibited activities by portfolio managers and others with respect to their personal trading activities, there can be no assurance that the code of ethics addresses all individual conduct that could result in conflicts of interest.

The manager and the Fund have adopted certain compliance procedures that are designed to address these, and other, types of conflicts. However, there is no guarantee that such procedures will detect each and every situation where a conflict arises.

*Compensation.* The investment manager seeks to maintain a compensation program that is competitively positioned to attract, retain and motivate top-quality investment professionals. Portfolio managers receive a base salary, a cash incentive bonus opportunity, an equity compensation opportunity, and a benefits package. Portfolio manager compensation is reviewed annually and the level of compensation is based on individual performance, the salary range for a portfolio manager's level of responsibility and Franklin Templeton guidelines. Portfolio managers are provided no financial incentive to favor one fund or account over another. Each portfolio manager's compensation consists of the following three elements:

**Base salary** Each portfolio manager is paid a base salary.

**Annual bonus** Annual bonuses are structured to align the interests of the portfolio manager with those of the Fund's shareholders. Each portfolio manager is eligible to receive an annual bonus. Bonuses generally are split between cash and equity which vest over a three-year period. The deferred equity-based compensation is intended to build a vested interest of the portfolio manager in the mutual funds they advise. The bonus plan seeks to provide a competitive level of annual bonus compensation, commensurate with the portfolio manager's consistently strong investment performance. In accordance with Franklin Templeton guidelines, the Chief Investment Officer and/or other officers of the portfolio manager who also bear responsibility for the account, have discretion in the granting of annual bonuses. The following factors are generally considered when determining bonuses:

*Stock selection.* The quality and success of a portfolio manager's purchase and sale recommendations are considered when granting bonus awards.

*Investment performance.* Primary consideration is given to the performance of their portfolios relative to those portfolios with similar objectives and restrictions.

*Non-investment performance.* The more qualitative contributions of a portfolio manager to the company's business and the investment management team, such as superior client service, are evaluated in determining the amount of any bonus award.

*Responsibilities.* The characteristics and complexity of accounts managed by the portfolio manager are factored in the manager's appraisal.

*Research.* Where the portfolio management team also has research responsibilities, each portfolio manager is evaluated on productivity and quality of recommendations over time.

**Additional long-term equity-based compensation** Portfolio managers may also be awarded restricted shares or units of Franklin Resources stock or restricted shares or units of one or more mutual funds. Vesting of such deferred equity-based compensation awards is subject to achievement of key corporate and investment management metrics, designed to retain key talent through attractive incentives, whilst maintaining line of sight to both Corporate and Fund performance.

Portfolio managers also participate in benefit plans and programs available generally to all employees of the investment manager.

*Ownership of Fund shares.* The investment manager has a policy of encouraging portfolio managers to invest in the funds they manage. Exceptions arise when, for example, a fund is closed to new investors or when tax considerations or jurisdictional constraints cause such an investment to be inappropriate for the portfolio manager. The following is the dollar range of Fund shares beneficially owned by each portfolio manager (such amounts may change from time to time):

| Portfolio Manager | Dollar Range of Fund Shares Beneficially Owned |
|-------------------|--|
| Chetan Sehgal     | None   |

Note: Because the portfolio managers are all foreign nationals, they do not hold shares in this U.S. registered Fund; however they own shares in other similar Franklin Templeton funds managed by them, registered offshore and appropriate for foreign nationals.

**Item 9. Purchases of Equity Securities by Closed-End Management Investment Company and Affiliated Purchasers.**

| Period                      | (a)<br>Total<br>Number<br>of Shares<br>Purchased | (b)<br>Average Price<br>Paid per Share | (c)   | (d)  |
|-----------------------------|--|--|---|--|
|                             |  |  | Total<br>Number<br>of Shares<br>Purchased as<br>Part of<br>Publicly<br>Announced<br>Plans or<br>Program | Maximum Number<br>(or Approximate<br>Dollar Value) of<br>Shares that May<br>Yet Be<br>Purchased<br>Under the Plans<br>or<br>Programs |
| Month #1 (3/1/18 - 3/31/18) | 59,946.000                                       | 16.71                                  | 59,946.000  | 17,393,642.00  |
| Month #2 (4/1/18 - 4/30/18) | 74,822.000                                       | 15.98                                  | 74,822.000  | 17,333,696.00  |
| Month #3 (5/1/18 - 5/31/18) | 96,189.000                                       | 15.62                                  | 96,189.000  | 17,258,874.00  |
| Month #4 (6/1/18 - 6/30/18) | 69,950.000                                       | 15.10                                  | 69,950.000  | 17,162,685.00  |
| Month #5 (7/1/18 - 7/31/18) | 51,633.000                                       | 14.77                                  | 51,633.000  | 17,092,735.00  |
| Month #6 (8/1/18 - 8/31/18) | 53,328.000                                       | 14.48                                  | 53,328.000  | 17,041,102.00  |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>405,868.000</b>                               |  | <b>405,868.000</b>  | <b>16,987,774.00</b>   |

The Board previously authorized an open-market share repurchase program pursuant to which the Fund may purchase, from time to time, Fund shares in open-market transactions, at the discretion of management. Effective February 26, 2013, the Board approved a modification to the Fund's previously announced open-market share repurchase program to authorize the Fund to repurchase up to 10% of the Fund's shares outstanding in open market transactions as of that date, at the discretion of management. Since the inception of the program, the Fund had repurchased a total of 1,097,333 shares.

#### **Item 10. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders.**

There have been no changes to the procedures by which shareholders may recommend nominees to the Registrant's Board of Trustees that would require disclosure herein.

#### **Item 11. Controls and Procedures.**

**(a) Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures.** The Registrant maintains disclosure controls and procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the Registrant's filings under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940 is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the periods specified in the rules and forms of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Such information is accumulated and communicated to the Registrant's management, including its principal executive officer and principal financial officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. The Registrant's management, including the principal executive officer and the principal financial officer, recognizes that any set of controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving the desired control objectives.

Within 90 days prior to the filing date of this Shareholder Report on Form N-CSR, the Registrant had carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of the Registrant's management, including the



Registrant's principal executive officer and the Registrant's principal financial officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Registrant's disclosure controls and procedures. Based on such evaluation, the Registrant's principal executive officer and principal financial officer concluded that the Registrant's disclosure controls and procedures are effective.

**(b) Changes in Internal Controls.** There have been no changes in the Registrant's internal controls or in other factors that could materially affect the internal controls over financial reporting subsequent to the date of their evaluation in connection with the preparation of this Shareholder Report on Form N-CSR.

**Item 12. Disclosure of Securities Lending Activities for Closed-End Management Investment Company. N/A**

**Item 13. Exhibits.**

**(a)(1)** Code of Ethics

**(a)(2)** Certifications pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 of Matthew T. Hinkle, Chief Executive Officer - Finance and Administration, and Robert G. Kubilis, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Accounting Officer

**(b)** Certifications pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 of Matthew T. Hinkle, Chief Executive Officer - Finance and Administration, and Robert G. Kubilis, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Accounting Officer

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

**TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS  
FUND**

By /s/ MATTHEW T. HINKLE

Matthew T. Hinkle  
Chief Executive Officer  
Finance and Administration

Date: October 25, 2018

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

By /s/ MATTHEW T. HINKLE

Matthew T. Hinkle  
Chief Executive Officer  
Finance and Administration

Date: October 25, 2018

By /s/ ROBERT G. KUBILIS

Robert G. Kubilis  
Chief Financial Officer and  
Chief Accounting Officer

Date: October 25, 2018