

TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

Form N-CSR

November 01, 2012

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Emerging market stocks experienced significant volatility in the past 12 months largely due to eurozone and U.S. fiscal debt concerns and slowing global economic growth, especially in China. In the first month of the reporting period, emerging market stocks, as represented by the MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) Index, fell 14.56% in U.S. dollar (USD) terms.<sup>1</sup> The U.S. Federal Reserve Board's (Fed's) announcement of its maturity extension program, dubbed Operation Twist, disappointed many investors expecting a third quantitative easing (QE3), leading to global market declines. In October 2011, however, positive U.S. economic reports, strong corporate earnings, and the European Union's (EU's) plans to recapitalize the region's banks and leverage the European Financial Stability Facility led to a global stock rally, with emerging market stocks generating a +13.26% one-month total return in USD terms and offsetting most of the losses incurred in September 2011.<sup>1</sup> As the period progressed, markets rose in response to policy measures intended to solve the eurozone debt crisis, such as a second bailout package for Greece and low-interest loans to ease the credit crunch. In contrast, markets fell due to negative news such as Greece's potential exit from the EU and signs of slowing economic growth in the U.S., China and India.

At the end of June 2012, global stock prices soared as investors welcomed European leaders' agreement to directly recapitalize the region's struggling banks and work toward budgetary and political union. Further supporting the market rally was ECB President Mario Draghi's strong statement in July that within its mandate, the ECB would do whatever it takes to save the euro. Emerging market stocks were relatively flat in August as many investors awaited the announcement of further ECB actions and the outcome of the Fed's September 2012 meeting, with renewed expectations the Fed would implement QE3. After a series of heightened market volatility and exuberant market rallies, the MSCI EM Index had a -5.48% total return in USD terms for the 12 months ended August 31, 2012.<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

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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.

### **Performance Overview**

Templeton Emerging Markets Fund had cumulative total returns of -13.34% based on market price and -10.89% based on net asset value for the 12 months under review.

### **Manager's Discussion**

During the 12-month reporting period, key contributors to the Fund's absolute performance included Hong Kong-based Dairy Farm International Holdings, a leading pan-Asian retailer; Kasikornbank, one of Thailand's leading commercial banks; and Tupras (Tupras-Turkiye Petrol Rafinerileri), Turkey's largest industrial company and one of Europe's 10 largest refining companies. Dairy Farm's core businesses consist of supermarkets, hyper-markets (department store and grocery market), and health and beauty, convenience and home furnishing stores in Asia. With operations in fast-growing markets such as China, Vietnam and India, the company remained a favorable investment, in our view, as it appeared well positioned to benefit from Asia's economic recovery and rising consumer demand. We believe Kasikornbank could benefit from Thailand's potentially strong economic growth as the country recovers from last year's floods and the government's fiscal stimulus measures, including minimum wage increases, work through the economy. As a leader in the small- and medium-sized consumer market, the bank could capitalize on loan growth in this area. Tupras' share price was supported by a gradual recovery in its refining margins. As Turkey's only oil refining company, Tupras could take advantage of increasing demand for its petroleum products. At period-end, the company had what we considered to be attractive valuations in terms of price-to-earnings ratio, return on equity and dividend yield.

In contrast, key detractors from absolute performance included Brazil-based Vale, the world's largest iron ore producer; Brilliance China Automotive Holdings, a major Chinese automobile manufacturer; and Sesa Goa, a leading Indian iron ore miner and exporter. Vale's share price declined as lower iron ore prices and global economic growth concerns prompted many investors to sell economically sensitive, cyclical stocks. In our long-term

view, Vale could be a major beneficiary of rising commodity demand resulting from emerging market industrialization. Brilliance China has a joint venture with BMW for the production and sale of BMW 3-series and 5-series models in China. Concerns about slowing demand growth in China's luxury car market led investors to adopt a more cautious view on the company. In the longer term, however, we believe the company could benefit from its strong brand name and popularity in China. Sesa Goa's share price was pressured by the short-term oversupply and falling prices of steel. In our analysis, the long-term uptrend in iron ore prices and the ongoing consolidation of the global mining sector could contribute to Sesa Goa's business. We maintained a positive view of the company at period-end due to what we considered its attractive valuations and high profit growth potential.

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, 2012, 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 investments predominantly in securities denominated in currencies with non-U.S. exposure.

During the reporting period, our continued search for what we considered to be underappreciated stocks with attractive valuations led us to make key purchases in Russia, South Africa and India and invest in a new position in Jordan. We undertook investments in oil and gas exploration and production, fertilizers and agricultural chemicals, and precious metals and minerals companies. Our largest additions included shares of Russia-based global energy company Gazprom, the world's largest natural gas producer; South Africa-based Impala Platinum Holdings, a leading platinum producer responsible for approximately a quarter of the global platinum output; and Peninsula Land, one of India's leading real estate developers. We also initiated a position in Jordan-based Arab Potash, one of the 10 biggest potash producers globally. Conversely, we undertook selective sales during the reporting period as certain stocks reached their sell targets and as we raised funds for income and capital gains distribution. Key sales included some positions in Turkey

and China via Hong Kong-listed China H and China Red Chip shares.<sup>2</sup> As a result, we reduced the Fund's holdings in the aforementioned Tupras and Brilliance China, as well as Sinopec (China Petroleum and Chemical), one of China's largest integrated energy companies.

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

Sincerely,

**The foregoing information reflects our analysis, opinions and portfolio holdings as of August 31, 2012, 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.**

2. China H denotes shares of China-incorporated, Hong Kong Stock Exchange-listed companies with most businesses in China. Red Chip denotes shares of Hong Kong Stock Exchange-listed companies with significant exposure to China.

## Performance Summary as of 8/31/12

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. 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.

*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.*

### Endnotes

**All investments involve risks, including possible loss of principal. Special risks are associated with foreign investing, including currency fluctuations, economic instability and political developments. Investments in developing markets involve heightened risks related to the same factors, in addition to those associated with these markets smaller size and lesser liquidity. The Fund is actively managed but there is no guarantee that the manager's investment decisions will produce the desired results.**

1. Total return calculations represent the cumulative and average annual changes in value of an investment over the periods indicated.
2. Assumes reinvestment of distributions based on net asset value.
3. Assumes reinvestment of distributions based on the dividend reinvestment and cash purchase plan.



## Important Notice to Shareholders

### **Share Repurchase Program**

The Fund's Board previously authorized management to implement an open-market share repurchase program pursuant to which the Fund may purchase Fund shares, from time to time, in open-market transactions, at the discretion of management. This authorization remains in effect.

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

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# Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

## Statement of Investments, August 31, 2012 *(continued)*

See Abbreviations on page 21.

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

<sup>b</sup>At August 31, 2012, pursuant to the Fund's policies and the requirements of applicable securities law, the Fund may be restricted from trading these securities for a limited or extended period of time due to ownership limits and/or potential possession of material non-public information.

<sup>c</sup>See Note 7 regarding investments in the Institutional Fiduciary Trust Money Market Portfolio.

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

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# 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, as amended, (1940 Act) as a closed-end investment company.

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. Under procedures approved by the Fund's Board of Trustees (the Board), the Fund's administrator, investment manager and other affiliates have formed the Valuation and Liquidity Oversight Committee (VLOC). The VLOC 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 the NYSE, whichever is earlier. The value is then converted into its U.S. dollar equivalent at the foreign exchange rate in effect at the close of the NYSE 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 net asset value.

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 VLOC 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 VLOC 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 VLOC 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.

# Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

## Notes to Financial Statements *(continued)*

### 1. ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(continued)*

#### a. Financial Instrument Valuation *(continued)*

Trading in securities on foreign securities stock exchanges and OTC markets may be completed before the daily close of business on the NYSE. Occasionally, events occur between the time at which trading in a foreign security is completed and the close of the NYSE 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 the close of the NYSE. In order to minimize the potential for these differences, the VLOC 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.

#### 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 on 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.

# Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

## Notes to Financial Statements *(continued)*

### 1. ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(continued)*

#### c. 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 recognizes the tax benefits of uncertain tax positions only when the position is more likely than not to be sustained upon examination by the tax authorities based on the technical merits of the tax position. As of August 31, 2012, and for all open tax years, the Fund has determined that no liability for unrecognized tax benefits is required in the Fund's financial statements related to uncertain tax positions taken on a tax return (or expected to be taken on future tax returns). Open tax years are those that remain subject to examination and are based on each tax jurisdiction statute of limitation.

#### d. 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 that certain dividends from foreign securities are recognized as soon as the Fund is notified of the ex-dividend date. Distributions to shareholders are recorded on the ex-dividend date and are determined according to income tax regulations (tax basis). Distributable earnings determined on a tax basis may differ from earnings recorded in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. 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.

#### e. Accounting Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America 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.

# Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

## Notes to Financial Statements *(continued)*

### 1. ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(continued)*

#### f. 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, 2012, there were an unlimited number of shares authorized (without par value). During the years ended August 31, 2012 and August 31, 2011 there were no shares issued; all reinvested distributions were satisfied with previously issued shares purchased in the open market.

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. This authorization remains in effect. During the years ended August 31, 2012 and August 31, 2011, there were no shares repurchased.

### 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:

#### a. Management Fees

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

# Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

## Notes to Financial Statements *(continued)*

### 3. TRANSACTIONS WITH AFFILIATES *(continued)*

#### b. Administrative Fees

The Fund pays an administrative fee to FT Services of 0.15% per year of the average daily net assets of the Fund.

### 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, 2012, there were no credits earned.

### 5. INCOME TAXES

The tax character of distributions paid during the years ended August 31, 2012 and 2011, was as follows:

At August 31, 2012, the cost of investments, net unrealized appreciation (depreciation), undistributed ordinary income and undistributed long term capital gains for income tax purposes were as follows:

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

### 6. INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS

Purchases and sales of investments (excluding short term securities) for the year ended August 31, 2012, aggregated \$7,739,285 and \$7,579,556, respectively.

# Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

## Notes to Financial Statements *(continued)*

### 7. INVESTMENTS IN INSTITUTIONAL FIDUCIARY TRUST MONEY MARKET PORTFOLIO

The Fund invests in the Institutional Fiduciary Trust Money Market Portfolio (Sweep Money Fund), an open-end investment company managed by Franklin Advisers, Inc. (an affiliate of the investment manager). Management fees paid by the Fund are reduced on assets invested in the Sweep Money Fund, in an amount not to exceed the management and administrative fees paid by the Sweep Money Fund.

### 8. 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.

### 9. 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.)
- Level 3 significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of financial instruments)

The inputs or methodology used for valuing financial instruments are not an indication of the risk associated with investing in those financial instruments.

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.

At August 31, 2012, all of the Fund's investments in financial instruments carried at fair value were valued using Level 1 inputs. For detailed categories, see the accompanying Statement of Investments.

# Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

## Notes to Financial Statements *(continued)*

### 10. NEW ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In December 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2011-11, Balance Sheet (Topic 210): Disclosures about Offsetting Assets and Liabilities. The amendments in the ASU enhance disclosures about offsetting of financial assets and liabilities to enable investors to understand the effect of these arrangements on a fund's financial position. The ASU is effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2013. The Fund believes the adoption of this ASU will not have a material impact on its financial statements.

### 11. 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

In our opinion, the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities, including the statement of investments, and the related statements of operations and of changes in net assets and the financial highlights present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Templeton Emerging Markets Fund (the Fund) at August 31, 2012, 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 then ended and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These financial statements and financial highlights (hereafter referred to as financial statements) are the responsibility of the Fund's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits of these financial statements in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits, which included confirmation of securities at August 31, 2012 by correspondence with the custodian and brokers, provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

San Francisco, California

October 19, 2012

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# Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

## Tax Information (unaudited)

Under section 852(b)(3)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code (Code), the Fund hereby reports the maximum amount allowable but no less than \$1,047,128 as a long term capital gain dividend for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2012.

Under Section 854(b)(1)(B) of the Code, the Fund hereby reports the maximum amount allowable but no less than \$7,101,884 as qualified dividends for purposes of the maximum rate under Section 1(h)(11) of the Code for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2012. Distributions, including qualified dividend income, paid during calendar year 2012 will be reported to shareholders on Form 1099-DIV by mid-February 2013. 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, 2011, 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 Code. This written statement will allow shareholders of record on December 15, 2011, 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 tables provides a detailed analysis of foreign tax paid, foreign source income, and foreign qualified dividends as reported by the Fund to shareholders of record.

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>

# Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

## **Tax Information (unaudited)** *(continued)*

Foreign 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>

By mid-February 2012, shareholders received Form 1099-DIV which included their share of taxes paid and foreign source income distributed during the calendar year 2011. The Foreign Source Income reported on Form 1099-DIV has not been 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 2011 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.

# Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

## **Annual Meeting of Shareholders, March 2, 2012 (unaudited)**

The Annual Meeting of Shareholders of the Fund was held at the Fund's offices, 300 S.E. 2nd Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on March 2, 2012. The purpose of the meeting was to elect four Trustees of the Fund 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, 2012.

At the meeting, 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.\* Shareholders also ratified the selection of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm for the Fund for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2012.

No other business was transacted at the meeting.

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

1. The election of four Trustees:
  
2. 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, 2012:

\*Harris J. Ashton, Frank J. Crothers, Edith E. Holiday, Charles B. Johnson, Gregory E. Johnson, J. Michael Luttig, Frank A. Olson 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

## 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. Computershare Shareowner Services, LLC, P.O. Box 358015, Pittsburgh, PA 15252-8015, will provide additional Plan information upon request.

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 or money order payable to The Bank of New York Mellon (the Plan Administrator) and sent to Computershare Shareowner Services, LLC, P.O. Box 382009, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-8009, 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 Computershare Shareowner Services, LLC, P.O. Box 358015, Pittsburgh, PA 15252-8015. 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.

# Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

## Transfer Agent

Computershare Shareowner Services, LLC  
P.O. Box 358015  
Pittsburgh, PA 15252-8015  
(800) 416-5585  
www.cpushareownerservices.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.cpushareownerservices.com](http://www.cpushareownerservices.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 Computershare Shareowner Services, 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 Computershare Shareowner Services, 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 published each Monday in the *Wall Street Journal*, weekly in *Barron's* and each Saturday in *The New York Times* and other newspapers. Daily market prices for the Fund's shares are published in the New York Stock Exchange Composite Transactions section of newspapers.

For current information about dividends and shareholder accounts, call (800) 416-5585. Registered shareholders can access their Fund account on-line with the *Investor ServiceDirect* Website. For information go to Computershare Shareowner Services, LLC's web site at [www.cpushareownerservices.com](http://www.cpushareownerservices.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 ).

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.











\*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.

\*\*Charles B. Johnson is considered to be an interested person of the Fund under the federal securities laws due to his position as officer and director and major shareholder of

Franklin Resources, Inc. (Resources), which is the parent company of the Fund's investment manager and distributor. Gregory E. Johnson is considered to be an interested person of

the Fund under the federal securities laws due to his position as officer and director of Resources.

Note 1: Charles B. Johnson and Rupert H. Johnson, Jr. are brothers and the father and uncle, respectively, 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 SLM Corporation and Ares Capital Corporation and was formerly a director of Allied Capital Corporation from 2003**

**to 2010, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of NHP Incorporated and Vice President and Treasurer of US Airways, Inc. 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. 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.**

# Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

## Shareholder Information

### Board Review of Investment Management Agreement

At a meeting held May 22, 2012, the Board of Trustees (Board), including a majority of non-interested or independent Trustees, approved renewal of the investment management agreement for the Fund. In reaching this decision, the Board took into account information furnished throughout the year at regular Board meetings, as well as information prepared specifically in connection with the annual renewal review process. Information furnished and discussed throughout the year included investment performance reports on the Fund, information on its share price discount to net asset value, and other related financial information, as well as periodic reports on expenses, legal and compliance matters, pricing, brokerage commissions and execution and other services provided by the Investment Manager (Manager) and its affiliates. Information furnished specifically in connection with the renewal process included a report prepared by Lipper, Inc. (Lipper), an independent organization, as well as additional material, including a Fund profitability analysis prepared by management. The Lipper reports compared the Fund's investment performance and expenses with those of other funds deemed comparable to the Fund as selected by Lipper. The Fund profitability analysis discussed the profitability to Franklin Templeton Investments from its overall U.S. fund operations, as well as on an individual fund-by-fund basis. Additional material accompanying such profitability analysis included information on a fund-by-fund basis listing portfolio managers and other accounts they manage, as well as information on management fees charged by the Manager and its affiliates to U.S. funds and other accounts, including management's explanation of differences where relevant. Such material also included a memorandum prepared by management describing project initiatives and capital investments relating to the services provided to the Fund by the Franklin Templeton Investments organization, as well as a memorandum relating to economies of scale.

In considering such materials, the independent Trustees received assistance and advice from and met separately with independent counsel. In approving continuance of the investment management agreement for the Fund, the Board, including a majority of independent Trustees, determined that the existing management fee structure was fair and reasonable and that continuance of the investment management agreement was in the best 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 decision.

**NATURE, EXTENT AND QUALITY OF SERVICE.** The Board was satisfied with the nature and quality of the overall services provided by the Manager and its affiliates to the Fund and its shareholders. In addition to investment performance and expenses discussed later, the Board's opinion was based, in part, upon periodic reports furnished it showing that the investment policies and restrictions for the Fund were consistently complied with as well as other reports periodically furnished the Board covering matters such as the compliance of portfolio managers and other management personnel with the code of ethics adopted throughout the Franklin Templeton fund complex, the adherence to fair value pricing procedures established by the Board, and the accuracy of net asset value calculations. Favorable consideration was given to management's continuous efforts and expenditures in establishing back-up systems and recovery

# Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

## Shareholder Information *(continued)*

### Board Review of Investment Management Agreement *(continued)*

procedures to function in the event of a natural disaster, it being noted that such systems and procedures had functioned smoothly during the Florida hurricanes and blackouts experienced in previous years. Among other factors taken into account by the Board were the Manager's best execution trading policies, including a favorable report by an independent portfolio trading analytical firm, which also covered FOREX transactions. Consideration was also given to the experience of the Fund's portfolio management team, the number of accounts managed and general method of compensation. In this latter respect, the Board noted that a primary factor in management's determination of the level of a portfolio manager's bonus compensation was the relative investment performance of the funds he or she managed and that a portion of such bonus was required to be invested in a predesignated list of funds within such person's fund management area so as to be aligned with the interests of shareholders. Particular attention was given to management's conservative approach and diligent risk management procedures, including continuous monitoring of counterparty credit risk and attention given to derivatives and other complex instruments including expanded collateralization requirements. The Board also took into account, among other things, the strong financial position of the Manager's parent company and its commitment to the fund business as evidenced by its subsidization of money market funds.

**INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE.** The Board placed significant emphasis on the investment performance of the Fund in view of its importance to shareholders. While consideration was given to performance reports and discussions with portfolio managers at Board meetings during the year, particular attention in assessing performance was given to the Lipper reports furnished for the agreement renewal. The Lipper report for the Fund showed its investment performance for the one-year period ended February 29, 2012, as well as the previous 10 years ended that date in comparison to a performance universe consisting of the Fund and all other closed-end nonleveraged emerging markets funds as selected by Lipper. Such report considers total return on a fund net asset value basis without regard to market discounts or premiums to accurately reflect investment performance. On a comparative basis, the Lipper report showed the Fund's total return for the one-year period to be in the second-highest quintile of the performance universe, and on an annualized basis to be in the highest or best performing quintile of such universe for the previous five-year period, and the second-highest performing quintile of such universe for each of the previous three- and 10-year periods. The Board was satisfied with such comparative performance.

**COMPARATIVE EXPENSES.** Consideration was given to a comparative analysis of the management fee and total expense ratio of the Fund compared with those of a group of other funds selected by Lipper as its appropriate Lipper expense group. Lipper expense data is based upon information taken from each fund's most recent annual report, which reflects historical asset levels that may be quite different from those currently existing, particularly in a period of market volatility. While recognizing such inherent limitation and the fact that expense ratios generally increase as assets decline and decrease as assets grow, the Board believed the

# Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

## Shareholder Information *(continued)*

### Board Review of Investment Management Agreement *(continued)*

independent analysis conducted by Lipper to be an appropriate measure of comparative expenses. In reviewing comparative costs, Lipper provides information on the Fund's investment contractual management fee rate in comparison with the investment contractual management fee rate that would have been charged by the other funds within the Lipper expense group assuming they were similar in size to the Fund, as well as the actual total expense ratio of the Fund in comparison with those of such other funds. The Lipper contractual investment management fee analysis considers administrative fees to be part of management fees. The Lipper expense group was composed of six funds, including the Fund, and the results of such expense comparison showed the Fund's investment contractual management fee rate to be the highest in such expense group, being 18 basis points above the group median, and its actual total expense ratio to be the second highest of such group, but within nine basis points of the group median. The Board found such expenses to be acceptable in view of the Fund's good investment performance and cost factors relating to the Fund's operation, such as the background and experience of its portfolio managers and research staff and the Manager's physical presence and coverage in the geographical areas in which the Fund invests. The Board also noted that a negotiated reduction in the Fund's investment management fee had become effective on May 1, 2011.

**MANAGEMENT PROFITABILITY.** The Board also considered the level of profits realized by the Manager and its affiliates in connection with the operation of the Fund. In this respect, the Board reviewed the Fund profitability analysis that addresses the overall profitability of Franklin Templeton's U.S. fund business, as well as its profits in providing management and other services to each of the individual funds during the 12-month period ended September 30, 2011, being the most recent fiscal year-end for Franklin Resources, Inc., the Manager's parent.

In reviewing the analysis, attention was given to the methodology followed in allocating costs to the Fund, it being recognized that allocation methodologies are inherently subjective and various allocation methodologies may each be reasonable while producing different results. In this respect, the Board noted that, while being continuously refined and reflecting changes in the Manager's own cost accounting, the allocation methodology was consistent with that followed in profitability report presentations made in prior years and that the Fund's independent registered public accounting firm had been engaged by the Manager to review the reasonableness of the allocation methodologies solely for use by the Fund's Board in reference to the profitability analysis. In reviewing and discussing such analysis, management discussed with the Board its belief that costs incurred in establishing the infrastructure necessary for the type of 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. In addition, the Board considered a third-party study comparing the profitability of the Manager's parent on an overall basis to other publicly held managers broken down to show profitability from management operations exclusive of distribution expenses, as well as profitability including distribution expenses. The Board also considered the extent to which the Manager and its

# Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

## Shareholder Information *(continued)*

### Board Review of Investment Management Agreement *(continued)*

affiliates might derive ancillary benefits from fund operations, as well as potential benefits resulting from allocation of fund brokerage and the use of commission dollars to pay for research. Based upon its consideration of all these factors, the Board determined 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, quality and extent of services provided.

**ECONOMIES OF SCALE.** The Board also considered whether the manager realizes economies of scale as the Fund grows larger and the extent to which any such benefit is shared with the Fund and its shareholders. The Board believed that a 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 investment company 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. The Fund's current investment management advisory fee schedule provides a rate of 1.10% on the first \$1 billion of Fund net assets; 1.05% on the next \$4 billion of Fund net assets; 1.00% on the next \$5 billion of Fund net assets; 0.95% on the next \$5 billion of Fund net assets; 0.90% on the next \$5 billion of Fund net assets; and 0.85% on Fund net assets in excess of \$20 billion. The Fund is also charged a separate fee of 0.15% at all asset levels for administrative services. At the end of 2011, the Fund's net assets were approximately \$343 million, and while believing economies of scale to be less of a factor for closed-end funds, the Board noted that the current management fees reflected downward revisions negotiated with management effective May 1, 2011.

### 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.

# Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

## Shareholder Information *(continued)*

### Certifications

The Fund's Chief Executive Officer - Finance and Administration is required by the New York Stock Exchange's Listing Standards to file annually with the Exchange a certification that she is not aware of any violation by the Fund of the Exchange's Corporate Governance Standards applicable to the Fund. The Fund has filed such certification.

In addition, the Fund's Chief Executive Officer - Finance and Administration and Chief Financial Officer and Chief Accounting Officer are required by the rules of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission to provide certain certifications with respect to the Fund's Form N-CSR and Form N-CSRS (which include the Fund's annual and semiannual reports to shareholders) that are filed semiannually with the Commission. The Fund has filed such certifications with its Form N-CSRS for the six months ended February 29, 2012. Additionally, the Fund expects to file, on or about October 31, 2012, such certifications with its Form N-CSR for the year ended August 31, 2012.

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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 \$41,500 for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2012 and \$33,739 for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2011.

(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

The aggregate 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 were \$2,555 the fiscal year ended August 31, 2012 and \$0 for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2011. The services for which these fees were paid included preparation of tax returns for foreign governments.

The aggregate 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

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investment adviser that provides ongoing services to the registrant for tax compliance, tax advice and tax planning were \$54,600 for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2012 and \$85,000 for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2011. The services for which these fees were paid included technical tax consultation for capital gain tax reporting to foreign governments, application of local country tax laws to investments and licensing securities with local country offices.

### (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 \$138 for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2012 and \$154 for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2011. 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.

The aggregate 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, other than the services reported in paragraphs (a)-(c) of Item 4 were \$152,312 for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2012 and \$144,646 for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2011. 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.

(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.
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(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 \$209,605 for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2012 and \$229,800 for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2011.

(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: David W. Niemiec, Frank J. Crothers, Ann Torre Bates 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. 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 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 interests of the Fund and its shareholders.

To assist it in analyzing proxies, 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, 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. Although ISS and/or Glass Lewis analyses are thoroughly reviewed and considered in making a final voting decision, the investment manager does not consider recommendations from ISS, Glass Lewis or any other third party to be determinative of the investment manager's ultimate decision. As a matter of policy, the officers, directors/trustees and employees

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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 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 defer to the voting recommendation of ISS, Glass Lewis or those of another independent third-party provider of proxy services; 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 Glass Lewis, ISS, or another independent third-party provider of proxy services 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 U.S. 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 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.

**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 will be considered based on the relevant facts and circumstances.

*Board of directors.* The investment manager supports an independent board of directors, and prefers that key committees such as audit, nominating, and compensation committees be comprised of independent directors. 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

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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.

*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.

*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

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investment manager generally supports fair price provisions and confidential voting.

*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.

*Environment, social and governance issues.* The investment manager will generally give management discretion with regard to social, environmental and ethical issues, although the investment manager may vote in favor of those that are believed to have significant economic benefits or implications for the Fund and its shareholders. 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 waste company resources for the benefit of a small minority of shareholders.

*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 vote a proxy, or may choose not to vote a proxy, such as where: (i) the 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 or other regulatory or market requirements, including but not limited to,

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effective Powers of Attorney; (v) the investment manager held shares on the record date but has sold them prior to the meeting date; (vi) proxy voting service is not offered by the custodian in the market; (vii) 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 (viii) a security is subject to a securities lending or similar program that has transferred legal title to the security to another person. 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.

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 Company and Affiliated Purchasers.**

(a) (1) As of October 26, 2012, the portfolio managers of the Fund are as follows:

**MARK MOBIUS, Ph.D.**, *Executive Chairman of Templeton Emerging Markets Group and Portfolio Manager of Asset Management*

Dr. Mobius has been a lead portfolio manager of the Fund since its inception. He has primary responsibility for the investments of the Fund. Dr. Mobius 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 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 1987.

**DENNIS LIM**, *Co-Chief Executive Officer and Director of Asset Management*

Based in Hong Kong, Mr. Lim has been a portfolio manager of the Fund since 2000, providing research and advice on the purchases and sales of individual securities, and portfolio risk assessment. He joined Franklin Templeton Investments in 1990.

**TOM WU**, *Director of Asset Management*

Based in Hong Kong, Mr. Wu has been a portfolio manager of the Fund since its inception, providing research and advice on the purchases and sales of individual securities, and portfolio risk assessment. He joined Franklin Templeton Investments in 1987.

(a) (2) This section reflects information about the portfolio managers as of the fiscal year ended August 31, 2012.

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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:

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. 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

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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 (50% to 65%) and restricted shares of a Franklin Templeton fund which vest over a three-year period (17.5% to 25%) and other mutual fund shares (17.5% to 25%). The deferred equity-based compensation is intended to build a vested interest of the portfolio manager in the financial performance of both Resources and mutual funds advised by the investment manager. The bonus plan is intended to provide a competitive level of annual bonus compensation that is tied to the portfolio manager achieving consistently strong investment performance, which aligns the financial incentives of the portfolio manager and Fund shareholders. The Chief Investment Officer of the investment manager and/or other officers of the investment manager, with responsibility for the Fund, have discretion in the granting of annual bonuses to portfolio managers in accordance with Franklin Templeton guidelines. The following factors are generally used in determining bonuses under the plan:

- *Investment performance.* Primary consideration is given to the historic investment performance over the 1, 3 and 5 preceding years of all accounts managed by the portfolio manager. The pre-tax performance of
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each fund managed is measured relative to a relevant peer group and/or applicable benchmark as appropriate.

- *Non-investment performance.* The more qualitative contributions of a portfolio manager to the investment manager's business and the investment management team, including business knowledge, contribution to team efforts, mentoring of junior staff, and contribution to the marketing of the Fund, are evaluated in determining the amount of any bonus award.
- *Research.* Where the portfolio management team also has research responsibilities, each portfolio manager is evaluated on the number and performance of recommendations over time.
- *Responsibilities.* The characteristics and complexity of funds managed by the portfolio manager are factored in the investment manager's appraisal.

**Additional long-term equity-based compensation**

Portfolio managers may also

be awarded restricted shares or units of one or more mutual funds. Awards of such deferred equity-based compensation typically vest over time, so as to create incentives to retain key talent.

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):

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. N/A**

**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.**

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**(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 significant changes in

the Registrant's internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect the internal controls subsequent to the date of their evaluation in connection with the preparation of this Shareholder Report on Form N-CSR.

**Item 12. Exhibits.**

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

**(a) (2)** Certifications pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 of Laura F. Fergerson, Chief Executive Officer - Finance and Administration, and Mark H. Otani, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Accounting Officer

**(b)** Certifications pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 of Laura F. Fergerson, Chief Executive Officer - Finance and Administration, and Mark H. Otani, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Accounting Officer

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