

TEMPLETON GLOBAL GROWTH FUND LTD.

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## **Securities Exchange Announcement**

4 February 2021

### **Quarterly Investment Manager's Report**

Templeton Global Growth Fund Limited (TGG) is pleased to provide the attached quarterly report from the Investment Manager, Franklin Templeton Investments Australia Limited.

*This announcement has been authorised for release by the Board of Templeton Global Growth Fund Limited.*

For further information, please contact:

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## INVESTMENT MANAGER

The Investment Manager of the Company's investment portfolio is Franklin Templeton Investments Australia Ltd and the Company's portfolio is managed in accordance with the investment philosophy of the Templeton Global Equity Group.

Templeton is one of the pioneers in global investing and its successful investment philosophy has been refined over more than 70 years.

## INVESTMENT APPROACH

Templeton's time-tested investment approach is based on its philosophy of value, patience and bottom-up stock selection. Templeton focus on the rigorous analysis of individual stocks across geographic borders and seek to identify companies trading at significant discounts to Templeton's estimates of future earnings power, cash flow generation and/or asset value.

As independent thinkers with strong conviction in their investment ideas, they take an unconstrained approach to finding value.

## CONTACT DETAILS

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## Performance Data

### Average Total Returns (AUD %)<sup>1</sup>

|                                     | 3<br>Months | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|--------|---------|---------|----------|
| TGG - Gross of Fees/Expenses        | 10.96       | 5.53   | 7.57    | 9.17    | 12.24    |
| TGG - Net of Fees <sup>2</sup>      | 10.71       | 4.59   | 6.35    | 7.90    | 10.77    |
| MSCI AC World Index-NR <sup>3</sup> | 6.52        | 5.90   | 10.55   | 10.94   | 12.27    |

### Net Tangible Assets (NTA) - Unaudited

|  | 30 September<br>2020 | 31 December<br>2020 |
|--|----------------------|---------------------|
| TGG Share Price (\$)                       | 1.155                | 1.400               |
| NTA per share before tax (\$) <sup>4</sup> | 1.374                | 1.520               |
| Premium/(Discount) to NTA before tax (%)   | (15.92)              | (7.91)              |
| NTA per share after tax (\$) <sup>4</sup>  | 1.349                | 1.452               |
| Premium/(Discount) to NTA after tax (%)    | (14.38)              | (3.57)              |

The market value of the portfolio represents prices quoted on overseas stock markets in foreign currencies converted to Australian currency. The rate used for conversion of values of US currency securities was USD 0.7717, EUR 0.6307 and GBP 0.5645 (last month USD 0.7369, EUR 0.6160 and GBP 0.5519).

## Market Review

- Global equities advanced in 2020's fourth quarter, with the bulk of gains concentrated in November following positive coronavirus vaccine trials. Two major pharmaceutical firms announced efficacy rates of roughly 95% in late-stage vaccine trials, helping investors look beyond spiking COVID-19 infections and continued economic shutdowns to imagine some restoration of normalcy in the not-so-distant future. The results of the November US presidential election also supported risk appetite.
- In Europe, United Kingdom (UK) and European Union (EU) officials rushed to approve a Brexit agreement before Britain's transition period expired at year-end. A deal covering goods but saying little about financial services was backed by EU member states on Christmas Eve. Economic data was mixed, pointing to a broad-based, if inconsistent, recovery from the year's pandemic lows. Europe remained mired in a double-dip downturn, and Japan's economy struggled to gather steam, but economic indicators in the United States and China were considerably more robust.
- In Asia, the Bank of Japan extended emergency virus-related lending programmes and approved a new US\$700 billion stimulus package, while Chinese policymakers struck a more austere tone amidst efforts to rein in excessive credit and normalise policy given stronger growth and an earlier virus recovery.
- Outside of equity markets, perceived safe havens like the US dollar and US Treasuries declined, while industrial commodities like oil and copper advanced on hopes of stimulus- and vaccine-driven reflation. Emerging equity markets generally outperformed developed markets supported by the weaker US dollar, while global value outpaced global growth during the quarter.

## Quarterly Performance Attribution

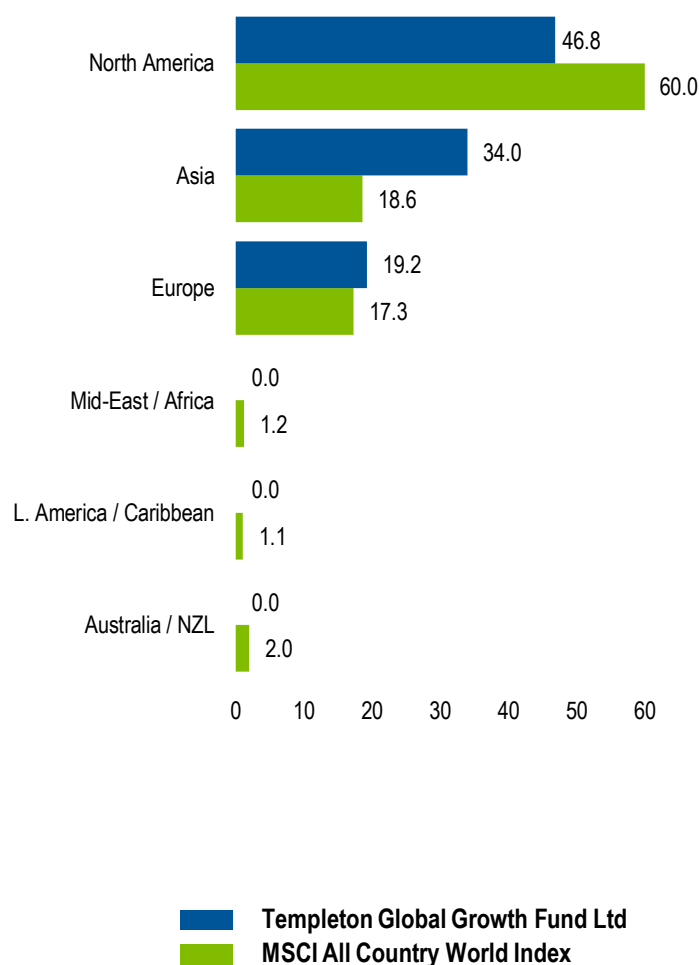
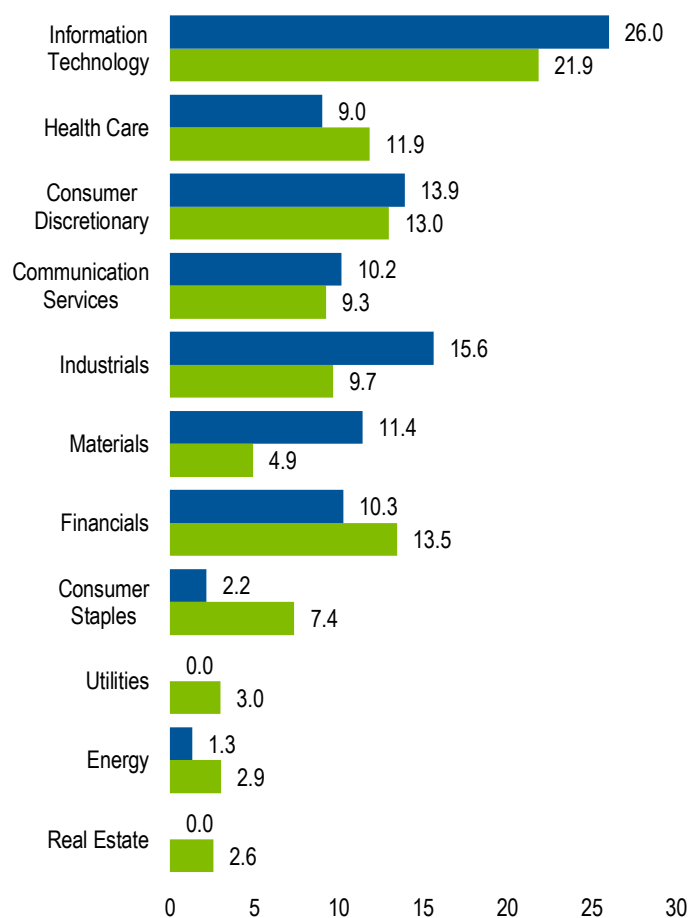
- Overall, the fund significantly outperformed its benchmark index during the fourth quarter of 2020.
- Performance in the information technology sector was led by our investment in South Korean semiconductor and consumer electronics manufacturer Samsung Electronics. We believe the stock is not expensive for a global technology leader with strong competitive positions across several attractive businesses.
- The fund's investments in US-based specialty chemicals company Albemarle and Japan's Sumitomo Metal Mining enhanced relative results. Shares of Albemarle, surged during November after the company reported quarterly earnings expectations and full-year 2020 guidance that surpassed expectations.
- Investor optimism regarding a COVID vaccine has supported defensive materials stocks such as Albemarle, while continued interest in electric vehicles has further buoyed the share prices of lithium manufacturers.
- Stock selection in the United States contributed significantly to relative performance during the fourth quarter. Security selection in Japan also enhanced results, as did overweighting and stock selection in South Korea and Taiwan. Relative returns were supported further by stock selection in Denmark and Germany.
- Notable contributor from the communication services sector included US-based multimedia and entertainment giant Walt Disney Company. We believe Disney to be one of the few remaining large-capitalisation media companies with a strong portfolio of internationally recognised intellectual properties that are used to enhance the value of the entire enterprise.
- Security selection in India and France detracted some value.
- Security selection and an underweighting in the energy sector during a strong cyclical value rally detracted from relative fund performance. In recent quarters we have deliberately diversified across different types of value, including what we viewed as mispriced growth and quality stocks in addition to discounted cash flow and asset plays.
- Performance in the financials sector was pressured primarily by our underweight banks allocation in a quarter when banks rebounded strongly, leading all market sectors. We increasingly view Western banks not as long-term investments but as public utilities in which it may be possible to benefit from buying and selling astutely during increasingly frequent cycles.

## Investment Outlook

- While we are encouraged by recent vaccine developments and generally optimistic about their implications, much of the good news seems discounted by expensive valuations. Low interest rates may justify high valuations, but if the combination of stimulus and vaccination succeeds in reflating the global economy, rates should move higher, at least in nominal terms.
- Governments burdened by debts they can never pay back cannot afford to let interest costs spike, leading us to expect continued state intervention into financial markets and the economy, with all the distortions that implies for pricing signals. In our view, the era of free markets and liberal democracy as we once knew it is likely over.
- We expect the push and pull between inflationary and deflationary forces to accelerate, cycles to compress and growth to be harder to come by. That certainly didn't seem to be the case in 2020, when policymakers papered over a global catastrophe and managed to keep the party going. The frenzy was evident not just in valuations, but also in the amount of capital raised by blank-check firms and oversubscribed IPOs (initial public offerings), as well as the sudden retail rush into the stock market.
- Our continued efforts towards diversifying and upgrading the quality of the portfolio are intended to help us succeed in the challenging environment ahead. After all, uncertainty can be favourable for active investment managers with a long-term horizon and global opportunity set. We are applying all our energies and talents to uncovering what we view as the best ideas in this environment and getting them into a sensible and balanced portfolio suitable for a future of increasing adversity and complexity.

## Portfolio Characteristics

|   | Portfolio | MSCI All Country World Index |
|---|-----------|------------------------------|
| Price to Earnings                       | 26.56x    | 27.26x                       |
| Price to Book Value                     | 2.72x     | 2.75x                        |
| Price to Cash Flow                      | 12.15x    | 15.32x                       |
| Market Capitalisation (Millions in AUD) | 203,308   | 343,223                      |
| Number of Issuers                       | 45        | 2,982                        |

**Portfolio Diversification**
**Geographic Weightings vs. MSCI All Country World Index**  
 Percent of Equity

**Sector Weightings vs. MSCI All Country World Index**  
 Percent of Equity

**Top Ten Holdings<sup>5</sup>**  
 Percent of Equity

| Top Holdings                              | Industry                                 | Country       | %    |
|---|--|---------------|------|
| SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO LTD                | Technology Hardware & Equipment          | South Korea   | 4.83 |
| SUMITOMO METAL MINING CO LTD              | Materials                                | Japan         | 4.14 |
| JPMORGAN CHASE & CO                       | Banks                                    | United States | 3.97 |
| TAIWAN SEMICONDUCTOR MANUFACTURING CO LTD | Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment | Taiwan        | 3.93 |
| UNITED PARCEL SERVICE INC                 | Transportation                           | United States | 3.69 |
| COMCAST CORP                              | Media & Entertainment                    | United States | 3.42 |
| AMERICAN EXPRESS CO                       | Diversified Financials                   | United States | 3.27 |
| BOOKING HOLDINGS INC                      | Retailing                                | United States | 3.22 |
| SIEMENS AG                                | Capital Goods                            | Germany       | 3.17 |
| WESTINGHOUSE AIR BRAKE TECHNOLOGIES CORP. | Capital Goods                            | United States | 3.14 |

## Investment Philosophy

Templeton utilises a disciplined, consistent approach based on three timeless principles of investing:

| Value   | Patience  | Bottom-up stock picking  |
|---|---|--|
| Our flexible approach is applied within a disciplined framework and seeks to identify companies trading at large discounts to their business value. | Our long-term focus gives us a framework to take advantage of price volatility to reveal potential long-term investment opportunities. Patience allows for potential long-term value recognition. | Our portfolio management process seeks to buy pessimism and sell optimism. We build portfolios spanning regions and sectors made up of securities identified through this process. |

## Investment Team

| Portfolio Manager                      | Years with Firm   | Years Experience         |
|--|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Peter Sartori, EVP, Portfolio Manager  | <1                | 29                       |
| Templeton Global Equity Team           | Number of Members | Average Years Experience |
| Portfolio Managers & Research Analysts | 32                | 20                       |

## Important Legal and Other Information

Benchmark: The MSCI World Index is the primary benchmark. The benchmark is used for comparative purposes only and is provided to represent the investment environment existing during the time periods shown. The index is unmanaged and one cannot invest directly in an index.

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Explanatory Notes:

1. Periods of more than one year are annualised. Returns are presented pre-tax
2. Returns are based on movement in the Company's net assets per share (after deducting investment management fees), before all taxes, with dividends reinvested and adjusted for share issues and buy-backs.
3. Source: Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI). All MSCI data is provided "as is." The Fund described herein is not sponsored or endorsed by MSCI. In no event shall MSCI, its affiliates or any MSCI data provider have any liability of any kind in connection with the MSCI data or the Fund described herein. Copying or redistributing the MSCI data is strictly prohibited.
4. Estimated tax on unrealised gains.
5. Top ten holdings represent the 10 largest equity holdings at the end of the quarter and may not reflect the current or future portfolio holdings. This does not represent all of the securities purchased, sold, or recommended for advisory clients, and the reader should not assume that investments in the securities listed was or will be profitable. Holdings of the same issuer have been combined.

All investments involve risks including 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 their smaller size and lesser liquidity. While stocks have historically outperformed other asset classes over the long term, they tend to fluctuate more dramatically over the short term. The use of derivatives and foreign currency techniques involve special risks, as such techniques may not achieve the anticipated benefits and/or may result in losses. Templeton Global Growth Fund Ltd. (ABN 44 006 558 149) issues this document with the intention to provide general information only and not investment or financial product advice. It does not take into account the individual objectives, financial situation or needs of any recipient. Nothing in this update should be construed as investment advice. Franklin Templeton have exercised professional care and diligence in the collection of information in this recording. However, data from third party sources may have been used in its preparation and Franklin Templeton has not independently verified, validated or audited such data.

**Past performance does not guarantee future results and results may differ over future time periods.**