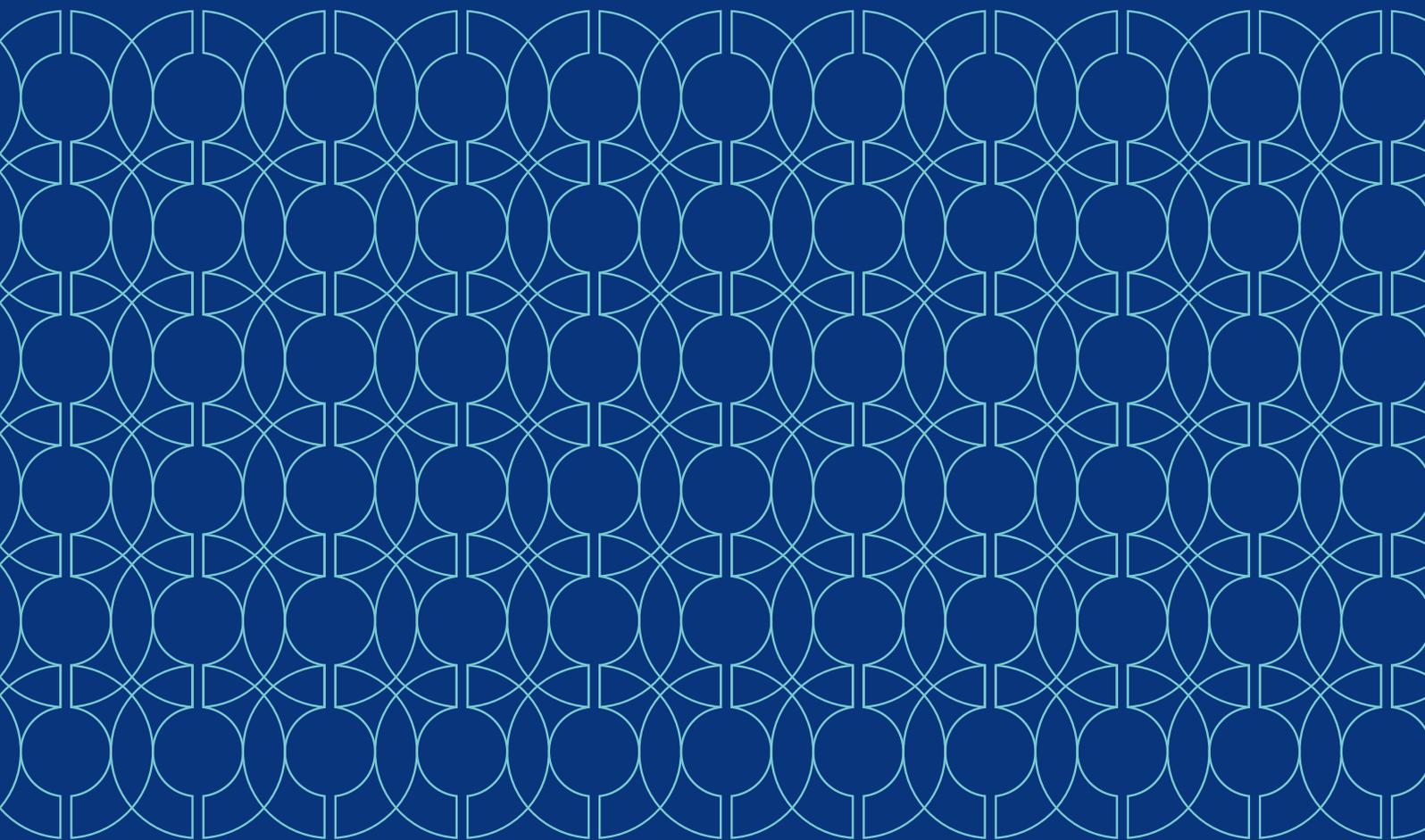


Schroders

SCHRODER EMERGING MARKETS FUND

Annual Report & Financial Statements

December 2023



SCHRODER EMERGING MARKETS FUND

(a sub-fund of Schroder International Choice Portfolio)

Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore on 25 May 1998

Manager

Schroder Investment Management (Singapore) Ltd
138 Market Street
#23-01 CapitaGreen
Singapore 048946
Company Registration No. 199201080H

Trustee

HSBC Institutional Trust Services (Singapore) Limited
10 Marina Boulevard
Marina Bay Financial Centre Tower 2
#48-01
Singapore 018983
Company Registration No. 194900022R

Auditor

KPMG LLP
12 Marina View, #15-01
Asia Square Tower 2
Singapore 018961

Solicitor to the Manager

Allen & Gledhill LLP
One Marina Boulevard #28-00
Singapore 018989

Solicitor to the Trustee

Shook Lin & Bok LLP
1 Robinson Road
#18-00 AIA Tower
Singapore 048542

Further Information

Schroders is a Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (“FATCA”) compliant organisation. Please find the FATCA classification of this Fund and its Global Intermediary Identification Number (“GIIN”) below.

FATCA entity classification: Nonreporting IGA FFI / Sponsored Investment Entity

GIIN: WM9S4Z.00007.SF.702

SCHRODER EMERGING MARKETS FUND

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COMMENTARY

Fund performance

The Fund generated a positive return in US dollar terms and performed broadly in line with the MSCI Emerging Markets Index over 2023, before fees. Positive country allocation was offset by negative stock selection.

Within country allocation, the overweights to Brazil, Greece and Poland were beneficial, as was the underweight to Thailand. The underweight to India and cash held in a rising market detracted.

Stock selection was negative, driven by China (underweight **PDD Holdings**, overweight **JD.com**). It also weighed on returns in India (overweight **HDFC Bank** and **ICICI Bank**) and Brazil (underweight **Petrobras**, overweight **Gerdau**). Conversely, stock selection was positive in a number of markets, including South Africa (overweight **Gold Fields**), Taiwan (overweight **Accton Technology** and **MediaTek**), South Korea (overweight **Samsung Electronics** and **SK Hynix**), UAE (overweight **Emaar Properties**) and Mexico (overweight **FEMSA**).

During the period we were able to exit some Russian holdings. As we have valued all remaining Russian positions at zero since March 2022, there was a positive impact.

Market performance

Emerging markets (EM) delivered positive returns in US dollar terms over 2023 although these were behind those generated by developed markets (DM), by some margin. Growing confidence of a “soft landing” in the US, optimism about potential US interest rate cuts in 2024 and the onset of the EM monetary policy easing cycle underpinned EM performance over the year. However, China was again a major drag on broad EM returns, registering a double-digit decline.

Hungary, Greece and Poland were the top performers in the year. The anticipation of easing monetary policy supported returns in central Europe as inflation in the region eased during the first half of the year. Hungary was the first to cut its key interest rate in June 2023 from a peak of 18% in May to 10.75% in December 2023. Poland followed suit in September, and overall reduced interest rates by 100bps to 5.75%. Political factors also contributed to Greece and Poland’s outperformance. In Greece, the ruling New Democratic Party won a second term in office in May 2023, signalling a continuation of market-friendly policies. Later in the year, markets welcome Donald Tusk’s election as prime minister at the head of a pro-EU liberal coalition government, which ended the eight-year rule of the populist Law & Justice (PiS) party.

Mexico performed well. It enjoyed strong economic momentum driven by exports to the US and an acceleration in “near-shoring” investments. This, together with an orthodox central bank, helped the currency appreciate. The best stock performers in 2023 included companies exposed to manufacturing or domestic consumption. Peru also outperformed. The Czech Republic gained on strong performance from all three of its constituents.

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Brazil was ahead of the benchmark. It started the year with fiscal policy uncertainty and concerns about the central bank's independence, although these eased as the year progressed and the government deployed its fiscal policy responsibly and upheld the central bank's autonomy. With a fiscal anchor in place, the central bank started easing monetary policy from very high levels, which has been beneficial for the economy. This, together with attractive valuations, underpinned the market's strong performance.

Taiwan and Korea delivered good returns, helped by performance from the technology sector which benefited from investor optimism about artificial intelligence development. India was up too, with Colombia some way behind it. In the former market, economic growth has held up well and moderating inflation has meant monetary policy has remained loose, the combination of which has boosted sentiment. Later in the year, a strong showing by the ruling Bharatiya Janata party in key state elections was also supportive.

Some of the energy-related markets lagged, including Qatar, UAE and Kuwait, which were negative. Saudi Arabi was the exception, registering returns marginally in excess of the index. South Africa performed poorly as the ongoing electricity crisis continued to weigh on investor confidence, not least because it severely hinders the economy's ability to grow.

China was the poorest performer in an EM context. A convincing economic rebound failed to materialise in 2023; instead, the economy's anaemic recovery was accompanied by an ongoing crisis in the real estate industry and regulatory uncertainty, particularly regarding tech companies. Meanwhile, geopolitical tension between the US and China persisted throughout the year and included the imposition of various technology restrictions by both parties.

Outlook

The global economy was more resilient than many had anticipated in 2023, underpinned by the US economy. As a result, US monetary policy remained tighter for longer than had been expected 12-months ago. While the US economy remains healthy, there are signs of a moderation in activity, and with the eurozone likely in technical recession, a slowdown in global growth is anticipated this year. Against this backdrop, further disinflation should gradually follow, enabling the US Federal Reserve (Fed) and other major central banks to begin monetary policy easing.

A soft landing for the US economy and a combination of Fed policy easing and a weaker US dollar should be broadly supportive for EM. The key downside risks around this outlook are that markets have over-anticipated the scale of Fed easing, or that the degree of growth slowdown is underestimated. The scope for rate cuts varies by EM economy, with Latin America likely to lead, and Asia, where real rates are lower, lag. Upside surprises to inflation are risks to this outlook, notably with regards to the path of energy and food prices. Global geopolitics, especially the conflict in the Middle East, bears monitoring. The trade, notably the technology cycle, should continue to improve this year, which is also supportive of EM. The risk to this outlook is that DM demand mutes the rebound.

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In China, the economy continues to face structural, as it transitions away from a growth model based on infrastructure and real estate, and cyclical challenges. GDP growth is projected to slow over the medium-term, albeit with cycles. That said, sequential, quarter-on-quarter growth should see a short-lived pick up in the first half of this year, driven by stronger manufacturing exports and as previous policy stimulus impacts. So far, the government has taken somewhat piecemeal measures to support the economy given ongoing deflationary concerns, which is a key risk given debt levels. The pace of policy has picked up but has not been sufficient to increase confidence and activity; measures in property for example are quickly fading. Geopolitics, particularly relations with the US, remains difficult. Improved communications between US and Chinese officials is positive, albeit this is against a backdrop of a declining trajectory in relations. Meanwhile, EU relations are a further area of concern as China increases exports in key areas.

EM valuations are reasonable, particularly in relation to DM. In absolute terms, the 12-month forward price-earnings and price-book ratios are broadly in line with the historical median (since 1995), while EM is cheap on a dividend yield measure. Earnings per share growth expectations for 2023 are negative, but a rebound of 18% is projected for 2024, and 15% in 2025, based on consensus forecasts. At the market level, EM valuations are generally attractive, with the notable exception of India and on some measures South Korea. EM yields and currencies in general are at attractive levels. The valuation gap to DM has also widened over the past year, and the gap to the US is, excluding the pandemic, now wider than in the global financial crisis.

There are various risks to the outlook in 2024, notably stemming from geopolitics. US-China relations, Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the Middle East conflict all bear close monitoring. Higher energy prices pose upside risk to inflation and rates expectations, while risk aversion could drive safe haven demand for the US dollar. El Nino could also lead to deterioration in the inflation outlook. In addition, there are a series of key EM elections this year. The US presidential election in November will also be important to watch for EM, notably from a US dollar and a policy perspective. Strategic competition between the US and China is a bipartisan issue in Washington DC.

31 December 2023

SCHRODER EMERGING MARKETS FUND

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEE

For the financial year ended 31 December 2023

The Trustee is under a duty to take into custody and hold the assets of Schroder Emerging Markets Fund (the “Fund”) in trust for the unitholders. In accordance with the Securities and Futures Act 2001, its subsidiary legislation and the Code on Collective Investment Schemes, the Trustee shall monitor the activities of the Manager for compliance with the limitations imposed on the investment and borrowing powers as set out in the Trust Deed in each annual accounting year and report thereon to unitholders in an annual report.

To the best knowledge of the Trustee, the Manager has, in all material respects, managed the Fund during the financial year covered by these financial statements, set out on pages 10 to 30, in accordance with the limitations imposed on the investment and borrowing powers set out in the Trust Deed.

For and on behalf of the Trustee
HSBC Institutional Trust Services (Singapore) Limited

SCHRODER EMERGING MARKETS FUND

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Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore on 25 May 1998

STATEMENT BY THE MANAGER

For the financial year ended 31 December 2023

In the opinion of Schroder Investment Management (Singapore) Ltd, the accompanying financial statements set out on pages 10 to 30, comprising the Statement of Total Return, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Movements of Unitholders' Funds, Statement of Portfolio and Notes to the Financial Statements are drawn up so as to present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position and portfolio holdings of Schroder Emerging Markets Fund (the "Fund") as at 31 December 2023, and the financial performance and movements of unitholders' funds for the financial year then ended in accordance with the recommendations of Statement of Recommended Accounting Practice 7 "Reporting Framework for Investment Funds" issued by the Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Fund will be able to meet its financial obligations as and when they materialise.

For and on behalf of the Manager
Schroder Investment Management (Singapore) Ltd

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE UNITHOLDERS OF
SCHRODER EMERGING MARKETS FUND**
(a sub-fund of Schroder International Choice Portfolio)
Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore on 25 May 1998

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Schroder Emerging Markets Fund (the "Fund"), which comprise the Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Portfolio as at 31 December 2023, the Statement of Total Return and Statement of Movements of Unitholders' Funds for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of material accounting policy information, as set out on pages 10 to 30.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements are properly drawn up in accordance with the recommendations of Statement of Recommended Accounting Practice 7 "Reporting Framework for Investment Funds" issued by the Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants so as to present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position and portfolio holdings of the Fund as at 31 December 2023 and the financial performance and movements in unitholders' funds for the year ended on that date.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Singapore Standards on Auditing ("SSAs"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the '*Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements*' section of our report. We are independent of the Fund in accordance with the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority *Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Public Accountants and Accounting Entities* ("ACRA Code") together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Singapore, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the ACRA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other matter

The financial statements of the Fund for the year ended 31 December 2022 were audited by another auditor who expressed an unmodified opinion on those financial statements on 30 March 2023.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE UNITHOLDERS OF
SCHRODER EMERGING MARKETS FUND**
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Other information

Schroder Investment Management (Singapore) Ltd, the Manager of the Fund (the "Manager"), is responsible for the other information contained in the annual report. Other information is defined as all information in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon.

We have obtained all other information prior to the date of this auditors' report.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Manager for the financial statements

The Manager is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the recommendations of Statement of Recommended Accounting Practice 7 "Reporting Framework for Investment Funds" issued by the Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants, and for such internal control as the Manager determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Manager is responsible for assessing the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Manager either intends to terminate the Fund or to cease the Fund's operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Manager's responsibilities include overseeing the Fund's financial reporting process.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with SSAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE UNITHOLDERS OF
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As part of an audit in accordance with SSAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls.
- Obtain an understanding of internal controls relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal controls.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Manager.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Manager's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Fund to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Manager regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal controls that we identify during our audit.

KPMG LLP
*Public Accountants and
Chartered Accountants*

Singapore
27 March 2024

SCHRODER EMERGING MARKETS FUND*(a sub-fund of Schroder International Choice Portfolio)**Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore on 25 May 1998***STATEMENT OF TOTAL RETURN***For the financial year ended 31 December 2023*

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Expenses			
Trustee fees	10	60,319	57,155
Valuation fees	10	26,668	25,232
Audit fees		11,737	14,659
Transaction costs		361	637
Others		15,557	23,362
		114,642	121,045
Net expense		(114,642)	(121,045)
Net gains or losses on value of investments and financial derivatives			
Net gains/(losses) on investments		7,835,055	(39,258,435)
Net losses on spot foreign exchange contracts		(41,169)	(25,598)
Net foreign exchange gains		30,231	9,632
		7,824,117	(39,274,401)
Total return/(deficit) for the year		7,709,475	(39,395,446)

SCHRODER EMERGING MARKETS FUND*(a sub-fund of Schroder International Choice Portfolio)**Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore on 25 May 1998***STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION***As at 31 December 2023*

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
ASSETS			
Portfolio of investments		160,614,108	137,521,594
Bank balances	10	1,926,927	1,810,085
Receivables	4	2,039,907	716,902
Total assets		164,580,942	140,048,581
LIABILITIES			
Purchases awaiting settlement		726,082	501,103
Payables	5	480,404	158,781
Financial derivatives	6	864	-
Total liabilities		1,207,350	659,884
EQUITY			
Net assets attributable to unitholders	7	163,373,592	139,388,697

SCHRODER EMERGING MARKETS FUND*(a sub-fund of Schroder International Choice Portfolio)**Constituted under a Trust Deed in the Republic of Singapore on 25 May 1998***STATEMENT OF MOVEMENTS OF UNITHOLDERS' FUNDS***For the financial year ended 31 December 2023*

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Net assets attributable to unitholders at the beginning of the financial year		139,388,697	158,152,781
Operations			
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders resulting from operations		7,709,475	(39,395,446)
Unitholders' contributions/(withdrawals)			
Creation of units		34,664,481	31,627,716
Cancellation of units		(18,389,061)	(10,996,354)
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders resulting from net creation and cancellation of units		16,275,420	20,631,362
Total increase/(decrease) in net assets attributable to unitholders		23,984,895	(18,764,084)
Net assets attributable to unitholders at the end of the financial year	7	163,373,592	139,388,697

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STATEMENT OF PORTFOLIO
As at 31 December 2023

Primary

	Holdings at 31 Dec 2023	Fair value at 31 Dec 2023 \$	Percentage of total net assets attributable to unitholders at 31 Dec 2023 %
By geography			
Quoted			
Collective investment scheme			
LUXEMBOURG (country of domicile) Schroder Intl Selection Fund - Emerging Markets A Accumulation Share Class	7,644,519	160,614,108	98.31
Portfolio of investments		160,614,108	98.31
Other net assets		2,759,484	1.69
Net assets attributable to unitholders		163,373,592	100.00

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STATEMENT OF PORTFOLIO
As at 31 December 2023

Primary (continued)

	Percentage of total net assets attributable to unitholders at 31 Dec 2023 %	Percentage of total net assets attributable to unitholders at 31 Dec 2022 %
By geography (summary)		
Quoted		
Luxembourg	98.31	98.66
Portfolio of investments	98.31	98.66
Other net assets	1.69	1.34
Net assets attributable to unitholders	100.00	100.00

As the Fund invests wholly into an underlying collective investment scheme, it is not meaningful to show any secondary segmentation analysis.

SCHRODER EMERGING MARKETS FUND

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2023

These notes form an integral part of and should be read in conjunction with the accompanying financial statements.

1. General

Schroder Emerging Markets Fund (the “Fund”) is a sub-fund of Schroder International Choice Portfolio, a Singapore umbrella fund constituted by a Deed of Trust dated 25 May 1998 (and as amended, restated and supplemented from time to time) (thereafter referred to as “Trust Deed”). The Trust Deed is governed in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Singapore. The Manager of the Fund is Schroder Investment Management (Singapore) Ltd and the Trustee is HSBC Institutional Trust Services (Singapore) Limited.

The Fund, which was launched on 6 April 2000, invests substantially into the Schroder International Selection Fund - Emerging Markets (the “Underlying Fund”), whose investment objective is to provide capital growth by investing in equity and equity related securities of emerging markets companies. The benchmark of the Underlying Fund is MSCI Emerging Markets Net TR.

2. Material accounting policies

2.1 Changes in material accounting policies - material accounting policy information

The Fund adopted Amendments to FRS 1: *Presentation of Financial Statements* for the first time for the annual period beginning 1 January 2023. Although the amendments did not result in any changes to the accounting policies themselves, they impacted the accounting policy information disclosed in the financial statements.

The amendments require the disclosure of ‘material’, rather than ‘significant’ accounting policies. The amendments also provide guidance on the application of materiality to disclosure of accounting policies, assisting entities to provide useful, entity-specific accounting policy information that users need to understand other information in the financial statements.

Management reviewed the accounting policies and made updates to the information disclosed in Material accounting policies (2022: Significant accounting policies) in certain instances in line with the amendments.

2.2 The accounting policies set out below have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements, except as explained in note 2.1, which addressed changes in material accounting policies. The Fund has applied new FRSs, amendments to and interpretations of the FRSs that became effective for the annual period beginning on 1 January 2023. Other than described in note 2.1, the application of these new FRSs, amendments to and interpretations of the FRSs does not have a material effect on the Fund’s financial statements.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2023

2. Material accounting policies (continued)

(a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss, and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Accounting Practice 7 “Reporting Framework for Investment Funds” (“RAP 7”) revised and issued by the Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants.

(b) Recognition of income

Interest income on deposits is recognised on a time proportion basis using the effective interest method.

(c) Investments

Investments are classified as financial assets held at fair value through profit or loss. Purchases of investments are recognised on trade date. Investments are recorded at fair value on initial recognition, and subsequently carried at fair value. The fair value of investments in underlying fund is based on the quoted net asset value of the underlying fund on the reporting date. Net changes in fair value of investments are included in the Statement of Total Return in the year in which they arise.

Investments are derecognised on the trade date of disposal. Net gains or losses on investments are taken up in the Statement of Total Return.

(d) Receivables

Receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. Receivables are initially recognised at their fair value and subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less accumulated impairment losses.

(e) Sales and purchases awaiting settlement

Sales and purchases awaiting settlement represent receivables for securities sold and payables for securities purchased that have been contracted for but not yet settled or delivered on the statement of financial position date respectively. These amounts are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost.

(f) Bank balances

Bank balances comprise cash at banks which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2023

2. Material accounting policies (continued)

(g) Payables

Payables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently stated at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

(h) Foreign currency translation

The Fund may hold assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than Singapore dollars. The financial statements are presented in Singapore dollars, which is the Fund's functional and presentation currency.

Foreign currency transactions during the year are translated into Singapore dollars at the rates of exchange ruling on the transaction dates. Foreign currency monetary assets and liabilities are translated into Singapore dollars at the rates of exchange ruling at the reporting date. Foreign exchange gains or losses resulting from the settlement of foreign currency transactions and from the translation at year end exchange rates of foreign currency monetary assets and liabilities, are taken to the Statement of Total Return.

(i) Financial derivatives

Financial derivatives are recognised at fair value on the date in which a financial derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently re-measured at their fair values. Fair values are obtained from quoted market prices in active markets, including recent market transactions. A financial derivative is carried as an asset when its fair value is positive, and as a liability when its fair value is negative.

Net gains or losses on financial derivatives held for protection or enhancement of investments are taken to the Statement of Total Return as gains or losses on financial derivatives.

(j) Offsetting financial instruments

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the Statement of Financial Position when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously. The legally enforceable right must not be contingent on future events and must be enforceable in the normal course of business and in the event of default, insolvency or bankruptcy of the Fund or the counterparty.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the financial year ended 31 December 2023

2. Material accounting policies (continued)

(k) Structured entities

A structured entity is an entity that has been designed so that voting or similar rights are not the dominant factor in deciding who controls the entity, such as when any voting rights relate to administrative tasks only and the relevant activities are directed by means of contractual arrangements. A structured entity often has some or all of the following features or attributes: (a) restricted activities, (b) a narrow and well-defined objective, such as to provide investment opportunities for investors by passing on risks and rewards associated with the assets of the structured entity to investors, (c) insufficient equity to permit the structured entity to finance its activities without subordinated financial support and (d) financing in the form of multiple contractually linked instruments to investors that create concentrations of credit or other risks (tranches).

The Fund considers its investment in the Underlying Fund to be investment in unconsolidated structured entities. The Fund invests in the Underlying Fund whose objectives range from achieving short to long term capital growth and whose investment strategy does not include the use of leverage. The Underlying Fund is managed by related asset managers and applies various investment strategies to accomplish its respective investment objectives. The Underlying Fund finances its operations by issuing redeemable shares which are puttable at the holder's option and entitles the holder to a proportional stake in the respective fund's net assets. The Fund holds redeemable shares in the Underlying Fund.

The change in fair value of the Underlying Fund is included in the net gains or losses on investments taken up in the Statement of Total Return as described in Note 2(c).

3. Income tax

The Fund has been approved by the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) under the Enhanced-Tier Fund (ETF) Scheme (section 13U of the Income Tax Act 1947 and the relevant regulations). Subject to certain conditions being met on an annual basis, the Fund enjoys Singapore corporate income tax exemption on "specified income" derived from "designated investments" for the life of the Fund. The tax exemption does not apply in the year when the relevant conditions are not met. Losses from "designated investments" are correspondingly disregarded. The terms "specified income" and "designated investments" are defined in the relevant income tax regulations.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 For the financial year ended 31 December 2023

4. Receivables

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Amount receivable for creation of units	2,035,355	712,746
GST receivable	4,505	4,097
Other	47	59
	<u>2,039,907</u>	<u>716,902</u>

5. Payables

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Amount payable for cancellation of units	454,241	124,594
Accrued trustee fees	4,921	4,699
Accrued valuation fees	1,995	1,920
Other accrued expenses	19,247	27,568
	<u>480,404</u>	<u>158,781</u>

6. Financial derivatives

Financial derivative contracts comprise spot foreign exchange contracts due for settlement or contractual re-pricing within 3 months (2022: Nil) from the reporting date. The contracted or underlying principal amounts of these financial derivatives and their corresponding gross fair values at the reporting date are analysed below.

	Notional amount	Fair value liabilities
	\$	\$
<u>2023</u>		
Contracts:		
Spot foreign exchange	<u>726,082</u>	<u>864</u>

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7. Units in issue

	2023	2022
	Units	Units
At the beginning of the financial year	82,155,294	70,773,081
Created	19,728,612	17,239,711
Cancelled	(10,457,843)	(5,857,498)
At the end of the financial year	91,426,063	82,155,294
	\$	\$
Net assets attributable to unitholders	163,373,592	139,388,697
Net assets attributable to unitholders per unit	1.79	1.70

There is no difference between the net assets attributable to unitholders per unit per the financial statements and the net assets attributable to unitholders per unit for issuing/redeeming of units.

8. Financial risk management

The Fund's activities expose it to a variety of risks including but not limited to market risk (including price risk, interest rate risk and currency risk), liquidity risk and credit risk. The Manager does not consider these risks to be wholly identical to the risks of the Underlying Fund which is managed by Schroder Investment Management (Europe) SA.

The overall responsibility for the management of the Fund's financial risks lies with the Manager whom, among other things, will regularly assess the economic condition, monitor changes in market outlook and take appropriate measures accordingly to manage the Fund's exposure to these risks. The Manager may from time to time employ derivatives including but not limited to options, futures and currency forwards, subject to the terms of the Trust Deed, for the purpose of efficient portfolio management.

The data used and assumptions made in the sensitivity analyses below may not reflect actual market conditions, nor is it representative of any potential future market conditions. The sensitivity analyses can be complex and the disclosures made here are not exhaustive. The market exposures change regularly and the assumptions made below may not be representative of the risk taken throughout the year. The sensitivity analyses below should not be solely relied upon by investors in their investment decision making.

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8. Financial risk management (continued)

(a) Market risk

Market risk is the risk of potential adverse changes to the value of financial instruments because of changes in market conditions such as interest rate and currency rate movements and volatility in security prices.

At reporting date, the Fund's assets principally consist of investments into an Underlying Fund (as disclosed in the Statement of Portfolio) and bank balances. The investment objective of the Underlying Fund is disclosed in Note 1.

The Fund's investment in the Underlying Fund is subject to the fluctuations in the quoted net asset value of the Underlying Fund. Such risk is primarily managed by the respective manager of the Underlying Fund. The Manager monitors the performance of the Fund on a regular basis, so as to assess changes in fundamentals and valuation. The Manager may also select other financial instruments within the investment guidelines as set out in the Fund's Trust Deed.

The Fund's exposure to market risks are discussed below:

(i) Price risk

The table below summarises the potential impact of increases/decreases in the quoted net asset value of the Underlying Fund on the Fund's net assets attributable to unitholders at reporting date. The analysis is based on the assumption that the quoted net asset value of the Underlying Fund increases/decreases by a reasonable possible shift with all other variables held constant. This represents the Manager's best estimate of a reasonable possible shift having regard to the historical movement in the quoted net asset value of the Underlying Fund in its denominated currency.

	2023		2022
Reasonable possible change	Impact on net assets attributable to unitholders	Reasonable possible change	Impact on net assets attributable to unitholders
%	\$	%	\$
8	12,849,129	10	13,752,159

The disclosure above is shown in absolute terms, changes and impacts could be positive or negative.

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8. Financial risk management (continued)

(a) Market risk (continued)

(ii) Interest rate risk

The majority of the Fund's financial assets and liabilities are non-interest bearing; as a result, the Fund is not subject to significant amounts of risk due to fluctuations in the prevailing levels of market interest rates. Hence, no interest rate sensitivity analysis is presented.

(iii) Currency risk

The Fund may hold monetary and non-monetary assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than Singapore dollars. Consequently, the Fund may be exposed to currency risk since the value of these assets and liabilities denominated in other currencies will fluctuate due to changes in exchange rates. The Manager monitors the exposure on all foreign currency denominated assets and liabilities and may manage the currency risks by hedging some or all of the currency risk exposure through derivatives such as forward currency contracts, currency futures, currency swap agreements or currency options.

The table below summarises the Fund's exposure to foreign currencies from its monetary and non-monetary assets and liabilities:

	As at 31 December 2023		
	SGD	USD	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Assets			
Portfolio of investments	-	160,614,108	160,614,108
Bank balances	1,926,804	123	1,926,927
Receivables	2,039,907	-	2,039,907
Total assets	3,966,711	160,614,231	164,580,942
Liabilities			
Purchases awaiting settlement	-	726,082	726,082
Payables	480,349	55	480,404
Total liabilities	480,349	726,137	1,206,486
Net financial assets	3,486,362	159,888,094	163,374,456
Currency spot	(726,946)	726,946	
Currency exposure	2,759,416	160,615,040	

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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8. Financial risk management (continued)

(a) Market risk (continued)

(iii) Currency risk (continued)

	As at 31 December 2022		
	SGD \$	USD \$	Total \$
Assets			
Portfolio of investments	-	137,521,594	137,521,594
Bank balances	1,809,320	765	1,810,085
Receivables	716,902	-	716,902
Total assets	2,526,222	137,522,359	140,048,581
Liabilities			
Purchases awaiting settlement	-	501,103	501,103
Payables	158,719	62	158,781
Total liabilities	158,719	501,165	659,884
Currency exposure	2,367,503	137,021,194	

The following table shows the sensitivity of the Fund's monetary and non-monetary assets and liabilities to foreign currency exposure should the currency increase or decrease against the Fund's functional currency with all other variables held constant.

Currency	2023		2022	
	Reasonable possible change %	Impact on net assets attributable to unitholders \$	Reasonable possible change %	Impact on net assets attributable to unitholders \$
USD	3	4,818,451	3	4,110,636

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8. Financial risk management (continued)

(b) Liquidity risk

The Fund's liquidity risk arises mainly from redemptions of units. The Fund invests the majority of its assets in liquid investments.

The Fund has the ability to borrow in the short-term for the purposes of meeting redemptions and short-term bridging requirements. Dedicated personnel are responsible for monitoring the Fund's liquidity position on a daily basis to ensure that sufficient cash resources and liquid assets are available to meet liabilities as and when they fall due.

Units are redeemable at the holder's option. However, the Manager also has the option to limit redemption requests to 10% of the total number of units then in issue on each dealing day, with the approval of the Trustee.

The table below analyses the Fund's financial liabilities into relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining period at the reporting date to the contractual maturity date. The amounts in the table are the contractual undiscounted cash flows. Balances due within 12 months approximate their carrying values as the impact of discounting is not significant.

	2023	2022
	Less than	Less than
	3 months	3 months
	\$	\$
Purchases awaiting settlement	726,082	501,103
Payables	480,404	158,781
Financial derivatives	864	-

All financial derivatives are disclosed above based on fair value as at the reporting date. Spot foreign exchange contracts are settled based on contractual notional amounts on settlement date. The notional amounts of all financial derivatives are disclosed in Note 6.

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8. Financial risk management (continued)

(c) Credit risk

The Fund takes on exposure to credit risk, which is the risk that a counterparty will be unable to pay amounts in full when due, including transactions with counterparties such as issuers, brokers, custodians and banks.

Impairment allowances are made for losses that have been incurred by the reporting date, if any. The Manager has in place procedures for proper credit screening and monitoring of credit risk, including the use of approved counterparties with credit limits set and subject to specified financial strength criteria. Exposure against all counterparties is then monitored on a daily basis.

The Fund measures credit risk and expected credit losses using probability of default, exposure at default and loss given default, considering both historical analysis and forward looking information in determining any expected credit loss. As at 31 December 2023 and 31 December 2022, the Fund's financial assets (except portfolio of investments and/or financial derivatives) as disclosed in the Statement of Financial Position are realised within three months. The Manager considers the probability of default to be close to zero as the counterparties have a strong capacity to meet their contractual obligations in the near term. As a result, no loss allowance has been recognised based on 12-month expected credit losses as any such impairment would be wholly insignificant to the Fund.

All transactions in quoted securities are settled/paid upon delivery using approved brokers. The risk of default is deemed to be low, as delivery of securities is only made once the broker has received payment. Payment is made on a purchase once the securities have been received by the broker. The trade will fail if either party fails to meet its obligation.

The Fund's exposure to credit risk arises mainly from its bank balances and assets held with custodians and counterparties. The table below summarises the credit rating of banks, custodians and counterparties with whom the Fund's assets are held as at reporting date.

As at 31 December 2023	Credit rating	Source of credit rating
<u>Bank & Custodian</u>		
The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited	a2	Moody's
<u>Counterparty</u>		
The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited	a2	Moody's

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 For the financial year ended 31 December 2023

8. Financial risk management (continued)

(c) Credit risk (continued)

As at 31 December 2022	Credit rating	Source of credit rating
<u>Bank & Custodian</u>		
The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited	a2	Moody's

The credit rating shown is the Baseline Credit Assessment rating as published by Moody's.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date is the carrying amount of the financial assets.

The custodian of the Underlying Fund is J.P. Morgan SE, Luxembourg Branch (the "underlying custodian"). As at 31 December 2023, the underlying custodian is rated A+ (2022: A+) based on the Long Term Issuer Credit rating by Standard & Poor's.

(d) Fair value estimation

The fair value of financial instruments is based on quoted market prices as at the reporting date. The quoted market price used for the underlying funds is the quoted net asset value of the underlying fund as determined by the underlying fund's administrator and the quoted market price used for other financial assets is the current bid price; the appropriate quoted market price used for financial liabilities is the current asking price.

The Fund classifies fair value measurements using a fair value hierarchy that reflects the significance of the inputs used in making the measurements. The fair value hierarchy has the following levels:

Level 1: Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (that is, as prices) or indirectly (that is, derived from prices)

Level 3: Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (that is, unobservable inputs)

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8. Financial risk management (continued)

(d) Fair value estimation (continued)

The following table analyses within the fair value hierarchy the Fund's financial instruments measured at fair value at reporting date:

	As at 31 December 2023			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Assets				
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss				
Collective investment scheme	160,614,108	-	-	160,614,108
Liabilities				
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss				
Financial derivatives	-	864	-	864

	As at 31 December 2022			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Assets				
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss				
Collective investment scheme	137,521,594	-	-	137,521,594

Investments in open-ended investment funds whose net asset value is struck daily, price information is published and readily available and units are subscribed and redeemable on demand at the published price, are classified within level 1. The quoted price for these financial instruments is not adjusted.

Financial instruments that trade in markets not considered to be active but are valued based on quoted market prices, dealer quotations or alternative pricing sources supported by observable inputs are classified within level 2. These include over-the-counter derivatives.

There are no financial instruments classified within level 3.

Except for bank balances which are classified as level 1, the Fund's assets and liabilities not measured at fair value at reporting date have been classified as level 2. The carrying amounts of these assets and liabilities approximate their fair values as at the reporting date.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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8. Financial risk management (continued)

(e) Offsetting financial assets and financial liabilities

The following tables present the Fund's financial assets and liabilities subject to offsetting, enforceable master netting arrangements or similar agreements.

The gross and net positions of financial assets and liabilities that have been offset in the Statement of Financial Position are disclosed in the first three columns of the tables below.

	2023	Gross amounts of recognised financial liabilities \$	Gross amounts of recognised financial assets set-off in the Statement of Financial Position \$	Net amounts of financial liabilities presented in the Statement of Financial Position \$	Related amounts not set-off in the Statement of Financial Position		
					Financial instruments \$	Cash collateral \$	Net amount \$
Contracts:							
Spot foreign exchange		864	-	864	-	-	864

(f) Capital management

The Fund's capital is represented by the net assets attributable to unitholders. The Fund strives to invest the subscriptions of units in investments that meet the Fund's investment objectives while maintaining sufficient liquidity to meet unitholder redemptions.

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9. Interests in unconsolidated structured entities

The Fund's investment in the Underlying Fund is subject to the terms and conditions of the offering documentation and is susceptible to market price risk arising from uncertainties about future values of the Underlying Fund. The Manager makes investment decisions after extensive due diligence of the Underlying Fund, its investment strategies and the overall quality of the Underlying Fund's manager. The Underlying Fund in the investment portfolio is managed by portfolio managers who are compensated by the respective Underlying Fund for their services. Such compensation generally consists of an asset based fee and is reflected in the valuation of the Fund's investments in the Underlying Fund.

The Fund has right to request redemption of its investments in the Underlying Fund on a daily basis.

The exposure to investments in the Underlying Fund at fair value is disclosed under the Statement of Portfolio. These investments are included within "Portfolio of investments" in the Statement of Financial Position.

The Fund's holding in the Underlying Fund, as a percentage of the Underlying Fund's total net asset value, will vary from time to time dependent on the volume of subscriptions and redemptions at the Underlying Fund level. It is possible that the Fund may, at any point in time, hold a majority of an Underlying Fund's total units in issue.

The Fund's maximum exposure to loss from its interests in the Underlying Fund is equal to the total fair value of its investments in the Underlying Fund.

Once the Fund has disposed of its shares in the Underlying Fund, the Fund ceases to be exposed to any risk from it.

10. Related party disclosure

The Manager of the Fund is Schroder Investment Management (Singapore) Ltd. The Trustee is HSBC Institutional Trust Services (Singapore) Limited. The Registrar for the Fund is The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited. Both Trustee and Registrar are subsidiaries of the HSBC Group. The management fees payable by the Fund to the Manager is currently waived by the Manager. The registration fees payable by the Fund to the Registrar has been waived by the Registrar. The trustee fees and valuation fees charged by the HSBC Group are shown in the Statement of Total Return.

As at reporting date, the Fund maintained with the HSBC Group, the following bank balances:

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Current accounts	1,926,927	1,810,085

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11. Financial ratios

	2023	2022
Expense ratio ¹ (excluding Underlying Fund's unaudited expense ratio)	0.08%	0.09%
Expense ratio ² (including Underlying Fund's unaudited expense ratio)	1.91%	1.92%
Turnover ratio ³	1.74%	-

¹ The expense ratio has been computed based on the guidelines laid down by the Investment Management Association of Singapore ("IMAS"). The calculation of the expense ratio was based on annualised total operating expenses divided by the average net asset value for the year. The total operating expenses do not include brokerage and other transaction costs, interest expense, distribution paid out to unitholders, foreign exchange gains/losses, front or back end loads arising from the purchase or sale of other funds and tax deducted at source or arising out of income received. The Fund does not pay any performance fee. The respective values used in the calculation of the expense ratio are disclosed below. The average net asset value is based on the daily balances.

Expense ratio calculations	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Total operating expenses	114,281	120,408
Average net asset value	151,562,866	141,044,034

² The expense ratio is the sum of the Fund's expense ratio and the Underlying Fund's unaudited expense ratio. The unaudited expense ratio of the Underlying Fund, a Luxembourg domiciled fund, is obtained from Schroder Investment Management (Europe) SA. There is no requirement for the expense ratio of this Luxembourg domiciled fund to be published or audited.

³ The portfolio turnover ratio is calculated in accordance with the formula stated in the Code on Collective Investment Schemes. The calculation of the portfolio turnover ratio was based on the lower value of purchases or sales of the underlying investments divided by the average daily net asset value.

Turnover ratio calculations	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Lower of purchases or sales	2,630,211 (sales)	- (sales)
Average net asset value	151,562,866	141,044,034

REPORT TO UNITHOLDERS

31 December 2023

The following is a report on the Schroder Emerging Markets Fund (the "Fund"):

1. The only security holding of the Fund as at 31 December 2023:

	Fair value \$	Percentage of total net assets attributable to unitholders %
Schroder Intl Selection Fund - Emerging Markets A Accumulation Share Class	160,614,108	98.31

The only security holding of the Fund as at 31 December 2022:

	Fair value \$	Percentage of total net assets attributable to unitholders %
Schroder Intl Selection Fund - Emerging Markets A Accumulation Share Class	137,521,594	98.66

The Fund was not invested in other unit trusts, mutual funds or collective investment schemes as at 31 December 2023 other than as stated in the Statement of Portfolio.

2. The Fund has the following exposure to financial derivatives as at 31 December 2023:

	Fair value \$	Percentage of total net assets attributable to unitholders %
Contracts:		
Spot foreign exchange	(864)	(*)

* Less than 0.01

The net loss on financial derivatives realised in the period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023 amounted to \$40,305.

The net loss on outstanding financial derivatives marked to market as at 31 December 2023 amounted to \$864.

REPORT TO UNITHOLDERS

31 December 2023

3. The Fund did not have any borrowings as at 31 December 2023.
4. The amount of subscriptions and redemptions in the period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023 were as follows:

	\$
Subscriptions	34,664,481
Redemptions	18,389,061

5. Expense Ratio (including Underlying Fund)

1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023	1.91%
1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022	1.92%

6. Turnover of Portfolio

1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023	1.74%
1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022	-

7. Soft dollar commissions/arrangements:

The Fund invests substantially into the Underlying Fund. In the management of the Underlying Fund, the manager may enter into soft dollar commission arrangements only where there is a direct and identifiable benefit to their clients, and where the manager is satisfied that the transactions generating the soft dollar commissions are made in good faith, in strict compliance with applicable regulatory requirements and in the best interests of the Underlying Fund on terms commensurate with best market practice.

In the management of the Fund, the Manager currently does not receive or enter into any soft dollar commissions or arrangements.

8. Related Party Transactions

In addition to the disclosure in Note 10 in the Notes to the Financial Statements, the management fees are chargeable by:

- i) Schroder Investment Management (Europe) SA as Management Company of the following Underlying Fund:

Underlying fund	Per annum of Net Asset Value
Schroder Intl Selection Fund - Emerging Markets A Acc	1.500%

REPORT TO UNITHOLDERS

31 December 2023

9. Performance of Fund for periods ended 31 December 2023

	3 mths	6 mths	1 yr	3 yrs*	5 yrs*	10 yrs*	Since Launch**
Fund	3.5%	-1.1%	5.3%	-8.3%	2.0%	2.3%	2.7%
Benchmark**	4.2%	2.1%	8.0%	-5.1%	3.0%	3.1%	4.5%

* Returns of more than 1 year are annualised

Since launch figures from 6 April 2000

** Benchmark: MSCI Emerging Markets Net TR

Source

Fund: Morningstar (\$, bid to bid, net income reinvested, net of fees)

Benchmark: Schroders (\$)

10. The Fund invests more than 30% of its assets in Schroder International Selection Fund - Emerging Markets A Accumulation Share Class. The following are the key information on the Underlying Fund:

i. Top 10 holdings as at 31 December 2023:

	Market value US\$	Percentage of total net assets %
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co Ltd	498,899,413	9.98
Samsung Electronics Co Ltd	334,932,472	6.70
Tencent Hldg Ltd	222,955,048	4.46
Alibaba Group Hldg Ltd	143,970,973	2.88
SK Hynix Inc	117,476,315	2.35
HDFC Bank Ltd	110,977,625	2.22
Axis Bank Ltd	103,479,137	2.07
Itau Unibanco Hldg SA	88,482,160	1.77
ICICI Bank Ltd	83,483,168	1.67
MediaTek Inc	83,483,168	1.67

REPORT TO UNITHOLDERS

31 December 2023

Top 10 holdings as at 31 December 2022:

	Market value US\$	Percentage of total net assets %
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co Ltd	356,622,650	8.43
Samsung Electronics Co Ltd	257,208,269	6.08
Tencent Hldg Ltd	225,480,275	5.33
ICICI Bank Ltd	107,875,179	2.55
JD.com Inc	106,606,059	2.52
HDFC Bank Ltd	104,490,859	2.47
AIA Group Ltd	100,683,500	2.38
Alibaba Group Hldg Ltd	89,684,462	2.12
Midea Group Co Ltd	72,762,866	1.72
Tata Consultancy Services Ltd	62,186,868	1.47

ii. Expense Ratio

1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023	1.86%
1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022	1.86%

Brokerage and other transaction costs, performance fees, interest expense, foreign exchange gains/losses, front or back end loads arising from the purchase or sale of other funds, tax deducted at source or arising out of income received and dividends paid to unitholders are not included in the expense ratio.

iii. Turnover of Portfolio

1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023	47.57%
1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022	41.66%

