April 30, 2023

# Semiannual Report to Shareholders

**DWS Emerging Markets Equity Fund** 



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This report must be preceded or accompanied by a prospectus. To obtain a summary prospectus, if available, or prospectus for any of our funds, refer to the Account Management Resources information provided in the back of this booklet. We advise you to consider the Fund's objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. The summary prospectus and prospectus contain this and other important information about the Fund. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.

Stocks may decline in value. Investing in foreign securities presents certain risks, such as currency fluctuations, political and economic changes, and market risks. Emerging markets tend to be more volatile and less liquid than the markets of more mature economies, and generally have less diverse and less mature economic structures and less stable political systems than those of developed countries. The Fund may lend securities to approved institutions. Please read the prospectus for details.

War, terrorism, sanctions, economic uncertainty, trade disputes, public health crises, natural disasters, climate change and related geopolitical events have led, and, in the future, may lead, to significant disruptions in U.S. and world economies and markets, which may lead to increased market volatility and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments.

The brand DWS represents DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA and any of its subsidiaries such as DWS Distributors, Inc. which offers investment products or DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. and RREEF America L.L.C. which offer advisory services.

NOT FDIC/NCUA INSURED NO BANK GUARANTEE MAY LOSE VALUE NOT A DEPOSIT NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY

## Letter to Shareholders

#### Dear Shareholder:

This past year can be described as one where there were major structural disruptions and challenges impacting financial markets: record high inflation; end of ultra-loose monetary policy; impact of slower growth in China; ongoing political attacks on global trade; demographic change profoundly affecting more and more countries; and finally, the Ukraine conflict, the future course of which continues to be highly unpredictable.

It is therefore apparent that there will be no lack of challenges for investors in 2023. With looming recession concerns in the U.S. and Europe, we believe the prospects for equity returns will be challenging in 2023. Further, aggressive tightening by the Federal Reserve and international monetary authorities has increased pressure on banks and their ability to lend, and also negatively impacted the performance of fixed income securities. Inflation continues to remain above monetary authority targets, however there is early evidence that rate hikes by the Federal Reserve are beginning to take effect and cool the pace of rising prices.

Consequently, we believe that it is important for investors to diversify their investments given the level of volatility in markets. Balanced portfolios can help mitigate the negative impact of unexpected economic, geopolitical, and market events. While investment objectives are unique to each investor, we do believe there may be benefits to owning corporate and government bonds given their potential for yield as well as holding equities for their ability to counter the negative effects of persistent inflation.

In our view, these factors of market volatility, unpredictable economic events, and complex geo-political forces strongly underscore the value add of active portfolio management. The partnership between our portfolio managers and our CIO Office — which synthesizes the views of more than 900 DWS economists, analysts and investment professionals around the world — makes an important difference in making strategic and tactical decisions for the DWS Funds. Thank you for your trust. For ongoing updates to our market and economic outlook, please visit the "Insights" section of dws.com.

Best regards,

Hepsen Uzcan President, DWS Funds

Assumptions, estimates and opinions contained in this document constitute our judgment as of the date of the document and are subject to change without notice. Any projections are based on a number of assumptions as to market conditions and there can be no guarantee that any projected results will be achieved. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.

<b>Performance</b>	Summary
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April 30, 2023 (Unaudited)

			,	
Class A	6-Month‡	1-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Average Annual Total Returns as of 4/30/23				
Unadjusted for Sales Charge	14.64%	-7.01%	-2.95%	1.12%
Adjusted for the Maximum Sales Charge (max 5.75% load)	8.05%	-12.36%	-4.10%	0.52%
MSCI Emerging Markets Index†	16.36%	-6.51%	-1.05%	1.80%
Average Annual Total Returns as of 3/31/23 (	most recent	calendar qua	arter end)	
Unadjusted for Sales Charge		-10.64%	-2.64%	1.57%
Adjusted for the Maximum Sales Charge (max 5.75% load)		-15.78%	-3.79%	0.97%
MSCI Emerging Markets Index†		-10.70%	-0.91%	2.00%
Class C	6-Month‡	1-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Average Annual Total Returns as of 4/30/23				
Unadjusted for Sales Charge	14.29%	-7.69%	-3.68%	0.36%
Adjusted for the Maximum Sales Charge (max 1.00% CDSC)	13.29%	-7.69%	-3.68%	0.36%
MSCI Emerging Markets Index†	16.36%	-6.51%	-1.05%	1.80%
Average Annual Total Returns as of 3/31/23 (	most recent	calendar qua	arter end)	
Unadjusted for Sales Charge		-11.27%	-3.38%	0.81%
Adjusted for the Maximum Sales Charge (max 1.00% CDSC)		-11.27%	-3.38%	0.81%
MSCI Emerging Markets Index <sup>†</sup>		-10.70%	-0.91%	2.00%
Class R6		6-Month‡	1-Year	Life of Class*

Class R6	6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	Life of Class*
Average Annual Total Returns as of 4/30/23			
No Sales Charges	14.83%	-6.77%	-0.69%
MSCI Emerging Markets Index†	16.36%	-6.51%	1.46%
Average Annual Total Returns as of 3/31/23	(most recent calendar qu	arter end)	
No Sales Charges		-10.41%	-0.08%
MSCI Emerging Markets Index†		-10.70%	1.74%

Class S	6-Month <sup>‡</sup>	1-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Average Annual Total Returns as of 4/30/23				
No Sales Charges	14.73%	-6.85%	-2.78%	1.33%
MSCI Emerging Markets Index†	16.36%	-6.51%	-1.05%	1.80%
Average Annual Total Returns as of 3/31/23 (r	most recent c	alendar qua	arter end)	
No Sales Charges		-10.48%	-2.48%	1.77%
MSCI Emerging Markets Index†		-10.70%	-0.91%	2.00%

Institutional Class	6-Month‡	1-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Average Annual Total Returns as of 4/30/23				
No Sales Charges	14.85%	-6.78%	-2.71%	1.37%
MSCI Emerging Markets Index†	16.36%	-6.51%	-1.05%	1.80%
Average Annual Total Returns as of 3/31/23 (n	most recent c	alendar qua	arter end)	
No Sales Charges		-10.42%	-2.41%	1.82%
MSCI Emerging Markets Index†		-10.70%	-0.91%	2.00%

Performance in the Average Annual Total Returns table(s) above and the Growth of an Assumed \$10,000 Investment line graph that follows is historical and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal fluctuate, so your shares may be worth more or less when redeemed. Current performance may differ from performance data shown. Please visit dws.com for the Fund's most recent month-end performance. Fund performance includes reinvestment of all distributions. Unadjusted returns do not reflect sales charges and would have been lower if they had.

The gross expense ratios of the Fund, as stated in the fee table of the prospectus dated March 1, 2023 are 1.36%, 2.05%, 0.98%, 1.13% and 1.02% for Class A, Class C, Class R6, Class S and Institutional Class shares, respectively, and may differ from the expense ratios disclosed in the Financial Highlights tables in this report.

Index returns do not reflect any fees or expenses and it is not possible to invest directly into an index

Performance figures do not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on fund distributions or the redemption of fund shares.

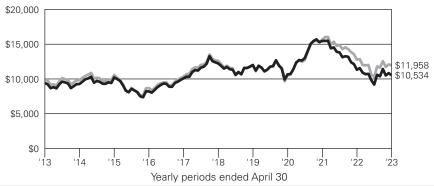
Generally accepted accounting principles require adjustments to be made to the net assets of the Fund at period end for financial reporting purposes only, and as such, the total return based on the unadjusted net asset value per share may differ from the total return reported in the financial highlights.

#### Growth of an Assumed \$10,000 Investment

(Adjusted for Maximum Sales Charge)

#### ■ DWS Emerging Markets Equity Fund — Class A

#### ■ MSCI Emerging Markets Index<sup>†</sup>



The Fund's growth of an assumed \$10,000 investment is adjusted for the maximum sales charge of 5.75%. This results in a net initial investment of \$9,425.

The growth of \$10,000 is cumulative.

Performance of other share classes will vary based on the sales charges and the fee structure of those classes.

- \* Class R6 shares commenced operations on September 7, 2018.
- <sup>†</sup> The MSCI Emerging Markets Index is an unmanaged equity index which captures large and mid-capitalization representation across 24 emerging markets countries. It covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.
- <sup>‡</sup> Total returns shown for periods less than one year are not annualized.

	Class A	Class C	Class R6	Class S	Institutional Class
Net Asset Value					
4/30/23	\$16.46	\$14.66	\$16.68	\$16.68	\$16.66
10/31/22	\$14.64	\$12.99	\$14.85	\$14.85	\$14.83
<b>Distribution Information</b> as of 4/3	0/23				
Income Dividends, Six Months	\$ .32	\$ .17	\$ .37	\$ .35	\$ .37

# **Portfolio Management Team**

#### Sean Taylor, Chief Investment Officer APAC

Lead Portfolio Manager of the Fund through June 30, 2023. Began managing the Fund in 2014.

- Global Head of Emerging Markets Equities: Hong Kong.
- Joined DWS in 2013 with 21 years of industry experience. Prior to his current role, he served as Investment Director at GAM, based in London and Dubai, and Head of International & Emerging Markets at Societe Generale.
- MBA, Manchester Business School.

Effective April 25, 2023, the portfolio management team is as follows:

#### Sean Taylor, Chief Investment Officer APAC

Lead Portfolio Manager of the Fund through June 30, 2023. Began managing the Fund in 2014

- Global Head of Emerging Markets Equities: Hong Kong.
- Joined DWS in 2013 with 21 years of industry experience. Prior to his current role, he served as Investment Director at GAM, based in London and Dubai, and Head of International & Emerging Markets at Societe Generale.
- MBA, Manchester Business School.

#### Linus Kwan, CFA, Senior Portfolio Manager and Team Lead Equity Portfolio Manager of the Fund, Began managing the Fund in 2023.

- Senior Portfolio Manager Equity: Hong Kong.
- Joined DWS in 2016 with 16 years of industry experience. Prior to joining, he served as portfolio manager of various Asian and emerging markets funds at DNB Asset Management (Asia). Before this, he managed a regional long/short portfolio at Calypso Capital. Previously, he managed a pacific rim fund and had been a research analyst for China equities at Lombard Odier Darier Hentsch.
- BA in English & Translation and MBA from The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

## Cecilia Lau, Portfolio Manager and Research Analyst

Portfolio Manager of the Fund. Began managing the Fund in 2023.

- Portfolio Manager and Research Analyst Equity: Hong Kong.
- Joined DWS in 2019. Prior to her current role, she completed the DWS graduate
- BSc in Risk Management and Business Intelligence from Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

# **Portfolio Summary**

Asset Allocation (As a % of Net Assets)

(Unaudited)

10/31/22

100%

4/30/23

100%

Equity Securities	91%	85%
Cash Equivalents and Other Assets and Liabilities, Net	9%	11%
Exchange-Traded Funds	_	4%
	100%	100%
Sector Diversification (As a % of Equity Securities)	4/30/23	10/31/22
Financials	26%	33%
Consumer Discretionary	20%	18%
Information Technology	19%	19%
Communication Services	13%	7%
Consumer Staples	8%	6%
Industrials	5%	5%
Materials	4%	4%
Health Care	2%	_
Energy	2%	7%
Real Estate	1%	1%

Geographical Diversification (As a % of Equity Securities

and Exchange-Traded Funds)	4/30/23	10/31/22
China	36%	27%
India	17%	21%
Korea	13%	11%
Taiwan	9%	10%
Brazil	6%	7%
Hong Kong	5%	6%
South Africa	4%	4%
Indonesia	3%	5%
Mexico	3%	2%
United States	2%	_
Chile	1%	1%
Macau	1%	0%
Saudi Arabia	_	4%
Others	_	2%
	100%	100%

#### Ten Largest Equity Holdings at April 30, 2023

42.1% of Net Assets)	•	Country	Percent
1 Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. Manufacturer of electronic parts		Korea	8.1%
2 Tencent Holdings Ltd. Provider of Internet, mobile, and teleservices	ecommunication value-added	China	7.9%
3 Taiwan Semiconductor Manufactu Manufacturer of integrated circuits a semiconductor devices		Taiwan	6.5%
<b>4 ICICI Bank Ltd.</b> Specializes in retail and corporate ba	ınking	India	4.0%
5 Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. Provider of internet infrastructure, el financial, and internet content service		China	3.0%
6 Ping An Insurance Group Co. of Cl Provider of variety of insurance serv		China	2.8%
7 Larsen & Toubro Ltd. Manufacturer of engineering equipm	nent	India	2.8%
8 Kweichow Moutai Co., Ltd. Manufacturer of spirits and markets	its products worldwide	China	2.5%
9 Fomento Economico Mexicano SA Produces, distributes and markets n owns and operates convenience sto	on-alcoholic beverage and	Mexico	2.3%
O HDFC Bank Ltd.  Provider of retail, corporate banking, capital markets services	custodial, treasury and	India	2.2%
, ,	,		

Portfolio holdings and characteristics are subject to change.

For more complete details about the Fund's investment portfolio, see page 10. A quarterly Fact Sheet is available on dws.com or upon request. Please see the Account Management Resources section on page 42 for contact information.

# **Investment Portfolio**

## as of April 30, 2023 (Unaudited)

	Shares	Value (\$)
Equity Securities 90.5%		
Brazil 5.8%		
Banco Bradesco SA (ADR)	666,210	1,865,390
Itaú Unibanco Holding SA (ADR) (Preferred)	464,387	2,391,593
Petroleo Brasileiro SA (ADR)	110,826	1,176,972
Vale SA (ADR)	209,961	3,025,538
(Cost \$6,344,446)	-	8,459,493
Chile 1.2%		
Antofagasta PLC (Cost \$1,360,238)	95,654	1,760,156
China 33.0%		
Air China Ltd. "H"*	2,354,000	2,080,841
Alibaba Group Holding Ltd.*	192,000	2,022,533
Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. (ADR)*	27,282	2,310,512
ANTA Sports Products Ltd.	127,400	1,578,252
Baidu, Inc. "A" *	81,200	1,214,638
BYD Co., Ltd. "H"	62,500	1,899,313
China Eastern Airlines Corp. Ltd. "H"*	2,102,000	827,659
China Merchants Bank Co., Ltd. "H"	604,500	2,917,071
China Tourism Group Duty Free Corp. Ltd. "A"	59,600	1,385,148
CSPC Pharmaceutical Group Ltd.	744,000	759,310
H World Group Ltd. (ADR)*	67,630	3,171,847
Kweichow Moutai Co., Ltd. "A"	14,300	3,639,806
Longfor Group Holdings Ltd. 144A	606,000	1,657,100
Meituan "B" 144A*	73,980	1,273,883
Ping An Insurance Group Co. of China Ltd. "H"	579,500	4,212,610
Tencent Holdings Ltd.	262,800	11,619,780
Tongcheng Travel Holdings Ltd.*	1,111,600	2,362,823
Trip.com Group Ltd. (ADR)* Yum China Holdings, Inc. (a)	40,568 35,607	1,440,570 2,178,436
(Cost \$44,450,407)	33,007	48,552,132
		40,552,132
Hong Kong 4.3%	272 200	2 000 005
AIA Group Ltd.	273,200	2,969,685
China Mengniu Dairy Co., Ltd.* Galaxy Entertainment Group Ltd.*	512,000 185,000	2,074,608 1,318,514
(Cost \$6,288,109)	.00,000	6,362,807
		0,002,007
India 15.0% Axis Bank Ltd.	277 006	2 024 051
Axis Bank Ltd.  Bharti Airtel Ltd.	277,906	2,934,051
Dilarti Airtei Etu.	314,892	3,085,073

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Shares	Value (\$)
HDFC Bank Ltd. (ADR)	46,031	3,212,964
ICICI Bank Ltd.	411,616	4,651,940
ICICI Bank Ltd. (ADR)	57,788	1,314,677
Larsen & Toubro Ltd.	141,384	4,093,246
Maruti Suzuki India Ltd.	10,439	1,102,590
Reliance Industries Ltd.	57,392	1,705,558
(Cost \$16,149,872)		22,100,099
Indonesia 2.6%		
PT Bank Central Asia Tbk	4,889,400	3,023,551
PT Elang Mahkota Teknologi Tbk	14,584,700	706,074
(Cost \$4,853,549)		3,729,625
Korea 11.6%		
Hyundai Motor Co.	6,972	1,034,344
KB Financial Group, Inc.	32,240	1,197,893
Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd.	240,955	11,862,963
Samsung SDI Co., Ltd.	3,990	2,072,654
SK Hynix, Inc.	13,760	927,627
(Cost \$13,061,670)		17,095,481
Macau 1.0%		
Sands China Ltd.* (Cost \$1,059,997)	393,600	1,402,827
Mexico 2.3%		
Fomento Economico Mexicano SAB de CV (ADR) (Cost \$2,548,823)	34,817	3,377,945
South Africa 3.9%		
Clicks Group Ltd.	78,036	1,144,466
FirstRand Ltd.	672,038	2,370,045
Naspers Ltd. "N"	12,336	2,198,992
(Cost \$6,309,486)		5,713,503
Taiwan 8.2%		
Fubon Financial Holding Co., Ltd.	827,320	1,593,969
MediaTek, Inc.	39,000	849,989
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., Ltd.	588,803	9,642,527
(Cost \$5,511,576)		12,086,485
United States 1.6%		
BeiGene Ltd. (ADR)* (Cost \$1,921,765)	9,286	2,367,558
Total Equity Securities (Cost \$109,859,938)		133,008,111

	Shares	Value (\$)
Cash Equivalents 3.3%  DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 4.81% (b) (Cost \$4,913,880)	4,913,880	4,913,880
	% of Net Assets	Value (\$)
Total Investment Portfolio (Cost \$114,773,818) Other Assets and Liabilities, Net	93.8	137,921,991 9.085,437
Net Assets	100.0	147,007,428

A summary of the Fund's transactions with affiliated investments during the period ended April 30, 2023 are as follows:

April 30, 20	iza are as to	ollows:		Net Change				
Value (\$) at 10/31/2022	Pur- chases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Real- ized Gain/ (Loss) (\$)	in Unreal- ized Appreci- ation (Depreci- ation) (\$)	Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distri- butions (\$)	Number of Shares at 4/30/2023	Value (\$) at 4/30/2023
Securities Lo	ending Colla	teral 0.0%						
DWS Govern 4.74% (b) (c)		ncy Securities P	ortfolio "	DWS Gove	rnment Ca	ish Institut	tional Shares"	,
3,430,908	_	3,430,908 (d)	_	_	13,733	_	_	_
Cash Equiva	lents 3.3%							
DWS Central	l Cash Manag	ement Governr	nent Fur	nd, 4.81% (k	o)			
7,794,443	67,292,768	70,173,331	_	_	115,975	_	4,913,880	4,913,880
11,225,351	67,292,768	73,604,239	_	_	129,708	_	4,913,880	4,913,880

Non-income producing security.

144A: Security exempt from registration under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933. These securities may be resold in transactions exempt from registration, normally to qualified institutional buyers.

ADR: American Depositary Receipt

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

<sup>(</sup>a) Listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

<sup>(</sup>b) Affiliated fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. The rate shown is the annualized seven-day yield at period end.

<sup>(</sup>c) Represents cash collateral held in connection with securities lending. Income earned by the Fund is net of borrower rebates.

<sup>(</sup>d) Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the period ended April 30, 2023.

#### Fair Value Measurements

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities. The following is a summary of the inputs used as of April 30, 2023 in valuing the Fund's investments. For information on the Fund's policy regarding the valuation of investments, please refer to the Security Valuation section of Note A in the accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

Assets	sets Level 1		Level 3	Total	
Equity Securities					
Brazil	\$ 8,459,493	\$ —	\$	\$ 8,459,493	
Chile	_	1,760,156	_	1,760,156	
China	9,101,365	39,450,767	_	48,552,132	
Hong Kong	_	6,362,807	_	6,362,807	
India	4,527,641	17,572,458	_	22,100,099	
Indonesia	_	3,729,625	_	3,729,625	
Korea	_	17,095,481	_	17,095,481	
Macau	_	1,402,827	_	1,402,827	
Mexico	3,377,945	_	_	3,377,945	
South Africa	_	5,713,503	_	5,713,503	
Taiwan	_	12,086,485	_	12,086,485	
United States	2,367,558	_	_	2,367,558	
Short-Term Investments	4,913,880	_	_	4,913,880	
Total	\$32,747,882	\$105,174,109	\$—	\$137,921,991	

## **Statement of Assets and Liabilities**

as of April 30, 2023 (Unaudited)

Assets	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$109,859,938)	\$ 133,008,111
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$4,913,880)	4,913,880
Foreign currency, at value (cost \$7,760,322)	7,772,083
Receivable for investments sold	1,466,012
Receivable for Fund shares sold	308,438
Dividends receivable	276,170
Interest receivable	10,576
Other assets	41,869
Total assets	147,797,139
Liabilities	
Cash overdraft	12
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	139,669
Deferred foreign taxes payable	397,360
Accrued management fee	67,883
Accrued Directors' fees	3,731
Other accrued expenses and payables	181,056
Total liabilities	789,711
Net assets, at value	\$ 147,007,428
Net Assets Consist of	
Distributable earnings (loss)	(66,302,106
Paid-in capital	213,309,534
Net assets, at value	\$ 147,007,428

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

## Statement of Assets and Liabilities as of April 30, 2023 (Unaudited) (continued)

Net Asset Value	
Class A  Net Asset Value and redemption price per share (\$8,734,838 ÷ 530,715 shares of capital stock outstanding, \$.01 par value, 50,000,000 shares authorized)	\$ 16.46
Maximum offering price per share (100 ÷ 94.25 of \$16.46)	\$ 17.46
Class C Net Asset Value, offering and redemption price (subject to contingent deferred sales charge) per share (\$4,659,792 ÷ 317,875 shares of capital stock outstanding, \$.01 par value, 20,000,000 shares authorized)	\$ 14.66
Class R6 Net Asset Value, offering and redemption price per share (\$430,711 ÷ 25,825 shares of capital stock outstanding, \$.01 par value, 50,000,000 shares authorized)	\$ 16.68
Class S Net Asset Value, offering and redemption price per share (\$42,396,272 ÷ 2,541,841 shares of capital stock outstanding, \$.01 par value, 100,000,000 shares authorized)	\$ 16.68
Institutional Class Net Asset Value, offering and redemption price per share (\$90,785,815 ÷ 5,450,027 shares of capital stock outstanding, \$.01 par value, 100,000,000 shares authorized)	\$ 16.66

# **Statement of Operations**

for the six months ended April 30, 2023 (Unaudited)

Investment Income	
Income: Dividends (net of foreign taxes withheld of \$146,692)	\$ 1,437,728
Non cash dividends	635,219
Interest	18,565
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	115,975
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	13,733
Total income	2,221,220
Expenses:	
Management fee	586,924
Administration fee	81,331
Services to shareholders	139,673
Distribution and service fees	31,358
Custodian fee	24,833
Professional fees	47,487
Reports to shareholders	23,412
Registration fees	38,272
Directors' fees and expenses	5,182
Other	21,527
Total expenses before expense reductions	999,999
Expense reductions	(190,350)
Total expenses after expense reductions	809,649
Net investment income	1,411,571
Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)	
Net realized gain (loss) from: Investments (including foreign taxes of \$212,208)	(11,230,883)
Foreign currency	(227,881)
	(11,458,764)
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on: Investments (including deferred foreign taxes of \$151,445)	35,220,225
Foreign currency	391,436
	35,611,661
Net gain (loss)	24,152,897
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	\$ 25,564,468

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# **Statements of Changes in Net Assets**

Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	Six Months Ended April 30, 2023 (Unaudited)	Year Ended October 31, 2022
Operations:		
Net investment income	\$ 1,411,571	\$ 6,665,661
Net realized gain (loss)	(11,458,764)	(43,818,698)
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	35,611,661	(78,273,241)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	25,564,468	(115,426,278)
Distributions to shareholders: Class A	(174,555)	(328,662)
ClassT	_	(193)
Class C	(40,853)	(41,960)
Class R6	(11,079)	(14,706)
Class S	(1,078,991)	(1,823,803)
Institutional Class	(2,371,479)	(5,056,645)
Total distributions	(3,676,957)	(7,265,969)
Fund share transactions:		
Proceeds from shares sold	20,559,394	80,172,889
Reinvestment of distributions	3,551,855	7,088,647
Payments for shares redeemed	(73,683,396)	(255,894,365)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Fund share transactions	(49,572,147)	(168,632,829)
Increase (decrease) in net assets	(27,684,636)	(291,325,076)
Net assets at beginning of period	174,692,064	466,017,140
Net assets at end of period	\$147,007,428	\$ 174,692,064

# **Financial Highlights**

## DWS Emerging Markets Equity Fund — Class A

Divo Lineignig Marke	Six Months Ended 4/30/23		Years Er	nded Oct	ober 31,	
	(Unaudited)	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Selected Per Share Data						
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$14.64	\$22.37	\$21.32	\$19.59	\$17.74	\$19.54
Income (loss) from investment operations:  Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.12	.37	.17	.14	.48	.19
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	2.02	(7.77)	1.14	1.96	1.47	(1.90)
Total from investment operations	2.14	(7.40)	1.31	2.10	1.95	(1.71)
Less distributions from: Net investment income	(.32)	(.33)	(.26)	(.37)	(.10)	(.09)
Net asset value, end of period	\$16.46	\$14.64	\$22.37	\$21.32	\$19.59	\$17.74
Total Return (%)b,c	14.64*	(33.54)	6.07	10.75	11.04	(8.79)
Ratios to Average Net Assets	and Supplemer	ntal Data				
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	9	8	23	18	23	9
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%)	1.45**	1.33	1.28	1.31	1.36	1.55
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%)	1.15**	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.15
Ratio of net investment income (%)	1.08**	1.94	.68	.73	2.49	.98
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	35*	51	94	57	32	34

Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

b Total return does not reflect the effect of any sales charges.

С Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

Not annualized

Annualized

## DWS Emerging Markets Equity Fund — Class C

	Six Months Ended 4/30/23 (Unaudited)	2022	Years Er 2021	nded Oct	ober 31, 2019	2018
Selected Per Share Data						
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$12.99	\$19.85	\$18.92	\$17.38	\$15.77	\$17.43
Income (loss) from investment operations: Net investment income (loss) <sup>a</sup>	.05	.21	(.01)	(.00.)	· .26	.06
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	1.79	(6.92)	1.01	1.72	1.35	(1.72
Total from investment operations	1.84	(6.71)	1.00	1.72	1.61	(1.66
Less distributions from: Net investment income	(.17)	(.15)	(.07)	(.18)	_	_
Net asset value, end of period	\$14.66	\$12.99	\$19.85	\$18.92	\$17.38	\$15.77
Total Return (%) <sup>b,c</sup>	14.29**	(34.09)	5.32	9.89	10.21	(9.52
Ratios to Average Net Assets	and Supplemer	ıtal Data				
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	5	3	6	4	6	3
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%)	2.10***	2.02	1.99	2.02	2.08	2.26
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%)	1.90***	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.90
Ratio of net investment income (loss) (%)	.33***	1.28	(.05)	(.00.)	·*** 1.55	.31
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	35**	51	94	57	32	34

а Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

b Total return does not reflect the effect of any sales charges.

Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

Amount is less than \$.005.

Not annualized

Annualized

Amount is less than .005%.

## DWS Emerging Markets Equity Fund — Class R6

	Six Months Ended 4/30/23 (Unaudited)	Year 2022	rs Ended 2021	Octobei 2020	31, 2019	Period Ended 10/31/18 <sup>a</sup>
Selected Per Share Data						
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$14.85	\$22.70	\$21.63	\$19.87	\$17.99	\$18.68
Income (loss) from investment operations:  Net investment income <sup>b</sup>	.15	.45	.27	.19	.48	.02
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	2.05	(7.92)	1.12	2.00	1.54	(.71)
Total from investment operations	2.20	(7.47)	1.39	2.19	2.02	(.69)
Less distributions from: Net investment income	(.37)	(.38)	(.32)	(.43)	(.14)	_
Net asset value, end of period	\$16.68	\$14.85	\$22.70	\$21.63	\$19.87	\$17.99
Total Return (%) <sup>c</sup>	14.83*	(33.40)	6.36	11.06	11.32	(3.69)*
Ratios to Average Net Ass	sets and Suppler	nental Da	ata			
Net assets, end of period (\$ thousands)	431	460	846	126	25	10
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%)	1.05**	.95	.90	1.26	1.21	1.41**
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%)	.91**	.90	.90	.90	.90	.90**
Ratio of net investment income (%)	1.43**	2.34	1.11	.95	2.51	.63**
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	35*	51	94	57	32	34 <sup>d</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> For the period from September 7, 2018 (commencement of operations) to October 31, 2018.

b Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

d Represents the Fund's portfolio turnover rate for the year ended October 31, 2018.

<sup>\*</sup> Not annualized

<sup>\*\*</sup> Annualized

## DWS Emerging Markets Equity Fund — Class S

	Six Months nded 4/30/23		Years Er	Years Ended October 31,		
	(Unaudited)	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Selected Per Share Data						
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$14.85	\$22.69	\$21.63	\$19.87	\$18.00	\$19.82
Income (loss) from investment operations:						
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.14	.41	.19	.19	.48	.24
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	2.04	(7.88)	1.17	1.98	1.52	(1.93)
Total from investment operations	2.18	(7.47)	1.36	2.17	2.00	(1.69)
Less distributions from: Net investment income	(.35)	(.37)	(.30)	(.41)	(.13)	(.13)
Net asset value, end of period	\$16.68	\$14.85	\$22.69	\$21.63	\$19.87	\$18.00
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	14.73*	(33.43)	6.27	10.92	11.19	(8.61)
Ratios to Average Net Assets a	nd Supplemen	ıtal Data				
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	42	47	128	191	203	89
Ratio of expenses before expens reductions (%)	e 1.24**	1.10	1.04	1.09	1.12	1.31
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%)	.99**	.98	.98	.98	.98	.98
Ratio of net investment income (%)	1.32**	2.13	.75	.99	2.46	1.19
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	35*	51	94	57	32	34

Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

Not annualized

Annualized

## DWS Emerging Markets Equity Fund — Institutional Class

DWO Emerging Warket	Six Months Ended 4/30/23		Years Er			
	(Unaudited)	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Selected Per Share Data						
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$14.83	\$22.67	\$21.61	\$19.86	\$17.99	\$19.81
Income (loss) from investment operations:	15	40	2.4	21		20
Net investment income <sup>a</sup> Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	2.05	.43	1.14	1.97	1.46	.28
Total from investment operations	2.20	(7.46)	1.38	2.18	2.01	(1.68)
Less distributions from: Net investment income	(.37)	(.38)	(.32)	(.43)	(.14)	(.14)
Net asset value, end of period	\$16.66	\$14.83	\$22.67	\$21.61	\$19.86	\$17.99
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	14.85*	(33.43)	6.36	11.02	11.29	(8.54)
Ratios to Average Net Assets	and Supplemer	ntal Data				
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	91	117	308	216	208	28
Ratio of expenses before expenreductions (%)	se 1.12**	.99	.98	1.00	1.05	1.18
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%)	.91**	.90	.90	.90	.90	.90
Ratio of net investment income (%)	1.35**	2.25	.96	1.05	2.82	1.40
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	35*	51	94	57	32	34

а Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

Not annualized

Annualized

## Notes to Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

#### A. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

DWS Emerging Markets Equity Fund (the "Fund") is a diversified series of Deutsche DWS International Fund, Inc. (the "Corporation"), which is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), as an open-end management investment company organized as a Maryland corporation.

The Fund offers multiple classes of shares which provide investors with different purchase options. Class A shares are subject to an initial sales charge. Class C shares are not subject to an initial sales charge but are subject to higher ongoing expenses than Class A shares and a contingent deferred sales charge payable upon certain redemptions within one year of purchase. Class C shares automatically convert to Class A shares in the same fund after 8 years, provided that the Fund or the financial intermediary through which the shareholder purchased the Class C shares has records verifying that the Class C shares have been held for at least 8 years. Class R6 shares are not subject to initial or contingent deferred sales charges and are generally available only to certain qualifying plans and programs. Class S shares are not subject to initial or contingent deferred sales charges and are available through certain intermediary relationships with financial services firms, or can be purchased by establishing an account directly with the Fund's transfer agent. Institutional Class shares are not subject to initial or contingent deferred sales charges and are generally available only to qualified institutions.

Investment income, realized and unrealized gains and losses, and certain fund-level expenses and expense reductions, if any, are borne pro rata on the basis of relative net assets by the holders of all classes of shares. except that each class bears certain expenses unique to that class such as distribution and service fees, services to shareholders and certain other class-specific expenses. Differences in class-level expenses may result in payment of different per share dividends by class. All shares of the Fund have equal rights with respect to voting subject to class-specific arrangements.

The Fund's financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP") which require the use of management estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The Fund qualifies as an investment company under Topic 946 of Accounting Standards Codification of U.S. GAAP. The policies described below are followed consistently by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

Security Valuation. Investments are stated at value determined as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange on each day the exchange is open for trading.

The Fund's Board has designated DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (the "Advisor") as the valuation designee for the Fund pursuant to Rule 2a-5 under the 1940 Act. The Advisor's Pricing Committee (the "Pricing Committee") typically values securities using readily available market quotations or prices supplied by independent pricing services (which are considered fair values under Rule 2a-5). The Advisor has adopted fair valuation procedures that provide methodologies for fair valuing securities.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes guoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

Equity securities and exchange-traded funds ("ETFs") are valued at the most recent sale price or official closing price reported on the exchange (U.S. or foreign) or over-the-counter market on which they trade. Equity securities or ETFs for which no sales are reported are valued at the calculated mean between the most recent bid and asked quotations on the relevant market or, if a mean cannot be determined, at the most recent bid quotation. Equity securities and ETFs are generally categorized as Level 1. For certain international equity securities, in order to adjust for events which may occur between the close of the foreign exchanges and the close of the New York Stock Exchange, a fair valuation model may be used. This fair valuation model takes into account comparisons to the valuation of American Depository Receipts (ADRs), exchange-traded funds, futures contracts and certain indices and these securities are categorized as Level 2.

Investments in open-end investment companies are valued at their net asset value each business day and are categorized as Level 1.

Securities and other assets for which market quotations are not readily available or for which the above valuation procedures are deemed not to reflect fair value are valued in a manner that is intended to reflect their fair value as determined in accordance with procedures approved by the Pricing Committee and are generally categorized as Level 3. In accordance with the Fund's valuation procedures, factors considered in determining value may include, but are not limited to, the type of the security; the size of the holding; the initial cost of the security; the existence of any contractual restrictions on the security's disposition; the price and extent of public trading in similar securities of the issuer or of comparable companies; quotations or evaluated prices from broker-dealers and/or

pricing services; information obtained from the issuer, analysts, and/or the appropriate stock exchange (for exchange-traded securities); an analysis of the company's or issuer's financial statements; an evaluation of the forces that influence the issuer and the market(s) in which the security is purchased and sold; and with respect to debt securities, the maturity, coupon, creditworthiness, currency denomination and the movement of the market in which the security is normally traded. The value determined under these procedures may differ from published values for the same securities

Disclosure about the classification of fair value measurements is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio.

Foreign Currency Translations. The books and records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. Investment securities and other assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates at period end. Purchases and sales of investment securities, income and expenses are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates on the respective dates of the transactions.

Net realized and unrealized gains and losses on foreign currency transactions represent net gains and losses between trade and settlement dates on securities transactions, the acquisition and disposition of foreign currencies, and the difference between the amount of net investment income accrued and the U.S. dollar amount actually received. The portion of both realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments that results from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates is not separately disclosed but is included with net realized and unrealized gain/appreciation and loss/depreciation on investments.

Securities Lending. Brown Brothers Harriman & Co., as securities lending agent, lends securities of the Fund to certain financial institutions under the terms of its securities lending agreement. During the term of the loans, the Fund continues to receive interest and dividends generated by the securities and to participate in any changes in their market value. The Fund requires the borrowers of the securities to maintain collateral with the Fund consisting of either cash and/or U.S. Treasury Securities having a value at least equal to the value of the securities loaned. When the collateral falls below specified amounts, the securities lending agent will use its best efforts to obtain additional collateral on the next business day to meet required amounts under the securities lending agreement. During the six months ended April 30, 2023, the Fund invested the cash collateral into a joint trading account in affiliated money market funds, including DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio, managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. DWS Investment Management Americas. Inc. receives a management/administration fee (0.07%) annualized effective rate as of April 30, 2023) on the cash collateral

invested in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio. The Fund receives compensation for lending its securities either in the form of fees or by earning interest on invested cash collateral net of borrower rebates and fees paid to a securities lending agent. Either the Fund or the borrower may terminate the loan at any time, and the borrower, after notice, is required to return borrowed securities within a standard time period. There may be risks of delay and costs in recovery of securities or even loss of rights in the collateral should the borrower of the securities fail financially. If the Fund is not able to recover securities lent, the Fund may sell the collateral and purchase a replacement investment in the market, incurring the risk that the value of the replacement security is greater than the value of the collateral. The Fund is also subject to all investment risks associated with the reinvestment of any cash collateral received, including, but not limited to, interest rate, credit and liquidity risk associated with such investments.

As of April 30. 2023, the Fund had no securities on loan.

Taxes. The Fund's policy is to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, which are applicable to regulated investment companies, and to distribute all of its taxable income to its shareholders.

Additionally, the Fund may be subject to taxes imposed by the governments of countries in which it invests and are generally based on income and/or capital gains earned or repatriated. Estimated tax liabilities on certain foreign securities are recorded on an accrual basis and are reflected as components of interest income or net change in unrealized gain/loss on investments. Tax liabilities realized as a result of security sales are reflected as a component of net realized gain/loss on investments.

At October 31, 2022, the Fund had net tax basis capital loss carryforwards of approximately \$71,892,000, including short-term losses (\$70,260,000) and long-term losses (\$1,632,000), which may be applied against realized net taxable capital gains indefinitely.

At April 30, 2023, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$120,683,389. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$17,238,602. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$31,109,904 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$13,871,302.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of October 31, 2022 and has determined that no provision for income tax and/or uncertain tax positions is required in the Fund's financial statements. The Fund's federal tax returns for the prior three fiscal years remain open subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service.

Distribution of Income and Gains. Distributions from net investment income of the Fund, if any, are declared and distributed to shareholders annually. Net realized gains from investment transactions, in excess of available capital loss carryforwards, would be taxable to the Fund if not distributed, and, therefore, will be distributed to shareholders at least annually. The Fund may also make additional distributions for tax purposes if necessary.

The timing and characterization of certain income and capital gain distributions are determined annually in accordance with federal tax regulations which may differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These differences primarily relate to certain securities sold at a loss, income received from passive foreign investment companies and income related to restructuring of certain securities. The Fund may utilize a portion of the proceeds from capital shares redeemed as a distribution from net investment income and realized capital gains. As a result, net investment income (loss) and net realized gain (loss) on investment transactions for a reporting period may differ significantly from distributions during such period. Accordingly, the Fund may periodically make reclassifications among certain of its capital accounts without impacting the net asset value of the Fund.

The tax character of current year distributions will be determined at the end of the current fiscal year.

**Expenses.** Expenses of the Corporation arising in connection with a specific fund are allocated to that fund. Other Corporation expenses which cannot be directly attributed to a fund are apportioned among the funds in the Corporation based upon the relative net assets or other appropriate measures.

Contingencies. In the normal course of business, the Fund may enter 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 been made. However, based on experience, the Fund expects the risk of loss to be remote.

Other. Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade date plus one basis for daily net asset value calculations. However, for financial reporting purposes, investment transactions are reported on trade date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date net of foreign withholding taxes. Certain dividends from foreign securities may be recorded subsequent to the ex-dividend date as soon as the Fund is informed of such dividends. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are recorded on an identified cost basis. Proceeds from litigation payments, if any, are included in net realized gain (loss) from investments.

#### B. Purchases and Sales of Securities

During the six months ended April 30, 2023, purchases and sales of investment securities (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$54,661,178 and \$100,372,597, respectively.

#### C. Related Parties

Management Agreement. Under the Investment Management Agreement with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. ("DIMA" or the "Advisor"), an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA ("DWS Group"), the Advisor directs the investments of the Fund in accordance with its investment objectives, policies and restrictions. The Advisor determines the securities, instruments and other contracts relating to investments to be purchased, sold or entered into by the Fund or delegates such responsibility to the Fund's subadvisor.

DWS Investments Hong Kong Limited, an affiliate of DIMA, serves as subadvisor with respect to the investment and reinvestment of assets of the Fund, and is paid by the Advisor for its services.

Under the Investment Management Agreement with the Advisor, the Fund pays a monthly management fee based on the average daily net assets of the Fund, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly at the annual rate (exclusive of any applicable waivers/reimbursements) of 0.70%.

For the period from November 1, 2022 through February 29, 2024, the Advisor has contractually agreed to waive its fees and/or reimburse certain operating expenses of the Fund to the extent necessary to maintain the total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses such as extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage and interest expense) of each class as follows:

Class A	1.15%
Class C	1.90%
Class R6	.90%
Class S	.98%
Institutional Class	.90%

For the six months ended April 30, 2023, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed for each class are as follows:

	\$ 190,350
Institutional Class	111,775
Class S	61,025
Class R6	303
Class C	3,938
Class A	\$ 13,309

Administration Fee. Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. For all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee ("Administration Fee") of 0.097% of the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. For the six months ended April 30, 2023, the Administration Fee was \$81,331, of which \$12,157 is unpaid.

Service Provider Fees. DWS Service Company ("DSC"), an affiliate of the Advisor, is the transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent for the Fund. Pursuant to a sub-transfer agency agreement between DSC and SS&C GIDS, Inc. ("SS&C") (name changed from DST Systems, Inc. effective January 1, 2023), DSC has delegated certain transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent functions to SS&C. DSC compensates SS&C out of the shareholder servicing fee it receives from the Fund. For the six months ended April 30, 2023, the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC were as follows:

Services to Shareholders	Total Aggregated	Unpaid at April 30, 2023
Class A	\$ 4,344	\$ 1,446
Class C	257	99
Class R6	108	41
Class S	22,080	7,338
Institutional Class	491	129
	\$ 27,280	\$ 9,053

In addition, for the six months ended April 30, 2023, the amounts charged to the Fund for recordkeeping and other administrative services provided

by unaffiliated third parties, included in the Statement of Operations under "Services to shareholders," were as follows:

Sub-Recordkeeping	Total Aggregated
Class A	\$ 4,940
Class C	1,808
Class S	35,540
Institutional Class	61,417
	\$ 103,705

Distribution and Service Fees. Under the Fund's Class C 12b-1 Plan, DWS Distributors, Inc. ("DDI"), an affiliate of the Advisor, receives a fee ("Distribution Fee") of 0.75% of the average daily net assets of Class C shares. In accordance with the Fund's Underwriting and Distribution Services Agreement, DDI enters into related selling group agreements with various firms at various rates for sales of Class C shares. For the six months ended April 30, 2023, the Distribution Fee was as follows:

	Total	Unpaid at	
Distribution Fee	Aggregated	April 30, 2023	
Class C	\$ 15,194	\$ 2,934	

In addition, DDI provides information and administrative services for a fee ("Service Fee") to Class A and C shareholders at an annual rate of up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets for each such class. DDI in turn has various agreements with financial services firms that provide these services and pays these fees based upon the assets of shareholder accounts the firms service. For the six months ended April 30, 2023, the Service Fee was as follows:

Service Fee	Total Aggregated	Unpaid at April 30, 2023	Annualized Rate
Class A	\$ 11,126	\$ 3,499	.24%
Class C	5,038	1,534	.25%
	\$ 16,164	\$ 5,033	

Underwriting Agreement and Contingent Deferred Sales Charge. DDI is the principal underwriter for the Fund. Underwriting commissions paid in connection with the distribution of Class A shares for the six months ended April 30, 2023 aggregated \$54.

In addition, DDI receives any contingent deferred sales charge ("CDSC") from Class C share redemptions occurring within one year of purchase. There is no such charge upon redemption of any share appreciation or reinvested dividends. The CDSC is 1% of the value of the shares redeemed for Class C. For the six months ended April 30, 2023, there was no CDSC for Class C Shares. A deferred sales charge of up to 1% is assessed on certain redemptions of Class A shares.

Other Service Fees. Under an agreement with the Fund, DIMA is compensated for providing regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended April 30, 2023, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under "Reports to shareholders" aggregated \$673, of which \$460 is unpaid.

**Directors' Fees and Expenses.** The Fund paid retainer fees to each Director not affiliated with the Advisor, plus specified amounts to the Board Chairperson and to each committee Chairperson.

Affiliated Cash Management Vehicles. The Fund may invest uninvested cash balances in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund, affiliated money market funds which are managed by the Advisor. Each affiliated money market fund is managed in accordance with Rule 2a-7 under the 1940 Act, which governs the quality, maturity, diversity and liquidity of instruments in which a money market fund may invest. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund seeks to maintain a stable net asset value, and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund maintains a floating net asset value. The Fund indirectly bears its proportionate share of the expenses of each affiliated money market fund in which it invests. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund does not pay the Advisor an investment management fee. To the extent that DWS ESG Liquidity Fund pays an investment management fee to the Advisor, the Advisor will waive an amount of the investment management fee payable to the Advisor by the Fund equal to the amount of the investment management fee payable on the Fund's assets invested in DWS ESG Liquidity Fund.

## D. Investing in Emerging Markets

Investing in emerging markets may involve special risks and considerations not typically associated with investing in developed markets. These risks include revaluation of currencies, high rates of inflation or deflation, repatriation restrictions on income and capital, and future adverse political, social and economic developments. Moreover, securities issued in these markets may be less liquid, subject to government ownership controls or delayed settlements, and may have prices that are more volatile or less easily assessed than those of comparable securities of issuers in developed markets. There is also substantially less publicly available information about emerging market issuers than there is about issuers in developed countries. Therefore. disclosure of certain material information may not be made, and less information may be available to the Fund and other investors than would be the case if the Fund's investments were restricted to securities of

issuers in developed countries. Investments in emerging markets are often considered speculative.

#### E. Line of Credit

The Fund and other affiliated funds (the "Participants") share in a \$375 million revolving credit facility provided by a syndication of banks. The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including the meeting of redemption requests that otherwise might require the untimely disposition of securities. The Participants are charged an annual commitment fee, which is allocated based on net assets, among each of the Participants. Interest is calculated at a daily fluctuating rate per annum equal to the sum of 0.10% plus the higher of the Federal Funds Effective Rate and the Overnight Bank Funding Rate, plus 1.25%. The Fund may borrow up to a maximum of 25 percent of its net assets under the agreement. The Fund had no outstanding loans at April 30, 2023.

#### F. Fund Share Transactions

The following table summarizes share and dollar activity in the Fund:

Civ Months Ended

Voor Endod

		April 30, 2023				1, 2022
	Shares		Dollars	Shares		Dollars
Shares sold						
Class A	95,225	\$	1,661,575	111,734	\$	2,229,212
Class C	163,194		2,441,469	54,450		996,060
Class R6	6,171		102,220	23,151		479,863
Class S	78,435		1,343,498	607,586		11,508,911
Institutional Class	870,571		15,010,632	3,370,954		64,958,843
		\$	20,559,394		\$	80,172,889
Shares issued to sharehold	ders in reinvestment	of (	distributions			
Class A	10,443	\$	170,221	15,359	\$	324,111
Class T				10*		
	_		_	10		193*
Class C	2,803		40,782	2,187		193* 41,210
	2,803 671		40,782 11,079			
Class C				2,187		41,210
Class C Class R6	671		11,079	2,187 688		41,210 14,706

#### Six Months Ended April 30, 2023

#### Year Ended October 31, 2022

	Shares		Dollars	Shares		Dollars		
Shares redeemed								
Class A	(123,980)	\$	(2,072,538)	(600,366)	\$	(11,322,355)		
ClassT	_		_	(602)*		(9,413)*		
Class C	(65,083)		(932,179)	(137,425)		(2,206,533)		
Class R6	(11,963)		(204,795)	(30,185)		(552,641)		
Class S	(736,486)		(12,645,772)	(3,202,823)		(63,127,097)		
Institutional Class	(3,434,631)		(57,828,112)	(9,319,303)		(178,676,326)		
		\$	(73,683,396)		\$	(255,894,365)		
Net increase (decrease)								
Class A	(18,312)	\$	(240,742)	(473,273)	\$	(8,769,032)		
Class T	_		_	(592)*		(9,220)*		
Class C	100,914		1,550,072	(80,788)		(1,169,263)		
Class R6	(5,121)		(91,496)	(6,346)		(58,072)		
Class S	(595,827)		(10,274,950)	(2,512,793)		(49,856,334)		
Institutional Class	(2,424,348)		(40,515,031)	(5,716,572)		(108,770,908)		
		\$	(49,572,147)		\$	(168,632,829)		

For the period from November 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022 (Class T liquidation date).

# Information About Your Fund's Expenses

As an investor of the Fund, you incur two types of costs: ongoing expenses and transaction costs. Ongoing expenses include management fees, distribution and service (12b-1) fees and other Fund expenses. Examples of transaction costs include sales charges (loads) and account maintenance fees, which are not shown in this section. The following tables are intended to help you understand your ongoing expenses (in dollars) of investing in the Fund and to help you compare these expenses with the ongoing expenses of investing in other mutual funds. In the most recent six-month period, the Fund limited these expenses; had it not done so, expenses would have been higher. The example in the table is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the six-month. period and held for the entire period (November 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023).

The tables illustrate your Fund's expenses in two ways:

- **Actual Fund Return**. This helps you estimate the actual dollar amount of ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) paid on a \$1,000 investment in the Fund using the Fund's actual return during the period. To estimate the expenses you paid over the period, simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line under the share class you hold.
- Hypothetical 5% Fund Return. This helps you to compare your Fund's ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) with those of other mutual funds using the Fund's actual expense ratio and a hypothetical rate of return of 5% per year before expenses. Examples using a 5% hypothetical fund return may be found in the shareholder reports of other mutual funds. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period.

Please note that the expenses shown in these tables are meant to highlight your ongoing expenses only and do not reflect any transaction costs. The "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line of the tables is useful in comparing ongoing expenses only and will not help you determine the relative total expense of owning different funds. Subject to certain exceptions, an account maintenance fee of \$20.00 assessed once per calendar year for Classes A, C and S shares may apply for accounts with balances less than \$10,000. This fee is not included in these tables. If it was, the estimate of expenses paid for Classes A. C and S shares during the period would be higher, and account value during the period would be lower, by this amount.

#### Expenses and Value of a \$1,000 Investment

for the six months ended April 30, 2023 (Unaudited)

Actual Fund Return	Cla	iss A	CI	ass C	Cla	ass R6	Cla	ass S		tutional lass
Beginning Account Value 11/1/22	\$1,0	00.00	\$1,	000.00	\$1,	00.00	\$1,0	00.00	\$1,0	000.00
Ending Account Value 4/30/23	\$1,1	46.40	\$1,	142.90	\$1,	148.30	\$1,1	147.30	\$1,	148.50
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$	6.12	\$	10.10	\$	4.85	\$	5.27	\$	4.85

Hypothetical 5% Fund Return	Cla	ass A	Cl	lass C	CI	lass R6	CI	ass S		tutional Class
Beginning Account Value 11/1/22	\$1,0	00.00	\$1,	00.00	\$1	,000.00	\$1,	000.00	\$1,	00.00
Ending Account Value 4/30/23	\$1,0	019.09	\$1,	015.37	\$1	,020.28	\$1,	019.89	\$1,	020.28
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$	5.76	\$	9.49	\$	4.56	\$	4.96	\$	4.56

Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio for each share class, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 181 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 365.

Annualized Expense Ratios	Class A	Class C	Class R6	Class S	Institutional Class
DWS Emerging Markets Equity Fund	1.15%	1.90%	.91%	.99%	.91%

For more information, please refer to the Fund's prospectus.

For an analysis of the fees associated with an investment in the Fund or similar funds, please refer to tools.finra.org/fund analyzer/.

# **Liquidity Risk Management**

In accordance with Rule 22e-4 (the "Liquidity Rule") under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "1940 Act"), your Fund has adopted a liquidity risk management program (the "Program"), and the Board has designated DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. ("DIMA") as Program administrator. The Program is designed to assess and manage your Fund's liquidity risk (the risk that the Fund would be unable to meet requests to redeem shares of the Fund without significant dilution of remaining investors' interests in the Fund). DIMA has designated a committee (the "Committee") composed of personnel from multiple departments within DIMA and its affiliates that is responsible for the implementation and ongoing administration of the Program, which includes assessing the Fund's liquidity risk under both normal and reasonably foreseeable stressed conditions. Under the Program, every investment held by the Fund is classified on a daily basis into one of four liquidity categories based on estimations of the investment's ability to be sold during designated timeframes in current market conditions without significantly changing the investment's market value.

In February 2023, as required by the Program and the Liquidity Rule, DIMA provided the Board with an annual written report (the "Report") addressing the operation of the Program and assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of its implementation during the period from December 1, 2021 through November 30, 2022 (the "Reporting Period"). During the Reporting Period, your Fund was predominately invested in highly liquid investments (investments that the Fund anticipates can be converted to cash within three business days or less in current market conditions without significantly changing their market value). As a result, your Fund is not required to adopt, and has not adopted, a "Highly Liquid Investment Minimum" as defined in the Liquidity Rule. During the Reporting Period, the Fund did not approach the 15% limit imposed by the Liquidity Rule on holdings in illiquid investments (investments that cannot be sold or disposed of in seven days or less in current market conditions without the sale of the investment significantly changing the market value of the investment). Your Fund did not experience any issues meeting investor redemptions at any time during the Reporting Period. In the Report, DIMA stated that it believes the Program has operated adequately and effectively to manage the Fund's liquidity risk during the Reporting Period. DIMA also reported that there were no material changes made to the Program during the Reporting Period.

# **Advisory Agreement Board Considerations** and Fee Evaluation

The Board of Directors (hereinafter referred to as the "Board" or "Directors") approved the renewal of DWS Emerging Markets Equity Fund's (the "Fund") investment management agreement (the "Agreement") with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. ("DIMA") and sub-advisory agreement (the "Sub-Advisory Agreement" and together with the Agreement, the "Agreements") between DIMA and DWS Investments Hong Kong Limited ("DWS HK"), an affiliate of DIMA, in September 2022.

In terms of the process that the Board followed prior to approving the Agreements, shareholders should know that:

- During the entire process, all of the Fund's Directors were independent of DIMA and its affiliates (the "Independent Directors").
- The Board met frequently during the past year to discuss fund matters and dedicated a substantial amount of time to contract review matters. Over the course of several months, the Board reviewed extensive materials received from DIMA, independent third parties and independent counsel. These materials included an analysis of the Fund's performance, fees and expenses, and profitability from a fee consultant retained by the Fund's Independent Directors (the "Fee Consultant").
- The Board also received extensive information throughout the year regarding performance of the Fund.
- The Independent Directors regularly met privately with counsel to discuss contract review and other matters. In addition, the Independent Directors were advised by the Fee Consultant in the course of their review of the Fund's contractual arrangements and considered a comprehensive report prepared by the Fee Consultant in connection with their deliberations.
- In connection with reviewing the Agreements, the Board also reviewed the terms of the Fund's Rule 12b-1 plan, distribution agreement, administrative services agreement, transfer agency agreement and other material service agreements.

In connection with the contract review process, the Board considered the factors discussed below, among others. The Board also considered that DIMA and its predecessors have managed the Fund since its inception, and the Board believes that a long-term relationship with a capable, conscientious advisor is in the best interests of the Fund. The Board considered, generally, that shareholders chose to invest or remain invested in the Fund knowing that DIMA managed the Fund, DIMA and DWS HK are part of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA ("DWS Group").

DWS Group is a global asset management business that offers a wide range of investing expertise and resources, including research capabilities in many countries throughout the world. In 2018, approximately 20% of DWS Group's shares were sold in an initial public offering, with Deutsche Bank AG owning the remaining shares.

As part of the contract review process, the Board carefully considered the fees and expenses of each DWS fund overseen by the Board in light of the fund's performance. In many cases, this led to the negotiation and implementation of expense caps.

While shareholders may focus primarily on fund performance and fees, the Fund's Board considers these and many other factors, including the quality and integrity of DIMA's and DWS HK's personnel and administrative support services provided by DIMA, such as back-office operations, fund valuations, and compliance policies and procedures.

Nature, Quality and Extent of Services. The Board considered the terms of the Agreements, including the scope of advisory services provided under the Agreements. The Board noted that, under the Agreements, DIMA and DWS HK provide portfolio management services to the Fund and that, pursuant to a separate administrative services agreement, DIMA provides administrative services to the Fund. The Board considered the experience and skills of senior management and investment personnel and the resources made available to such personnel. The Board also considered the risks to DIMA in sponsoring or managing the Fund. including financial, operational and reputational risks, the potential economic impact to DIMA from such risks and DIMA's approach to addressing such risks. Throughout the course of the year, the Board also received information regarding DIMA's oversight of fund sub-advisors, including DWS HK. The Board reviewed the Fund's performance over short-term and long-term periods and compared those returns to various agreed-upon performance measures, including market index(es) and a peer universe compiled using information supplied by Morningstar Direct ("Morningstar"), an independent fund data service. The Board also noted that it has put into place a process of identifying "Funds in Review" (e.g., funds performing poorly relative to a peer universe), and receives additional reporting from DIMA regarding such funds and, where appropriate, DIMA's plans to address underperformance. The Board believes this process is an effective manner of identifying and addressing underperforming funds. Based on the information provided, the Board noted that, for the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2021, the Fund's performance (Class A shares) was in the 4th quartile of the applicable Morningstar universe (the 1st quartile being the best performers and the 4th quartile being the worst performers). The Board also observed that the Fund has underperformed its benchmark in the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2021. The Board noted the disappointing investment performance of the Fund in recent

periods and continued to discuss with senior management of DIMA and DWS HK the factors contributing to such underperformance and actions being taken to improve performance. The Board observed that the Fund had experienced improved relative performance during the first eight months of 2022. The Board recognized the efforts by DIMA in recent years to enhance its investment platform and improve long-term performance across the DWS fund complex.

Fees and Expenses. The Board considered the Fund's investment management fee schedule, sub-advisory fee schedule, operating expenses and total expense ratios, and comparative information provided by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. ("Broadridge") and the Fee Consultant regarding investment management fee rates paid to other investment advisors by similar funds (1st quartile being the most favorable and 4th quartile being the least favorable). With respect to management fees paid to other investment advisors by similar funds, the Board noted that the contractual fee rates paid by the Fund, which include a 0.097% fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement. were lower than the median (1st quartile) of the applicable Broadridge peer group (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2021). With respect to the sub-advisory fee paid to DWS HK, the Board noted that the fee is paid by DIMA out of its fee and not directly by the Fund. The Board noted that the Fund's Class A shares total (net) operating expenses (excluding 12b-1 fees) were expected to be lower than the median of the applicable Broadridge expense universe (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2021, and analyzing Broadridge expense universe Class A (net) expenses less any applicable 12b-1 fees) ("Broadridge Universe Expenses"). The Board also reviewed data comparing each other operational share class's total (net) operating expenses to the applicable Broadridge Universe Expenses. The Board noted that the expense limitations agreed to by DIMA were expected to help the Fund's total (net) operating expenses remain competitive. The Board considered the Fund's management fee rate as compared to fees charged by DIMA to a comparable DWS U.S. registered fund ("DWS Funds") and considered differences between the Fund and the comparable DWS Fund. The information requested by the Board as part of its review of fees and expenses also included information about institutional accounts (including any sub-advised funds and accounts) and funds offered primarily to European investors ("DWS Europe Funds") managed by DWS Group. The Board noted that DIMA indicated that DWS Group manages DWS Europe Funds comparable to the Fund, but does not manage any comparable institutional accounts. The Board took note of the differences in services provided to DWS Funds as compared to DWS Europe Funds and that such differences made comparison difficult.

On the basis of the information provided, the Board concluded that management fees were reasonable and appropriate in light of the nature. quality and extent of services provided by DIMA and DWS HK.

Profitability. The Board reviewed detailed information regarding revenues received by DIMA under the Agreement. The Board considered the estimated costs to DIMA, and pre-tax profits realized by DIMA, from advising the DWS Funds, as well as estimates of the pre-tax profits attributable to managing the Fund in particular. The Board also received information regarding the estimated enterprise-wide profitability of DIMA and its affiliates with respect to all fund services in totality and by fund. The Board and the Fee Consultant reviewed DIMA's methodology in allocating its costs to the management of the Fund. Based on the information provided, the Board concluded that the pre-tax profits realized by DIMA in connection with the management of the Fund were not unreasonable. The Board also reviewed certain publicly available information regarding the profitability of certain similar investment management firms. The Board noted that, while information regarding the profitability of such firms is limited (and in some cases is not necessarily prepared on a comparable basis), DIMA and its affiliates' overall profitability with respect to the DWS Funds (after taking into account distribution and other services provided to the funds by DIMA and its affiliates) was lower than the overall profitability levels of most comparable firms for which such data was available.

**Economies of Scale.** The Board considered whether there are economies of scale with respect to the management of the Fund and whether the Fund benefits from any economies of scale. In this regard, the Board observed that while the Fund's current investment management fee schedule does not include breakpoints, the Fund's fee schedule represents an appropriate sharing between the Fund and DIMA of such economies of scale as may exist in the management of the Fund at current asset levels.

Other Benefits to DIMA and Its Affiliates. The Board also considered the character and amount of other incidental or "fall-out" benefits received by DIMA and its affiliates, including any fees received by DIMA for administrative services provided to the Fund, any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for transfer agency services provided to the Fund and any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for distribution services. The Board also considered benefits to DIMA related to brokerage and soft-dollar allocations, including allocating brokerage to pay for research generated by parties other than the executing broker dealers, which pertain primarily to funds investing in equity securities. In addition, the Board considered the incidental public relations benefits to DIMA related to DWS Funds advertising and cross-selling opportunities among DIMA products and

services. The Board considered these benefits in reaching its conclusion that the Fund's management fees were reasonable.

**Compliance.** The Board considered the significant attention and resources dedicated by DIMA to its compliance processes in recent years. The Board noted in particular (i) the experience, seniority and time commitment of the individuals serving as DIMA's and the Fund's chief compliance officers and (ii) the substantial commitment of resources by DIMA and its affiliates to compliance matters, including the retention of compliance personnel.

Based on all of the information considered and the conclusions reached, the Board determined that the continuation of the Agreements is in the best interests of the Fund. In making this determination, the Board did not give particular weight to any single factor identified above. The Board considered these factors over the course of numerous meetings, certain of which were in executive session with only the Independent Directors and counsel present. It is possible that individual Independent Directors may have weighed these factors differently in reaching their individual decisions to approve the continuation of the Agreements.

# **Account Management Resources**

#### For More Information

The automated telephone system allows you to access personalized account information and obtain information on other DWS funds using either your voice or your telephone keypad. Certain account types within Classes A, C and S also have the ability to purchase, exchange or redeem shares using this system.

For more information, contact your financial representative. You may also access our automated telephone system or speak with a Shareholder Service representative by calling:

(800) 728-3337

#### Web Site

#### dws.com

View your account transactions and balances, trade shares, monitor your asset allocation, subscribe to fund and account updates by e-mail, and change your address, 24 hours a day.

**Obtain prospectuses and applications,** news about DWS funds, insight from DWS economists and investment specialists and access to DWS fund account information.

#### Written

#### DWS

#### Correspondence

PO Box 219151

Kansas City, MO 64121-9151

#### **Proxy Voting**

The Fund's policies and procedures for voting proxies for portfolio securities and information about how the Fund voted proxies related to its portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 are available on our Web site — dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting — or on the SEC's Web site

— sec.gov. To obtain a written copy of the Fund's policies and procedures without charge, upon request, call us toll free at (800) 728-3337.

#### **Portfolio Holdings**

Following the Fund's fiscal first and third quarter-end, a complete portfolio holdings listing is posted on dws.com and is available free of charge by contacting your financial intermediary or, if you are a direct investor, by calling (800) 728-3337. In addition, the portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on the Fund's Form N-PORT and will be available on the SEC's Web site at sec.gov. Additional portfolio holdings for the Fund are also posted on dws.com from time to time. Please see the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

#### Principal Underwriter

If you have questions, comments or complaints, contact:

#### **DWS** Distributors, Inc.

222 South Riverside Plaza Chicago, IL 60606-5808 (800) 621-1148

#### Investment Management

DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. ("DIMA" or the "Advisor"), which is part of the DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA ("DWS Group"), is the investment advisor for the Fund. DIMA and its predecessors have more than 90 years of experience managing mutual funds and DIMA provides a full range of investment advisory services to both institutional and retail clients. DIMA is an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of DWS Group.

DWS Group is a global organization that offers a wide range of investing expertise and resources, including hundreds of portfolio managers and analysts and an office network that reaches the world's major investment centers. This well-resourced global investment platform brings together a wide variety of experience and investment insight across industries, regions, asset classes and investing styles.

	Class A	Class C	Class S	Institutional Class
Nasdaq Symbol	SEKAX	SEKCX	SEMGX	SEKIX
CUSIP Number	25156G 103	25156G 301	25156G 400	25156G 780
Fund Number	479	779	2079	1479

#### For shareholders of Class R6

Automated Information Line	<b>DWS/Ascensus Plan Access (800) 728-3337</b> 24-hour access to your retirement plan account.
Web Site	dws.com
	<b>Obtain prospectuses and applications,</b> news about DWS funds, insight from DWS economists and investment specialists and access to DWS fund account information.
	Log in/register to manage retirement account assets at https://www.mykplan.com/participantsecure_net/login.aspx.
For More	(800) 728-3337
Information	To speak with a service representative.
Written	DWS Service Company
Correspondence	222 South Riverside Plaza Chicago, IL 60606-5806
	Class R6
Nasdaq Symbol	SEKRX
CUSIP Number	25156G 426
Fund Number	1679



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