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TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND
Form N-CSRS
April 30, 2009

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM N-CSRS

CERTIFIED SHAREHOLDER REPORT OF REGISTERED MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES

Investment Company Act file number 811-04985

TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

500 EAST BROWARD BLVD., SUITE 2100, FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33394-3091

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

CRAIG S. TYLE, ONE FRANKLIN PARKWAY, SAN MATEO, CA 94403-1906

(Name and address of agent for service)

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

Date of fiscal year end: 8/31

Date of reporting period: 2/28/09

ITEM 1. REPORTS TO STOCKHOLDERS.

FEBRUARY 28, 2009

SEMIANNUAL REPORT

(GRAPHIC)

INTERNATIONAL

TEMPLETON
EMERGING MARKETS FUND

(FRANKLIN TEMPLETON INVESTMENTS (R) LOGO)

FRANKLIN - TEMPLETON - Mutual Series

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SEMIANNUAL REPORT

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Semiannual Report

Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

YOUR FUND'S GOAL AND MAIN INVESTMENTS: Templeton Emerging Markets Fund seeks long-term capital appreciation by investing, under normal market conditions, at least 80% of its net assets in emerging country equity securities.

GEOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN

Based on Total Net Assets as of 2/28/09

(BAR CHART)

| | |
|---|-------|
| Asia | 54.4% |
| Latin America & Caribbean | 23.5% |
| Europe | 21.5% |
| Short-Term Investments & Other Net Assets | 0.6% |

Dear Shareholder:

This semiannual report for Templeton Emerging Markets Fund covers the period ended February 28, 2009.

PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

Templeton Emerging Markets Fund had cumulative total returns of -49.00% based on market price and -47.99% based on net asset value for the six months under review.

ECONOMIC AND MARKET OVERVIEW

The past six months have been one of the most volatile periods since the Fund's inception. Extreme risk aversion led to evaporation of liquidity, tight credit conditions, problems for companies with highly leveraged finance models, and high volatility in global stock markets. Recognizing the severity of the credit crunch, governments globally implemented fiscal stimuli and loosened monetary policies to support their domestic economies and ease liquidity conditions. In this environment, emerging markets, as represented by the Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) Emerging Markets (EM) Index, had a -47.21%

THE DOLLAR VALUE, NUMBER OF SHARES OR PRINCIPAL AMOUNT, AND NAMES OF ALL PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS ARE LISTED IN THE FUND'S STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS (SOI). THE SOI BEGINS ON PAGE 9.

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TOP 10 COUNTRIES

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Based on Equity Investments 2/28/09

| | % OF TOTAL NET ASSETS ----- |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| Brazil | 23.6% |
| China | 17.3% |
| Turkey | 9.9% |
| Thailand | 8.8% |
| India | 8.7% |
| Russia | 7.5% |
| South Korea | 6.2% |
| Hong Kong | 6.0% |
| Indonesia | 3.2% |
| Taiwan | 2.5% |

total return in U.S. dollar terms.(1) Part of this decline was due to weakness in emerging markets currencies as the U.S. dollar benefited from funds seeking a safer haven. Our experience has led us to believe the recent fall is part of a natural bull and bear market cycle. In emerging markets we have found that, in the past, bull markets have lasted longer than bear markets and bull markets have tended to more than recover the losses of the previous bear markets. Please remember, historical performance is no guarantee of future results.

Stock markets in Eastern Europe were the weakest emerging market performers during the reporting period. Concerns intensified about the financial state of European banks and rising current account deficits in several European countries, including the Baltic states. Turkey underperformed many of its emerging market counterparts, in part due to a weaker lira and funding worries resulting from a deferral of an International Monetary Fund (IMF) loan agreement.

Asian stock markets, on the other hand, performed better than their emerging market peers because many countries maintained strong fiscal positions and stable monetary policies amid easing inflationary pressures. Chinese equities were among top performers during the period as investor confidence rose in 2009. Although slowing during the period, China continued to be one of the fastest-growing major economies, with about US\$2 trillion in foreign exchange reserves, the largest in the world.(2) In addition, we believe the country's struggling manufacturing sector began to show signs of bottoming in early 2009.

In Latin America, the Brazilian equity market was adversely affected by lower commodity prices and a weaker real. Based on our analysis, however, we maintained a positive view on the region's leading economy due to its solid fiscal management policies, high foreign exchange reserves and vast natural resources of oil, iron ore and agricultural products.

INVESTMENT STRATEGY

Our investment strategy employs a bottom-up, value-oriented, long-term approach. We focus on the market price of a company's securities relative to our evaluation of the company's long-term earnings, asset value and cash flow potential. As we look for investments, we focus on specific companies and

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providers are responsible for any damages or losses arising from any use of this information. The MSCI EM Index is a free float-adjusted, market capitalization-weighted index designed to measure equity market performance in global emerging markets. The index is unmanaged and includes reinvested dividends. One cannot invest directly in an index, nor is an index representative of the Fund's portfolio.

(2.) Source: Ministry of Commerce, China.

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undertake in-depth research to construct an action list from which we make our buy decisions. Before we make a purchase, we look at the company's potential for earnings and growth over a five-year horizon. During our analysis, we also consider the company's position in its sector, the economic framework and political environment.

MANAGER'S DISCUSSION

For the six months under review, Brazil's Petrobras (Petroleo Brasileiro), the national oil and gas company, and Vale (Companhia Vale do Rio Doce), one of the world's largest iron ore producers, were among the most significant detractors from the Fund's absolute performance. Their stocks suffered significant price declines during the reporting period because of commodity price corrections and concerns of lower demand in a slowing global growth environment. However, we held a positive longer-term outlook on commodity companies and on the energy and metals sectors, which we believe could offer attractively valued investment opportunities. Despite negative impact from lower commodity prices, many energy and raw material companies were still profitable at recent price levels. Although significantly down from their peaks, commodity prices, we believe, could trend upward over the long term partly because of continued demand for raw materials and oil and gas from emerging markets and the commodities' relatively inelastic supply.

Another significant detractor during the reporting period was Akbank, a major Turkish commercial bank. Akbank's share price suffered because of heightened investor risk aversion to emerging markets such as Turkey during the global financial crisis. In our view, the bank's valuation remained attractive and long-term prospects were solid based on its good asset quality and relatively strong market position.

On a positive note, key contributors to the Fund's absolute performance during this review period included Denway Motors and Polnord. China's Denway Motors has a joint venture with Honda Motor for the production and selling of Honda Accord, Fit and Odyssey models in the country. The company also manufactures automobile audio equipment and trades motor vehicles. We increased the Fund's holdings in Denway Motors during the reporting period, and based on our analysis, we maintained a positive long-term view on China's automobile sector, where low market penetration rates could point to considerable growth potential. On the other hand, we divested from Polnord, a major Polish real estate developer, due to a weak outlook for the property market amid tight credit conditions.

TOP 10 HOLDINGS
2/28/09

COMPANY
SECTOR/INDUSTRY, COUNTRY

% OF TOTAL
NET ASSETS

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| | |
|---|------|
| Petrobras (Petroleo Brasileiro SA), ADR, pfd. OIL, GAS & CONSUMABLE FUELS, BRAZIL | 9.6% |
| Vale (Companhia Vale do Rio Doce), ADR, pfd., A METALS & MINING, BRAZIL | 6.9% |
| PetroChina Co. Ltd., H OIL, GAS & CONSUMABLE FUELS, CHINA | 5.4% |
| Dairy Farm International Holdings Ltd. FOOD & STAPLES RETAILING, HONG KONG | 4.7% |
| Akbank TAS COMMERCIAL BANKS, TURKEY | 4.4% |
| Denway Motors Ltd. AUTOMOBILES, CHINA | 4.3% |
| Unibanco (Unibanco Uniao De Bancos Brasileiros SA), ADR COMMERCIAL BANKS, BRAZIL | 3.5% |
| Banco Bradesco SA, ADR, pfd. COMMERCIAL BANKS, BRAZIL | 3.5% |
| SK Energy Co. Ltd. OIL, GAS & CONSUMABLE FUELS, SOUTH KOREA | 3.3% |
| Turkcell (Turkcell Iletisim Hizmetleri AS) WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES, TURKEY | 3.1% |

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It is important to recognize the effect of currency movements on the Fund's performance. In general, if the value of the U.S. dollar goes up compared with a foreign currency, an investment traded in that foreign currency will go down in value because it will be worth fewer U.S. dollars. This can have a negative effect on Fund performance. Conversely, when the U.S. dollar weakens in relation to a foreign currency, an investment traded in that foreign currency will increase in value, which can contribute to Fund performance. For the six months ended February 28, 2009, the U.S. dollar rose in value relative to most currencies. As a result, the Fund's performance was negatively affected by the portfolio's investment predominantly in securities with non-U.S. currency exposure.

We sold a number of holdings during this review period, as stocks reached sale price targets and we raised funds for income and capital gains distributions in 2008. As a result of the sales, the Fund's investments in oil and gas, integrated telecommunication services, and semiconductor companies fell. We also reduced the Fund's exposure to Poland, Mexico and China via Hong Kong-listed Red Chip shares.⁽³⁾ Major sales included shares of China's CNOOC, Poland's PKN Orlen (Polski Koncern Naftowy Orlen), and Taiwan's TSMC (Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co.).

During the reporting period, we added a position in global mining and natural resources group Anglo American, which has a majority of its operations in southern Africa. We initiated the position, effectively giving the Fund exposure to South Africa, after commodity price corrections made the stock's valuation more attractive in our view. We also made select purchases in India and Brazil, which continued to display strong economic fundamentals, and in doing so increased the Fund's exposure to diversified metals and mining, IT consulting, and diversified banking companies. Key additions included Tata Consultancy Services, India's leading information technology consulting company, and Unibanco (Unibanco Uniao De Bancos Brasileiros), one of Brazil's largest financial conglomerates. Based on our analysis, we believed Tata Consultancy Services was well positioned to benefit from the outsourcing trend to India and

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Unibanco could take advantage of growing demand for financial and banking services in Latin America.

(3.) "Red Chip" denotes shares of Hong Kong-listed companies with significant exposure to China. The shares are traded on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange.

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

Sincerely,

(PHOTO OF MARK MOBIUS)

/s/ Mark Mobius

Mark Mobius Executive
Chairman
Templeton Asset Management Ltd.

THE FOREGOING INFORMATION REFLECTS OUR ANALYSIS, OPINIONS AND PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2009, THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD. THE WAY WE IMPLEMENT OUR MAIN INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND THE RESULTING PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS MAY CHANGE DEPENDING ON FACTORS SUCH AS MARKET AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS. THESE OPINIONS MAY NOT BE RELIED UPON AS INVESTMENT ADVICE OR AN OFFER FOR A PARTICULAR SECURITY. THE INFORMATION IS NOT A COMPLETE ANALYSIS OF EVERY ASPECT OF ANY MARKET, COUNTRY, INDUSTRY, SECURITY OR THE FUND. STATEMENTS OF FACT ARE FROM SOURCES CONSIDERED RELIABLE, BUT THE INVESTMENT MANAGER MAKES NO REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY AS TO THEIR COMPLETENESS OR ACCURACY. ALTHOUGH HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE IS NO GUARANTEE OF FUTURE RESULTS, THESE INSIGHTS MAY HELP YOU UNDERSTAND OUR INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT PHILOSOPHY.

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Performance Summary as of 2/28/09

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

PRICE AND DISTRIBUTION INFORMATION

| SYMBOL: EMF ----- | CHANGE ----- | 2/28/09 ----- | 8/31/08 ----- |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Net Asset Value (NAV) | -\$10.49 | \$8.62 | \$19.11 |

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| | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|--------|---------|
| Market Price (NYSE) | -\$ 9.87 | \$7.76 | \$17.63 |
| DISTRIBUTIONS (9/1/08-2/28/09) | | | |
| Dividend Income | \$0.3045 | | |
| Short-Term Capital Gain | \$0.0006 | | |
| Long-Term Capital Gain | \$1.1385 | | |
| TOTAL | \$1.4436 | | |

PERFORMANCE

| | 6-MONTH ----- | 1-YEAR ----- | 5-YEAR ----- | 10-YEAR ----- |
|------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Cumulative Total Return(1) | | | | |
| Based on change in NAV(2) | -47.99% | -58.36% | +14.52% | +98.06% |
| Based on change in market price(3) | -49.00% | -58.16% | +0.01% | +57.57% |
| Average Annual Total Return(1) | | | | |
| Based on change in NAV(2) | -47.99% | -58.36% | +2.75% | +7.07% |
| Based on change in market price(3) | -49.00% | -58.16% | +0.00% | +4.65% |

PERFORMANCE DATA REPRESENT PAST PERFORMANCE, WHICH DOES NOT GUARANTEE FUTURE RESULTS. INVESTMENT RETURN AND PRINCIPAL VALUE WILL FLUCTUATE, AND YOU MAY HAVE A GAIN OR LOSS WHEN YOU SELL YOUR SHARES. CURRENT PERFORMANCE MAY DIFFER FROM FIGURES SHOWN.

ENDNOTES

SPECIAL RISKS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH FOREIGN INVESTING, INCLUDING CURRENCY VOLATILITY, ECONOMIC INSTABILITY AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS OF COUNTRIES WHERE THE FUND INVESTS. EMERGING MARKETS INVOLVE HEIGHTENED RISKS RELATED TO THE SAME FACTORS, IN ADDITION TO THOSE ASSOCIATED WITH THEIR RELATIVELY SMALL SIZE AND LESSER LIQUIDITY.

- (1.) Total return calculations represent the cumulative and average annual changes in value of an investment over the periods indicated. Six-month return has not been annualized.
- (2.) Assumes reinvestment of distributions based on net asset value.
- (3.) Assumes reinvestment of distributions based on the dividend reinvestment and cash purchase plan.

Important Notice to Shareholders

SHARE REPURCHASE PROGRAM

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

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Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

| | SIX MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2009 (UNAUDITED) | 2008 | YEAR ENDED 2007 |
|---|--|-----------|--------------------|
| PER SHARE OPERATING PERFORMANCE | | | |
| (for a share outstanding throughout the period) | | | |
| Net asset value, beginning of period | \$ 19.11 | \$ 23.14 | \$ 20.56 |
| Income from investment operations: | | | |
| Net investment income(a) | 0.06 | 0.30 | 0.37 |
| Net realized and unrealized gains (losses) | (9.11) | (2.16) | 7.47 |
| Total from investment operations | (9.05) | (1.86) | 7.84 |
| Less distributions from: | | | |
| Net investment income | (0.30) | (0.34) | (0.64) |
| Net realized gains | (1.14) | (1.83) | (4.62) |
| Total distributions | (1.44) | (2.17) | (5.26) |
| Net asset value, end of period | \$ 8.62 | \$ 19.11 | \$ 23.14 |
| Market value, end of period(b) | \$ 7.76 | \$ 17.63 | \$ 20.56 |
| Total return (based on market value per share) (c) .. | (49.00)% | (6.16)% | 41.62% |
| RATIOS TO AVERAGE NET ASSETS (d) | | | |
| Expenses (e) | 1.55% | 1.55% | 1.55% |
| Net investment income | 0.99% | 1.28% | 1.86% |
| SUPPLEMENTAL DATA | | | |
| Net assets, end of period (000's) | \$155,723 | \$345,403 | \$418,213 |
| Portfolio turnover rate | 8.60% | 9.33% | 33.15% |

(a) Based on average daily shares outstanding.

(b) Based on the last sale on the New York Stock Exchange.

(c) Total return is not annualized for periods less than one year.

(d) Ratios are annualized for periods less than one year.

(e) Benefit of expense reduction rounds to less than 0.01%.

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

Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS, FEBRUARY 28, 2009 (UNAUDITED)

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| | INDUSTRY |
|---|----------------------------------|
| COMMON STOCKS 79.4% | |
| AUSTRIA 1.5% | |
| OMV AG..... | Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels |
| BRAZIL 3.5% | |
| Unibanco Uniao De Bancos Brasileiros SA, ADR..... | Commercial Banks |
| CHINA 17.3% | |
| Aluminum Corp. of China Ltd., H..... | Metals & Mining |
| (a) Brilliance China Automotive Holdings Ltd..... | Automobiles |
| China Petroleum and Chemical Corp., H..... | Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels |
| Chiwan Wharf Holdings Ltd., B..... | Transportation Infrastructure |
| Denway Motors Ltd..... | Automobiles |
| PetroChina Co. Ltd., H..... | Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels |
| Win Hanverky Holdings Ltd..... | Textiles, Apparel & Luxury Goods |
| HONG KONG 6.0% | |
| Dairy Farm International Holdings Ltd..... | Food & Staples Retailing |
| Victory City International Holdings Ltd..... | Textiles, Apparel & Luxury Goods |
| VTech Holdings Ltd..... | Communications Equipment |
| HUNGARY 0.9% | |
| MOL Hungarian Oil and Gas Nyrt..... | Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels |
| INDIA 8.7% | |
| National Aluminium Co. Ltd..... | Metals & Mining |
| Oil & Natural Gas Corp. Ltd..... | Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels |
| Sesa Goa Ltd..... | Metals & Mining |
| Tata Consultancy Services Ltd..... | IT Services |
| INDONESIA 3.2% | |
| PT Astra International Tbk..... | Automobiles |
| PT Bank Central Asia Tbk..... | Commercial Banks |
| PAKISTAN 1.7% | |
| Faysal Bank Ltd..... | Commercial Banks |
| MCB Bank Ltd..... | Commercial Banks |
| RUSSIA 7.5% | |
| Gazprom, ADR..... | Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels |
| LUKOIL Holdings, ADR..... | Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels |
| LUKOIL Holdings, ADR (London Exchange)..... | Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels |
| Mining and Metallurgical Co. Norilsk Nickel..... | Metals & Mining |

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Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS, FEBRUARY 28, 2009 (UNAUDITED) (CONTINUED)

| | INDUSTRY |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| COMMON STOCKS (CONTINUED) | |
| RUSSIA (CONTINUED) | |
| Mobile TeleSystems, ADR..... | Wireless Telecommunication Ser |
| AO TMK..... | Energy Equipment & Service |
| | |
| SOUTH KOREA 6.2% | |
| Avista Inc..... | Textiles, Apparel & Luxury Go |
| Hyundai Development Co..... | Construction & Engineering |
| Neopharm Co. Ltd..... | Personal Products |
| SK Energy Co. Ltd..... | Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuel |
| | |
| TAIWAN 2.5% | |
| MediaTek Inc..... | Semiconductors & Semiconductor Eq |
| | |
| THAILAND 8.8% | |
| Amata Corp. Public Co. Ltd., fgn..... | Real Estate Management & Develop |
| Hemaraj Land and Development Public Co. Ltd., fgn..... | Real Estate Management & Develop |
| Kasikornbank Public Co. Ltd., fgn..... | Commercial Banks |
| Kiatnakin Bank Public Co. Ltd., fgn..... | Consumer Finance |
| Land and Houses Public Co. Ltd., fgn..... | Real Estate Management & Develop |
| PTT Exploration and Production Public Co. Ltd., fgn..... | Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuel |
| PTT Public Co. Ltd., fgn..... | Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuel |
| Siam Cement Public Co. Ltd., fgn..... | Construction Materials |
| | |
| TURKEY 9.9% | |
| Akbank TAS..... | Commercial Banks |
| Tupras-Turkiye Petrol Rafinerileri AS..... | Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuel |
| Turkcell Iletisim Hizmetleri AS..... | Wireless Telecommunication Ser |
| | |
| UNITED KINGDOM 1.7% | |
| Anglo American PLC..... | Metals & Mining |
| | |
| TOTAL COMMON STOCKS | |
| (COST \$183,512,690)..... | |
| | |
| PREFERRED STOCKS 20.0% | |
| BRAZIL 20.0% | |
| Banco Bradesco SA, ADR, pfd..... | Commercial Banks |
| Companhia Vale do Rio Doce, ADR, pfd., A..... | Metals & Mining |
| Petroleo Brasileiro SA, ADR, pfd..... | Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuel |
| | |
| TOTAL PREFERRED STOCKS | |

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(COST \$18,224,142)

TOTAL INVESTMENTS BEFORE SHORT TERM INVESTMENTS
(COST \$201,736,832)

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Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS, FEBRUARY 28, 2009 (UNAUDITED) (CONTINUED)

SHORT TERM INVESTMENTS (COST \$541,147) 0.4%
 MONEY MARKET FUNDS 0.4%
 UNITED STATES 0.4%
 (b) Franklin Institutional Fiduciary Trust Money
 Market Portfolio, 0.25%.....
 TOTAL INVESTMENTS (COST \$202,277,979) 99.8%.....
 OTHER ASSETS, LESS LIABILITIES 0.2%.....
 NET ASSETS 100.0%.....

See Abbreviations on page 20.

- (a) Non-income producing for the twelve months ended February 28, 2009.
- (b) See Note 7 regarding investments in the Franklin Institutional Fiduciary Trust Money Market Portfolio. The rate shown is the annualized seven-day yield at period end.

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Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
February 28, 2009 (unaudited)

Assets:

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Investments in securities: | |
| Cost - Unaffiliated issuers | \$201,736,832 |
| Cost - Sweep Money Fund (Note 7) | 541,147 |
| | ----- |
| Total cost of investments | \$202,277,979 |
| | ----- |

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| | |
|---|---------------|
| Value - Unaffiliated issuers | \$154,830,209 |
| Value - Sweep Money Fund (Note 7) | 541,147 |
| | ----- |
| Total value of investments | 155,371,356 |
| Foreign currency, at value (cost \$29) | 27 |
| Receivables: | |
| Dividends | 942,579 |
| Foreign tax | 11,321 |
| | ----- |
| Total assets | 156,325,283 |
| | ----- |
| Liabilities: | |
| Payables: | |
| Affiliates | 179,091 |
| Custodian fees | 58,384 |
| Deferred tax | 285,915 |
| Accrued expenses and other liabilities | 79,184 |
| | ----- |
| Total liabilities | 602,574 |
| | ----- |
| Net assets, at value | \$155,722,709 |
| | ===== |
| Net assets consist of: | |
| Paid-in capital | \$212,251,815 |
| Undistributed net investment income | 407,637 |
| Net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) .. | (47,218,999) |
| Accumulated net realized gain (loss) | (9,717,744) |
| | ----- |
| Net assets, at value | \$155,722,709 |
| | ----- |
| Shares outstanding | 18,073,033 |
| | ----- |
| Net asset value per share | \$ 8.62 |
| | ----- |

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

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Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

for the six months ended February 28, 2009 (unaudited)

Investment income:

 Dividends: (net of foreign taxes \$180,030)

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Unaffiliated issuers | \$ 2,501,7 |
| Sweep Money Fund (Note 7) | 76,7 |
| | ----- |

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| Total investment income | 2,578,5 |
| | ----- |

Expenses:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Management fees (Note 3a) | 1,256,4 |
| Administrative fees (Note 3b) | 153,2 |

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| | |
|--|--------------|
| Transfer agent fees | 25,0 |
| Custodian fees (Note 4) | 63,7 |
| Reports to shareholders | 15,6 |
| Registration and filing fees | 11,3 |
| Professional fees | 20,2 |
| Trustees' fees and expenses | 19,5 |
| Other | 9,3 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total expenses | 1,574,5 |
| Expense reductions (Note 4) | (3 |
| <hr/> | |
| Net expenses | 1,574,1 |
| <hr/> | |
| Net investment income | 1,004,3 |
| <hr/> | |
| Realized and unrealized gains (losses): | |
| Net realized gain (loss) from: | |
| Investments | (9,227,6 |
| Foreign currency transactions | (11,2 |
| <hr/> | |
| Net realized gain (loss) | (9,238,8 |
| <hr/> | |
| Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on: | |
| Investments | (155,077,8 |
| Translation of other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies .. | 2,9 |
| Change in deferred taxes on unrealized appreciation (depreciation) | (280,6 |
| <hr/> | |
| Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) | (155,355,5 |
| <hr/> | |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) | (164,594,4 |
| <hr/> | |
| Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations | \$(163,590,0 |
| <hr/> | |

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

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Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

| | SIX MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 200 (UNAUDITED) |
|--|---|
| <hr/> | |
| Increase (decrease) in net assets: | |
| Operations: | |
| Net investment income | \$ 1,004,394 |
| Net realized gain (loss) from investments and foreign currency transactions | (9,238,867) |
| Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments, translation of other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign | |

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| | |
|---|----------------|
| currencies and deferred taxes | (155,355,587) |
| | ----- |
| Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations | (163,590,060) |
| | ----- |
| Distributions to shareholders from: | |
| Net investment income | (5,503,239) |
| Net realized gains | (20,586,992) |
| | ----- |
| Total distributions to shareholders | (26,090,231) |
| | ----- |
| Net increase (decrease) in net assets | (189,680,291) |
| Net assets: | |
| Beginning of period | 345,403,000 |
| | ----- |
| End of period | \$ 155,722,709 |
| | ----- |
| Undistributed net investment income included in net assets: | |
| End of period | \$ 407,637 |
| | ----- |

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

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Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)

1. ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Templeton Emerging Markets Fund (Fund) is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, (1940 Act) as a closed-end investment company.

The following summarizes the Fund's significant accounting policies.

A. SECURITY VALUATION

Securities listed on a securities exchange or on the NASDAQ National Market System are valued at the last quoted sale price or the official closing price of the day, respectively. Over-the-counter securities and listed securities for which there is no reported sale are valued within the range of the most recent quoted bid and ask prices. Securities that trade in multiple markets or on multiple exchanges are valued according to the broadest and most representative market. Investments in open-end mutual funds are valued at the closing net asset value.

Foreign securities are valued as of the close of trading on the foreign stock exchange on which the security is primarily traded, or the NYSE, whichever is earlier. If no sale is reported at that time, the foreign security will be valued within the range of the most recent quoted bid and ask prices. The value is then converted into its U.S. dollar equivalent at the foreign exchange rate in effect at the close of the NYSE on the day that the value of the foreign security is determined.

The Fund has procedures to determine the fair value of individual securities and other assets for which market prices are not readily available or which may not be reliably priced. Methods for valuing these securities may include: fundamental analysis, matrix pricing, discounts from market prices of similar securities, or discounts applied due to the nature and duration of restrictions

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on the disposition of the securities. Due to the inherent uncertainty of valuations of such securities, the fair values may differ significantly from the values that would have been used had a ready market for such investments existed. Occasionally, events occur between the time at which trading in a security is completed and the close of the NYSE that might call into question the availability (including the reliability) of the value of a portfolio security held by the Fund. The investment manager monitors price movements following the close of trading in foreign stock markets through a series of country specific market proxies (such as baskets of American Depository Receipts, futures contracts and exchange traded funds). These price movements are measured against established trigger thresholds for each specific market proxy to assist in determining if an event has occurred. If such an event occurs, the securities may be valued using fair value procedures, which may include the use of independent pricing services. All security valuation procedures are approved by the Fund's Board of Trustees.

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Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED) (CONTINUED)

1. ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

B. FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATION

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

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

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

C. FOREIGN CURRENCY CONTRACTS

When the Fund purchases or sells foreign securities it may enter into foreign exchange contracts to minimize foreign exchange risk from the trade date to the settlement date of the transactions. A foreign exchange contract is an agreement between two parties to exchange different currencies at an agreed upon exchange rate at a future date. Realized and unrealized gains and losses on these contracts are included in the Statement of Operations.

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The risks of these contracts include movement in the values of the foreign currencies relative to the U.S. dollar and the possible inability of the counterparties to fulfill their obligations under the contracts, which may be in excess of the amount reflected in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

D. INCOME AND DEFERRED TAXES

No provision has been made for U.S. income taxes because it is the Fund's policy to qualify as a regulated investment company under the Internal Revenue Code and to distribute to shareholders substantially all of its taxable income and net realized gains.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions, taken on federal income tax returns, for each of the three open tax years and as of February 28, 2009, and has determined that no provision for income tax is required in the Fund's financial statements.

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Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED) (CONTINUED)

1. ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

D. INCOME AND DEFERRED TAXES (CONTINUED)

Foreign securities held by the Fund may be subject to foreign taxation on dividend income received. Foreign taxes, if any, are recorded based on the tax regulations and rates that exist in the foreign markets in which the Fund invests.

The Fund may be subject to a tax imposed on net realized gains on securities of certain foreign countries. The Fund records an estimated deferred tax liability for net unrealized gains on these securities in an amount that would be payable if the securities were disposed of on the valuation date.

E. SECURITY TRANSACTIONS, INVESTMENT INCOME, EXPENSES AND DISTRIBUTIONS

Security transactions are accounted for on trade date. Realized gains and losses on security transactions are determined on a specific identification basis. Estimated expenses are accrued daily. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date except that certain dividends from foreign securities are recognized as soon as the Fund is notified of the ex-dividend date. Distributions to shareholders are recorded on the ex-dividend date and are determined according to income tax regulations (tax basis). Distributable earnings determined on a tax basis may differ from earnings recorded in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These differences may be permanent or temporary. Permanent differences are reclassified among capital accounts to reflect their tax character. These reclassifications have no impact on net assets or the results of operations. Temporary differences are not reclassified, as they may reverse in subsequent periods.

F. ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and

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

G. GUARANTEES AND INDEMNIFICATIONS

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

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Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED) (CONTINUED)

2. SHARES OF BENEFICIAL INTEREST

At February 28, 2009, there were an unlimited number of shares authorized (without par value). During the periods ended February 28, 2009 and August 31, 2008, there were no shares issued; all reinvested distributions were satisfied with previously issued shares purchased in the open market.

The Fund's Board of Trustees previously authorized an open-market share repurchase program pursuant to which the Fund may purchase, from time to time, Fund shares in open-market transactions, at the discretion of management. This authorization remains in effect. During the periods ended February 28, 2009 and August 31, 2008, there were no shares repurchased.

3. TRANSACTIONS WITH AFFILIATES

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

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

A. MANAGEMENT FEES

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

| ANNUALIZED FEE RATE ----- | NET ASSETS ----- |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
|---------------------------------|---------------------|

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| | |
|--------|---|
| 1.250% | Up to and including \$1 billion |
| 1.200% | Over \$1 billion, up to and including \$5 billion |
| 1.150% | Over \$5 billion, up to and including \$10 billion |
| 1.100% | Over \$10 billion, up to and including \$15 billion |
| 1.050% | Over \$15 billion, up to and including \$20 billion |
| 1.000% | In excess \$20 billion |

B. ADMINISTRATIVE FEES

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

4. EXPENSE OFFSET ARRANGEMENT

The Fund has entered into an arrangement with its custodian whereby credits realized as a result of uninvested cash balances are used to reduce a portion of the Fund's custodian expenses. During the period ended February 28, 2009, the custodian fees were reduced as noted in the Statement of Operations.

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Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED) (CONTINUED)

5. INCOME TAXES

For tax purposes, realized currency losses occurring subsequent to October 31, may be deferred and treated as occurring on the first day of the following fiscal year. At August 31, 2008, the Fund deferred realized currency losses of \$297,000.

At February 28, 2009, the cost of investments and net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) for income tax purposes were as follows:

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Cost of investments | \$203,479,290 |
| | ===== |
| Unrealized appreciation | \$ 17,818,646 |
| Unrealized depreciation | (65,926,580) |
| | ----- |
| Net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) .. | \$(48,107,934) |
| | ===== |

Net investment income differs for financial statement and tax purposes primarily due to differing treatments of foreign currency transactions and passive foreign investment company shares.

Net realized gains (losses) differ for financial statement and tax purposes primarily due to differing treatments of wash sales, foreign currency transactions and passive foreign investment company shares.

6. INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS

Purchases and sales of investments (excluding short term securities) for the

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period ended February 28, 2009, aggregated \$17,825,873 and \$28,270,702, respectively.

7. INVESTMENTS IN FRANKLIN INSTITUTIONAL FIDUCIARY TRUST MONEY MARKET PORTFOLIO

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

8. CONCENTRATION OF RISK

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

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Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED) (CONTINUED)

9. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The Fund adopted Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued FASB Statement No. 157, "Fair Value Measurement" (SFAS 157), on September 1, 2008. SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. The Fund has determined that the implementation of SFAS 157 did not have a material impact on the Fund's financial statements.

SFAS 157 establishes a fair value hierarchy that distinguishes between market data obtained from independent sources (observable inputs) and the Fund's own market assumptions (unobservable inputs). These inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments and are summarized in the following fair value hierarchy:

- Level 1 - quoted prices in active markets for identical securities
- Level 2 - other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speed, credit risk, etc.)
- Level 3 - significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments)

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

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of February 28, 2009, in valuing the Fund's assets and liabilities carried at fair value:

| LEVEL 1 | LEVEL 2 | LEVEL 3 | TOTAL |
|---------|---------|---------|-------|
|---------|---------|---------|-------|

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ASSETS:

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|------|------|---------------|
| Investments in Securities | \$155,371,356 | \$-- | \$-- | \$155,371,356 |
|---------------------------------|---------------|------|------|---------------|

10. NEW ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In March 2008, FASB issued FASB Statement No. 161, "Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities, an amendment of FASB Statement No. 133" (SFAS 161), which expands disclosures about derivative investments and hedging activities. SFAS 161 is effective for fiscal years and interim periods beginning after November 15, 2008. The Fund believes applying the various provisions of SFAS 161 will not have a material impact on its financial statements.

ABBREVIATIONS

SELECTED PORTFOLIO

ADR - American Depository Receipt

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Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS, FEBRUARY 20, 2009 (UNAUDITED)

The Annual Meeting of Shareholders of the Fund was held at the Fund's offices, 500 E. Broward Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on February 20, 2009. The purpose of the meeting was to elect four Trustees of the Fund. At the meeting, the following persons were elected by the shareholders to serve as Trustees of the Fund: Ann Torre Bates, David W. Niemiec, Larry D. Thompson and Robert E. Wade.* No other business was transacted at the meeting.

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

The election of four Trustees:

| TERM EXPIRING 2012 | FOR | % OF OUTSTANDING SHARES | % OF PRESENT AND VOTING | WITHHELD | % OF OUTSTANDING SHARES | % OF PRESENT AND VOTING |
|------------------------|------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Ann Torre Bates | 14,146,699 | 78.28% | 93.98% | 905,556 | 5.01% | 6.02% |
| David W. Niemiec | 14,162,041 | 78.36% | 94.09% | 890,214 | 4.93% | 5.91% |
| Larry D. Thompson | 14,135,519 | 78.21% | 93.91% | 916,736 | 5.07% | 6.09% |
| Robert E. Wade | 14,149,904 | 78.29% | 94.01% | 902,351 | 4.99% | 5.99% |

* Charles B. Johnson, Gregory E. Johnson, Harris J. Ashton, Frank J. Crothers, Edith E. Holiday, Frank A. Olson, and Constantine D. Tseretopoulos are Trustees of the Fund who are currently serving and whose terms of office continued after the Annual Meeting of Shareholders.

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Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT AND CASH PURCHASE PLAN

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

Shareholders must affirmatively elect to participate in the Plan. If you decide to use their service, share dividends and capital gains distributions will be reinvested automatically in shares of the Fund for your account. BNY Mellon Shareowner Services, P.O. Box 358035, Pittsburgh, PA 15252-8035, will provide additional Plan information upon request.

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

A participant has the option of submitting additional cash payments to the Plan Administrator, in any amounts of at least \$100, up to a maximum of \$5,000 per month, for the purchase of Fund shares for his or her account. These payments shall be made by check or money order payable to "The Bank of New York Mellon" and sent to BNY Mellon Shareowner Services, P.O. Box 382009, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-8009, Attention: Templeton Emerging Markets Fund. The Plan Administrator will apply such payments (less a \$5.00 service charge and less a pro rata share of trading fees) to purchases of Fund shares on the open market.

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

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

A participant may withdraw from the Plan without penalty at any time by written notice to the Plan Administrator sent to BNY Mellon Shareowner Services, P.O. Box 358035, Pittsburgh, PA 15252-8035. Upon withdrawal, the participant will receive, without charge, share certificates issued in the participant's name for all full shares held by the Plan Administrator; or, if the participant wishes, the Plan Administrator will sell the shares and send the proceeds to the participant, less a service charge of \$15.00 and less trading fees of \$0.12 per share.

DIRECT DEPOSIT SERVICE FOR REGISTERED SHAREHOLDERS

Cash distributions can now be electronically credited to a checking or saving account at any financial institution that participates in the Automated Clearing House ("ACH") system. The Direct Deposit service is provided for registered shareholders at no charge. To enroll in the service, access your account online by going to <http://vault.bnymellon.com/isd> or dial 1-800-416-5585 (toll free) and follow the instructions. Direct Deposit will begin with the next scheduled

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distribution payment date following enrollment in the service.

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Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

TRANSFER AGENT

BNY Mellon Shareowner Services
P.O. Box 358035
Pittsburgh, PA 15252-8035
1-800-416-5585
www.bnymellon.com

DIRECT REGISTRATION

If you are a registered shareholder of the Fund, purchases of shares of the Fund can be electronically credited to your Fund account at BNY Mellon Shareowner Services through Direct Registration. This service provides shareholders with a convenient way to keep track of shares through book entry transactions, to electronically move book-entry shares between broker-dealers, transfer agents and DRS eligible issuers, and eliminates the possibility of lost certificates. For additional information, please contact BNY Mellon Shareowner Services at 1-800-416-5585.

SHAREHOLDER INFORMATION

Shares of Templeton Emerging Markets Fund are traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "EMF." Information about the net asset value and the market price is published each Monday in the WALL STREET JOURNAL, weekly in BARRON'S and each Saturday in THE NEW YORK TIMES and other newspapers. Daily market prices for the Fund's shares are published in the "New York Stock Exchange Composite Transactions" section of newspapers.

For current information about dividends and shareholder accounts, call 1-800-416-5585. Registered shareholders can access their Fund account on-line with INVESTOR SERVICEDIRECT(R). For information go to BNY Mellon Shareowner Services' web site at <https://vault.bnymellon.com/isd> and follow the instructions.

The daily closing net asset value as of the previous business day may be obtained when available by calling Franklin Templeton Fund Information after 7 a.m. Pacific time any business day at 1-800/DIAL BEN(R) (1-800/342-5236). The Fund's net asset value and dividends are also listed on the NASDAQ Stock Market, Inc.'s Mutual Fund Quotation Service ("NASDAQ MFQS").

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

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Templeton Emerging Markets Fund

SHAREHOLDER INFORMATION

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PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Fund's investment manager has established Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures (Policies) that the Fund uses to determine how to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities. Shareholders may view the Fund's complete Policies online at franklintempleton.com. Alternatively, shareholders may request copies of the Policies free of charge by calling the Proxy Group collect at (954) 527-7678 or by sending a written request to: Franklin Templeton Companies, LLC, 500 East Broward Boulevard, Suite 1500, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33394, Attention: Proxy Group. Copies of the Fund's proxy voting records are also made available online at franklintempleton.com and posted on the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's website at sec.gov and reflect the most recent 12-month period ended June 30.

QUARTERLY STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS

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

CERTIFICATIONS

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

In addition, the Fund's Chief Executive Officer - Finance and Administration and Chief Financial Officer and Chief Accounting Officer are required by the rules of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission to provide certain certifications with respect to the Fund's Form N-CSR and Form N-CSRS (which include the Fund's annual and semiannual reports to shareholders) that are filed semiannually with the Commission. The Fund has filed such certifications with its Form N-CSR for the year ended August 31, 2008. Additionally, the Fund expects to file, on or about April 30, 2009, such certifications with its Form N-CSRS for the six months ended February 28, 2009.

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(FRANKLIN TEMPLETON INVESTMENTS (R) LOGO) 100 Fountain Parkway
P.O. Box 33030
St. Petersburg, FL 33733-8030

SEMIANNUAL REPORT

TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

INVESTMENT MANAGER

Templeton Asset Management Ltd.

TRANSFER AGENT

BNY Mellon Shareowner Services
P.O. Box 358035

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Pittsburgh, PA 15252-8035
Toll free number: (800) 416-5585
Hearing Impaired phone number: (800) 231-5469
Foreign Shareholders phone number: (201) 680-6578
www.melloninvestor.com/isd

FUND INFORMATION
(800) 342-5236

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

To ensure the highest quality of service, telephone calls to or from our service departments may be monitored, recorded and accessed. These calls can be identified by the presence of a regular beeping tone.

TLEMF S2009 04/09

ITEM 2. CODE OF ETHICS.

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

ITEM 3. AUDIT COMMITTEE FINANCIAL EXPERT.

(a)(1) The Registrant has an audit committee financial expert serving on its audit committee.

- (2) The audit committee financial expert is David W. Niemiec and he is "independent" as defined under the relevant Securities and Exchange Commission Rules and Releases.

ITEM 4. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES. N/A

ITEM 5. AUDIT COMMITTEE OF LISTED REGISTRANTS.

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

ITEM 6. SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS. N/A

ITEM 7. DISCLOSURE OF PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR CLOSED-END MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES.

The board of trustees of the Fund has delegated the authority to vote proxies related to the portfolio securities held by the Fund to the Fund's manager Franklin Advisers, Inc. in accordance with the Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures (Policies) adopted by the manager.

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

To assist it in analyzing proxies, the manager subscribes to RiskMetrics Group (RiskMetrics), an unaffiliated third party corporate governance research service that provides in-depth analyses of shareholder meeting agendas, vote recommendations, recordkeeping and vote disclosure services. In addition, the manager subscribes to Glass, Lewis & Co., LLC (Glass Lewis), an unaffiliated third party analytical research firm, to receive analyses and vote recommendations on the shareholder meetings of publicly held U.S. companies. Although RiskMetrics' and/or Glass Lewis' analyses are thoroughly reviewed and considered in making a final voting decision, the manager does not consider recommendations from RiskMetrics, Glass Lewis or any other third party to be determinative of the manager's ultimate decision. As a matter of policy, the officers, directors/trustees and employees of the manager and the Proxy Group will not be influenced by outside sources whose interests conflict with the interests of the Fund and its shareholders. Efforts are made to resolve all conflicts in the interests of the manager's clients. Material conflicts of interest are identified by the Proxy Group based upon analyses of client, distributor, broker dealer and vendor lists, information periodically gathered from directors and officers, and information derived from other sources, including public filings. In situations where a material conflict of interest is identified, the Proxy Group may defer to the voting recommendation of RiskMetrics, Glass Lewis or those of another independent third party provider of proxy services; or send the proxy directly to the Fund with the manager's recommendation regarding the vote for approval. If the conflict is not resolved by the Fund, the Proxy Group may refer the matter, along with the recommended course of action by the manager, if any, to an interdepartmental Proxy Review Committee (which may include portfolio managers and/or research analysts employed by the manager), for evaluation and voting instructions. The Proxy Review Committee may defer to the voting recommendation of RiskMetrics, Glass Lewis or those of another independent third party provider of proxy services; or send the proxy directly to the Fund. Where the Proxy Group or the Proxy Review Committee refers a matter to the Fund, it may rely upon the instructions of a representative of the Fund, such as the board of directors or a committee of the board.

Where a material conflict of interest has been identified, but the items on which the manager's vote recommendations differ from Glass Lewis, RiskMetrics, or another independent third party provider of proxy services relate specifically to (1) shareholder proposals regarding social or environmental issues or political contributions, (2) "Other Business" without describing the matters that might be considered, or (3) items the manager wishes to vote in opposition to the recommendations of an issuer's management, the Proxy Group may defer to the vote recommendations of the manager rather than sending the proxy directly to the Fund for approval.

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

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

MANAGER'S PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PRINCIPLES The manager has adopted general proxy voting guidelines, which are summarized below. These guidelines are not an exhaustive list of all the issues that may arise and the manager cannot anticipate all future situations. In all cases, each proxy will be considered based on the relevant facts and circumstances.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS. The manager supports an independent board of directors, and prefers that key committees such as audit, nominating, and compensation committees be comprised of independent directors. The manager will generally vote against management efforts to classify a board and will generally support proposals to declassify the board of directors. The manager will consider withholding votes from directors who have attended less than 75% of meetings without a valid reason. While generally in favor of separating Chairman and CEO positions, the manager will review this issue as well as proposals to restore or provide for cumulative voting on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration factors such as the company's corporate governance guidelines or provisions and performance.

RATIFICATION OF AUDITORS OF PORTFOLIO COMPANIES. The manager will closely scrutinize the role and performance of auditors. On a case-by-case basis, the manager will examine proposals relating to non-audit relationships and non-audit fees. The manager will also consider, on a case-by-case basis, proposals to rotate auditors, and will vote against the ratification of auditors when there is clear and compelling evidence of accounting irregularities or negligence.

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

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

ANTI-TAKEOVER MECHANISMS AND RELATED ISSUES. The manager generally opposes anti-takeover measures since they tend to reduce shareholder rights. However, as with all proxy issues, the manager conducts an independent review of each anti-takeover proposal. On occasion, the manager may vote with management when the research analyst has concluded that the proposal is not onerous and would not harm the Fund or its shareholders' interests. The manager generally supports proposals that require shareholder rights' plans ("poison pills") to be subject

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to a shareholder vote and will closely evaluate such plans on a case-by-case basis to determine whether or not they warrant support. In addition, the manager will generally vote against any proposal to issue stock that has unequal or subordinate voting rights. The manager generally opposes any supermajority voting requirements as well as the payment of "greenmail." The manager generally supports "fair price" provisions and confidential voting.

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

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

SOCIAL AND CORPORATE POLICY ISSUES. The manager will generally give management discretion with regard to social, environmental and ethical issues, although the manager may vote in favor of those that are believed to have significant economic benefits or implications for the Fund and its shareholders.

GLOBAL CORPORATE GOVERNANCE. Many of the tenets discussed above are applied to the manager's proxy voting decisions for international investments. However, the manager must be flexible in these instances and must be mindful of the varied market practices of each region.

The manager will attempt to process every proxy it receives for all domestic and foreign issuers. However, there may be situations in which the manager cannot process proxies, for example, where a meeting notice was received too late, or sell orders preclude the ability to vote. If a security is on loan, the manager may determine that it is not in the best interests of the Fund to recall the security for voting purposes. Also, the manager may abstain from voting under certain circumstances or vote against items such as "Other Business" when the manager is not given adequate information from the company.

Shareholders may view the complete Policies online at franklintempleton.com. Alternatively, shareholders may request copies of the Policies free of charge by calling the Proxy Group collect at (954)527-7678 or by sending a written request to: Franklin Templeton Companies, LLC, 500 East Broward Boulevard, Suite 1500, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33394, Attention: Proxy Group. Copies of the Fund's proxy voting records are available online at franklintempleton.com and posted on the SEC website at www.sec.gov. The proxy voting records are updated each year by August 31 to reflect the most recent 12-month period ended June 30.

ITEM 8. PORTFOLIO MANAGERS OF CLOSED-END MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES. N/A

ITEM 9. PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES BY CLOSED-END MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANY AND AFFILIATED PURCHASERS. N/A

ITEM 10. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS.

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

ITEM 11. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.

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

Within 90 days prior to the filing date of this Shareholder Report on Form N-CSR, the Registrant had carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of the Registrant's management, including the Registrant's principal executive officer and the Registrant's principal financial officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Registrant's disclosure controls and procedures. Based on such evaluation, the Registrant's principal executive officer and principal financial officer concluded that the Registrant's disclosure controls and procedures are effective.

(B) CHANGES IN INTERNAL CONTROLS. There have been no significant changes in the Registrant's internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect the internal controls subsequent to the date of their evaluation in connection with the preparation of this Shareholder Report on Form N-CSR.

ITEM 12. EXHIBITS.

(a) (1) Code of Ethics

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

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

SIGNATURES

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

TEMPLETON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

By /s/LAURA F. FERGERSON

Laura F. Fergerson
Chief Executive Officer - Finance
and Administration

Date: April 27, 2009

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

By /s/LAURA F. FERGERSON

Laura F. Ferguson
Chief Executive Officer - Finance
and Administration

Date: April 27, 2009

By /s/MARK H. OTANI

Mark H. Otani
Chief Financial Officer and
Chief Accounting Officer

Date: April 27, 2009