

# Robeco Afrika Fonds N.V.

Investment company with variable capital incorporated under Dutch law  
Undertaking for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities  
Chamber of Commerce registration number 24432814

21

Annual Report 2021

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# Robeco Afrika Fonds N.V.

(investment company with variable capital, having its registered office in Rotterdam, the Netherlands)

## **Management board (and manager)**

Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. ('RIAM')

## **Executive Committee ('ExCo') of RIAM**

Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. ('RIAM')

Policymakers RIAM:

K. (Karin) van Baardwijk (Deputy CEO until 31 December 2021, CEO since 1 January 2022)\*

I.R.M. (Ivo) Frielink (since 1 March 2022)

M.C.W. (Mark) den Hollander \*

M.F. (Mark) van der Kroft

V. (Victor) Verberk

G.O.J.M. (Gilbert) Van Hassel (CEO, until 31 December 2021)\*

A.J.M. (Lia) Belilos-Wessels (until 31 January 2022)

M.O. (Martin) Nijkamp (until 31 December 2021)

H-C. (Christoph) von Reiche (until 31 March 2022)

\* also statutory director

## **Supervisory directors of RIAM:**

M.F. (Maarten) Slendebroek

S. (Sonja) Barendregt-Roojers

S.H. (Stanley) Koyanagi

M.A.A.C. (Mark) Talbot

R.R.L. (Radboud) Vlaar

## **Depositary and Transfer Agent**

J.P. Morgan SE, Amsterdam Branch (as a result of legal merger and name change as from 22 January 2022 legal successor of J.P.

Morgan Bank Luxembourg S.A., Amsterdam Branch)

Strawinskylaan 1135,

NL-1077 XX Amsterdam

## **Fund manager**

Cornelis E. Vlooswijk

## **Fund agent and paying agent**

ING Bank N.V.

Bijlmerplein 888,

NL-1102 MG Amsterdam

## **Independent Auditor**

KPMG Accountants N.V.

Papendorpseweg 83,

NL-3528 BJ Utrecht

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Chamber of Commerce registration number 24432814

# Report by the manager

## General information

### Legal aspects

Robeco Afrika Fonds N.V. (the 'fund') is an investment company with variable capital established in the Netherlands. The fund is an Undertaking for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities (UCITS), as referred to in Section 1:1 of the Dutch Financial Supervision Act (hereinafter: 'Wft') and the EU Directive for Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities (2014/91/EU, UCITS V). UCITS have to comply with certain restrictions to their investment policy in order to protect investors.

Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. ('RIAM') manages the fund. In this capacity, RIAM handles the asset management, risk management, administration, marketing and distribution of the fund. RIAM holds an AIFMD license as referred to in Section 2:65 Wft, as well as a license to manage UCITS as referred to in Section 2:69b Wft. RIAM is moreover authorized to manage individual assets and give advice with respect to financial instruments. RIAM is subject to supervision by the Dutch Authority for the Financial Markets (the 'AFM').

The assets of the fund are held in custody by J.P. Morgan SE, Amsterdam Branch. J.P. Morgan SE, Amsterdam Branch is appointed as the depositary of the fund as referred to in Section 4:62n Wft. The depositary is responsible for supervising the fund insofar as required under and in accordance with the applicable legislation. The manager, the fund and J.P. Morgan SE, Amsterdam Branch have concluded a depositary and custodian agreement.

The fund is subject to statutory supervision by the AFM. The fund is entered in the register as stated in Section 1:107 Wft.

In 2020, the AFM issued an Order under Penalty ('Last onder dwangsom') to Robeco to undertake a number of remedial measures to improve the processes in relation to the Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing (Prevention) Act ('Wwft') and the Sanctions Act ('Sw') in Robeco Retail, Robeco's on-line execution-only platform for Dutch retail customers before 31 December 2021.

The work to undertake remedial measures commenced in 2020 and has continued throughout 2021. To ensure full compliance while ensuring our business model remains future proof, we decided in early 2021 to stop accepting new direct retail clients until further notice, in order to focus on our existing clients. As part of the improvements we have a new administrative setup, including a semi-automated process to identify customers, new client screening tools to identify money laundering and terrorist financing risks, and new customer due diligence process tooling.

We reached out to all our clients to re-identify themselves throughout 2021. This was a necessary measure, but we regret the inconvenience this has caused to our clients. We have fully completed all required improvements to our processes before 31 December 2021 except one improvement which, with the consent of the AFM, was completed in the first quarter of 2022. In January 2022, Robeco provided a report to the AFM describing all actions Robeco took to resolve all the issues as stated in the Order under Penalty. The AFM has not yet informed us that they accept all our improvements or any penalty has been forfeited.

In connection to this matter, the AFM has imposed an administrative fine of EUR 2 million on 31 March 2022. We have accepted both the order and the fine and we will not file an appeal. We regret that not all of our processes met the required standards, and we trust that we have made the necessary improvements to prevent recurrence. We would like to emphasize that none of the deficient processes were related to or had an impact on our asset investment operations or the investment results for our clients.

### Merger of the Depositary, J.P. Morgan Bank Luxembourg S.A.

As part of the implementation of the J.P. Morgan legal entity strategy within Europe, J.P. Morgan Bank Luxembourg S.A. merged into J.P. Morgan AG which at the same time changed its legal form from a German Stock Corporation (Aktiengesellschaft) to a European Company (Societas Europaea), being J.P. Morgan SE (the "Merger").

As from 22 January 2022, J.P. Morgan SE, as the legal successor of J.P. Morgan Bank Luxembourg S.A., continued to act as Depositary through its Amsterdam Branch.

In the disclosures to the Financial Statements, the new name ("J.P. Morgan SE") is used.

### Robeco

When 'Robeco' is mentioned it means RIAM as well as the activities of other companies that fall within the scope of Robeco's management.

### Supervision by the Supervisory Board of Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V.

The Supervisory Board of Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. supervises the general affairs of Robeco and its businesses as managed by the Management Board and Executive Committee, including the funds under management.

During the meetings of the Supervisory Board, attention was paid, among other things, to developments in the financial markets and the performance of the funds. The interests of clients are considered to be a key issue and, consequently, an important point of focus.

# Report by the manager (continued)

## General information (continued)

### Supervision by the Supervisory Board of Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. (continued)

The Supervisory Board has ensured the application of Robeco's Principles on Fund Governance, which have been defined by Robeco to address conflicts of interest between Robeco as fund manager and the investors in the funds.

Based on periodic reports, the Supervisory Board discussed the results of the funds with the Management Board and Executive Committee. These discussions focused on the investment results, the development of assets under management as a result of market movements and the net inflow of new money as well as operational matters.

In the meetings of the Audit & Risk Committee of the Supervisory Board, amongst other things the (interim) financial reports of the funds and the reports of the independent auditor were discussed. In addition, risk management, incident management, tax, legal, compliance issues and quarterly reports from internal audit, compliance, legal affairs and risk management were discussed. Furthermore, the Audit & Risk Committee and Supervisory Board discussed the improvements for Robeco's processes required under the Dutch Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing (Prevention) Act and the Dutch Sanctions Act.

### Market Impact Covid-19

Robeco considers the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic as a significant event which may impact the investment funds under management. The impact of the pandemic on people, companies and the economy at large has been significant. Looking ahead, we see its impact fading as the pandemic becomes endemic. Higher immunity levels, lower severity of disease due to the Omicron variant and declining sensitivity of economic activity to pandemic restrictions have already notably improved the outlook. Yet, uncertainties remain given significant dispersion in vaccination rates, levels of immunity and Covid variants across the globe. Therefore, a slowdown in the trajectory towards herd immunity as a result of risks relating to vaccine logistics, vaccine side effects, reduced effectiveness, or public resistance to (mandatory) vaccination, may have a negative impact on markets.

### Our operational measures for business continuity

In response to the ongoing Covid-19 crisis, Robeco is constantly monitoring the latest developments and has taken all measures necessary to manage the situation and to ensure business continuity, while ensuring the health and safety of our clients, our employees and our suppliers. Our operational measures and capabilities are such that Robeco remains fully functional in managing client portfolios and serving clients. Our systems and platforms are designed to enable our staff, most of whom have worked from home throughout the crisis based on their local health and safety measures, to operate as normal. Our approach is one of vigilance and flexibility, allowing us to implement new or revised measures smoothly and as necessary.

### Share classes

The ordinary shares are divided into two series, both of which are open. Each series is designated as a share class. The series include the following share classes:

Share class A: Robeco Afrika Fonds

Share class B: Robeco Afrika Fonds - EUR G

The management fee for the Robeco Afrika Fonds - EUR G share class (without distribution fee) is lower than for the Robeco Afrika Fonds share class.

### Attribution to share classes

The administration of the fund is such that attribution of the results to the different share classes takes place on a daily basis and pro rata. Issues and repurchases of own shares are registered per share class. The differences between the various share classes are explained in notes 9, 12 and 15 to the financial statements.

### Tax features

On the basis of Section 28 of the Dutch Corporate Income Tax Act, the fund has the status of a fiscal investment company. This means that 0% corporate-income tax is due, providing that, after deducting 15% in Dutch dividend tax, the fund makes its profit available for distribution to shareholders in the form of dividend within eight months of the close of the financial year and satisfies any other relevant regulations.

### Liquidity of ordinary shares

The fund is an open-end investment company, meaning that, barring exceptional circumstances, it issues and repurchases ordinary shares on a daily basis at prices approximating net asset value, augmented or reduced by a limited surcharge or discount. The only purpose of this surcharge or discount is to cover the costs made by the fund related to the entry and exit of investors. The actual maximum surcharge or discount is published on [www.robeco.com/riam](http://www.robeco.com/riam). The surcharges and discounts are recognized in the profit and loss account.

Both the Robeco Afrika Fonds and the Robeco Afrika Fonds - EUR G share class are listed on Euronext Amsterdam<sup>1</sup>, Euronext Fund Service segment.

<sup>1</sup> Depending on the distributor, investments can be made in Robeco Afrika Fonds or Robeco Afrika Fonds - EUR G.

# Report by the manager (continued)

## General information (continued)

### Key investor information and prospectus

A prospectus has been prepared for Robeco Afrika Fonds N.V. with information on the fund, the costs and the risks. A key investor information document has been prepared for each share class of the investment company with information on the product and its associated costs and risks. These documents are available free of charge at the fund's offices and at [www.robeco.com](http://www.robeco.com).

### Information for investors in the respective countries

The information below applies only to investors in the respective countries.

#### Representative and paying agent in Germany (until 30 June 2021)

State Street Bank GmbH - Frankfurt Branch (Agent Fund Trading), Solmsstrasse 83, D-60486 Frankfurt am Main is the fund's appointed representative in Germany. The information address for Germany is Robeco Deutschland, Zweigniederlassung der Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V., Taunusanlage 17, D-60325 Frankfurt am Main. The prospectus, the Articles of Association and the annual/semi-annual reports may be obtained free of charge from the information address. The prices at which shares are bought and sold are published on [www.robeco.de](http://www.robeco.de).

#### Financial services in Belgium

CACEIS Belgium N.V., Havenstraat 86C Bus 320, 1000 Brussels, is appointed as financial services provider in Belgium. The most recent periodic reports, the prospectus and the Key Investor Information and other information about the fund are available from them in Dutch and English.

### Audit committee tasks

An audit committee must be set up for investment funds that are classified as public interest entities (PIE). The Robeco funds are exempt from appointing an audit committee on the basis of Article 3 of the 'Besluit instelling auditcommissie'. This means that Robeco's funds with PIE status do not have an audit committee. However, the absence of an audit committee does not mean that the associated tasks will be canceled, but that they must have been assigned elsewhere in the Robeco organization. Within Robeco, these tasks will be performed by the Executive Committee of Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. (the "ExCo").

# Report by the manager (continued)

## Key figures per share class

### Overview 2017-2021

Robeco Afrika Fonds	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	Average
<b>Performance in % based on:</b>						
– Market price <sup>1,2</sup>	28.5	-15.9	12.4	-16.0	14.5	3.2
– Net asset value <sup>1,2</sup>	28.5	-16.3	10.3	-15.3	14.6	2.9
50% MSCI EFM Africa ex South Africa Index (Net Return) + 50% MSCI South Africa Index (Net Return) <sup>3</sup>	15.4	-11.6	15.5	-14.9	13.4	2.6
Dividend in euros <sup>4</sup>	3.80	3.20	8.00 <sup>6</sup>	3.60	2.20	
Total net assets <sup>5</sup>	3	2	5	9	13	

Robeco Afrika Fonds – EUR G	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	Average
<b>Performance in % based on:</b>						
– Market price <sup>1,2</sup>	29.6	-15.1	13.4	-15.4	15.5	4.1
– Net asset value <sup>1,2</sup>	29.6	-15.6	11.3	-15.0	15.6	3.7
50% MSCI EFM Africa ex South Africa Index (Net Return) + 50% MSCI South Africa Index (Net Return) <sup>3</sup>	15.4	-11.6	15.5	-14.9	13.4	2.6
Dividend in euros <sup>4</sup>	4.20	3.00	3.80 <sup>6</sup>	3.20	3.00	
Total net assets <sup>5</sup>	22	16	20	21	26	

<sup>1</sup> The differences between the performance based on market price and the performance based on net asset value is caused by the fact that the market price is the NAV of the previous trading day corrected for the surcharge or discount as described under Liquidity of ordinary shares.

<sup>2</sup> Any dividend payments that are distributed in any year are assumed to have been reinvested in the fund.

<sup>3</sup> This concerns a reference index.

<sup>4</sup> The dividend relates to the reporting year mentioned and is distributed in the following year. The figure for 2021 is a proposal. Further information on the proposed dividend can be found in the section Proposed profit appropriation on page 40.

<sup>5</sup> In millions of euros.

<sup>6</sup> In order to meet the tax distribution obligation, a revised dividend proposal was submitted to the General Meeting of Shareholders (GMS). This proposal was approved by the GMS.

## General introduction

### Financial markets environment

In 2021, the global economic business cycle progressed from recovery into accelerating expansion. The latest IMF projections show global real GDP to have grown by 5.9% in 2021 compared to the 3.1% global real GDP contraction in 2020. The ‘trilemma’ challenging policymakers, i.e. solving the Covid health crisis, maintaining economic momentum, and safeguarding personal freedoms all at once, notably eased. Increased vaccination rates and the emergence of milder Covid variants towards the end of 2021 contributed. In addition, the sensitivity of economic activity to pandemic related restrictions declined, partly thanks to increased digitisation across sectors. Continuing fiscal- and monetary policy support underpinned the upward growth trajectory in developed markets as well. Leading indicators in the US, like the ISM non-manufacturing index, hit all-time highs.

Yet, the economic landscape in 2021 portrayed widely divergent recoveries. Whilst advanced economies enjoyed above trend GDP growth, the global expansion became less synchronized. Emerging markets experienced a slowdown in the recovery pace on the back of local fiscal overreach, an early tightening cycle by central banks to address rampant domestic inflation and a Chinese policy paradigm shift. The “Common Prosperity” program launched by Chinese president Xi Jinping to boost productivity growth and tackle economic inequality, has produced a regulatory crackdown that has left China’s traditional growth engines (manufacturing, real estate, infrastructure and technology) sputtering. The restructuring of real estate giant Evergrande is exemplary in this respect.

# Report by the manager (continued)

## General introduction (continued)

### Financial markets environment (continued)

In addition to Covid-19, intensifying supply chain constraints and receding economic slack made inflation top of mind in 2021. With both cyclical- as well as non-cyclical forces exerting upward pressure, the closely watched US core Personal Consumption Expenditure inflation index reached the highest level in 30 years, touching 4.9% in December 2021. Natural disasters like a historic flooding in Germany and Belgium show climate change is becoming more evident by the day. The COP26 climate summit in Glasgow in November 2021 delivered important pledges like halting deforestation, reducing methane emissions and phasing out coal to deliver on the Paris Agreement goal of limiting global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial level.

### Robeco statement on Ukraine

At Robeco we are deeply saddened by the situation in Ukraine. Our thoughts and hearts are with the innocent people affected by this human tragedy. While we don't have offices in Ukraine or Russia, we do employ people from these countries. We stand firmly with them and keep them in our thoughts during this devastating time. Russia has committed a violation of international law by invading a sovereign state which we condemn. We believe that this situation calls for restrictions that go beyond the current sanctions imposed by the EU and the US. Robeco cares deeply about the situation in Ukraine and the humanitarian impact. That's why we have donated to the International Red Cross to support the victims of this crisis.

### Markets outlook

The global economy is confronted with yet another negative supply shock in the aftermath of the Covid shock. There are several key channels through which the conflict impacts the global economy. Rising commodity prices, worsening financial conditions and elevated policy uncertainty (sanctions regime, conflict escalation), negatively impact inflation, consumer confidence and real activity. Also in this respect it is near impossible to estimate the impact with sufficient accuracy given historically stretched volatility in real activity. Yet, the OECD Interim Report of March 2022 estimates suggests the impact of the conflict will shave of 1% of global GDP growth compared to OECD's prior estimates for 2022. This would amount to an earnings per share growth impact for the global MSCI AC World benchmark in the order of minus 2-6%.

Russia has transformed from a respected emerging market (EM) constituent to the pariah of global financial markets, thereby impacting the financial wealth of our clients. However, the humans affected by these geopolitical events ultimately bear the real costs.

These recent events remind us how important it is to focus on financial wealth as well as well-being when managing portfolios on behalf of our clients. Given the size of Russia in emerging and global indices and the objective of our portfolios to deliver high absolute or relative risk-adjusted returns, it means that having exposure to these stocks has been inevitable for most portfolios. Therefore, and this accounts for all emerging markets, when selecting stocks we always aim to integrate sustainability dimensions in the best way possible when searching for alpha opportunities. The sustainability integration made us aware risk premia should be high for Russian assets and therefore we often only had limited positions.

Trading in the Moscow stock exchange has partially resumed for 33 stocks of the 50 stocks with foreign investors forbidden to sell stocks until April 1st 2022. It is yet unclear whether there will be continued reluctance among brokers and custodians to facilitate trading and settlement.

Meanwhile, index providers MSCI and FTSE have confirmed the new treatment of Russia. MSCI Russia will be reclassified from 'emerging markets' status to 'standalone markets', effective after market close on 9 March 2022. FTSE Russia will be removed from all FTSE Russell Equity Indices, taking effect after market close on 4 March.

Ramped up sanctions against Russia have severely weakened the country's ability to meet its international financial obligations. According to the central bank of Russia total debt owed to foreigners stood at USD 490 bn at the end of September 2021. How much of this exposure will ultimately be wiped out remains uncertain. The drastic measures have prompted a widening of Russian credit default swaps to peak at 6954 basis points on March 14th 2022 and caused the ruble to tumble by more than 40%.

The EU has barred 7 Russian banks from SWIFT effective after 12 March 2022. For now, one area still carved out from sanctions is energy. Russia continues to export its gas to Europe and its oil globally – although the discount on Russian oil is increasing as some countries are banning the purchase of Russian barrels. As it is the single most important source of income into the state coffers, trade in energy remains a lifeline for the Russian government.

Besides oil, Russia is also responsible for a significant portion of global production in a number of commodities given its resource-rich landmass. The war has therefore had an impact on the prices of soft and hard commodities, adding to upward pressure on inflation. The impact of sanctions on global supply chains is a further consideration for inflation.

Other commodity-rich EM countries stand to benefit from this unfortunate situation. South Africa, for example, could benefit given its exposure to gold and platinum-group metals. Certain Latin American countries could similarly benefit, given their resource base. Of course, the opposite is true for commodity-importing countries, who will be hurt by rising prices.



# Report by the manager (continued)

## General introduction (continued)

### Markets outlook (continued)

Indirect exposures to Russia are possible, for example via issuers that derive part of their revenues from Russian clients, through Russian companies with subsidiaries in other jurisdictions, or via market moves driven by the geopolitical situation. Portfolio managers and analysts continuously assess the impact of such indirect exposure on the qualitative and quantitative investment theses of such issuers.

### Operational Impact & Risks of the Russian – Ukrainian conflict

Robeco has a wide range of IT-controls and procedures to cover the risk of cyber-attacks on its operations. Robeco confirms no cyber security incidents and all appropriate controls are in place.

Robeco's Cyber security analysis function assesses the actual threats for Robeco, including developments related to Russia and Ukraine. Based on our security monitoring we identify increased scans and attempts from external sources, but with no impact on our operations. Based on the analyses specific security events are monitored or investigated and additional security measures are implemented if needed. Robeco works closely together with other organizations to share information, e.g. via the FI-ISAC<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Financial Services Information Sharing and Analysis Center

### Outlook for Africa

Our base scenario is that after Omicron no severe new Covid variant will emerge. That implies tourism can start to recover in South Africa, Egypt, Mauritius, Kenya and Botswana while in all nations growth will be boosted due to fewer restrictions. South Africa will still have some tail wind from reasonably high prices of palladium, rhodium, gold and iron ore. This means it probably will have another current account surplus this year and that makes its currency less vulnerable in case interest rates in the US and elsewhere continue to rise. The fiscal position is South Africa's weak spot as additional government spending and lower tax proceeds due to Covid have pushed government debt up. The government aims to keep spending under control but that is not easy as civil servants and unemployed people form a big part of the voting base of the governing party. For Nigeria the oil price is key for exports, the government budget and central bank reserves. The currently quite high oil price is favorable for Nigeria. Despite that we believe there is risk of a currency devaluation as cash repatriation out of Nigeria is currently restricted by the central bank. If a devaluation would happen, we believe most of that negative impact will be compensated by a rerating of local share prices as equity valuations are currently very low. Egypt will struggle with higher food import costs as supplies from Ukraine and to a lesser extent Russia are disrupted but they will receive financial support from rich Arab nations to manage this. Botswana, Ghana, Kenya and Mauritius all appear on track for solid economic growth in 2022.

## Investment policy

### Introduction

Traditional problems in Africa, such as the poor business climate, political instability and low productivity growth are gradually decreasing. Laws and regulations are developing and compliance levels are improving, which are important preconditions for long-term investment by entrepreneurs. The portfolio includes liquid stocks listed in South Africa or London, many quite liquid stocks listed in Egypt, Nigeria and Kenya and small positions in less liquid but attractive small cap stocks listed in various African countries. With the latter category we aim to achieve outperformance by investing early in stocks that are overlooked by most other investors. The fund aims to benefit from Robeco's expertise in the various sectors and countries in which investments are made. In general, investments will be made only in listed shares, although the prospectus allows investments of up to 10% of total assets in unlisted shares.

### Investment objective

The objective of the fund is to offer access to stocks of companies domiciled on the African continent or that make most of their sales and/or earnings in this region. The fund's index consists of 50% MSCI EFM Africa ex South Africa (Net Return) + 50% MSCI South Africa (Net Return).

### Implementation of the investment policy

Country allocation is the first step of the investment policy. It is based on an analysis of macro-economic and political variables but also takes stock-market valuation, expected earnings growth and liquidity into account. After this, the most attractive stocks are selected in each country. This is done based on fundamental analysis of the business and the valuation of the stock. The policy to keep trading volumes low was maintained in light of high transaction costs. The daily inflows/outflows were used to reposition the portfolio. The fund remained underweight (versus the index) in South Africa because we saw more earnings growth potential elsewhere and stocks in South Africa were more expensive than stocks elsewhere in Africa. This resulted in a tiny positive contribution as South Africa slightly lagged the average of other countries in the index. Stock selection within South Africa was very strong as many cheap small cap companies performed better than their large peers that are included in the reference index. Our Nigerian stocks on average performed better than the reference index and hence they contributed positively. In Kenya we moved from a small overweight to a small underweight as we reduced Safaricom because we see more attractively valued telecom stocks elsewhere in Africa. Both country allocation and stock selection were positive for Kenya. We maintained a small underweight position in domestically exposed Egyptian stocks but including pan-African Afreximbank (headquartered in Egypt) the fund is overweight. Both country allocation and stock selection were good for Egypt. The fund maintained significant off-index positions in Botswana, Ghana and Zambia. That contributed positively as on average these stocks performed very well.

# Report by the manager (continued)

## Investment policy (continued)

### Currency policy

An active currency policy is pursued with the euro as base currency. The fund may use forward exchange transactions to adjust these currency weights. The management of the currency risk is part of the total risk management of the fund. For further quantitative information on the currency risk, we refer to the information on currency risk provided on page 28.

### Policy on derivatives

The prospectus permits the use of derivatives, but due to the cost of this, they will only be used in exceptional circumstances. This might involve large inflows or outflows at the point at which a number of key markets are closed. Using derivatives, exposure to equity markets can be bought or sold to avoid the fund gaining an excessively large or small exposure to equity markets.

## Investment result

### Net investment result per share class

Share class	Price in EUR x 1 31/12/2021	Price in EUR x 1 31/12/2020	Dividend paid June 2021 <sup>1</sup>	Investment result in reporting period in % <sup>2</sup>
<i>Robeco Afrika Fonds</i>			3.20	
- Market price	102.59	82.74		28.5
- Net asset value	102.59	82.74		28.5
<i>Robeco Afrika Fonds – EUR G</i>			3.00	
- Market price	90.44	72.47		29.6
- Net asset value	90.44	72.47		29.6

<sup>1</sup> Ex-date.

<sup>2</sup> Any dividend payments that are distributed in any year are assumed to have been reinvested in the fund.

### Net returns per share <sup>1</sup>

EUR x 1	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
<b>Robeco Afrika Fonds</b>					
Investment income	4.91	4.39	5.19	4.97	4.65
Change in value	19.73	-23.37	7.02	-21.46	14.19
Management costs, service fee and other costs	-1.88	-1.71	-2.22	-2.52	-2.44
<b>Net result</b>	<b>22.76</b>	<b>-20.69</b>	<b>9.99</b>	<b>-19.01</b>	<b>16.40</b>
<b>Robeco Afrika Fonds – EUR G</b>					
Investment income	4.32	3.66	4.28	4.09	3.77
Change in value	17.37	-19.45	5.81	-17.64	11.24
Management costs, service fee and other costs	-0.94	-0.82	-1.07	-1.22	-1.14
<b>Net result</b>	<b>20.75</b>	<b>-16.61</b>	<b>9.02</b>	<b>-14.77</b>	<b>13.87</b>

<sup>1</sup> Based on the average amount of shares outstanding during the reporting year. The average number of shares is calculated on a daily basis.

Over the reporting period, Robeco Afrika Fonds N.V. generated a return of 31.1% (gross of fees in EUR), against a return of 15.4% for its reference index, which consists of 50% MSCI EFM Africa ex South Africa (Net Return in EUR) + 50% MSCI South Africa (Net Return in EUR) with yearly rebalancing on 1 February. The fund outperformed the reference index by 15.7%. Around half of the outperformance was driven by country allocation with a strong recovery in countries that are not part of the reference index: Zambia, Ghana and Botswana. Another big contribution came from strong stock selection in South Africa and that was for an important part due to share price recoveries for a wide variety of small cap companies. Stock selection within Nigeria and Egypt was also strong.

# Report by the manager (continued)

## Investment result (continued)

### Return and risk

The investment result is important, but risk management is vital as well. In terms of concentration risk, the fund adheres to the UCITS guidelines, which dictate that an individual issuer may not make up more than 10% of the fund. Furthermore, the fund managers diversify across many African countries. With holdings in eleven African countries, economic exposure to many other countries and around 85 individual stocks, the fund is well diversified in terms of country risk and individual company risk. The fund managers also factor in the liquidity of the portfolio so that positions can be built up or sold down easily and without prohibitive costs in case of sharp inflows to or outflows from the fund. Since the founding of the fund in June 2008, the fund has always been able to generate cash for daily liquidity to clients entering or exiting the fund. This is largely due to the portfolio being invested in South Africa, while the markets of Egypt and Kenya usually also show good liquidity levels. The portfolio also has positions in businesses that mainly do business in Africa but that are listed in developed markets and most of those stocks can be sold at low transaction costs. The portfolio's beta versus the index was 0.52 in 2021. In general, a portfolio with a beta of less than 1 rises less than the market in a rising market and declines less than the market in a declining market. The fund does not have a specific beta target; the portfolio's beta is a result of the stocks selected. The fund has a very long investment horizon of more than five years. We buy equities that we expect to outperform the market over the longer term. To keep transaction costs low, the fund primarily uses the inflows and outflows of the fund to reposition the portfolio.

Due to net inflow in the fund and some other countries performing even better than Nigeria, the weight of Nigeria in the portfolio declined during the year from 16.6% to 13.8%. This is an overweight position versus the reference index. We would have liked to further reduce that overweight because of ongoing difficulties to repatriate money (e.g., received dividends) out of Nigeria due to restrictions imposed by the central bank and that indicates there is devaluation risk. The only way to quickly get money out of the country is to buy a locally listed share of a company with a dual listing, convert that Nigeria-listed share in the UK-listed share and subsequently sell that UK-listed share. However, that mechanism involves significant transaction costs and a value loss versus the official exchange rate. Taking also into account the very low valuation of Nigerian stocks we chose to keep all our positions.

### Risk management

A description of the risk management can be found in the notes to the financial statements on pages 26 through 33.

### Movements in net assets

Over the reporting period, the assets under management of the Robeco Afrika Fonds N.V. rose by EUR 7.1 million to EUR 25.2 million. This increase can be explained by the following items. On balance, shares were issued to the amount of EUR 2.4 million. Addition of the net result increased the assets by EUR 5.5 million. EUR 0.8 million was distributed in dividend.

### Survey of movements in net assets

	2021 EUR' 000	2020 EUR' 000
<b>Assets at opening date</b>	<b>18,027</b>	<b>25,091</b>
Company shares issued	7,239	3,617
Company shares repurchased	(4,877)	(5,361)
<b>Situation on closing date</b>	<b>20,389</b>	<b>23,347</b>
Investment income	1,157	934
Receipts on surcharges and discounts on issuance and repurchase of own shares	97	71
Management fee	(218)	(186)
Service fee	(57)	(40)
Other costs	–	(8)
	<b>979</b>	<b>771</b>
Changes in value	4,551	(5,041)
<b>Net result</b>	<b>5,530</b>	<b>(4,270)</b>
Dividend paid	(754)	(1,050)
<b>Assets at closing date</b>	<b>25,165</b>	<b>18,027</b>

# Report by the manager (continued)

## Remuneration policy

### Introduction and scope

The fund itself does not employ any personnel and is managed by Robeco Institutional Asset Management BV (hereafter 'RIAM'). In the Netherlands, persons performing duties for the fund at management-board level and portfolio managers are employed by Robeco Nederland B.V. The remuneration for these persons comes out of the management fee.

This is a reflection of the Remuneration Policy of RIAM. The remuneration policy of RIAM applies to all employees of RIAM. The policy follows applicable laws, rules, regulations and regulatory guidance including, without limitation, chapter 1.7 of the Wft, article 5 of SFDR, the ESMA Remuneration Guidelines under UCITS, the ESMA Remuneration Guidelines under AIFMD and the ESMA Guidelines under MIFID.

### Goals of the Remuneration Policy

The RIAM Remuneration Policy has the following objectives:

- To stimulate employees to act in our clients' best interests and to prevent potential conduct of business and conflict of interest risks, adversely affecting the interests of clients;
- To support effective risk management and avoid employees taking undesirable risks, taking into account the internal risk management framework;
- To ensure a healthy corporate culture, focused on achieving sustainable results in accordance with the long-term objectives of RIAM, its clients and other stakeholders;
- To ensure consistency between the remuneration policy and environmental, social and governance risks and sustainable investment objectives by including these risks in the key performance indicators (KPIs) used for the determination of variable compensation of individual staff members;
- To provide for a market competitive remuneration to retain and attract talent.

### Responsibility for and application of the policy

The RIAM Remuneration Policy is determined and applied by and on behalf of RIAM with the approval, where applicable, of the Supervisory Board of RIAM on the advice of the Nomination & Remuneration Committee (a committee of the Supervisory Board of RIAM) and, where applicable, the shareholders (Robeco Holding B.V. and ORIX Corporation Europe N.V.).

Where considered appropriate the Supervisory Board of RIAM can request the advice of the Monitoring Committee<sup>1</sup> or individual Monitoring functions in exercising their responsibilities.

<sup>1</sup> The Monitoring Committee consist of the Heads of Compliance, Legal, Operational Risk and Human Resources.

## Fixed remuneration

### Monthly fixed pay

Each individual employee's monthly fixed pay is determined based on their function and/or responsibility and experience according to the RIAM salary ranges and with reference to the benchmarks of the investment management industry in the relevant region. The fixed remuneration is sufficiently high to remunerate the professional services rendered, in line with the level of education, the degree of seniority, the level of expertise and skills required, job experience, the relevant business sector and region.

### Temporary allowances

A temporary allowance may be granted in principle for a period of two years and can be extended, with annual evaluation. The purpose of such an allowance is to ensure market competitiveness, for example, in a scarce labor market (market-driven scarcity allowance), to set up business activities in new countries or markets (new business market allowance) or to secure key staff for a strategic investment capability. Such allowances are solely function and/or responsibility based and are not related to the performance of the individual employee or RIAM as a whole.

### Variable remuneration

A variable remuneration budget is established for all RIAM employees as a whole. The budget is set as a percentage of the pre-incentive EBIT of RIAM, determined from year to year. It requires the approval of the Supervisory Board of RIAM after advice of the Nomination & Remuneration Committee of the Supervisory Board of RIAM. The variable remuneration pool is established based on the financial results and includes a risk assessment on the total actual variable remuneration pool. In such assessment both financial and non-financial risks are taken into account, consistent with the risk profile of RIAM, the applicable businesses and the underlying client portfolios.

To the extent that the variable remuneration pool allows, each employee's variable remuneration will be determined at the reasonable discretion of Robeco, taking into account the employee's behavior and individual and team and/or the department's performance, based on pre-determined financial and non-financial performance factors (KPIs). Poor performance or unethical or non-compliant behavior will reduce individual awards or can even result in no variable remuneration being awarded at all. Furthermore, the variable remuneration of all RIAM staff is appropriately balanced with the fixed remuneration.

# Report by the manager (continued)

## Remuneration policy (continued)

### Variable remuneration (continued)

The KPIs for investment professionals are mainly based on the risk-adjusted excess returns over one, three and five years. For sales professionals, the KPIs are mostly related to the net run rate revenue, and client relationship management. The KPIs should not encourage excessive risk-taking. Furthermore, sustainability KPIs are set to ensure decisions are taken in line with the sustainability risk considerations related to investment strategies and also facilitate the implementation of relevant ESG risk-related factors consistent with our sustainability risk policy. The KPIs for support professionals are mainly non-financial and role-specific. KPIs for Control Functions are predominantly (70% or more) function and/or responsibility specific and non-financial in nature. KPIs may not be based on the financial results of the part of the business they oversee in their monitoring role.

At least 50% of all employees' KPIs are non-financial.

### Payment and deferral of variable remuneration and conversion into instruments

Unless stated otherwise in this paragraph, variable remuneration up to EUR 50,000 is paid in cash immediately after being awarded. If an employee's variable remuneration exceeds EUR 50,000, 60% is paid in cash immediately and the remaining 40% is deferred and converted into instruments, as shown in the table below. These instruments are 'Robeco Cash Appreciation Rights' (R-CARs), the value of which reflects the financial results over a rolling eight-quarter period of all direct or indirect subsidiaries of RIAM and Robeco Holding B.V.

	<i>Year 1</i>	<i>Year 2</i>	<i>Year 3</i>	<i>Year 4</i>
Cash payment	60%			
R-CARs redemption		13.34%	13.33%	13.33%

### Severance payments

No severance is paid in case of voluntary resignation of the employee or in case of dismissal of the employee for seriously culpable behavior. Severance payments to daily policy makers as determined in the Wft are capped at 100% of fixed remuneration and no severance shall be paid to daily policy makers in case of dismissal due to a failure of the institution, e.g., in case of a request for state aid or if substantial sanctions are imposed by the regulator.

### Additional rules for Identified Staff and Heads of Control Functions

The rules below apply to Heads of Control Functions (Compliance, Risk Management, Internal Audit) and Identified Staff. These rules apply in addition to the existing rules as set out above and will prevail in the event of inconsistencies. Identified Staff is defined as employees who can have a material impact on the risk profile of Robeco and/or the funds it manages. Identified Staff includes:

- members of the governing body, senior management, (senior) portfolio management staff and the heads of the monitoring functions other than control functions;
- other risk-takers as defined in the AIFMD and UCITS V, whose total remuneration places them in the same remuneration bracket as the group described above.

### Monitoring and Control Staff

The following rules apply to the fixed and variable remuneration of Monitoring and Control Staff:

- The fixed remuneration is sufficient to guarantee that Robeco can attract qualified and experienced staff.
- The business objectives of Monitoring and Control Staff are predominantly role-specific and non-financial.
- The financial business objectives are not based on the financial results of the part of the business that the employee covers in his or her own monitoring role.
- The appraisal and the related award of remuneration are determined independently of the business they oversee.
- The above rules apply in addition to the rules which apply to the Identified Staff if an employee is considered to be part of both the Monitoring or Control Staff and Identified Staff.
- The remuneration of the Head of Compliance and the Head of Risk<sup>1</sup> falls under the direct supervision of the Nomination & Remuneration Committee of the Supervisory Board of RIAM.

<sup>1</sup> There are 3 Heads of Risk Management: Head of Operational Risk, Head of Financial Risk, Head of Investment Restrictions.

# Report by the manager (continued)

## Remuneration policy (continued)

### Identified Staff

The following rules apply to the fixed and variable remuneration of Identified Staff:

- The fixed remuneration is sufficient to guarantee that Robeco can attract qualified and experienced staff.
- Part of the variable remuneration is paid in cash and part of it is deferred and converted into instruments, based on the payment/redemption table below. The threshold of EUR 50,000 does not apply. In the rare event that the amount of variable remuneration is more than twice the amount of fixed remuneration, the percentages between brackets in the table below will apply
- Individual variable remuneration is approved by the Supervisory Board of RIAM.

	<i>Year 1</i>	<i>Year 2</i>	<i>Year 3</i>	<i>Year 4</i>	<i>Year 5</i>
Cash payment	30% (20%)	6.67% (10%)	6.66% (10%)	6.66% (10%)	
R-CARs redemption		30% (20%)	6.67% (10%)	6.66% (10%)	6.66% (10%)

### Risk control measures

Robeco has identified the following risks that must be taken into account in applying its remuneration policy:

- misconduct or a serious error of judgement on the part of employees (such as taking non-permitted risks, violating compliance guidelines or exhibiting behavior that conflicts with the core values) in order to meet business objectives or other objectives
- a considerable deterioration in Robeco's financial result becomes apparent
- a serious violation of the risk management system is committed
- evidence that fraudulent acts have been committed by employees
- behavior that results in considerable losses.

The following risk control measures apply, all of which are monitored by the Supervisory Board of RIAM.

### Clawback – for all employees

Robeco may reclaim all or part of the variable remuneration paid if (i) this payment was made on the basis of incorrect information, (ii) in the event that fraud has been committed by the employee, (iii) in the event of serious improper behavior on the part of the employee or serious negligence in the performance of his or her tasks, or (iv) in the event of behavior that has resulted in considerable losses for the organization.

### Ex-post malus – for Identified Staff

Before paying any part of the deferred remuneration, Robeco may decide, as a form of ex-post risk adjustment, to apply a malus on the following grounds:

- misconduct or a serious error of judgement on the part of the employee, such as committing a serious violation of the internal code of conduct, taking non-permitted risks, violating the compliance guidelines or exhibiting behavior that conflicts with the core values
- a considerable deterioration in Robeco's financial results that changes the circumstances as assessed at the time the relevant variable remuneration was awarded
- a serious violation of the risk management system which changes the circumstances as assessed at the time the relevant variable remuneration was awarded
- fraud committed by the relevant employee as a result of which the award of variable remuneration was based on incorrect and misleading information

### Ex-ante test at individual level – for Identified Staff

Individual variable remuneration for Identified Staff requires the approval of the Management Board, taking into account the advice of the Monitoring Committee. The variable remuneration of Identified staff being Executive Committee members or Head of a Control Function also requires the approval of the Supervisory Board of RIAM advised by the Nomination & Remuneration Committee of the Supervisory Board of RIAM.

### Shareholder approval

In accordance with our governance, the Supervisory Board of RIAM, advised by the Nomination & Remuneration Committee of the Supervisory Board of RIAM as well as the shareholders (Robeco Holding B.V. and ORIX Corporation Europe N.V.) gives its approval on the remuneration of the members of the Management Board and high earners.

### Annual audit

Internal Audit audits the Robeco Remuneration Policy annually, as well as verifying the implementation of possible amendments to it and that remuneration has been in compliance with the policy.

# Report by the manager (continued)

## Remuneration policy (continued)

### Remuneration in 2021

Of the total amounts granted in remuneration<sup>1</sup> by RIAM in 2021 to the group's Board, Identified Staff and Other Employees, the following amounts are to be assigned to the fund:

#### Remuneration in EUR x 1

Staff category	Fixed pay for 2021	Variable pay for 2021
Board (3 members)	276	596
Identified Staff (101) (ex Board)	2,658	3,036
Other employees (653 employees)	8,192	3,370

The total of the fixed and variable remuneration charged to the fund is EUR 18,128. Imputation occurs according to the following key:

$$\text{Total remuneration (fixed and variable) x } \frac{\text{Total fund assets}}{\text{Total assets under management (RIAM)}}$$

The fund itself does not employ any personnel and has therefore not paid any remuneration above EUR 1 million.

<sup>1</sup> The remunerations relate to activities performed for one or more Robeco entities.

### Remuneration manager

The manager (RIAM) has paid to 8 employees a total remuneration above EUR 1 million.

## Sustainable investing

All Robeco's investment activities comply with the Principles for Responsible Investing (PRI). In 2020, Robeco was awarded an A+ for all applicable modules that were assessed as part of the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) 2020 report. Due to a change in methodology, no assessment scores were awarded by the PRI for 2021. Robeco's next score will be awarded in 2022. Responsibility for implementing Sustainable investing lies with the CIO Fixed Income and Sustainability, who also has a seat on Robeco's Executive Committee.

### Focus on stewardship

Fulfilling our responsibilities in the field of stewardship forms an integral part of Robeco's approach to Sustainable investing. A core aspect of Robeco's mission is fulfilling our fiduciary duties towards our clients and beneficiaries. Robeco manages investments for a variety of clients with different investment needs. We always strive in everything we do to serve our clients interests to the best of our ability.

We publish our own stewardship policy on our website. This policy describes how we deal with possible conflicts of interest, how we monitor the companies in which we invest, how we conduct activities in the field of engagement and voting, and how we report on our stewardship activities. To mark our strong commitment to stewardship, we are signatories to many different stewardship codes across the globe.

### AGM season 2021, a proxy season like no other

Climate change is now a cornerstone of investor stewardship but addressing this topic through votes at shareholder meetings is relatively novel. However, the 2021 proxy voting season has demonstrated that boards will be held accountable for their climate-related oversight by proxy advisors, activist groups, and institutional investors alike.

Historically, shareholders have addressed their climate change concerns to boards through filing shareholder proposals. In the US for instance, the number of climate-related shareholder proposals filed has steadily risen over the years, from 34 in 2012 to over 140 in 2020. Of the proposals filed, many get withdrawn if the request is adopted by the company, but some proposals are also challenged by companies and omitted from the AGM. Although these challenges are intended for poorly drafted or immaterial proposals, companies lagging in climate action often use this mechanism to skirt the concerns raised by shareholders. In these cases, shareholders may escalate their climate-concerns by voting against the nomination of board directors such as the chairman or members of the audit or sustainability committees.

Holding directors accountable for a company's (inadequate) approach to climate change could become the norm. Just recently, Majority Action – an ESG focused shareholder activist group – published their 'Proxy Voting for a 1.5°C World' campaign, which outlines a list of systemically important companies in the three key industries that have not set emissions targets aligned to limiting warming to 1.5°C. The campaign calls on institutional investors to use their voting rights to vote against company directors that have failed in their oversight responsibilities to address escalating climate change.

# Report by the manager (continued)

## Sustainable investing (continued)

### AGM season 2021, a proxy season like no other (continued)

One of the challenges in adopting such a voting approach is consistently identifying which companies are not in line with a 1.5°C or Paris-aligned scenario. Companies and international organizations often use different methods to calculate their long-term 2050 climate change scenarios, which is then reflected by the discrepancies in short-term targets. Nonetheless, there are several resources like the Climate Action 100+ Net-Zero Benchmark or the Transition Pathway Initiative that investors can use to help track the climate change targets set by companies. The Robeco voting policy incorporates these tools to flag companies where a vote against the chairman of the board is warranted due to climate-related concerns. These benchmarks also enable investors to monitor the annual progress made by companies, and to determine whether to escalate their approach to voting and engagement.

These new guidelines for proxy voting underscore that, where companies are failing to develop effective climate transition plans, boards will appropriately be held accountable. While institutional investors' definitions of what is appropriate may vary, the importance and urgency of holding directors accountable are clear.

### ESG integration by Robeco

Sustainability can bring about changes in markets, countries and companies in the long term. And since changes affect future performance, ESG factors can in our view add value to our investment process. We therefore look at these factors in the same way as we consider a company's financial position or market momentum. We have research available from leading sustainability experts, including our own proprietary research from the sustainable investing research team. This dedicated sustainable investing research team works together very closely with the investment teams to provide them with in-depth sustainability information.

The investment analysis focuses on the most material ESG factors and the connection with the financial performance of a company. We can then focus on the most relevant information in performing our investment-analysis and can reach enhanced investment decisions.

Besides integrating ESG, Active Ownership and exclusions into all of our investment processes, in 2021 we continued developing new sustainable investment funds with specific sustainable goals and criteria, including a Paris aligned conservative equity fund that also avoids investing in companies that have a severe negative impact on the sustainable development goals.

### Contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals

Robeco is a signatory in the Netherlands to the Sustainable Development Goals Investing Agenda. To help our customers contribute to the objectives, we worked on analyzing the SDG<sup>1</sup> contribution of companies and developing SDG investment solutions. Currently multiple solutions are available both in equity and fixed income and the amount of assets that are managed in line with this SDG methodology is increasing rapidly.

Furthermore, Robeco contributes to the SDGs by integrating ESG factors in its decision-making process for investments and encourages companies to act in support of these goals by means of a constructive dialogue. The SDGs are continually considered during the engagement and voting activities.

<sup>1</sup>Sustainable Development Goals as defined by the United Nations

### Combatting climate change

Robeco's climate change policy includes integrating climate issues in investments when financially material and engaging with companies. Furthermore climate risks for our funds are being assessed and monitored by the financial risk management department. In 2020 Robeco expanded its climate change policy by announcing the ambition to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2050 across all its assets under management.

In the second half of the 2021, Robeco announced its interim targets and strategy to reach net zero emissions by 2050. Robeco aims to decarbonize its investments 30% by 2025 and 50% by 2030. With its trajectory of approximately 7% decarbonization year on year, Robeco is likely to move faster than the global economy in the coming years. Living up to the same standards it sets for others, Robeco also applies the aim to reach net zero by 2050 to its own operations. It aims to reduce its operational emissions 35% by 2025 and 50% by 2030. This encompasses all emissions associated with business travel, electricity, heating and other business activities.

Robeco will accelerate the transition by investing in companies it believes will thrive in the transition and by engaging with those that do not move fast enough. This means Robeco will step up its active ownership activities through voting and engagement with the top 200 emitters in its investment universe and focus on engaging on climate change with 55 companies that are responsible for 20% of portfolio emissions. Additionally, Robeco will intensify its dialogues with sovereign bond issuers and together with other investors, call for climate action by countries as governments play a vital role in the transition towards net zero.



# Report by the manager (continued)

## Sustainable investing (continued)

### Exclusion

Robeco pursues an exclusion policy for companies that are involved in the production of or trade in controversial weapons such as cluster munition and anti-personnel mines, for tobacco companies and for companies that severely and structurally violate either the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) or OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises. We apply strict criteria for this last category and if a dialogue fails the company can be excluded. Robeco publishes its exclusion policy and the list of exclusions on its website. In 2021 Robeco expanded the exclusion of tobacco to also contain retailers that derive more than 10% of their revenues from tobacco sales.

### Active ownership

Constructive and effective activities under active ownership encourage companies to improve their management of risks and opportunities in the field of ESG. This in turn establishes a better competitive position and improved profitability and moreover has a positive impact on the community. Active ownership involves voting and engagement. Robeco exercises its voting rights for the shares in its investment funds all over the world.

In 2021, we voted at 80 shareholder meetings on behalf of Robeco Afrika Fonds N.V. At 53 (66%) of the 80 meetings, we cast at least one vote against management's recommendation. In addition, Robeco enters into an active dialogue with the companies in which it invests on questions concerning the environment, society and corporate governance.

Robeco has Active Ownership specialists in Rotterdam, London and Hong Kong. In 2021 Robeco engaged with 246 companies on different issues ranging from corporate governance to food security to climate change. For Robeco Afrika Fonds N.V., we entered into a dialogue with 3 companies, involving 3 value engagement cases and no enhanced engagement cases. More information on our processes and themes can be found in the Stewardship Policy.

Value engagement is a proactive approach focusing on long-term, financially material ESG opportunities and risks that can affect companies' valuation and ability to create value. The primary objective is to create value for investors by improving sustainability conduct and corporate governance.

Enhanced engagement focuses on companies that severely and structurally breach minimum behavioural norms in areas such as human rights, labor, environment and anti-corruption. The primary objective of enhanced engagement is to address reported shortfalls against internationally accepted codes of conduct for corporate governance, social responsibility, the environment and transparency.

The primary focus of this engagement is to address strategic ESG issues that might affect value creation in the long term. In 2021 Robeco started engagement on five new sustainable themes: Climate Transition of Financials, Acceleration to Paris, Labor rights in a post-Covid-19 world, Enhanced Human Rights Due Diligence and Social Impact of Gaming. Also, we started a dedicated Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) engagement program as part of the launch of an actively managed fund that invests globally in companies, with the objective to improve the investee companies' contributions to the SDGs through active engagement.

### Climate Transition of Financials

Many financial institutions have a significant exposure to the fossil fuel industry, and therefore face their own physical, transition and liability risks from the effects of global warming. Regulators are increasingly looking at the funding of climate change and how the sector should support the climate transition. Banks need to align lending policies with the carbon targets set by governments to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement.

### Acceleration to Paris

On the back of the net-zero commitment, we will develop an engagement program targeting all companies in their investment portfolios falling behind in the transition. Companies that don't meet these transition targets run the risk of exclusion after three years of engagement.

### Labor rights in a post-Covid-19 world

Labor rights have come under the spotlight after the Covid-19 pandemic worsened already problematic conditions in industries vulnerable to the shutdowns. Our engagement will focus on risks related to labor practices in the retail, online food delivery, and hospitality industries.

### Enhanced Human Rights Due Diligence

Related to the previous theme is the wider issue of human rights, and particularly where abuses occur along the value chain, often in conflict zones where protections are limited. This engagement theme will focus on the due diligence that tech, apparel, and automotive companies in developed markets need to perform when they source from high-risk environments.

# Report by the manager (continued)

## Sustainable investing (continued)

### Social Impact of Gaming

Several structural social issues in the gaming industry impact both gamers and game developers. These problems range from gratuitous violence to stereotyped representations of minority groups to an increase in online abuse of young gamers. The industry also faces labor problems due to the excessive use of overtime work by the game developers; some are forced to work long and unsociable hours.

### Robeco SDG engagement program

This program focuses on companies whose products and services have a large potential to positively contribute to the United Nation's SDGs. Based on Robeco's proprietary SDG framework, each company in the program is assessed on its contribution to the SDG and a targeted SDG strategy and timebound milestones are set up to guide the dialogue. Over three to five years, we aim to encourage companies to further global sustainable development.

### New regulation; the EU plan for financing sustainable development

The EU's Sustainable Finance Action Plan represents one of the most impactful pieces of regulation to hit the investment management industry since MiFID II. A core tenet of the plan is the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR), which classifies investment funds according to their sustainability credentials for the first time. March 10 2021 was an important date. On this date all Robeco funds were classified to be either article 6 (do not promote ESG characteristics), article 8 (Environment and Social promoting strategies) or article 9 (strategies with sustainable investment as its objective). Fund documentation, like the prospectus and the factsheets have also been adjusted to contain more and more specific information on how ESG is integrated as the disclosure regulation requires. Lastly a sustainable risk policy, good governance policy and principal adverse impact policy were published on the website, along with a range of other documentation.

Robeco Afrika Fonds N.V. is classified as Article 8 under the SFDR. More information is available in the precontractual SFDR disclosures of the fund on our website.

### Integration of ESG factors in investment processes

ESG factors are included in the decision-making at both macro and company level. The way in which Robeco integrates sustainability data in its investment process is designed specifically for the features of each investment strategy. Our quantitative equity strategies use the ESG scores of companies. These scores are based on the information collected using the proprietary questionnaires developed by RobecoSAM. The Robeco Afrika Fund and other fundamental equity strategies integrate ESG factors in the fundamental analysis process. This means not only that we can identify potential reputational and financial risks, we can also identify opportunities for companies developing solutions to the challenges with respect to sustainability.

ESG factors are included in the decision-making at both macro and company level. At macro level, factors such as transparency, strengthening of democratic institutions, political stability and protection of shareholders are assessed and considered in the positioning of a country in the portfolio.

In stock selection, ESG information is included in the company analysis and can affect the valuation of a company. We believe this helps us better understand the current and potential risks and opportunities.

To assess a company's ESG performance, we use the RobecoSAM ESG dashboard, which gathers information about the quality of corporate governance, the environment and social issues from 2,150 companies in emerging markets. These are all of the MSCI Emerging Markets Index companies (including in South Africa and Egypt), plus several key companies in African frontier markets. We also use information from Sustainalytics with the ESG Risk Score a key metric. We use additional qualitative information obtained from Robeco's Sustainable Investments analysts and external research conducted by Glass Lewis. The outcome of the ESG analysis is integrated in the fundamental research by the team. All of our investment cases include an ESG chapter, in which we discuss the sustainability profile of each share and how it could influence the valuation. ESG performance is not our only reason for buying or selling a share, but if ESG risks and/or opportunities are significant, the ESG analysis will affect the valuation.

In our fundamental analysis of and engagement with companies, we particularly focus on environmental impact, social responsibility and corporate governance. Referring to these, as per the end of 2021 we had ongoing engagements with three holdings in Robeco Afrika Fund. With a few exceptions Robeco has voted on all holdings of the fund during 2021.

ESG considerations have a significant impact on the composition of the portfolio. Firstly, because of Robeco's exclusion policy the fund is not holding Exxaro (significant thermal coal exposure), Thungela (thermal coal), Eastern Tobacco (tobacco) and Reinet (significant tobacco exposure). ESG concerns also played a major role in various investment decisions. Sasol, a South African producer of fuel and chemical products, optically appeared to trade at a very attractive valuation but after taking into account environmental issues into our financial analysis we concluded Sasol's valuation was not very attractive and hence we maintained an underweight position. Worries about long-term demand and environmental risks were the main reason for us to not invest in oil producers Seplat and Tullow while worries about rising costs in order to limit CO2 emissions played a major role in our decisions to not invest in cement producers BUA Cement, LafargeHolcim Maroc and PPC.

# Report by the manager (continued)

## Realization of the sustainable targets

The fund defined the following sustainability criteria for its sustainable investment policy.

**Active Ownership** All equity holdings in the fund have granted the right to vote and Robeco exerted that right by voting according to Robeco's Proxy Voting Policy, unless impediments occur (e.g. share blocking).

Robeco actively used its ownership rights to engage with companies on behalf of our clients in a constructive manner. Robeco engages with companies worldwide, in both our equity and credit portfolios. The outcomes of our engagement efforts are communicated to analysts, portfolio managers, and clients, enabling them to incorporate this information into their investment decisions as part of Robeco's integrated Sustainable Investing framework. Engagement consists of a constructive dialogue between institutional investors and investee companies to discuss how they manage ESG risks and seize business opportunities associated with sustainability challenges.

More information on both the Robeco's Proxy Voting Policy and the Robeco Engagement policy can be found at <https://www.robeco.com/docm/docu-robeco-stewardship-policy.pdf>.

**ESG Integration** Financially material ESG factors are integrated into the investment process. This means ESG issues can affect target prices, the fundamental assessment of a company or country and/ or the portfolio construction methodology. A key feature of the fund's sustainability investing approach is that companies or countries for government or aggregate bond portfolios with a favorable ESG score have a higher chance of ending up in the portfolio while companies/ countries with poor ESG scores are more likely to be divested from the portfolio.

**Exclusions** The fund's portfolio complies with Robeco's Exclusion Policy (<https://www.robeco.com/docm/docu-exclusion-policy.pdf>), that is based on exclusion criteria with regards to products and business practices that Robeco believes are detrimental to society and incompatible with sustainable investment strategies. This means that the fund has 0% exposure to excluded securities, taking into account a grace period. Information with regards to the impact of the exclusions on the fund's universe can be found at <https://www.robeco.com/docm/docu-exclusion-list.pdf>

Over the period between 10 March 2021 and 31 December 2021, the fund's investment policy complied with all above mentioned sustainability criteria.

The fund did not commit to invest in Taxonomy aligned investments. It cannot be excluded that among the fund's holdings certain economic activities were taxonomy-aligned.

The "do no significant harm" principle applies only to those investments underlying the financial product that take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities. The investments underlying the remaining portion of this financial product do not take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities.

## In control statement

Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. has a description of internal control, which is in line with the requirements of the Dutch Financial Supervision Act (Wet op het financieel toezicht, or 'Wft') and the Dutch Market Conduct Supervision of Financial Enterprises Decree (Besluit Gedragstoezicht financiële ondernemingen, or 'BGfo').

## Findings

The AFM has determined that Robeco must undertake a number of remedial measures to improve its processes in relation to the Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing (Prevention) Act ('Wwft') and the Sanctions Act ('Sw').

In 2020, the AFM issued an Order under Penalty ('Last onder dwangsom') to Robeco to undertake a number of remedial measures to improve the processes in relation to the Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing (Prevention) Act ('Wwft') and the Sanctions Act ('Sw') in Robeco Retail, Robeco's on-line execution-only platform for Dutch retail customers, before 31 December 2021. The measures imposed by the AFM did not relate to Robeco's portfolio management activities and had no impact on the investment performance for Robeco's clients.

We have fully completed all required improvements to our processes before 31 December 2021 except one improvement which, with the consent of the AFM, was completed in the first quarter of 2022. The AFM has not yet informed us that they accept all our improvements or any penalty has been forfeited.

# Report by the manager (continued)

## In control statement (continued)

### Report of internal control

Except for the aforementioned findings, we noted nothing that would lead us to conclude that operational management does not function as described in this statement. We therefore declare with reasonable assurance that the design of internal control, as mentioned in article 121 BGfo meets the requirements of the Wft and related regulations and that operational management has been effective and has functioned as described throughout the reporting year, except for the findings described above. Based upon this conclusion, we as the Management Board of Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. are committed to have a description of internal control which meets the requirements mentioned in article 121 BGfo and we will extend our ongoing compliance enhancements to incorporate required measures.

Rotterdam, 29 April 2022  
The Manager

# Annual financial statements

## Balance Sheet

Before profit appropriation	Notes	31/12/2021 EUR' 000	31/12/2020 EUR' 000
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Investments</b>			
Equities	1	24,740	17,658
<b>Total investments</b>		<b>24,740</b>	<b>17,658</b>
<b>Accounts receivable</b>			
Receivables on securities transactions		311	26
Dividends receivable	3	11	219
Other receivables, prepayments and accrued income	4	62	138
<b>Total accounts receivable</b>		<b>384</b>	<b>383</b>
<b>Other assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	96	95
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Accounts payable</b>			
Payables on securities transactions		–	81
Payable to affiliated parties	6	27	19
Other liabilities, accruals and deferred income	7	28	9
<b>Total accounts payable</b>		<b>55</b>	<b>109</b>
<b>Accounts receivable and other assets less accounts payable</b>		<b>425</b>	<b>369</b>
<b>Assets less liabilities</b>		<b>25,165</b>	<b>18,027</b>
<b>Composition of shareholders' equity</b>			
	8, 9		
Issued capital	8	274	244
Share-premium reserve	8	29,378	27,046
Other reserve	8	(10,017)	(4,993)
Undistributed earnings	8	5,530	(4,270)
<b>Shareholders' equity</b>		<b>25,165</b>	<b>18,027</b>

The numbers of the items in the financial statements refer to the numbers in the Notes.

# Annual financial statements (continued)

## Profit and loss account

	Notes	2021 EUR' 000	2020 EUR' 000
Investment income	11	1,157	934
Unrealized gains	1, 2	5,323	1,949
Unrealized losses	1, 2	(1,667)	(5,950)
Realized gains	1, 2	1,522	981
Realized losses	1, 2	(627)	(2,021)
Receipts on surcharges and discounts on issuance and repurchase of own shares		97	71
<b>Total operating income</b>		<b>5,805</b>	<b>(4,036)</b>
<b>Costs</b>	15, 16		
Management fee	12	218	186
Service fee	12	57	40
Other costs	14	–	8
<b>Total operating expenses</b>		<b>275</b>	<b>234</b>
<b>Net result</b>		<b>5,530</b>	<b>(4,270)</b>

The numbers of the items in the financial statements refer to the numbers in the Notes.

# Annual financial statements (continued)

## Cash flow statement

	Notes	2021 EUR' 000	2020 EUR' 000
<b>Cash flow from investment activities</b>			
Net result		5,530	(4,270)
Unrealized changes in value	1, 2	(3,656)	4,001
Realized changes in value	1, 2	(895)	1,040
Purchase of investments	1, 2	(8,311)	(1,630)
Sale of investments	1, 2	5,759	4,070
Increase (-)/decrease (+) accounts receivable	3, 4	(75)	(215)
Increase (+)/decrease (-) accounts payable	6, 7	(73)	55
		<b>(1,721)</b>	<b>3,051</b>
<b>Cash flow from financing activities</b>			
Received for shares subscribed		7,239	3,617
Paid for repurchase of own shares		(4,877)	(5,361)
Dividend paid		(754)	(1,050)
Increase (-)/decrease (+) accounts receivable	4	74	(61)
Increase (+)/decrease (-) accounts payable	7	19	(31)
		<b>1,701</b>	<b>(2,886)</b>
<b>Net cash flow</b>		<b>(20)</b>	<b>165</b>
Currency and cash revaluation		21	(96)
<b>Increase (+)/decrease (-) cash</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>69</b>
Cash at opening date	5	95	26
<b>Total cash at opening date</b>		<b>95</b>	<b>26</b>
Cash at closing date	5	96	95
<b>Total cash at closing date</b>		<b>96</b>	<b>95</b>

The numbers of the items in the financial statements refer to the numbers in the Notes.

# Notes

## General

The annual financial statements have been drawn up in conformity with Part 9, Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code. The fund's financial year is the same as the calendar year. The notes referring to fund shares concern ordinary shares outstanding.

The ordinary shares are divided into two series, both of which are open. Each series is designated as a share class. The fund includes the following share classes:

Share class A: Robeco Afrika Fonds

Share class B: Robeco Afrika Fonds - EUR G

## Accounting principles

### General

The financial statements are produced according to the going concern assumption. Unless stated otherwise, items shown in the financial statements are stated at nominal value and expressed in thousands of euros. Assets and liabilities are recognized or derecognized in the balance sheet on the transaction date.

### Liquidity of ordinary shares

The fund is an open-end investment company, meaning that, barring exceptional circumstances, it issues and repurchases ordinary shares on a daily basis at prices approximating net asset value, augmented or reduced by a limited surcharge or discount. The only purpose of this surcharge or discount is to cover the costs incurred by the fund for the entry and exit of investors. The actual maximum surcharge or discount is published on [www.robeco.com/riam](http://www.robeco.com/riam). The surcharges and discounts are recognized in the profit and loss account.

### Financial investments

Financial investments are classified as trading portfolio and are valued at fair value, unless stated otherwise. The fair value of stocks is determined on the basis of market prices and other market quotations at closing date. For derivatives and futures, the value is based on the market price and other market quotations at closing date. Transaction costs incurred in the purchase and sale of investments are included in the purchase or sale price as appropriate. Transaction costs incurred in the purchase of investments are therefore recognized in the first period of valuation as part of the value changes in the profit and loss account. Transaction costs incurred in the sale of investments are part of the realized results in the profit and loss account. Derivative instruments with a negative fair value are recognized under the derivatives item under investments on the liability side of the balance sheet.

### Recognition and derecognition of items in the balance sheet

Investments are recognized or derecognized in the balance sheet on the transaction date. Equities and derivatives are recognized in the balance sheet on the date the purchase transaction is concluded. Equities are derecognized in the balance sheet on the date the sale transaction is concluded. Derivatives are fully or partially derecognized in the balance sheet on the date the sales transaction is concluded or if the contract is settled on the expiry date. Accounts receivable and payable are recognized in the balance sheet on the date that contractual rights or obligations with respect to the receivables or payables arise. Receivables and payables are derecognized in the balance sheet when, as a result of a transaction, the contractual rights or obligations with respect to the receivables or payables no longer exist.

### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are carried at nominal value. If cash is not freely disposable, this is factored into the valuation.

Cash expressed in foreign currencies is converted into the functional currency as at the balance sheet date at the exchange rate applicable on that day. Please refer to the currency table on page 42.

### Accounts receivable

Receivables are valued after initial recognition at amortized cost based on the effective interest method, less impairments. Given the short-term character of the receivables, the value is equal to the nominal value.

### Debt

Non-current debts and other financial obligations are valued, after initial recognition, at the amortized cost price based on the effective interest method. Given the short-term character of the debt, the value is equal to the nominal value.



# Notes (continued)

## Accounting principles (continued)

### Foreign currencies

Transactions in currencies other than the euro are converted into euro at the exchange rates valid at the time. Assets and liabilities expressed in other currencies are converted into euro at the exchange rate prevailing at balance-sheet date. The exchange rate differences thus arising or exchange rate differences arising on settlement are recognized in the profit and loss account. Investments in foreign currencies are converted into euro at the rate prevailing on the balance sheet date. This valuation is part of the valuation at fair value. Exchange rate differences are recognized in the profit and loss account under changes in value.

### Securities lending

Investments for which the legal ownership has been transferred by the fund for a given period of time as a result of securities-lending transactions, will continue to be included in the fund's Balance sheet during this period, since their economic advantages and disadvantages, in the form of investment income and changes in value, will be added to or deducted from the fund's result. The way in which collateral ensuing from securities-lending transactions is reported depends on the nature of this collateral. If the collateral is received in the form of investments these are not recognized in the balance sheet as the economic advantages and disadvantages relating to the collateral will be for the account and risk of the counterparty. If the collateral is received in cash it will be recognized in the balance sheet as in this case the economic advantages and disadvantages will be for the account and risk of the fund.

## Principles for determining the result

### General

Investment results are determined by investment income, rises or declines in stock prices, rises or declines in foreign exchange rates and results of transactions in currencies, including forward transactions and other derivatives. Results are allocated to the period to which they relate and are accounted for in the profit and loss account.

### Recognition of income

Income items are recognized in the profit and loss account when an increase of the economic potential associated with an increase of an asset or a reduction of a liability has occurred and the amount of this can be reliably established.

### Recognition of expenses

Expense items are recognized when a reduction of the economic potential associated with a reduction of an asset or an increase of a liability has occurred and the amount of this can be reliably established.

### Investment income

This includes the net cash dividends declared during the year under review, the nominal value of stock dividends declared, interest received and paid and proceeds. Accrued interest at balance sheet date is taken into account.

### Changes in value

Realized and unrealized capital gains and losses on securities and currencies are presented under this heading. Realization of capital gains takes place on selling as the difference between the realizable sales value and the average historical cost price. Unrealized capital gains relate to value changes in the portfolio between the beginning of the financial year and the balance sheet date, corrected by the realized gains when positions are sold or settlement takes place.

## Principles for cash flow statement

### General

This cash flow statement has been prepared using the indirect method. Cash comprises items that may or may not be directly callable. Accounts payable to credit institutions include debit balances in bank accounts.

### Attribution to share classes

The administration of the fund is such that attribution of the results to the different share classes takes place on a daily basis and pro rata. Issues and repurchases of own shares are registered per share class.

# Notes (continued)

## Risk management

The presence of risks is inherent to asset management. It is therefore very important to have a procedure for controlling these risks embedded in the company's day-to-day operations. The manager (RIAM) ensures that risks are effectively controlled via the three lines model: RIAM management (first line), the Compliance and Risk Management departments (second line) and the Internal Audit department (third line).

The management of RIAM has primary responsibility for risk management as part of its day-to-day activities. The Compliance and Risk Management departments develop and maintain policy, methods and systems that enable the management to fulfill their responsibilities relating to risk. Furthermore, portfolios are monitored by these departments to ensure that they remain within the investment restrictions under the Terms and Conditions for Management and Custody and the prospectus, and to establish whether they comply with the internal guidelines. The Risk Management Committee decides how the risk management policies are applied and monitors whether risks remain within the defined limits. The Internal Audit department carries out audits to assess the effectiveness of internal control.

RIAM uses a risk-management and control framework that helps control all types of risk. Within this framework, risks are periodically identified and assessed as to their significance and materiality. Internal procedures and measures are focused on providing a structure to control both financial and operational risks. Control measures are included in the framework for each risk. Active monitoring is performed to establish the effectiveness of the procedures and measures of this framework.

### Operational risk

Operational risk is the risk of loss as a result of inadequate or failing processes, people or systems. Robeco constantly seeks opportunities to simplify processes and reduce complexity in order to mitigate operational risks. Automation is a key resource in this regard and uses systems that can be seen as the market standard for financial institutions. The use of automation increases the risk associated with IT. This risk can be divided into three categories. The risk of access by unauthorized persons is managed using preventive and detective measures to control access to both the network and systems and data. Processes such as change management and operational management provide for monitoring of an operating system landscape. Finally, business continuity measures are in place to limit the risk of breakdown as far as possible and to recover operational status as quickly as possible in the event of a disaster. The effectiveness of these measures is tested periodically by means of internal and external monitoring.

### Compliance risk

Compliance risk is the risk of sanctions, financial loss or reputation damage as a result of non-compliance with the laws and regulations applicable to the activities of Robeco and the funds it manages. Robeco's activities – collective and individual portfolio management – are subject to European and local rules of financial supervision. Observance of these rules is supervised by the national competent authorities (in the Netherlands the Authority for the Financial Markets, AFM and the Central Bank of the Netherlands, DNB). It is in the interest of investors in Robeco-managed funds that Robeco complies with all the applicable laws and regulations.

In 2020, the AFM issued an Order under Penalty ('Last onder dwangsom') to Robeco to undertake a number of remedial measures to improve the processes in relation to the Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing (Prevention) Act ('Wwft') and the Sanctions Act ('Sw') in Robeco Retail, Robeco's on-line execution-only platform for Dutch retail customers before 31 December 2021.

The work to undertake remedial measures commenced in 2020 and has continued throughout 2021. To ensure full compliance while ensuring our business model remains future proof, we decided in early 2021 to stop accepting new direct retail clients until further notice, in order to focus on our existing clients. As part of the improvements we have a new administrative setup, including a semi-automated process to identify customers, new client screening tools to identify money laundering and terrorist financing risks, and new customer due diligence process tooling.

We reached out to all our clients to re-identify themselves throughout 2021. This was a necessary measure, but we regret the inconvenience this has caused to our clients. We have fully completed all required improvements to our processes before 31 December 2021 except one improvement which, with the consent of the AFM, was completed in the first quarter of 2022. In January 2022, Robeco provided a report to the AFM describing all actions Robeco took to resolve all the issues as stated in the Order under Penalty. The AFM has not yet informed us that they accept all our improvements or any penalty has been forfeited.

In connection to this matter, the AFM has imposed an administrative fine of EUR 2 million on 31 March 2022. We have accepted both the order and the fine and we will not file an appeal. We regret that not all of our processes met the required standards, and we trust that we have made the necessary improvements to prevent recurrence. We would like to emphasize that none of the deficient processes were related to or had an impact on our asset investment operations or the investment results for our clients.

# Notes (continued)

## Risk management (continued)

### Compliance risk (continued)

The past few years the level of regulation has increased consistently while the regulatory environment is evolving as well by moving from a principle-based to a more rule and evidence based environment. Robeco actively follows these regulatory developments and is in continuous effort to incorporate all regulatory changes to ensure compliance with rules and regulations.

In 2021, Robeco has further improved its control environment for managing compliance and integrity risks. A Systematic Integrity Risk Assessment has been performed to further identify and assess the integrity risks and to assess the control measures that mitigate the integrity risks. The outcome has been discussed with the business and follow-up actions are being discussed.

Changes in the field of legislation and regulation that could affect the funds managed by Robeco also took place in 2021.

The new EU regulatory framework on sustainable finance, consisting of multiple pieces of legislation, including the new Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR), Taxonomy Regulation and amendments to existing frameworks (including the UCITS Directive and AIFMD), introduced extended reporting and disclosures, aiming for increased comparability between sustainable funds and to avoid greenwashing. The framework also requires the integration of sustainability (risks) in the organization, governance, risk management and investment processes of Robeco.

The requirements entered into force in different phases in 2021. As of March 2021, Robeco disclosed sustainability related information of Robeco-managed funds, the so called article 6, 8, 9 disclosures. Robeco published its sustainability risk integration approach for investment decisions. On an entity level, Robeco has identified and prioritized the Principal Adverse Impact (PAI) and indicators relevant to Robeco's overall investment strategy and published the PAI-statement on its website.

In 2022, Robeco will focus on the implementation of the further detailed SFDR requirements in line with the Regulatory Technical Standards. Furthermore, Robeco will liaise with its portfolio management clients to meet their ESG-preferences.

The aforementioned developments were adequately addressed in the ongoing challenging times, with the Covid-19 pandemic affecting clients, employees, service providers and financial markets. Robeco has proved its resilience as it was able to ensure continuity of operations globally.

### Developments Financial Risk Management

Robeco has been continuously working to further enhance its risk management methodologies, infrastructure and processes.

The EU Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR) entered into force on March 10, 2021. As one of the focus points Financial Risk Management laid the foundations of a risk management framework to assess material sustainability risks and incorporate limits and controls to measure, calculate and manage the sustainability risks in line with the sustainability profile of our funds. This framework covers both internal and external sustainability metrics and climate scenarios and will continue to evolve and remain in focus for 2022 and beyond. All elements are governed by a dedicated sustainability risk policy covering both mandates and funds and integrated in our regular risk workflow, reporting and limits and control framework. For all our funds the elements in line with the sustainability profile are integrated in the prospectus. More information on our framework and approach can be found on: [www.robeco.com/docm/docu-robeco-sustainability-risk-policy.pdf](http://www.robeco.com/docm/docu-robeco-sustainability-risk-policy.pdf).

On a corporate risk level, climate scenarios are integrated in our Internal Capital Adequacy Assessment Process (ICAAP) and monitoring of our carbon reduction targets are integrated in our enterprise risk framework.

Our Liquidity risk framework has been further enhanced to align with trading practices. This included a relaxation of the strictly proportional scenarios applied before to allow for small deviations from the original portfolio when assessing the liquidity of the fund. Robeco has also been invited to participate in multiple regulatory surveys and data collection exercises to provide the regulatory authorities with detailed information on the liquidity risk profile of various funds.

## Risks relating to financial instruments

### Investment risk

The value of investments may fluctuate. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. The net asset value of the fund depends on developments in the financial markets and can therefore either rise or fall. Shareholders run the risk that their investments may end up being worth less than the amount invested, or even worth nothing. The general investment risk can also be characterized as market risk.

# Notes (continued)

## Risks relating to financial instruments (continued)

### Market risk

Market risk can be divided into three types: price risk, currency risk and concentration risk. Market risks are contained using limits on quantitative risk measures such as tracking error, volatility or value-at-risk. This means that the underlying risk types (price risk, currency risk and concentration risk) are also indirectly contained.

### Price risk

The net asset value of the fund is sensitive to market movements. In addition, investors should be aware of the possibility that the value of investments may vary as a result of changes in political, economic or market circumstances, as well as changes in an individual business situation. The entire portfolio is exposed to price risk. The degree of price risk that the fund runs depends among other things on the risk profile of the fund's portfolio. More detailed information on the risk profile of the fund's portfolio can be found in the section on Return and risk on page 11.

### Currency risk

All or part of the securities portfolio of the fund may be invested in currencies, or financial instruments denominated in currencies other than the euro. As a result, fluctuations in exchange rates may have both a negative and a positive effect on the investment result of the fund. Currency risks may be hedged with currency forward transactions and currency options. Currency risks can be limited by applying relative or absolute currency concentration limits.

The table below shows the gross and net exposure to the various currencies, including cash, receivables and debts. Further information on the currency policy can be found on page 10.

<b>Currency exposure</b>	<b>31/12/2021 Gross position EUR' 000</b>	<b>31/12/2021 Net position EUR' 000</b>	<b>31/12/2021 % of net assets</b>	<b>31/12/2020 % of net assets</b>
AUD	78	78	0.31	0.37
BWP	790	790	3.14	2.29
CAD	183	183	0.73	0.83
EGP	1,793	1,793	7.12	7.70
EUR	343	343	1.36	3.03
GBP	648	648	2.58	4.42
GHS	2,070	2,070	8.23	7.72
KES	2,205	2,205	8.76	10.38
MAD	488	488	1.94	2.16
MUR	861	861	3.42	3.67
NGN	3,719	3,719	14.78	18.05
TND	267	267	1.06	1.71
USD	1,566	1,566	6.22	4.03
XOF	149	149	0.59	0.80
ZAR	9,487	9,487	37.70	32.22
ZMW	518	518	2.06	0.62
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,165</b>	<b>25,165</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

### Concentration risk

Based on its investment policy, the fund may invest in financial instruments from issuing institutions that operate mainly within the same sector or region, or in the same market. In the case of concentrated investment portfolios, events within the sectors, regions or markets in which they invest have a more pronounced effect on the fund assets than in less concentrated investment portfolios. Concentration risks can be limited by applying relative or absolute country or sector concentration limits.

# Notes (continued)

## Risks relating to financial instruments (continued)

### Market risk (continued)

#### Concentration risk (continued)

As at the balance sheet date, there were no positions in stock market index futures.

The table below shows the exposure to stock markets through stocks per country in amounts and as a percentage of the fund's total equity capital.

#### Concentration risk by country

		31/12/2021	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
	Equities	Total	% of	% of
	EUR' 000	exposure	net assets	net assets
		EUR' 000		
Australia	78	78	0.31	0.36
Botswana	791	791	3.14	2.28
Canada	180	180	0.71	0.83
Cayman Islands	136	136	0.54	–
Egypt	2,746	2,746	10.91	8.88
Ghana	2,070	2,070	8.23	7.57
Kenya	2,195	2,195	8.72	10.38
Mauritius	841	841	3.34	3.67
Morocco	488	488	1.94	2.17
Netherlands	250	250	0.99	2.11
Nigeria	3,285	3,285	13.05	16.61
Portugal	60	60	0.24	0.32
Senegal	149	149	0.59	0.80
South Africa	9,438	9,438	37.51	31.71
Supranational	356	356	1.42	2.22
Togo	122	122	0.49	0.46
Tunisia	267	267	1.06	1.71
United Arab Emirates	74	74	0.30	0.42
United Kingdom	351	351	1.39	3.63
Zambia	863	863	3.43	1.82
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,740</b>	<b>24,740</b>	<b>98.31</b>	<b>97.95</b>

The sector concentrations are shown below.

#### Concentration risk by sector

	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
	% of net assets	% of net assets
Communication Services	11.29	10.33
Consumer Discretionary	11.88	14.33
Consumer Staples	7.83	8.79
Financials	43.98	43.16
Industrials	4.37	4.08
Information Technology	1.13	0.75
Materials	13.82	12.40
Real Estate	3.05	3.55
Utilities	0.96	0.56
Other assets and liabilities	1.69	2.05
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

# Notes (continued)

## Risks relating to financial instruments (continued)

### Leverage risk

The fund may make use of derivative instruments, techniques or structures. They may be used for hedging risks, and for achieving investment objectives and ensuring efficient portfolio management. These instruments may be leveraged, which will increase the fund's sensitivity to market fluctuations. The risk of derivative instruments, techniques or structures will always be limited within the conditions of the fund's integral risk management. The degree of leverage in the fund, measured using the gross method (where 0% exposure indicates no leverage) over the year, as well as on the balance sheet date, is shown in the table below. The gross method means that the absolute underlying value of the long positions and the short positions in derivatives are added up and represented as a percentage of the assets.

	<b>Lowest exposure during the reporting year</b>	<b>Highest exposure during the reporting year</b>	<b>Average exposure during the reporting year</b>	<b>Exposure at the reporting year end</b>
Robeco Afrika Fonds N.V.	0%	7%	1%	0%

### Credit risk

Credit risk occurs when a counterparty of the fund fails to fulfil its financial obligations arising from financial instruments in the fund. Credit risk is limited as far as possible by exercising an appropriate degree of caution in the selection of counterparties. In selecting counterparties, the assessments of independent rating bureaus are taken into account, as are other relevant indicators. Wherever it is customary in the market, the fund will demand and obtain collateral in order to mitigate credit risk. The figure that best represents the maximum credit risk is given in the table below.

	<b>31/12/2021</b>		<b>31/12/2020</b>	
	<b>EUR' 000</b>	<b>% of net assets</b>	<b>EUR' 000</b>	<b>% of net assets</b>
Accounts receivable	384	0.29	383	2.12
Cash and cash equivalents	96	1.62	95	0.53
<b>Total</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>1.91</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>2.65</b>

No account is taken of collateral received in the calculation of the total credit risk. Credit risk is contained by applying limits on the exposure per counterparty as a percentage of the fund assets. As at the balance sheet date there were no counterparties with an exposure of more than 5% of the fund's total assets.

### Risk of lending financial instruments

In the case of securities-lending transactions, collateral is requested and obtained for those financial instruments that are lent. In the case of securities-lending transactions, the fund incurs a specific type of counterparty risk that the borrower cannot comply with the obligation to return the financial instruments on the agreed date or to furnish the requested collateral. The lending policy of the fund is designed to control these risks as much as possible. To mitigate specific counterparty risk, the fund receives collateral prior to lending the financial instruments.

All counterparties used in the securities lending process are pre-approved by Robeco. The approval process takes into account the entities credit rating (if available) and whether the counterparty is subject to prudential regulation. Any relevant incidents involving the entity are also taken into account.

The fund accepts collateral by selected issuers in the form of:

- bonds issued (or guaranteed) by governments of OECD member states;
- local government bonds with tax raising authority;
- corporate bonds that are FED or ECB eligible collateral;
- bonds of supranational institutions and undertakings with an EU, regional or world-wide scope;
- stocks listed on the main indexes of stock markets as disclosed in the prospectus;
- cash.

# Notes (continued)

## Risks relating to financial instruments (continued)

### Risk of lending financial instruments (continued)

In addition, concentration limits are applied to collateral to restrict concentration risks in the collateral and there are also liquidity criteria for containing the liquidity risks in the collateral. Finally, depending on the type of lending transaction and the type of collateral, collateral with a premium is requested relative to the value of the lending transaction. This limits the negative effects of price risks in the collateral.

The table below gives an overview of the positions lent out as a percentage of the portfolio (total of the instruments lent out) and relative to the fund's assets.

#### Positions lent out

Type of instrument	31/12/2021			31/12/2020		
	Amount in EUR' 000	% of portfolio	% of net assets	Amount in EUR' 000	% of portfolio	% of net assets
Shares lent out	16	0.06	0.06	381	2.16	2.11
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0.06</b>	<b>0.06</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>2.16</b>	<b>2.11</b>

The following table gives an overview of the positions lent out and the collateral received per counterparty.

All outstanding lending transactions are transactions with an open-ended term. That means that there is no prior agreement as to how long the securities are lent out. Securities may be reclaimed by the fund if required.

#### Counterparties

	Domicile of counterparty	Manner of settlement and clearing	31/12/2021		31/12/2020	
			Positions lent out EUR' 000	Collateral received EUR' 000	Positions lent out EUR' 000	Collateral received EUR' 000
Goldman Sachs	United States	Tripartite <sup>1</sup>	9	12	167	177
HSBC	Great Britain	Tripartite <sup>1</sup>	–	–	4	4
J.P. Morgan	United States	Tripartite <sup>1</sup>	–	–	98	106
Merrill Lynch	United States	Tripartite <sup>1</sup>	7	7	112	118
<b>Total</b>			<b>16</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>405</b>

<sup>1</sup> Tripartite means that the collateral is in the custody of an independent third party.

This collateral is not included on the balance sheet.

The table below contains a breakdown of collateral received according to type. All securities received have an open-ended term.

#### Collateral by type

	Currency	Rating of government bonds	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
			Market value in EUR' 000	Market value in EUR' 000
Cash	EUR	–	–	13
Cash	USD	–	12	–
Government bonds	EUR	Investment grade	2	50
Government bonds	GBP	Investment grade	–	11
Government bonds	JPY	Investment grade	5	83
Government bonds	USD	Investment grade	–	189
Real-estate funds listed in OECD countries	AUD	–	–	4
Real-estate funds listed in OECD countries	JPY	–	–	1
Stocks listed in non-OECD countries	HKD	–	–	5
Stocks listed in OECD countries	AUD	–	–	7
Stocks listed in OECD countries	EUR	–	–	8
Stocks listed in OECD countries	GBP	–	–	9
Stocks listed in OECD countries	JPY	–	–	25
<b>Total</b>			<b>19</b>	<b>405</b>

# Notes (continued)

## Risks relating to financial instruments (continued)

### Risk of lending financial instruments (continued)

J.P. Morgan has been appointed depository of all collateral received. The securities are managed by RIAM and are held on separate accounts per counterparty. In line with the provisions in the prospectus, the collateral received has not been reinvested.

J.P. Morgan is the intermediary for all of the fund's securities-lending transactions. As compensation for its services, J.P. Morgan receives a fee of (A) 25% of the gross income on these securities-lending transactions for loans which generates a return of 0.5% or less and (B) 10% of the gross income from these securities-lending transactions for any loans which generate a return greater than 0.5%. An external agency periodically assesses whether the agreements between the fund and J.P. Morgan are still in line with the market. The fund's revenues and J.P. Morgan's fee are included in the following table.

#### Income from securities lending

	2021			2020		
	Gross revenues in EUR' 000	Fee paid to J.P. Morgan in EUR' 000	Net fund revenues in EUR' 000	Gross revenues in EUR' 000	Fee paid to J.P. Morgan in EUR' 000	Net fund revenues in EUR' 000
Shares lent out	5	1	4	5	1	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>

### Liquidity risk

We distinguish between Asset Liquidity Risk and Funding Liquidity risk, which are closely connected:

Asset liquidity risk arises when transactions cannot be executed in a timely fashion at quoted market prices and/or at acceptable transaction cost levels due to the size of the trade. Or in more extreme cases, when they cannot be conducted at all. Asset liquidity risk is a function of transaction size, transaction time and transaction cost.

Funding liquidity risk arises when the redemption requirements of clients or other liabilities cannot be met without significantly impacting the value of the portfolio. Funding liquidity risk will only arise if there is also Asset liquidity risk.

### Manager

Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. ('RIAM') manages the fund. In this capacity, RIAM handles the asset management, risk management, administration, marketing and distribution of the fund. RIAM holds an AIFMD license as referred to in Section 2:65 Wft, as well as a license to manage UCITS as referred to in Section 2:69b Wft. RIAM is moreover authorized to manage individual assets and give advice with respect to financial instruments. RIAM is subject to supervision by the Dutch Authority for the Financial Markets (the 'AFM'). RIAM has listed the fund with AFM. RIAM is a 100% subsidiary of ORIX Corporation Europe N.V. via Robeco Holding B.V. ORIX Corporation Europe N.V. is a part of ORIX Corporation.

### Depository

The assets of the fund are held in custody by J.P. Morgan SE, Amsterdam Branch. J.P. Morgan SE, Amsterdam Branch is appointed as the depository of the fund as referred to in Section 4:62n Wft. The depository is responsible for supervising the fund insofar as required under and in accordance with the applicable legislation. The manager, the fund and J.P. Morgan SE, Amsterdam Branch have concluded a depository and custodian agreement.

### Liability of the depository

The depository is liable to the fund and/or the Shareholders for the loss of a financial instrument under the custody of the depository or of a third party to which custody has been transferred. The depository is not liable if it can demonstrate that the loss is a result of an external event over which it in all reasonableness had no control and of which the consequences were unavoidable, despite all efforts to ameliorate them. The depository is also liable to the fund and/or the shareholders for all other losses they suffer because the depository has not fulfilled its obligations as stated in this depository and custodian agreement either deliberately or through negligence. Shareholders may make an indirect claim upon the liability of the depository through the manager. If the manager refuses to entertain such a request, the shareholders are authorized to submit the claim for losses directly to the depository.



# Notes (continued)

## Risks relating to financial instruments (continued)

### **Affiliated parties**

The fund and the manager may utilize the services of and carry out transactions with parties affiliated to the fund, as defined in the BGfo, such as RIAM, Robeco Nederland B.V. and ORIX Corporation. The services entail the execution of tasks that have been outsourced to these parties such as (1) securities lending, (2) hiring temporary staff and (3) issuance and repurchase of the fund's shares. Transactions that can be carried out with affiliated parties include the following: treasury management, derivatives transactions, lending of financial instruments, credit extension, purchase and sale of financial instruments on regulated markets or through multilateral trading facilities. All these services and transactions are executed at market rates.

## Notes to the balance sheet

### 1. Equities

#### Movements in the stock portfolio

	2021	2020
	EUR' 000	EUR' 000
Book value (fair value) at opening date	17,658	25,043
Purchases	8,311	1,630
Sales	(5,750)	(4,057)
Unrealized gains / (losses)	3,631	(3,972)
Realized gains / (losses)	890	(986)
<b>Book value (fair value) at closing date</b>	<b>24,740</b>	<b>17,658</b>

EUR 301 thousand of the realized and unrealized results on the equity portfolio relates to exchange rate differences.

A breakdown of this portfolio is given under Schedule of Investments. All investments are admitted to a regulated market and have quoted market prices. A sub-division into regions and sectors is provided under the information on concentration risk under the information on Risks relating to financial instruments.

#### Transaction costs

Brokerage costs and exchange fees relating to investment transactions are discounted in the cost price or the sales value of the investment transactions. These costs and fees are charged to the result ensuing from changes in value. The quantifiable transaction costs are shown below.

	2021	2020
	EUR' 000	EUR' 000
Equities	24	11

RIAM wants to be certain that the selection of counterparties for equity transactions (brokers) occurs using procedures and criteria that ensure the best results for the fund (best execution).

No costs for research were charged to the fund during the reporting period.

### 2. Derivatives

#### Movements in derivatives

	Forward Currency Exchange Contracts	
	2021	2020
	EUR' 000	EUR' 000
Book value (fair value) at opening date	–	–
Expirations	(9)	(13)
Unrealized gains	–	–
Realized gains	9	13
<b>Book value (fair value) at closing date</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>

### 3. Dividends receivable

These are receivables arising from net dividends declared but not yet received.

## Notes to the balance sheet (continued)

### 4. Other receivables, prepayments and accrued income

This concerns:

	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
	EUR' 000	EUR' 000
Dividend tax to be reclaimed	35	37
<b>Sub-total (investment activities)</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>37</b>
Receivables from issuance of new shares	27	101
<b>Sub-total (financing activities)</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>101</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>138</b>

### 5. Cash and cash equivalents

This concerns:

	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
	EUR' 000	EUR' 000
Freely available cash	96	95
<b>Total</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>95</b>

### 6. Payable to affiliated parties

This concerns the following payables to RIAM:

	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
	EUR' 000	EUR' 000
Payable for management fee	21	15
Payable for service fee	6	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>19</b>

### 7. Other liabilities, accruals and deferred income

This concerns:

	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
	EUR' 000	EUR' 000
Payable for acquisition of own shares	28	9
<b>Sub-total (financing activities)</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>9</b>

## Notes to the balance sheet (continued)

### 8. Shareholders' equity

#### Composition and movements in shareholders' equity

	2021 EUR' 000	2020 EUR' 000
<b>Issued capital Robeco Afrika Fonds</b>		
Situation on opening date	30	46
Received on shares issued	12	8
Paid for shares repurchased	(12)	(24)
Situation on closing date	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Issued capital Robeco Afrika Fonds – EUR G</b>		
Situation on opening date	214	219
Received on shares issued	75	43
Paid for shares repurchased	(45)	(48)
Situation on closing date	<b>244</b>	<b>214</b>
<b>Share premium reserve - Robeco Afrika Fonds</b>		
Situation on opening date	7,178	8,526
Received on shares issued	1,116	579
Paid for shares repurchased	(1,079)	(1,927)
Situation on closing date	<b>7,215</b>	<b>7,178</b>
<b>Share premium reserve - Robeco Afrika Fonds – EUR G</b>		
Situation on opening date	19,868	20,243
Received on shares issued	6,036	2,987
Paid for shares repurchased	(3,741)	(3,362)
Situation on closing date	<b>22,163</b>	<b>19,868</b>
<b>Other reserves</b>		
Situation on opening date	(4,993)	(6,871)
Addition of result in previous financial year	(5,024)	1,878
Situation on closing date	<b>(10,017)</b>	<b>(4,993)</b>
<b>Undistributed earnings</b>		
Situation on opening date	(4,270)	2,928
Robeco Afrika Fonds - dividend paid	(94)	(252)
Robeco Afrika Fonds – EUR G - dividend paid	(660)	(798)
Addition to other reserves	5,024	(1,878)
Net result for financial year	5,530	(4,270)
Situation on closing date	<b>5,530</b>	<b>(4,270)</b>
<b>Situation on closing date</b>	<b>25,165</b>	<b>18,027</b>

The authorized share capital of EUR 1,500,000 is divided into 1,499,990 ordinary shares with a nominal value of EUR 1 each and 10 priority shares with a nominal value of EUR 1 each. The priority shares have already been issued. The ordinary shares are divided into 749,990 Robeco Afrika Fonds shares and 750,000 Robeco Afrika Fonds - EUR G shares. Fees are not included in the share premium reserve.

#### Special controlling rights under the Articles of Association

The 10 priority shares in the company's share capital are held by Robeco Holding B.V. According to the company's Articles of Association, the rights and privileges of the priority shares include the appointment of managing directors and the amendment to the Articles of Association. The Management Board of Robeco Holding B.V. determines how the voting rights are exercised. The Management Board of Robeco Holding B.V. consists of:

G.O.J.M. (Gilbert) Van Hassel (until 31 December 2021)  
 K. (Karin) van Baardwijk  
 M.C.W. (Mark) den Hollander

## Notes to the balance sheet (continued)

### 8. Shareholders' equity (continued)

#### Survey of movements in net assets

	2021 EUR' 000	2020 EUR' 000
<b>Assets at opening date</b>	<b>18,027</b>	<b>25,091</b>
Company shares issued	7,239	3,617
Company shares repurchased	(4,877)	(5,361)
<b>Situation on closing date</b>	<b>20,389</b>	<b>23,347</b>
Investment income	1,157	934
Receipts on surcharges and discounts on issuance and repurchase of own shares	97	71
Management fee	(218)	(186)
Service fee	(57)	(40)
Other costs	–	(8)
	<b>979</b>	<b>771</b>
Changes in value	4,551	(5,041)
<b>Net result</b>	<b>5,530</b>	<b>(4,270)</b>
Dividend paid	(754)	(1,050)
<b>Assets at closing date</b>	<b>25,165</b>	<b>18,027</b>

### 9. Assets, shares outstanding and net asset value per share

	31/12/2021	31/12/2020	31/12/2019
<b>Robeco Afrika Fonds</b>			
Fund assets in EUR' 000	3,121	2,485	5,164
Situation of number of shares issued at opening date	30,029	47,254	93,499
Shares issued in financial year	12,101	6,882	10,351
Shares repurchased in financial year	(11,703)	(24,107)	(56,596)
Number of shares outstanding	30,427	30,029	47,254
Net asset value per share in EUR	102.59	82.74	109.28
Dividend paid per share during the financial year	3.20	8.00	3.60
<b>Robeco Afrika Fonds – EUR G</b>			
Fund assets in EUR' 000	22,044	15,542	19,927
Situation of number of shares issued at opening date	214,448	219,645	247,239
Shares issued in financial year	74,989	42,435	25,245
Shares repurchased in financial year	(45,701)	(47,632)	(52,839)
Number of shares outstanding	243,736	214,448	219,645
Net asset value per share in EUR	90.44	72.47	90.72
Dividend paid per share during the financial year	3.00	3.80	3.20

### 10. Contingent liabilities

As at balance sheet date, the fund had no contingent liabilities.

## Notes to the profit and loss account

### Income

#### 11. Investment income

This concerns:

	2021 EUR' 000	2020 EUR' 000
Dividends received*	1,153	931
Interest	–	(1)
Net revenues from securities lending	4	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,157</b>	<b>934</b>

\* This concerns net dividends received. Factored into this amount as withholding tax reclaimable from the country that withheld the tax plus withholding tax that is subject to a remittance reduction from the Dutch tax authorities. The remittance reduction is offset against the dividend tax payable on dividends distributed by the fund.

### Costs

#### 12. Management fee and service fee

The management fee and service fee are charged by the manager. The fees are calculated daily on the basis of the fund assets.

##### Management fee and service fee specified in the prospectus

	Robeco Afrika Fonds %	Robeco Afrika Fonds – EUR G %
Management fee	1.75	0.88
Service fee <sup>1</sup>	0.26	0.26

<sup>1</sup> For the share classes, the service fee is 0.26% per year on assets up to EUR 1 billion, 0.24% on assets above EUR 1 billion, and 0.22% on assets above EUR 5 billion.

The management fee covers all current costs resulting from the management and marketing of the fund. If the manager outsources operations to third parties, any costs associated with this will also be paid from the management fee. The management fee for the Robeco Afrika Fonds share class also include the costs related to registering shareholders in this share class.

The service fee paid to RIAM covers the administration costs, custody fees (includes custody fees and bank charges), depositary services fees, fund agent fees, the costs of the external auditor, other external advisers, regulators, costs relating to reports required by law, such as the annual and semi-annual reports, and the costs relating to the meetings of shareholders. The costs for the external auditor incurred by the fund are paid by RIAM from the service fee. The fund's result therefore does not include the costs for the external auditor. Of the costs paid by RIAM for the external auditor, EUR 10 thousand related to the audit of Robeco Afrika Fonds N.V. The other costs paid by RIAM for the external auditor relate exclusively to assurance activities for the regulator that the fund complies with the UCITS provisions and assurance activities for the examination of the prospectus.

#### 13. Performance fee

Robeco Afrika Fonds N.V. is not subject to a performance fee.

## Notes to the profit and loss account (continued)

### Costs (continued)

#### 14. Other costs

This concerns:

	2021 EUR' 000	2020 EUR' 000
Custody fee	–	7
Costs for fund agent	–	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>8</b>

Effective from 1 April 2020, custody fees, costs for the fund agent and depositary fees are paid by RIAM out of the service fee.

#### 15. Ongoing charges

	Robeco Afrika Fonds		Robeco Afrika Fonds – EUR G	
	2021 %	2020 %	2021 %	2020 %
Management fee	1.75	1.75	0.88	0.88
Service fee <sup>1, 2</sup>	0.26	0.20	0.26	0.22
Other cost	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.04
Proportion of income on securities lending payable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.01</b>	<b>1.99</b>	<b>1.14</b>	<b>1.14</b>

<sup>1</sup> Until 1 April 2020, the service fee was 0.12% per year on assets up to EUR 1 billion, 0.10% on assets above EUR 1 billion, and 0.08% on assets above EUR 5 billion.

<sup>2</sup> Until 1 April 2020, the Custody fee and bank cost was 0.02%, Costs for fund agent was 0.02% and Depositary fee was 0.01%. From 1 April 2020, Service fee covers all the costs.

The percentage of ongoing charges is based on the average net assets per share class. The average assets are calculated on a daily basis. The ongoing charges include all costs charged to the share classes in the reporting period, excluding the costs of transactions in financial instruments and interest charges. The ongoing charges do not include any payment of entry or exit costs charged by distributors.

The proportion of securities-lending income payable as defined in the Information on the Risks of lending Financial Instruments on page 30 is included separately in the ongoing charges.

#### 16. Maximum costs

For some cost items, the fund's prospectus specifies a maximum percentage of average net assets. The table below compares these maximum percentages with the costs actually charged.

	2021 EUR' 000	2021 % of net assets	Maximum as specified in the prospectus <sup>1</sup>
Management fee for Robeco Afrika Fonds	49	1.75	1.75
Service fee for Robeco Afrika Fonds	7	0.26	0.26
Management fee for Robeco Afrika Fonds – EUR G	169	0.88	0.88
Service fee for Robeco Afrika Fonds – EUR G	50	0.26	0.26

<sup>1</sup> The prospectus also specifies a maximum percentage of the total cost. This amounts to 4.60% for the Robeco Afrika Fonds share class, and 3.73% for the Robeco Afrika Fonds - EUR G share class.

## Notes to the profit and loss account (continued)

### Costs (continued)

#### 17. Turnover rate

The turnover rate for the reporting period was 9% (for the previous reporting period it was (18)%). This rate shows the rate at which the fund's portfolio is turned over and is a measure of the incurred transaction costs resulting from the portfolio policy pursued and the ensuing investment transactions. The turnover rate is determined by expressing the amount of the turnover as a percentage of the average fund assets. The average fund assets are calculated on a daily basis. The amount of the turnover is determined by the sum of the purchases and sales of investments less the sum of issuance and repurchase of own shares. The sum of issues and repurchases of own participating units is determined as the balance of all issues and repurchases in the fund. Cash and money-market investments with an original life to maturity of less than one month are not taken into account in the calculation.

#### 18. Transactions with affiliated parties

No transactions were effected with affiliated parties during the reporting period other than calculated management costs and the service fee. During the reporting period the fund paid RIAM the following amounts in management fee and service fee:

	Counterparty	2021 EUR' 000	2020 EUR' 000
Management fee	RIAM	218	186
Service fee	RIAM	57	40

#### 19. Fiscal status

The fund has the status of a fiscal investment institution. A detailed description of its fiscal status is included in the general information of the management report on page 4.

#### 20. Proposed profit appropriation

For the financial year 2021, dividend distribution will take place on the basis of the fiscal result in order to fulfill the fiscal distribution obligation. Based on the number of shares outstanding on 31 December 2021 it has been proposed to determine the dividend per share for the financial year 2021 at:

- EUR 3.80 per share (previous year: EUR 3.20) for the Robeco Afrika Fonds share class.
- EUR 4.20 per share (previous year: EUR 3.00) for the Robeco Afrika Fonds - EUR G share class.

This proposal is based mainly on the taxable profits for the purposes of the distribution requirement under the applicable tax regime. If necessitated by legislation and regulations or changes in the number of shares outstanding, an amended dividend proposal will be submitted to the General Meeting of Shareholders. If this proposal is accepted, the dividend will be payable according to the schedule in the table below.

Shareholders will be offered the opportunity to reinvest the dividend (less dividend tax) in Robeco Afrika Fonds and Robeco Afrika Fonds - EUR G shares. Costs charged by distributors to their customers for this will be borne by the shareholder. In some countries and with some distributors, reinvestment will not be possible for technical reasons.



## Notes to the profit and loss account (continued)

### Costs (continued)

#### 20. Proposed profit appropriation (continued)

Agenda	Dividend dates (Transfer Agent)	Dividend dates (Euronext)	Explanation
Record date	Monday, 6 June 2022	Thursday, 9 June 2022	Participating units issued up to Dealing Day 6 June 2022 are entitled for the dividend distribution. Euronext will use the settlement positions as of 9 June 2022.
Ex-dividend date	Tuesday, 7 June 2022	Wednesday, 8 June 2022	The NAV per share will be quoted ex-dividend as of the Dealing Day 7 June 2022. The NAV per share of the Dealing Day 7 June 2022 will be published on 8 June 2022. Euronext will stamp this NAV with date 8 June 2022.
Application for reinvestment	Wednesday, 22 June 2022	Wednesday, 22 June 2022	Deadline for reinvestment application.
Reinvestment date	Friday, 24 June 2022	Monday, 27 June 2022	The Dealing Day of reinvestment will be 24 June 2022. Execution at Euronext will take place on 27 June 2022.
Payment date cash and shares	Wednesday, 29 June 2022	Wednesday, 29 June 2022	

#### 21. Register of Companies

The fund has its registered office in Rotterdam and is listed in the Trade Register of the Chamber of Commerce in Rotterdam, under number 24432814.

#### 22. Subsequent events

Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V., as manager of the fund considers the Russia-Ukraine conflict as a significant event after closing the annual report 2021. As per 31 December 2021, the fund had no exposure to Russian assets.

As the financial markets remain highly volatile at the moment of finalizing the 2021 financial statements it is impossible to estimate the impact with sufficient accuracy and reliability at this time. However, the impact will most likely have a downward effect on value of the fund.

## Currency table

### Exchange rates

	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
	EUR = 1	EUR = 1
AUD	1.5641	1.5856
BWP	13.3790	13.2134
CAD	1.4365	1.5588
EGP	17.8654	19.2464
GBP	0.8396	0.8951
GHS	7.0222	7.1761
KES	128.6742	133.6110
MAD	10.5238	10.8947
MUR	49.6445	48.5749
NGN	470.5165	482.9964
TND	3.2666	3.2898
USD	1.1372	1.2235
XOF	655.9570	655.9570
ZAR	18.1497	17.9724
ZMW	18.9550	25.8964

# Schedule of Investments

As at 31 December 2021

Investments	Currency	Quantity/ Nominal Value	Market Value EUR' 000	% of Net Assets
Transferable securities and money market instruments admitted to an official exchange listing				
Equities				
<i>Australia</i>				
Base Resources Ltd.	AUD	366,158	78	0.31
			<u>78</u>	<u>0.31</u>
<i>Botswana</i>				
Letshego Holdings Ltd.	BWP	7,554,100	791	3.14
			<u>791</u>	<u>3.14</u>
<i>Canada</i>				
Ivanhoe Mines Ltd. 'A'	CAD	25,000	180	0.71
			<u>180</u>	<u>0.71</u>
<i>Cayman Islands</i>				
IHS Holding Ltd.	USD	11,000	136	0.54
			<u>136</u>	<u>0.54</u>
<i>Egypt</i>				
Al Baraka Bank Egypt	EGP	284,128	224	0.89
Alexandria Mineral Oils Co.	EGP	245,145	50	0.20
Cairo Poultry Co.	EGP	633,600	100	0.40
Commercial International Bank Egypt SAE, Reg. S, GDR	USD	354,000	1,027	4.08
Credit Agricole Egypt SAE	EGP	1,017,486	480	1.91
Egyptian Financial Group-Hermes Holding Co.	EGP	177,420	147	0.58
ElSewedy Electric Co.	EGP	220,000	121	0.48
Ezz Steel Co. SAE	EGP	180,000	151	0.60
Qalaa Holdings SAE	EGP	280,000	19	0.08
Talaat Moustafa Group	EGP	840,000	427	1.69
			<u>2,746</u>	<u>10.91</u>
<i>Ghana</i>				
Calbank plc	GHS	6,218,358	770	3.06
Fan Milk Ltd.	GHS	75,000	43	0.17
Ghana Commercial Bank Ltd.	GHS	721,500	538	2.14
Guinness Ghana Breweries Ltd.	GHS	482,632	124	0.49
Societe Generale Ghana plc	GHS	2,193,248	375	1.49
Standard Chartered Bank Ghana Ltd.	GHS	76,216	220	0.88
			<u>2,070</u>	<u>8.23</u>
<i>Kenya</i>				
ABSA Bank Kenya plc	KES	1,840,400	169	0.67
East African Breweries Ltd.	KES	179,000	229	0.91
Equity Group Holdings plc	KES	914,100	375	1.49
KCB Group plc	KES	1,523,060	538	2.14
Kenya Power & Lighting Ltd.	KES	3,150,000	43	0.17
Safaricom plc	KES	2,850,000	841	3.34
			<u>2,195</u>	<u>8.72</u>

# Schedule of Investments (continued)

As at 31 December 2021

Investments	Currency	Quantity/ Nominal Value	Market Value EUR' 000	% of Net Assets
Transferable securities and money market instruments admitted to an official exchange listing (continued)				
Equities (continued)				
<i>Mauritius</i>				
MCB Group Ltd.	MUR	105,000	671	2.66
SBM Holdings Ltd.	MUR	1,978,367	170	0.68
			<u>841</u>	<u>3.34</u>
<i>Morocco</i>				
Alliances Developpement Immobilier SA	MAD	5,000	18	0.07
Itissalat Al-Maghrib	MAD	13,000	172	0.68
TotalEnergies Marketing Maroc SA	MAD	1,824	298	1.19
			<u>488</u>	<u>1.94</u>
<i>Netherlands</i>				
Prosus NV	EUR	3,400	250	0.99
			<u>250</u>	<u>0.99</u>
<i>Nigeria</i>				
Access Bank plc	NGN	38,792,891	767	3.05
Dangote Cement plc	NGN	687,500	375	1.49
Dangote Sugar Refinery plc	NGN	9,800,000	362	1.44
FBN Holdings plc	NGN	12,047,634	292	1.16
FCMB Group plc	NGN	36,817,786	234	0.93
Fidelity Bank plc	NGN	48,740,000	264	1.05
Lafarge Africa plc	NGN	2,600,000	132	0.52
UAC of Nigeria plc	NGN	5,580,000	113	0.45
United Bank for Africa plc	NGN	14,762,500	253	1.00
UPDC Real Estate Investment Trust	NGN	1,257,632	12	0.05
Zenith Bank plc	NGN	8,993,991	481	1.91
			<u>3,285</u>	<u>13.05</u>
<i>Portugal</i>				
Teixeira Duarte SA	EUR	641,397	60	0.24
			<u>60</u>	<u>0.24</u>
<i>Senegal</i>				
Sonatel SA	XOF	7,000	149	0.59
			<u>149</u>	<u>0.59</u>
<i>South Africa</i>				
Absa Group Ltd.	ZAR	42,200	355	1.41
African Rainbow Minerals Ltd.	ZAR	7,000	89	0.35
Astral Foods Ltd.	ZAR	19,000	181	0.72
Attacq Ltd., REIT	ZAR	260,000	114	0.46
Barloworld Ltd.	ZAR	24,000	199	0.79
DataTec Ltd.	ZAR	121,936	259	1.03
Dis-Chem Pharmacies Ltd., Reg. S	ZAR	34,351	67	0.27
EOH Holdings Ltd.	ZAR	69,398	26	0.10
Harmony Gold Mining Co. Ltd.	ZAR	29,000	106	0.42

# Schedule of Investments (continued)

As at 31 December 2021

Investments	Currency	Quantity/ Nominal Value	Market Value EUR' 000	% of Net Assets
Transferable securities and money market instruments admitted to an official exchange listing (continued)				
Equities (continued)				
<i>South Africa (continued)</i>				
Impala Platinum Holdings Ltd.	ZAR	69,500	862	3.42
KAP Industrial Holdings Ltd.	ZAR	280,000	67	0.27
Kumba Iron Ore Ltd.	ZAR	5,200	132	0.52
Lewis Group Ltd.	ZAR	114,000	298	1.19
Libstar Holdings Ltd.	ZAR	610,000	224	0.89
MultiChoice Group	ZAR	28,000	188	0.75
Naspers Ltd. 'N'	ZAR	14,800	2,016	8.01
Raubex Group Ltd.	ZAR	244,000	535	2.13
Remgro Ltd.	ZAR	98,000	708	2.81
RFG Holdings Ltd.	ZAR	270,000	183	0.73
SA Corporate Real Estate Ltd., REIT	ZAR	850,000	110	0.44
Sappi Ltd.	ZAR	26,000	65	0.26
Sasol Ltd.	ZAR	26,000	371	1.47
Sibanye Stillwater Ltd.	ZAR	254,000	687	2.73
Standard Bank Group Ltd.	ZAR	48,300	373	1.48
Super Group Ltd.	ZAR	67,433	126	0.50
Telkom SA SOC Ltd.	ZAR	204,000	608	2.42
Vodacom Group Ltd.	ZAR	60,000	445	1.77
Wilson Bayly Holmes-Ovcon Ltd.	ZAR	7,000	44	0.17
			<u>9,438</u>	<u>37.51</u>
<i>Supranational</i>				
African Export-Import Bank (The), GDR	USD	150,000	356	1.42
			<u>356</u>	<u>1.42</u>
<i>Togo</i>				
Ecobank Transnational, Inc.	NGN	6,607,966	122	0.49
			<u>122</u>	<u>0.49</u>
<i>Tunisia</i>				
Banque de l'Habitat	TND	27,198	78	0.31
Banque de l'Habitat Rights 15/12/2017	TND	22,665	16	0.06
Banque Nationale Agricole	TND	75,000	173	0.69
Banque Nationale Agricole Rights 21/06/2019	TND	75,000	–	–
Banque Nationale Agricole Rights 21/06/2019	TND	75,000	–	–
			<u>267</u>	<u>1.06</u>
<i>United Arab Emirates</i>				
Orascom Construction plc, Reg. S	EGP	17,500	74	0.30
			<u>74</u>	<u>0.30</u>
<i>United Kingdom</i>				
Airtel Africa plc, Reg. S	GBP	190,000	303	1.20
Mondi plc	ZAR	2,200	48	0.19
			<u>351</u>	<u>1.39</u>

# Schedule of Investments (continued)

As at 31 December 2021

Investments	Currency	Quantity/ Nominal Value	Market Value EUR' 000	% of Net Assets
Transferable securities and money market instruments admitted to an official exchange listing (continued)				
Equities (continued)				
<i>Zambia</i>				
Copperbelt Energy Corp. plc	ZMW	1,415,916	198	0.79
Lafarge Cement Zambia plc	ZMW	204,286	149	0.59
Real Estate Investments Zambia plc	ZMW	1,310,000	87	0.34
Zambeef Products plc	GBP	3,800,000	345	1.37
Zambia National Commercial Bank plc	ZMW	839,403	84	0.34
			863	3.43
Total Equities			24,740	98.31
Total Transferable securities and money market instruments admitted to an official exchange listing			24,740	98.31
<b>Total Investments</b>			<b>24,740</b>	<b>98.31</b>
<b>Cash</b>			<b>96</b>	<b>1.62</b>
<b>Other Assets/(Liabilities)</b>			<b>329</b>	<b>0.07</b>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>			<b>25,165</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Rotterdam, 29 April 2022

The Manager  
Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V.

Polymakers RIAM:  
K. (Karin) van Baardwijk  
I.R.M. (Ivo) Frielink  
M.C.W. (Mark) den Hollander  
M.F. (Mark) van der Kroft  
V. (Victor) Verberk

# Other information

## **Provisions regarding appropriation of the result**

According to article 20 of the fund's Articles of Association, the profit, after payment of dividend on the priority shares and less allocations to the reserves deemed desirable by the Management Board shall be at the disposal of the General Meeting of Shareholders.

## **Directors' interests**

The policymakers of the management (also the manager) of the fund had no personal interests in the investments of the fund on 1 January 2021 and 31 December 2021.



# Independent auditor's report

To: the General Meeting of Shareholders of Robeco Afrika Fonds N.V. and the Board of Directors of Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V.

## **Report on the audit of the annual financial statements 2021 included in the annual report**

### ***Our opinion***

In our opinion the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of Robeco Afrika Fonds N.V. as at 31 December 2021 and of its result and cash flows for 2021 in accordance with Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code.

### ***What we have audited***

We have audited the 2021 financial statements of Robeco Afrika Fonds N.V. (hereafter: "the fund") based in Rotterdam.

The financial statements comprise:

- 1 the balance sheet at 31 December 2021;
- 2 the profit and loss account for 2021;
- 3 the cash flow statement for 2021; and
- 4 the notes comprising a summary of the accounting policies and other explanatory information.

### ***Basis for our opinion***

We conducted our audit in accordance with Dutch law, including the Dutch Standards on Auditing. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements' section of our report.

We are independent of Robeco Afrika Fonds N.V. in accordance with the 'Verordening inzake de onafhankelijkheid van accountants bij assurance-opdrachten' (ViO, Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants, a regulation with respect to independence) and other relevant independence regulations in the Netherlands. Furthermore, we have complied with the 'Verordening gedrags- en beroepsregels accountants' (VGBA, Dutch Code of Ethics).

Our audit procedures were determined in the context of our audit of the financial statements as a whole. Our observations in respect of going concern, fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, and the key audit matters should be viewed in that context and not as separate opinions or conclusions.





We believe the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## **Audit approach**

### **Summary**

#### **Materiality**

- Materiality of EUR 252,000
- 1.0% of equity

#### **Going concern, Fraud/Noclar**

- Going concern: no significant going concern risks identified
- Fraud & Non-compliance with laws and regulations (Noclar): risk of management override of controls

#### **Key audit matters**

- Accuracy of the investment income
- Existence and valuation of investments

#### **Opinion**

Unqualified

### **Materiality**

Based on our professional judgement we determined the materiality for the financial statements as a whole at EUR 252,000 (2020: EUR 180,000). The materiality is determined based on 1% of the equity of the fund (2020: 1%). We consider equity to be the most appropriate benchmark, since the equity of an investment entity represents the value that an investor could receive on the sale of his share in the investment entity. Changes in the value of the investments are an important part of the total operating income and therefore the result of an investment entity. Due to the dependency on the value changes both the total operating income and the profit before tax are inherently volatile and therefore less suitable as benchmark for determining materiality. The materiality is determined on the basis of the characteristics of the fund, including the investment category.

We have also taken into account misstatements and/or possible misstatements that in our opinion are material for the users of the financial statements for qualitative reasons.

We agreed with those charged with governance (the Board of Directors of Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V., also the manager) that misstatements identified during our audit in excess of EUR 13,000 would be reported to them, as well as smaller misstatements that in our view must be reported on qualitative grounds.



## ***Scope of the audit***

### ***Outsourcing of business processes to service providers***

The fund has no employees and its portfolio management, risk management and financial and investment administration are therefore performed by the manager of the fund, Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. (hereafter: 'RIAM').

We are responsible for obtaining sufficient and appropriate audit evidence regarding the services provided by RIAM and therefore we have gained insight into the nature and significance of these services. Based on this assessment we identify the risks of material misstatement and design audit procedures to address these risks.

As part of our audit procedures we rely on the procedures performed by the external auditor of RIAM on the administrative organization and internal controls relevant for the fund, and the reports specifically prepared for this (so-called ISAE 3402 type II reports). Our audit procedures consisted of determining the minimum expected internal controls at RIAM, and evaluating these internal controls which are included in the ISAE 3402 type II report, the procedures performed in order to test the existence and operating effectiveness of those internal controls and the outcome of these procedures. We also performed this work on relevant administrative processes and internal controls that RIAM itself outsourced to service providers, including the investment administration.

Based on the above procedures performed over these outsourced processes and additional work performed by us, we have determined that the for the fund relevant internal controls within the processes of RIAM (including those internal controls that have been outsourced to service providers) are sufficient to be relied upon in the performance of our audit of the fund's financial statements.

### ***Audit response to going concern – no significant going concern risks identified***

Since the risks and rewards from (re)valuations of the investment portfolio are borne by the participants in the fund and the extent of any present and future obligations to third parties is such that these do not affect the fund's going concern, the manager of the fund has assessed that no going concern risks exist for the activities of the fund. As such our risk assessment procedures did not give reason to perform additional audit procedures on management's going concern assessment.

### ***Audit response to the risk of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations***

In the Report by the manager, the manager of the fund describes its procedures in respect of the risk of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

As part of our audit, we have gained insights into the fund and its business environment, and assessed the design and implementation and, where considered appropriate, tested the operating effectiveness of the fund's risk management in relation to fraud and non-compliance. Our procedures included, among other things, assessing the fund's code of conduct, whistleblowing procedures, incidents register and its procedures to investigate indications of possible fraud and non-compliance. Furthermore, we performed relevant inquiries with the manager of the fund and other relevant functions, such as Internal Audit / Legal Counsel / Compliance.



As part of our audit procedures, we:

- assessed other positions held by management board members and/or other employees and paid special attention to procedures and governance in view of possible conflicts of interest;
- evaluated internal policies of the manager of the fund regarding fraud risk control (prevention, detection and response), including the design of ethical standards to create an open and honest culture;
- evaluated correspondence with supervisory authorities and regulators (including AFM) as well as legal confirmation letters;
- evaluated investigation reports on indications of possible fraud and non-compliance;

In addition, we performed procedures to obtain an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the fund and identified the following areas as those most likely to have a material effect on the financial statements:

- the requirements by or pursuant to the Act on Financial Supervision (Wet op het financieel toezicht, Wft);
- the law on the prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing (Wwft);
- the fiscal status of the fund as embedded in article 28 of the Dutch Corporation Tax Act, 1969.

We evaluated the fraud and non-compliance risk factors to consider whether those factors indicate a risk of material misstatement in the financial statements.

We rebutted the presumed fraud risk on revenue recognition as the fund invests in listed securities on regulated markets and has involvement of third parties in the dividend and/or income transactions like custodian and depository.

Based on the above and on the auditing standards, we identified the following fraud and non-compliance risks that are relevant to our audit, including the relevant presumed risks laid down in the auditing standards, and responded as follows:

— **Management override of controls (a presumed risk)**

Risk:

- Management is in a unique position to manipulate accounting records and prepare fraudulent financial statements by overriding controls that otherwise appear to be operating effectively.

Responses:

- We evaluated the design and the implementation and, where considered appropriate, tested the operating effectiveness of internal controls that mitigate fraud and non-compliance risks, such as processes related to journal entries.



- We performed a data analysis of high-risk journal entries with a higher risk related to manual post-closing entries. Where we identified instances of unexpected journal entries or other risks through our data analytics, we performed additional audit procedures to address each identified risk. These audit procedures included testing of transactions back to source information.
- We assessed matters reported on the fund's incident register/whistleblowing and complaints procedures with the entity and results of the manager's investigation of such matters.

Our audit procedures did not reveal indications and/or reasonable suspicion of fraud and non-compliance that are considered material for our audit.

### ***Our key audit matters***

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the financial statements. We have communicated the key audit matters to the those charged with governance. The key audit matters are not a comprehensive reflection of all matters discussed.

These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the financial statements as a whole and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on this matter.

## **Existence and valuation of investments**

### **Description**

The fund's investments amount to more than 98% of the total assets. The investments are valued at fair value based on market information. The determination of the fair value for each investment category is disclosed on page 24. The valuation of the investments has a significant impact on the financial results. We assess the risk of a material misstatement in the valuation of the investments as low due to the fact that the entire portfolio consists of liquid, listed investments which are traded on an active market. Due to the amount of the investments in relation to the financial statements as a whole we identify the existence and valuation of investments as a key audit matter.

### **Our response**

Our audit procedures consisted of the following:

- determining the existence of the investments by directly received confirmations from the custodian and other relevant counterparties.
- determining that the used price is based on the method which is defined for the relevant investment category, as stated on page 24. We performed this procedure by comparing the used valuations of the investments with our independent valuation which is based on observable market prices. In performing these procedures we have used our valuation specialists.

Furthermore we evaluated the sufficiency of the disclosure of investments in the financial statements as included under 'Investments'.

## **Our observation**

Based on our procedures we conclude that the investments exist and that the valuation of the investments resulted in an acceptable valuation of the investments in the financial statements. The disclosure of the composition of and movements in investments is adequate.

## **Accuracy of investment income**

### **Description**

The total operating income mainly consists of the changes in the value of investments and investment income. The total operating income is to a large extent decisive for the performance of the fund and has therefore a significant effect on the overall view presented by the financial statements. In the audit over 2021, the changes in the value of investments – as part of the total operating income – were identified and assessed as financial statement accounts that do not contain a risk of material misstatement, given the nature of the underlying transactions and the correlation with the valuation of investments already included in the previous key audit matter. The investment income consists of dividends received and for a smaller amount interest expense and net revenue from securities lending. The investment income is based on the accounting policies as described in the notes on the financial statements on page 25. We consider the accuracy of investment income to be a key audit matter.

### **Our response**

Our audit procedures consisted of the following:

- we have assessed the design, implementation and operating effectiveness of the relevant controls at the manager of the fund, as stated under ‘Scope of the audit - Outsourcing of business processes to service providers’.
- we have assessed the accuracy of operating income by applying data analysis techniques where, based on the composition of the investments in combination with information on the return on investments that can be observed in the market, an expected outcome has been determined which subsequently has been compared with the investment income as accounted for. We have involved our specialists in this procedure.

Furthermore, we evaluated the sufficiency of the disclosure in the financial statements as included under ‘Investment income’.

### **Our observation**

Based on our procedures performed we conclude that the investment income has been recognized accurately and that the disclosure of the investment income is sufficient.

## **Report on the other information included in the annual report**

In addition to the financial statements and our auditor’s report thereon, the annual report contains other information.

Based on the following procedures performed, we conclude that the other information:

- is consistent with the financial statements and does not contain material misstatements; and
- contains the information as required by Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code for the management report and other information.



We have read the other information. Based on our knowledge and understanding obtained through our audit of the financial statements or otherwise, we have considered whether the other information contains material misstatements.

By performing these procedures, we comply with the requirements of Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code and the Dutch Standard 720. The scope of the procedures performed is less than the scope of those performed in our audit of the financial statements.

The manager of the fund is responsible for the preparation of the other information, including the information as required by Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code.

### ***Engagement***

We were engaged by the General Meeting on 24 April 2014 as auditor of the fund as of the audit for the year 2014 and have operated as statutory auditor ever since then.

### ***No prohibited non-audit services***

We have not provided prohibited non-audit services as referred to in Article 5(1) of the EU Regulation on specific requirements regarding statutory audits of public-interest entities.

## **Description of responsibilities regarding the financial statements**

### ***Responsibilities of the manager of the fund for the financial statements***

The manager of the fund is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code. Furthermore, the manager of the fund is responsible for such internal control as the manager determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In that respect the manager of the fund is responsible for the prevention and detection of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, including determining measures to resolve the consequences of it and to prevent recurrence.

As part of the preparation of the financial statements, the manager of the fund is responsible for assessing the fund's ability to continue as a going concern. Based on the financial reporting frameworks mentioned, the manager of the fund should prepare the financial statements using the going concern basis of accounting unless the manager of the fund either intends to liquidate the fund or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so. The manager of the fund should disclose events and circumstances that may cast significant doubt on the fund's ability to continue as a going concern in the financial statements.

### ***Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements***

Our objective is to plan and perform the audit engagement in a manner that allows us to obtain sufficient and appropriate audit evidence for our opinion. Our audit has been performed with a high, but not absolute, level of assurance, which means we may not detect all material errors and fraud during our audit.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.



The materiality affects the nature, timing and extent of our audit procedures and the evaluation of the effect of identified misstatements on our opinion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is included in the appendix to this auditor's report. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Utrecht, 29 April 2022

KPMG Accountants N.V.

G.J. Hoeve RA

Appendix:

Description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements



## Appendix

### Description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have exercised professional judgement and have maintained professional scepticism throughout the audit, in accordance with Dutch Standards on Auditing, ethical requirements and independence requirements. Our audit included among others:

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

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant findings in internal control that we identify during our audit. In this respect we also submit an additional report to the Board of Directors of Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. (also responsible for the tasks generally performed by the audit committee) in accordance with Article 11 of the EU Regulation on specific requirements regarding statutory audits of public-interest entities. The information included in this additional report is consistent with our audit opinion in this auditor's report.

We provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.





From the matters communicated with those charged with governance, we determine the key audit matters: those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial statements. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, not communicating the matter is in the public interest.