

## AllianceBernstein— Dynamic Diversified Portfolio

## **Market Overview**

Global equity markets advanced in August as hopes for further stimulus measures in key regions of the world and a strengthening US economy boosted risk sentiment.

Investors were hit with discouraging during the month that suggested that the global economic outlook had dimmed. In Europe, **GDP** indicated that numbers second-quarter arowth the eurozone had come to a standstill, as the economies of Germany, France and Italy all failed to expand. The specter of deflation also continued to cast a shadow on the currency bloc's economy as inflation fell in August to its lowest level since 2009. The disappointing numbers renewed fears that the region's tepid recovery had lost momentum less than a year after emerging from its second recession since the 2008 financial crisis. Compounding the region's troubles were the risks posed by the escalating tensions between the West and Russia over crisis Ukraine. With expectations growing that the European Central Bank was preparing to embark on a more aggressive stimulus campaign to jump-start growth, global stock markets pushed higher.

The economic news was not much better in Asia. In Japan, secondquarter data indicated that the economy had suffered its largest contraction since the country's earthquake in March 2011, as an increase in sales tax weighed heavily on household spending. In China, preliminary data for July indicated that manufacturing activity, which constitutes about 45% of the country's economy, had grown at its slowest pace in three months. Moreover, China's central bank reported that new lending had unexpectedly plunged to its lowest level since the global financial crisis, despite the government's recent mini-stimulus measures.

While mixed economic data in much tempered of the world risk sentiment, positive developments in the US provided a boost for global stock markets. Low inflation. encouraging manufacturing data and durable goods orders, coupled with solid corporate earnings, fed investor optimism that the world's largest economy was strengthening.

The 3-month USD Libor rose 0.02% in July, bringing its year-to-date gain to 0.16%, while the 40% Barclays Global Aggregate Bond Index/ 60% MSCI World Index operational benchmark rose 1.5% for the month and is up 5.9% for the year to date.

## **Portfolio Performance**

For the month of July, class A shares of the Portfolio outperformed its primary benchmark, the 3-month USD Libor, and underperformed its operational benchmark, the 40% Barclays Global Aggregate Bond Index/ 60% MSCI World Index. For

the year to date, the Portfolio outperformed the Libor and underperformed the operational benchmark.

We are maintaining an overweight in return-seeking assets focused on developed market stocks and are underweight bonds.

Despite rising geopolitical concerns, global stocks have made up most of their losses from late July and early August, and US stocks are at all-time highs. Measures of risk continue to be near historical lows.

The fundamentals behind the equity overweight are good: corporate balance sheets are strong, valuations are reasonable, growth expectations in the US continue to improve and the expected return from bonds is diminished, due to low yields.

The possibility that rates will rise means that bonds may be less effective as a hedge against equity downside risk. We have incorporated other defenses—holding out-of-the-money equity-put options (where low stock-market volatility means they are low in cost) and hedging a selected basket of currencies against the US dollar.

## Outlook

The portfolio management team has positioned the Portfolio to be overweight return-seeking assets; supported by our view that the low-

growth, low-risk environment should continue. Further, historically low interest rates make equities attractive relative to bonds. Given mounting geopolitical concerns and attractive option pricing, we have chosen to initiate a small equity put position to hedge the potential downside.

The performance discussed in this commentary is net of fees and expenses, but does not account for the potential sales charges that may apply to certain share classes of the fund.

There is no guarantee that any forecasts or opinions in these materials will be realized. This information should not be construed as an offer to sell, or solicitation of an offer to buy, or a recommendation for the securities of the Fund.

AllianceBernstein (Luxembourg) S.à.r.l. is the management company of the Portfolio and has appointed AllianceBernstein (Singapore) Ltd. (Company Registration No. 199703364C) as its agent for service of process and as its Singapore representative.

Investment Risks—Investment in the Portfolio entails certain risks. Investment returns and principal value of the Portfolio will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. The Portfolio is meant as a vehicle for diversification and does not represent a complete investment program. Portfolio may invest in financial derivative instruments for investment purposes in addition to hedging and/or efficient portfolio management purposes and hence this may lead to a higher volatility to the net asset value of the Portfolio. These and other risks are described in the Portfolio's prospectus. Prospective investors should read the prospectus and Product Highlight Sheets including risk factors carefully and discuss risk and the Portfolio's fees and charges with their financial advisor to determine if the investment is appropriate for them.

A Portfolio of ACMBernstein, a mutual investment fund (fonds commun de placement) organized under the laws of Luxembourg, which conducts business outside of Germany and Austria under the name AllianceBernstein.

The value of an investment can go up or down and past performance is neither indicative of, nor a guarantee of, future results. The sale of AllianceBernstein funds may be restricted or subject to adverse tax consequences in certain jurisdictions. This information is directed solely at persons in jurisdictions where the funds and relevant share class are registered or who may otherwise lawfully receive it. Before investing in AllianceBernstein funds, investors should review the fund's full prospectus, together with the fund's Product Highlights Sheet and the most recent financial statements. Copies of these documents, including the latest annual report and, if issued thereafter, the latest semi-annual report, may be obtained free of charge from AllianceBernstein, by visiting <a href="https://www.alliancebernstein.com.sg">www.alliancebernstein.com.sg</a> or by contacting the local distributor in the jurisdictions in which the funds are authorized for distribution.

References to specific securities are presented for the purpose of providing information regarding a particular investment sector, or to illustrate the application of AllianceBernstein's investment philosophy, and are not to be considered recommendations by AllianceBernstein. The specific securities identified and described above may or may not be held by the Fund at any given time.

MSCI makes no express or implied warranties or representations, and shall have no liability whatsoever with respect to any MSCI data contained herein. The MSCI data may not be further redistributed or used as a basis for other indices, any securities or financial products. This report is not approved, reviewed or produced by MSCI.

©2014 AllianceBernstein L.P.

www.alliancebernstein.com/investments