

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND
Form N-CSRS
September 08, 2017

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

FORM N-CSR

CERTIFIED SHAREHOLDER REPORT OF REGISTERED MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT
COMPANIES

Investment Company Act file number 811-21905

First Trust/Aberdeen Emerging Opportunity Fund

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

120 East Liberty Drive, Suite 400
Wheaton, IL 60187

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

W. Scott Jardine, Esq.

First Trust Portfolios L.P.
120 East Liberty Drive, Suite 400
Wheaton, IL 60187

(Name and address of agent for service)

registrant's telephone number, including area code: (630) 765-8000

Date of fiscal year end: December 31

Date of reporting period: June 30, 2017

Form N-CSR is to be used by management investment companies to file reports with the Commission not later than 10 days after the transmission to stockholders of any report that is required to be transmitted to stockholders under Rule 30e-1 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (17 CFR 270.30e-1). The Commission may use the information provided on Form N-CSR in its regulatory, disclosure review, inspection, and policymaking roles.

A registrant is required to disclose the information specified by Form N-CSR, and the Commission will make this information public. A registrant is not required to respond to the collection of information contained in Form N-CSR unless the Form displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") control number. Please direct comments concerning the accuracy of the information collection burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing the burden to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549. The OMB has reviewed this collection of information under the clearance requirements of 44 U.S.C. ss. 3507.

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ITEM 1. REPORTS TO STOCKHOLDERS.

The Report to Shareholders is attached herewith.

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN
EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED
JUNE 30, 2017

ABERDEEN
Asset Management

FIRST TRUST

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JUNE 30, 2017

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CAUTION REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This report contains certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Forward-looking statements include statements regarding the goals, beliefs, plans or current expectations of First Trust Advisors L.P. ("First Trust" or the "Advisor") and/or Aberdeen Asset Management Inc. ("Aberdeen" or the "Sub-Advisor") and their respective representatives, taking into account the information currently available to them. Forward-looking statements include all statements that do not relate solely to current or historical fact. For example, forward-looking statements include the use of words such as "anticipate," "estimate," "intend," "expect," "believe," "plan," "may," "should," "would" or other words that convey uncertainty of future events or outcomes.

Forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of First Trust/Aberdeen Emerging Opportunity Fund (the "Fund") to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. When evaluating the information

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included in this report, you are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which reflect the judgment of the Advisor and/or Sub-Advisor and their respective representatives only as of the date hereof. We undertake no obligation to publicly revise or update these forward-looking statements to reflect events and circumstances that arise after the date hereof.

PERFORMANCE AND RISK DISCLOSURE

There is no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective. The Fund is subject to market risk, which is the possibility that the market values of securities owned by the Fund will decline and that the value of the Fund shares may therefore be less than what you paid for them. Accordingly, you can lose money by investing in the Fund. See "Risk Considerations" in the Additional Information section of this report for a discussion of certain other risks of investing in the Fund.

Performance data quoted represents past performance, which is no guarantee of future results, and current performance may be lower or higher than the figures shown. For the most recent month-end performance figures, please visit <http://www.ftportfolios.com> or speak with your financial advisor. Investment returns, net asset value and common share price will fluctuate and Fund shares, when sold, may be worth more or less than their original cost.

The Advisor may also periodically provide additional information on Fund performance on the Fund's web page at <http://www.ftportfolios.com>.

HOW TO READ THIS REPORT

This report contains information that may help you evaluate your investment in the Fund. It includes details about the Fund and presents data and analysis that provide insight into the Fund's performance and investment approach.

By reading the portfolio commentary by the portfolio management team of the Fund, you may obtain an understanding of how the market environment affected the Fund's performance. The statistical information that follows may help you understand the Fund's performance compared to that of relevant market benchmarks.

It is important to keep in mind that the opinions expressed by personnel of First Trust and Aberdeen are just that: informed opinions. They should not be considered to be promises or advice. The opinions, like the statistics, cover the period through the date on the cover of this report. The material risks of investing in the Fund are spelled out in the prospectus, the statement of additional information, this report and other Fund regulatory filings.

SHAREHOLDER LETTER

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)
SEMI-ANNUAL LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND CEO
JUNE 30, 2017

Dear Shareholders:

First Trust Advisors L.P. ("First Trust") is pleased to provide you with this semi-annual report which contains detailed information and the financial

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statements for your investment in the First Trust/Aberdeen Emerging Opportunity Fund (the "Fund"). We encourage you to read this report and discuss it with your financial advisor.

Six months into the year, the bull market in stocks continues. President Donald Trump's pro-growth, pro-U.S. policies, while slow in coming, have at least created some optimism about the prospects for the U.S. economy, in our opinion. From Donald Trump's election on November 8, 2016 through June 30, 2017, the S&P 500(R) Index (the "Index") posted a total return of 14.79%, according to Bloomberg. The Index closed its June 19, 2017 trading session at an all-time high of 2,453.46.

The current bull market (measuring from March 9, 2009 through June 30, 2017) is the second longest in history. While we are optimistic about the U.S. economy, we are also well aware that no one can predict the future or know how an administration will affect markets and the economy in the future. Therefore, we stress the importance of maintaining a long-term perspective, as we have done since First Trust's inception over 25 years ago.

Thank you for giving First Trust the opportunity to be a part of your investment plan through the Fund. We value our relationship with you and will continue our relentless focus on bringing the types of investments that we believe could help you reach your financial goals.

Sincerely,

/s/ James A. Bowen

James A. Bowen
Chairman of the Board of Trustees
Chief Executive Officer of First Trust Advisors L.P.

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FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)
"AT A GLANCE"
AS OF JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)

FUND STATISTICS

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Symbol on New York Stock Exchange | FEO |
| Common Share Price | \$16.06 |
| Common Share Net Asset Value ("NAV") | \$17.59 |
| Premium (Discount) to NAV | (8.70)% |
| Net Assets Applicable to Common Shares | \$90,872,999 |
| Current Quarterly Distribution per Common Share (1) | \$0.350 |
| Current Annualized Distribution per Common Share | \$1.400 |
| Current Distribution Rate on Common Share Price (2) | 8.72% |
| Current Distribution Rate on NAV (2) | 7.96% |

COMMON SHARE PRICE & NAV (WEEKLY CLOSING PRICE)

| | | |
|------|--------------------|---------|
| | Common Share Price | NAV |
| 6/16 | \$14.72 | \$16.78 |

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| | | |
|-------|-------|-------|
| | 14.91 | 16.88 |
| | 14.73 | 16.88 |
| | 15.10 | 17.19 |
| | 14.96 | 17.10 |
| 7/16 | 15.32 | 17.24 |
| | 15.44 | 17.45 |
| | 15.80 | 17.71 |
| | 15.79 | 17.70 |
| 8/16 | 15.40 | 17.44 |
| | 15.77 | 17.49 |
| | 15.55 | 17.46 |
| | 15.32 | 17.29 |
| | 15.06 | 17.36 |
| 9/16 | 15.22 | 17.28 |
| | 15.26 | 17.37 |
| | 15.13 | 17.16 |
| | 15.32 | 17.35 |
| 10/16 | 15.05 | 17.20 |
| | 14.75 | 16.95 |
| | 13.58 | 16.18 |
| | 13.53 | 16.04 |
| 11/16 | 13.85 | 16.08 |
| | 13.71 | 16.01 |
| | 14.02 | 16.42 |
| | 14.03 | 16.25 |
| | 13.67 | 15.92 |
| 12/16 | 13.90 | 16.16 |
| | 14.11 | 16.32 |
| | 14.23 | 16.45 |
| | 14.30 | 16.47 |
| 1/17 | 14.55 | 16.74 |
| | 14.72 | 16.92 |
| | 14.78 | 17.05 |
| | 14.97 | 17.12 |
| 2/17 | 15.16 | 17.19 |
| | 14.97 | 17.19 |
| | 14.88 | 17.09 |
| | 15.40 | 17.58 |
| | 15.24 | 17.35 |
| 3/17 | 15.26 | 17.26 |
| | 15.39 | 17.28 |
| | 15.90 | 17.32 |
| | 16.12 | 17.38 |
| 4/17 | 16.20 | 17.59 |
| | 16.09 | 17.59 |
| | 16.38 | 17.78 |
| | 16.30 | 17.64 |
| 5/17 | 16.39 | 17.87 |
| | 16.68 | 17.99 |
| | 16.59 | 18.01 |
| | 16.31 | 17.99 |
| | 16.30 | 17.56 |
| 6/17 | 16.06 | 17.59 |

 PERFORMANCE

Average Annual Total R

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| | 6 Months Ended 6/30/17 | 1 Year Ended 6/30/17 | 5 Years Ended 6/30/17 | 10 Years Ended 6/30/17 |
|--|------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| FUND PERFORMANCE (3) | | | | |
| NAV | 13.76% | 14.90% | 4.37% | 6.70% |
| Market Value | 20.75% | 19.58% | 4.81% | 7.07% |
| INDEX PERFORMANCE | | | | |
| Blended Index(4) | 11.91% | 12.43% | 3.53% | 4.95% |
| Bloomberg Barclays Global Emerging Markets Index | 5.82% | 5.76% | 5.03% | 6.67% |
| FTSE All World Emerging Market Index | 14.77% | 20.57% | 4.28% | 2.31% |

| TOP 10 HOLDINGS | % OF TOTAL INVESTMENTS |
|---|---------------------------|
| Russian Federal Bond - Ofz (RUB), 7.05%, 1/19/28 | 4.8% |
| Turkey Government Bond (TRY), 10.4%, 3/20/24 | 3.8 |
| Brazil Notas Do Tesouro Nacional Series F (BRL), 10%, 1/1/25 | 3.2 |
| Mexican Bonos (MXN), 8.5%, 11/18/38 | 2.7 |
| Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd., Preference Shares | 2.7 |
| Peruvian Government International Bond (PEN), 6.9%, 8/12/37 | 2.3 |
| Housing Development Finance Corp. | 1.8 |
| Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., Ltd. | 1.8 |
| Republic of South Africa Government Bond (ZAR), 6.25%, 3/31/36 | 1.8 |
| AIA Group Ltd. | 1.6 |
| Total | 26.5% |

| TOP 10 COUNTRIES(5) | % OF TOTAL INVESTMENTS |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Brazil | 11.6% |
| India | 7.7 |
| Russia | 7.7 |
| Mexico | 7.1 |
| Turkey | 7.1 |
| South Africa | 5.6 |
| Indonesia | 4.2 |
| South Korea | 4.0 |
| Hong Kong | 3.9 |
| Argentina | 3.6 |
| Total | 62.5% |

- (1) Most recent distribution paid or declared through 6/30/2017. Subject to change in the future.
- (2) Distribution rates are calculated by annualizing the most recent distribution paid or declared through the report date and then dividing by Common Share Price or NAV, as applicable, as of 6/30/2017. Subject to change in the future.

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- (3) Total return is based on the combination of reinvested dividend, capital gain and return of capital distributions, if any, at prices obtained by the Dividend Reinvestment Plan and changes in NAV per share for NAV returns and changes in Common Share Price for market value returns. Total returns do not reflect sales load and are not annualized for periods of less than one year. Past performance is not indicative of future results.
- (4) Blended Index consists of the following: JPMorgan Emerging Markets Bond Index - Global Diversified (32.5%); JPMorgan Government Bond Index - Emerging Markets Diversified (32.5%); MSCI Global Emerging Markets Index (35.0%)
- (5) Fixed-income portfolio securities are included in a country based upon their underlying credit exposure as determined by Aberdeen Asset Management Inc., the sub-advisor.

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FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)
 "AT A GLANCE" (CONTINUED)
 AS OF JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)

| INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATION | % OF TOTAL INVESTMENTS |
|--|------------------------|
| Sovereigns | 42.5% |
| Banks | 11.3 |
| Wireless Telecommunications Services | 3.2 |
| Construction Materials | 3.1 |
| Real Estate Management & Development | 3.1 |
| Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals | 2.7 |
| Food & Staples Retailing | 2.3 |
| Integrated Oils | 2.2 |
| Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels | 2.2 |
| Automobiles | 2.1 |
| Metals & Mining | 2.0 |
| Beverages | 1.9 |
| Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment | 1.8 |
| Thrifts & Mortgage Finance | 1.8 |
| Insurance | 1.6 |
| Tobacco | 1.4 |
| Multiline Retail | 1.2 |
| Pipeline | 1.0 |
| Internet Software & Services | 0.9 |
| IT Services | 0.9 |
| Household Products | 0.8 |
| Railroad | 0.8 |
| Exploration & Production | 0.7 |
| Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure | 0.7 |
| Transportation Infrastructure | 0.7 |
| Financial Services | 0.6 |
| Specialty Retail | 0.6 |
| Capital Markets | 0.5 |
| Energy Equipment & Services | 0.5 |
| Oil & Gas Services & Equipment | 0.5 |
| Personal Products | 0.5 |

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| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Pharmaceuticals | 0.5 |
| Utilities | 0.5 |
| Food Products | 0.4 |
| Consumer Discretionary | 0.4 |
| Chemicals | 0.3 |
| Communications Equipment | 0.3 |
| Construction Materials Manufacturing | 0.3 |
| Food & Beverage | 0.3 |
| Government Developmental Banks | 0.3 |
| Real Estate | 0.3 |
| Renewable Energy | 0.2 |
| Diversified Financial Services | 0.1 |
| Industrial Other | 0.0* |
| ----- | |
| Total | 100.0% |
| | ===== |

* Amount is less than 0.05%.

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| | % OF TOTAL FIXED INCOME INVESTMENTS |
| ----- | |
| CREDIT QUALITY (6) | |
| ----- | |
| A | 7.8% |
| A- | 4.0 |
| BBB | 1.5 |
| BBB- | 30.4 |
| BB+ | 4.5 |
| BB | 11.8 |
| BB- | 6.6 |
| B+ | 9.9 |
| B | 10.1 |
| B- | 6.0 |
| CCC+ | 0.6 |
| CCC | 0.9 |
| CCC- | 0.2 |
| NR | 5.7 |
| ----- | |
| Total | 100.0% |
| | ===== |

(6) The credit quality and ratings information presented reflects the ratings assigned by one or more nationally recognized statistical rating organizations (NRSROs), including Standard & Poor's Rating Group, a division of the McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., Moody's Investors Service, Inc., Fitch Ratings or a comparably rated NRSRO. For situations in which a security is rated by more than one NRSRO and the ratings are not equivalent, the highest ratings are used. The credit ratings shown relate to the creditworthiness of the issuers of the underlying securities in the Fund, and not to the Fund or its Shares. Credit ratings are subject to change.

PORTFOLIO COMMENTARY

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)
SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT
JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)

ADVISOR

First Trust Advisors L.P. ("First Trust") is the advisor to the First Trust/Aberdeen Emerging Opportunity Fund (the "Fund"). First Trust is responsible for the ongoing monitoring of the Fund's investment portfolio, managing the Fund's business affairs and providing certain administrative services for the management of the Fund.

SUB-ADVISOR

Aberdeen Asset Management Inc. ("Aberdeen" or the "Sub-Advisor"), a Securities and Exchange Commission registered investment advisor, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Aberdeen Asset Management PLC ("Aberdeen PLC"). The merger of Standard Life plc and Aberdeen PLC, announced on March 6, 2017 ("Merger"), closed on August 14, 2017. Aberdeen PLC became a direct subsidiary of Standard Life plc as a result of the Merger and the combined company changed its name to Standard Life Aberdeen plc. Shareholders of the Fund are not required to take any action as a result of the Merger. Following the Merger, the Sub-Advisor is an indirect subsidiary of Standard Life Aberdeen plc, but otherwise did not change. The sub-advisory agreement, the services provided under the agreement, and the fees charged for services did not change as a result of the Merger. The portfolio management team did not change as a result of the Merger.

PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM

Investment decisions for the Fund are made by Aberdeen using a team approach and not by any one individual. By making team decisions, Aberdeen seeks to ensure that the investment process results in consistent returns across all portfolios with similar objectives. Aberdeen does not employ separate research analysts. Instead, Aberdeen's investment managers combine analysis with portfolio management. Each member of the team has sector and portfolio responsibilities such as day-to-day monitoring of liquidity. The overall result of this matrix approach is a high degree of cross-coverage, leading to a deeper understanding of the securities in which Aberdeen invests. Below are the members of the team with significant responsibility for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio.

EQUITY MANAGEMENT TEAM

DEVAN KALOO
Global Head of Equities

JOANNE IRVINE
Head of Emerging Markets ex Asia

MARK GORDON-JAMES
Senior Investment Manager, Global Emerging Markets Equity

FIONA MANNING
Senior Investment Manager, Global Emerging Markets Equity

FIXED-INCOME MANAGEMENT TEAM

BRETT DIMENT
Head of Global Emerging Market De

KEVIN DALY
Senior Investment Manager, Emergi

EDWIN GUTIERREZ
Head of Emerging Market Sovereign

MAX WOLMAN
Senior Investment Manager, Emergi

COMMENTARY

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND

The investment objective of the Fund is to provide a high level of total return. The Fund pursues its investment objective by investing at least 80% of its managed assets in a diversified portfolio of equity and fixed-income securities of issuers in emerging market countries. There can be no assurance that the Fund's investment objective will be achieved, and the Fund may not be appropriate for all investors.

FUND RECAP

The Fund had a net asset value ("NAV") total return(1) of 13.76% and a market value total return of 20.75% for the six-months ended June 30, 2017, compared to the Fund's blended index(2) total return of 11.91% over the same period. In addition to the blended index, the Fund currently uses other indexes for comparative purposes. The total returns for the six-months ended June 30, 2017, for these indices were as follows: the Bloomberg Barclays Global Emerging Markets Index was 5.82% and the FTSE All World Emerging Market Index was 14.77%.

- (1) Total return is based on the combination of reinvested dividend, capital gain and return of capital distributions, if any, at prices obtained by the Dividend Reinvestment Plan and changes in NAV per share for NAV returns and changes in Common Share Price for market value returns. Total returns do not reflect sales load and are not annualized for periods of less than one year. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

- (2) Blended index consists of the following: JPMorgan Emerging Markets Bond Index - Global Diversified (32.5%); JPMorgan Government Bond Index - Emerging Markets Diversified (32.5%); MSCI Global Emerging Markets Index (35.0%).

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PORTFOLIO COMMENTARY (CONTINUED)

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)
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An important factor impacting the return of the Fund relative to its blended index was the Fund's use of financial leverage through the use of bank borrowings. The Fund uses leverage because its managers believe that, over time, leverage provides opportunities for additional income and total return for common shareholders. However, the use of leverage can also expose common shareholders to additional volatility. For example, as the prices of securities held by the Fund decline, the negative impact of the evaluation changes on Common Share NAV and Common shareholder total return is magnified by the use of leverage. Conversely, leverage may enhance Common Share returns during periods

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when the prices of securities held by the Fund generally are rising. Unlike the Fund, the Bloomberg Barclays Global Emerging Markets Index, the Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate Index and the components of the blended index are not leveraged. Leverage had a positive impact on the performance of the Fund over this reporting period.

FIXED INCOME COMMENTARY

MARKET RECAP

Emerging market ("EM") debt enjoyed another promising period, posting its sixth consecutive month of positive returns in May 2017 before the rally came to an end in June. The strong run has surprised many, especially in the wake of relatively subdued commodity prices and a third U.S. interest rate hike in as many quarters. A dip in oil prices did put pressure on a number of EM credits, however. Flows into the asset class remained strong, hitting 27 weeks of consecutive inflows at the end of the period, while President Trump could do little to dampen sentiment despite his 'America first' rhetoric. The U.S. President's inability to push through various pro-growth policies since taking office has been well documented, and is also benefitting EM debt, in our view.

In Europe, the political environment is looking much calmer following Emmanuel Macron's sweeping victory in the French presidential elections. We believe that he brings with him a renewed sense of optimism as the Eurozone economy begins to gain some traction. The buoyant sentiment led to hawkish comments from the European Central Bank (ECB) at its annual conference in late June, which subsequently saw rates markets sell off aggressively and yield curves steepening. EM central banks seem relatively unfazed by the more hawkish developed markets ("DM") Central Bank rhetoric, however, instead preferring to maintain their focus on progress at home. Additionally, low inflation in the U.S. and Europe, as well as mixed U.S. economic data over the period, suggests that DM central banks may be limited in their ability to raise rates too much higher.

Over the period, the JP Morgan Emerging Markets Bond Index - Global Diversified returned 6.19% while the blended index spread tightened by 32 basis points to 310 bps. High yield assets started the period strongly but it was investment grade credits that outperformed thereafter, as commodity-linked credits suffered amid the sustained pressure on oil prices. Mongolia and Belize were the top performing credits in the first half of the period, with the latter negotiating a debt restructuring with its bond creditors. The presidential election in Ecuador and a Eurobond issue in Bolivia also caused these credits to underperform, although Bolivia recovered in June. Venezuela bottomed the JP Morgan EMBI Global Diversified Index at the end of the review period; the South American nation continues to grapple with political strife and market concerns over the government's ability to service its external Eurobond obligations. Conversely, Cameroon, Pakistan, Namibia and Suriname performed relatively well at the backend of the period.

In local currency debt, the JP Morgan Government Bond Index - Emerging Markets Diversified (unhedged in USD terms) returned 10.68% with positive returns witnessed in both local rates. Currencies also bolstered returns, despite coming under pressure in June. Brazil began the year particularly well, with its currency appreciating by 4% against the U.S. dollar in January. South Africa, traditionally a bellwether of EM sentiment, was never far from the headlines. President Jacob Zuma fired Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan after recalling Gordhan from investor roadshows in the UK and the U.S. Gordhan was one of the few well respected members of Zuma's cabinet and had made great efforts to improve South Africa's debt sustainability during his tenure as Minister of Finance. South Africa was downgraded to junk status as a result. Elsewhere, Turkey was a notable performer in the second half of the review period; the central bank tightened monetary conditions in order to contain inflation. The

Czech Republic was another stand out performer as it rallied by nearly 7% in May 2017 after entering the JP Morgan GBI-EM Diversified Index for the first time. Other European countries including Hungary, Poland and Romania did well as they tracked the Euro's appreciation against the U.S. dollar. In June 2017, Mexico produced impressive returns from both its bond and currency.

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

The EM debt portion of the Fund outperformed the EM debt portion of its blended index over the period under review. Country allocation and security selection effects were both positive contributors, while currency exposure detracted from the Fund. In hard currency debt, it benefitted from bond selection in Mexico and zero-weights in China and the Philippines, while an overweight to Iraq was also a positive contributor to performance. On the other side, an overweight to

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PORTFOLIO COMMENTARY (CONTINUED)

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Goergia, Brazil and Bahrain detracted from performance, as did bond selection in Venezuela. In local currency debt, overweights to Brazil, Turkey, Russia and Peru were the main contributors to the Fund's performance, while security selection in South Africa was also beneficial. An underweight to eastern Europe, specifically Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary detracted from the Fund, while exposure to the Dominican Republic also was a negative.

MARKET AND FUND OUTLOOK

The summer months have finally arrived and with them should bring a quieter market - fewer new issues and reduced secondary market activity - as participants take a well-earned break from what has been a rollercoaster first half of 2017. Many of the key risks which were highlighted at the beginning of the year have failed to materialize. This is mainly because U.S. President Trump, despite his rampant Twitter rhetoric, has struggled to implement much of his fiscal agenda. The market very quickly disregarded his posturing and focused instead on the improved fundamental outlook for emerging markets, relatively stable commodity prices and a quiet China ahead of the Party Congress meeting in October. From an EM perspective, we believe the risks to focus on remain external: U.S. or Eurozone monetary policy tightening, U.S. shale production's impact on oil, renewed geopolitical tensions in both the Middle East and North Korea, and/or the tightening of financial conditions in China.

EQUITY COMMENTARY

MARKET RECAP

Emerging market equities rose in the first half of 2017, buoyed by an improving global economic outlook and continued inflows into the asset class. Currencies broadly strengthened against the U.S. dollar, despite the U.S. Federal Reserve ("Fed") raising rates twice, as worries grew about U.S. President Trump's

ability to implement key pledges. However, oil prices fell as an Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries ("OPEC")-led agreement to extend output cuts failed to assuage persistent oversupply concerns due to record U.S. shale production.

Emerging Asia was robust. Chinese shares rose after MSCI's decision to add A-shares into its indices from next year, though we view the move as largely symbolic for now. Mainland authorities also continued efforts to curb financial risk. Indian equities did well, bolstered by the ruling party's resounding state election victory in Uttar Pradesh. However, its first quarter economic growth slowed, as demonetization weighed on consumer demand. India also announced its Goods and Service Tax rates ahead of its July rollout. While we expect near-term disruptions, the tax should be neutral or marginally positive for our holdings in the long-term.

Latin America also performed well. Mexico's economy grew steadily in the first quarter, while the peso erased its post-U.S. election losses. The country's central bank also continued raising rates to tame inflation. However, Brazilian equities fell, as the stockmarket suffered its worst one-day decline since 2008 after President Michel Temer became embroiled in a corruption scandal. He was later accused of involvement in corruption following the testimony of Brazilian meatpacker JBS's controller, Joesley Batista, with investors concerned over the future of his reform program. Chile's central bank also trimmed key interest rates for the first time since 2014, as economic growth faltered and inflation fell to its lowest in three years.

In Europe, the Middle East and Africa ("EMEA"), Russian equities were pressured by retreating oil prices, as well as fading hopes that a Trump presidency would spell an end to sanctions. Elsewhere, South Africa slipped into recession, amid a political crisis as President Jacob Zuma survived an internal no-confidence vote after he fired Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan. Turkey bucked the trend, as its stocks and currency strengthened after President Erdogan controversially won sweeping new powers in a referendum. Its economy also grew at its fastest pace in almost two years.

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

The equity portion of the Fund had a net asset value ("NAV") total return of 18.43% for the six months ended June 30, 2017, compared to the Fund's equity benchmark MSCI Global Emerging Markets Index's total return of 18.61% over the same period.

The Fund marginally underperformed equity portion of the benchmark. Asset allocation was negative, but stock selection was positive.

In Latin America, stock selection in Mexico buoyed performance, as full-service bank Banorte, conglomerate Fomento Economico Mexicano, S.A.B. de C.V ("FEMSA") and airport operator OMA posted sound results. In Brazil, stock selection was positive. The Fund's holdings largely proved more resilient than the broader market, which sold off due to the corruption scandal involving President Temer. However food producer, BRF was pressured by an investigation that led some

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)
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JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)

countries to temporarily suspend Brazilian meat imports, as well as ongoing weakness in the domestic market and poor performance in its international division. The Fund's off-benchmark position in Argentine pipe producer Tenaris also detracted following weak results.

In EMEA, the overweight to Turkey boosted relative performance, as both the market and currency rallied. The lack of exposure to Qatar also benefited, amid heightened geopolitical concerns. Conversely, Russia was a modest detractor, with retailer Magnit among the worst-performing stocks amid investor concerns over falling returns and cash flow generation. Lukoil also hurt performance as oil prices fell, although this was partially mitigated by the Fund's lack of exposure to Gazprom.

Performance in Asia was mixed. Stock selection in India was a key driver of regional outperformance. Cement company Grasim Industries continued to gain on expectations for its restructuring, mortgage lender HDFC was boosted by the government's housing loan subsidy plan, while cigarette-maker ITC benefited from the Goods and Services Tax Council's decision to leave rates unchanged for tobacco. By contrast, the underweight to China was the largest detractor, as shares rallied after MSCI's decision to include A-shares in its indices, while not holding internet giants Alibaba Group and Tencent Holdings Limited also proved costly. The underweight to Korea also weighed on performance, further compounded by negative stock selection.

MARKET OUTLOOK

Following a good first half-year, emerging markets are likely to stay resilient, supported by expectations for the global recovery to continue. However, some uncertainties remain. For instance, India's GST implementation will likely disrupt consumers and companies over the next few quarters, although we still view it as a long-term positive. Brazil's deepening political crisis could destabilize its economy, while Russia may be further hurt if oil prices keep sliding. A slowdown in China could also cloud the encouraging outlook. Nevertheless, previous challenges appear to be easing. Since 2013's 'taper tantrum', many developing economies have improved their external balances, putting them in a better fiscal position to weather a likely tightening cycle in the U.S., including future rate hikes. A moderating U.S. dollar, after a six-year rally, could provide another boost. Meanwhile, recent data from China also gives some cause for optimism that its economy is stabilising. Moreover, we remain confident that our well-managed holdings will be able to withstand short-term volatility, and continue to benefit from the broad pickup in growth and earnings. The positive prospects are underpinned by still-attractive valuations, with EM assets considerably cheaper than their developed market peers.

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| SHARES | DESCRIPTION |
|-----------------------|---|
| ----- | |
| COMMON STOCKS - 45.2% | |
| | |
| BRAZIL - 5.4% | |
| 97,350 | Ambev S.A..... |
| 122,761 | Banco Bradesco S.A., ADR..... |
| 31,800 | BRF S.A..... |
| 90,200 | Lojas Renner S.A..... |
| 27,554 | Multiplan Empreendimentos Imobiliarios S.A., Preference Shares..... |
| 41,267 | Ultrapar Participacoes S.A..... |
| 59,604 | Vale S.A., ADR..... |
| 19,642 | Vale S.A., Preference Shares, ADR..... |
| | |
| CHILE - 1.0% | |
| 19,459 | Banco Santander Chile S.A., ADR..... |
| 50,382 | SACI Falabella..... |
| | |
| CHINA - 2.5% | |
| 124,000 | China Mobile Ltd..... |
| 472,000 | PetroChina Co., Ltd., Class H..... |
| 17,700 | YUM China Holdings, Inc..... |
| | |
| HONG KONG - 3.8% | |
| 206,000 | AIA Group Ltd..... |
| 211,000 | Hang Lung Group Ltd..... |
| 16,452 | Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Ltd..... |
| 242,000 | Swire Pacific Ltd., B Shares..... |
| 54,600 | Swire Properties Ltd..... |
| | |
| HUNGARY - 0.6% | |
| 19,000 | Richter Gedeon Nyrt..... |
| | |
| INDIA - 8.0% | |
| 61,010 | Grasim Industries Ltd..... |
| 11,737 | Hero MotoCorp Ltd..... |
| 47,000 | Hindustan Unilever Ltd..... |
| 69,500 | Housing Development Finance Corp., Ltd..... |
| 25,040 | Infosys Ltd..... |
| 260,259 | ITC Ltd..... |
| 27,500 | Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd..... |
| 13,902 | Tata Consultancy Services Ltd..... |
| 5,428 | UltraTech Cement Ltd..... |
| | |
| INDONESIA - 2.4% | |
| 1,902,700 | Astra International Tbk PT..... |
| 306,300 | Bank Central Asia Tbk PT..... |
| 375,400 | Indocement Tunggal Prakarsa Tbk PT..... |

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| | |
|---------|------------------------|
| | ITALY - 0.5% |
| 15,600 | Tenaris S.A., ADR..... |
| | MALAYSIA - 0.6% |
| 105,000 | Public Bank Bhd..... |

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See Notes to Financial Statements

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (a) (CONTINUED)
 JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)

| SHARES | DESCRIPTION |
|---------------------------|--|
| ----- | |
| COMMON STOCKS (CONTINUED) | |
| | MEXICO - 3.4% |
| 12,300 | Fomento Economico Mexicano, S.A.B. de C.V., ADR..... |
| 14,000 | Grupo Aeroportuario del Centro Norte, S.A.B. de C.V., ADR..... |
| 190,200 | Grupo Financiero Banorte, S.A.B. de C.V., O Shares..... |
| | PHILIPPINES - 1.8% |
| 1,189,000 | Ayala Land, Inc..... |
| 325,359 | Bank of the Philippine Islands..... |
| | POLAND - 0.4% |
| 11,696 | Bank Pekao S.A..... |
| | PORTUGAL - 0.5% |
| 23,692 | Jeronimo Martins SGPS S.A..... |
| | RUSSIA - 1.7% |
| 16,000 | Lukoil PJSC, ADR..... |
| 5,096 | Magnit PJSC..... |
| | SOUTH AFRICA - 1.7% |
| 18,000 | BHP Billiton PLC..... |
| 40,910 | Massmart Holdings Ltd..... |
| 45,215 | MTN Group Ltd..... |
| 94,763 | Truworths International Ltd..... |
| | SOUTH KOREA - 4.2% |

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| | |
|---------|--|
| 1,020 | Amorepacific Corp..... |
| 2,341 | Amorepacific Group..... |
| 1,136 | NAVER Corp..... |
| 1,550 | Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. (Preference Shares)..... |
| | |
| | TAIWAN - 2.3% |
| 108,005 | Taiwan Mobile Co., Ltd..... |
| 251,954 | Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., Ltd..... |
| | |
| | THAILAND - 2.0% |
| 61,200 | Siam Cement (The) PCL..... |
| 201,100 | Siam Commercial Bank Public Co., Ltd. (b)..... |
| | |
| | TURKEY - 1.9% |
| 179,135 | Akbank TAS..... |
| 32,444 | BIM Birlesik Magazalar A.S..... |
| 43,150 | Haci Omer Sabanci Holding A.S..... |
| 165,000 | Turkiye Garanti Bankasi A.S..... |
| | |
| | UNITED KINGDOM - 0.5% |
| 42,739 | Standard Chartered PLC (c)..... |
| | |
| | TOTAL COMMON STOCKS..... |
| | (Cost \$29,763,715) |

See Notes to Financial Statements

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FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (a) (CONTINUED)
 JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)

| PRINCIPAL VALUE (LOCAL CURRENCY) | DESCRIPTION | STATED COUPON | ST MAT |
|---|---|------------------|-----------|
| ----- | | | |
| FOREIGN SOVEREIGN BONDS AND NOTES - 44.4% | | | |
| | | | |
| | ARGENTINA - 3.6% | | |
| 2,105,000 | Argentine Bonos del Tesoro (ARS)..... | 18.20% | 10/ |
| 22,660,000 | Argentine Bonos del Tesoro (ARS)..... | 16.00% | 10/ |
| 400,000 | Argentine Republic Government International Bond (USD)..... | 7.50% | 04/ |
| 426,000 | Argentine Republic Government International Bond (USD)..... | 5.63% | 01/ |
| 266,387 | Argentine Republic Government International Bond (USD)..... | 8.28% | 12/ |
| 464,000 | Argentine Republic Government International Bond (USD)..... | 7.13% | 07/ |

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| | | | | |
|----------------|--|--------|--|-----|
| | BAHRAIN - 0.3% | | | |
| 278,000 | Bahrain Government International Bond (USD) (d)..... | 7.00% | | 10/ |
| | BRAZIL - 3.9% | | | |
| 10,400,000 | Brazil Notas do Tesouro Nacional, Series F (BRL)..... | 10.00% | | 01/ |
| 1,560,000 | Brazil Notas do Tesouro Nacional, Series F (BRL)..... | 10.00% | | 01/ |
| | COSTA RICA - 0.3% | | | |
| 300,000 | Costa Rica Government International Bond (USD)..... | 4.25% | | 01/ |
| | DOMINICAN REPUBLIC - 1.2% | | | |
| 53,000,000 | Dominican Republic Bond (DOP) (d)..... | 10.50% | | 04/ |
| | ECUADOR - 1.5% | | | |
| 230,000 | Ecuador Government International Bond (USD) (d)..... | 8.75% | | 06/ |
| 1,100,000 | Ecuador Government International Bond (USD)..... | 9.65% | | 12/ |
| | EGYPT - 0.5% | | | |
| 246,000 | Egypt Government International Bond (USD) (d)..... | 6.13% | | 01/ |
| 200,000 | Egypt Government International Bond (USD) (d)..... | 8.50% | | 01/ |
| | EL SALVADOR - 0.3% | | | |
| 300,000 | El Salvador Government International Bond (USD)..... | 7.65% | | 06/ |
| | ETHIOPIA - 0.9% | | | |
| 790,000 | Ethiopia International Bond (USD) (d)..... | 6.63% | | 12/ |
| | GHANA - 0.9% | | | |
| 2,150,000 | Ghana Government Bond (GHS)..... | 21.50% | | 03/ |
| 300,000 | Ghana Government International Bond (USD)..... | 8.13% | | 01/ |
| | HONDURAS - 0.5% | | | |
| 410,000 | Honduras Government International Bond (USD) (d)..... | 7.50% | | 03/ |
| | HUNGARY - 1.4% | | | |
| 276,800,000 | Hungary Government Bond (HUF)..... | 5.50% | | 06/ |
| | INDONESIA - 1.9% | | | |
| 470,000 | Indonesia Government International Bond (USD) (d)..... | 5.88% | | 01/ |
| 14,700,000,000 | Indonesia Treasury Bond (IDR)..... | 8.38% | | 03/ |
| | IRAQ - 0.6% | | | |
| 610,000 | Iraq International Bond (USD)..... | 5.80% | | 01/ |

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FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (a) (CONTINUED)
 JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)

| PRINCIPAL VALUE (LOCAL CURRENCY) | DESCRIPTION | STATED COUPON | ST MAT |
|---|--|------------------|-----------|
| FOREIGN SOVEREIGN BONDS AND NOTES (CONTINUED) | | | |
| | IVORY COAST - 0.4% | | |
| 330,995 | Ivory Coast Government International Bond (USD)..... | 5.75% | 12/ |
| | KENYA - 0.2% | | |
| 200,000 | Kenya Government International Bond (USD)..... | 6.88% | 06/ |
| | MEXICO - 2.9% | | |
| 41,200,000 | Mexican Bonos (MXN)..... | 8.50% | 11/ |
| | MONGOLIA - 0.3% | | |
| 290,000 | Mongolia Government International Bond (USD)..... | 5.13% | 12/ |
| | NIGERIA - 0.2% | | |
| 200,000 | Nigeria Government International Bond (USD) (d)..... | 7.88% | 02/ |
| | PERU - 2.4% | | |
| 6,320,000 | Peruvian Government International Bond (PEN)..... | 6.90% | 08/ |
| | POLAND - 1.5% | | |
| 4,800,000 | Republic of Poland Government Bond (PLN)..... | 4.00% | 10/ |
| | RUSSIA - 5.3% | | |
| 281,300,000 | Russian Federal Bond - OFZ (RUB)..... | 7.05% | 01/ |
| 200,000 | Russian Foreign Bond - Eurobond (USD)..... | 5.88% | 09/ |
| | RWANDA - 0.6% | | |
| 200,000 | Rwanda International Government Bond (USD) (d)..... | 6.63% | 05/ |
| 300,000 | Rwanda International Government Bond (USD)..... | 6.63% | 05/ |
| | SENEGAL - 0.7% | | |
| 200,000 | Senegal Government International Bond (USD) (d)..... | 6.25% | 05/ |
| 380,000 | Senegal Government International Bond (USD)..... | 8.75% | 05/ |
| | SOUTH AFRICA - 4.1% | | |
| 14,400,000 | Republic of South Africa Government Bond (ZAR)..... | 10.50% | 12/ |
| 31,500,000 | Republic of South Africa Government Bond (ZAR)..... | 6.25% | 03/ |
| 820,000 | Republic of South Africa Government International Bond (USD)..... | 4.88% | 04/ |

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| | | | | |
|------------|--|--------|--|-----|
| | SRI LANKA - 0.6% | | | |
| 570,000 | Sri Lanka Government International Bond (USD) (d)..... | 6.20% | | 05/ |
| | SURINAME - 0.3% | | | |
| 270,000 | Republic of Suriname (USD) (d)..... | 9.25% | | 10/ |
| | TANZANIA - 0.2% | | | |
| 200,001 | Tanzania Government International Bond (USD) (e)..... | 7.42% | | 03/ |
| | TURKEY - 4.9% | | | |
| 339,000 | Hazine Mustesarligi Varlik Kiralama AS (USD) (d)..... | 5.00% | | 04/ |
| 1,750,000 | Turkey Government Bond (TRY)..... | 6.30% | | 02/ |
| 12,650,000 | Turkey Government Bond (TRY)..... | 10.40% | | 03/ |

See Notes to Financial Statements

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FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (a) (CONTINUED)
 JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)

| PRINCIPAL VALUE (LOCAL CURRENCY) | DESCRIPTION | STATED COUPON | ST MAT |
|---|--|------------------|-----------|
| FOREIGN SOVEREIGN BONDS AND NOTES (CONTINUED) | | | |
| | UKRAINE - 1.1% | | |
| 115,000 | Ukraine Government International Bond (USD) (d)..... | 7.75% | 09/ |
| 865,000 | Ukraine Government International Bond (USD) (d)..... | 7.75% | 09/ |
| 188,000 | Ukraine Government International Bond (USD) (d)..... | (f) | 05/ |
| | URUGUAY - 0.4% | | |
| 190,000 | Uruguay Government International Bond (USD)..... | 4.38% | 10/ |
| 5,257,000 | Uruguay Government International Bond (UYU) (d)..... | 9.88% | 06/ |
| | VENEZUELA - 0.5% | | |
| 1,050,000 | Venezuela Government International Bond (USD)..... | 9.25% | 05/ |
| | TOTAL FOREIGN SOVEREIGN BONDS AND NOTES..... | | |
| | (Cost \$39,263,774) | | |
| FOREIGN CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (g) - 14.8% | | | |

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| | | | |
|---------|---|-------|-----|
| | ARGENTINA - 0.2% | | |
| 200,000 | Genneia S.A. (USD) (d)..... | 8.75% | 01/ |
| | AZERBAIJAN - 0.6% | | |
| 495,000 | Southern Gas Corridor CJSC (USD) (d)..... | 6.88% | 03/ |
| | BANGLADESH - 0.3% | | |
| 250,000 | Banglalink Digital Communications Ltd. (USD) (d)..... | 8.63% | 05/ |
| | BARBADOS - 0.3% | | |
| 250,000 | Sagicor Finance 2015 Ltd. (USD) (d)..... | 8.88% | 08/ |
| | BRAZIL - 2.8% | | |
| 350,000 | OAS Finance Ltd. (USD) (h) (i) (j) (k)..... | 8.88% | (|
| 200,000 | OAS Investments GmbH (USD) (h) (j) (k)..... | 8.25% | 10/ |
| 795,000 | Petrobras Global Finance BV (USD)..... | 5.38% | 01/ |
| 170,000 | Petrobras Global Finance BV (USD)..... | 8.38% | 05/ |
| 650,000 | Petrobras Global Finance BV (USD)..... | 8.75% | 05/ |
| 206,088 | QGOG Atlantic/Alaskan Rigs Ltd. (USD)..... | 5.25% | 07/ |
| 370,000 | QGOG Constellation S.A. (USD)..... | 6.25% | 11/ |
| 300,000 | Vale Overseas Ltd. (USD)..... | 6.88% | 11/ |
| | COLOMBIA - 0.2% | | |
| 207,000 | Banco GNB Sudameris S.A. (USD) (d) (i)..... | 6.50% | 04/ |
| | DOMINICAN REPUBLIC - 0.6% | | |
| 460,000 | AES Andres BV/Dominican Power Partners/Empresa Generadora de Electricidad Itabo (USD) (d)..... | 7.95% | 05/ |
| | EL SALVADOR - 0.4% | | |
| 310,000 | Grupo Unicomer Co., Ltd. (USD) (d)..... | 7.88% | 04/ |
| | GEORGIA - 1.5% | | |
| 200,000 | BGEO Group JSC (USD) (d)..... | 6.00% | 07/ |
| 350,000 | Georgian Oil and Gas Corp. JSC (USD) (d)..... | 6.75% | 04/ |
| 680,000 | Georgian Railway JSC (USD)..... | 7.75% | 07/ |
| | GUATEMALA - 0.5% | | |
| 400,000 | Comcel Trust via Comunicaciones Celulares S.A. (USD) (d)..... | 6.88% | 02/ |

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See Notes to Financial Statements

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (a) (CONTINUED)
 JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)

PRINCIPAL
 VALUE

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| (LOCAL CURRENCY) | DESCRIPTION | STATED COUPON | ST MAT |
|---|---|---------------|--------|
| FOREIGN CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES (g) (CONTINUED) | | | |
| | HONG KONG - 0.3% | | |
| 260,000 | Shimao Property Holdings Ltd. (USD)..... | 8.38% | 02/ |
| | KAZAKHSTAN - 0.7% | | |
| 308,000 | Tengizchevroil Finance Co. International Ltd. (USD) (d)..... | 4.00% | 08/ |
| 375,000 | Zhaikmunai LLP (USD) (d)..... | 7.13% | 11/ |
| | MEXICO - 1.2% | | |
| 270,000 | Alfa SAB de CV (USD)..... | 6.88% | 03/ |
| 230,000 | Cemex SAB de CV (USD) (d)..... | 7.75% | 04/ |
| 4,800,000 | Petroleos Mexicanos (MXN)..... | 7.19% | 09/ |
| 270,000 | Unifin Financiera SAB de CV SOFOM ENR (USD) (d)..... | 7.25% | 09/ |
| | NETHERLANDS - 0.2% | | |
| 200,000 | GTH Finance BV (USD) (d)..... | 7.25% | 04/ |
| | NIGERIA - 1.2% | | |
| 290,000 | Access Bank PLC (USD) (d)..... | 10.50% | 10/ |
| 290,000 | IHS Netherlands Holdco BV (USD) (d)..... | 9.50% | 10/ |
| 270,000 | United Bank for Africa PLC (USD) (d)..... | 7.75% | 06/ |
| 200,000 | Zenith Bank PLC (USD) (d)..... | 7.38% | 05/ |
| | PARAGUAY - 0.4% | | |
| 350,000 | Banco Regional SAECA (USD) (d)..... | 8.13% | 01/ |
| | RUSSIA - 1.0% | | |
| 280,000 | Credit Bank of Moscow Via CBOM Finance PLC (USD) (d) (i)..... | 7.50% | 10/ |
| 394,000 | Evrax Group S.A. (USD) (d)..... | 5.38% | 03/ |
| 237,000 | Polyus Finance PLC (USD) (d)..... | 5.25% | 02/ |
| | TURKEY - 0.7% | | |
| 288,000 | Turkiye Vakiflar Bankasi TAO (USD)..... | 6.00% | 11/ |
| 300,000 | Yasar Holdings AS (USD) (d)..... | 8.88% | 05/ |
| | UKRAINE - 0.3% | | |
| 280,000 | Ukreximbank Via Biz Finance PLC (USD)..... | 9.63% | 04/ |
| | UNITED KINGDOM - 1.3% | | |
| 22,300,000 | HSBC Bank PLC (EGP) (d)..... | (f) | 09/ |
| | VENEZUELA - 0.1% | | |
| 340,000 | Petroleos de Venezuela S.A. (USD)..... | 6.00% | 05/ |
| | TOTAL FOREIGN CORPORATE BONDS AND NOTES..... | | |
| | (Cost \$13,326,733) | | |

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| | |
|--|--|
| TOTAL INVESTMENTS - 104.4%..... | |
| (Cost \$82,354,222) (m) | |
| OUTSTANDING LOANS - (6.4%)..... | |
| NET OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES - 2.0%..... | |
| NET ASSETS - 100.0%..... | |

See Notes to Financial Statements

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FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)
 JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)

- (a) All of these securities are available to serve as collateral for the outstanding loans.
- (b) This security is fair valued by the Advisor's Pricing Committee in accordance with procedures adopted by the Fund's Board of Trustees and in accordance with provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended. At June 30, 2017, securities noted as such are valued at \$920,549 or 1.0% of net assets.
- (c) Non-income producing security.
- (d) This security, sold within the terms of a private placement memorandum, is exempt from registration under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "1933 Act"), and may be resold in transactions exempt from registration, normally to qualified institutional buyers. Pursuant to procedures adopted by the Fund's Board of Trustees, this security has been determined to be liquid by the Aberdeen Asset Management Inc. (the "Sub-Advisor"). At June 30, 2017, securities noted as such amounted to \$15,562,016 or 17.1% of net assets.
- (e) Floating rate security. The interest rate shown reflects the rate in effect at June 30, 2017.
- (f) Zero coupon bond.
- (g) Portfolio securities are included in a country based upon their underlying credit exposure as determined by the Sub-Advisor.
- (h) This issuer is in default and interest is not being accrued by the Fund nor paid by the issuer.
- (i) Fixed-to-floating or fixed-to-variable rate security. The interest rate shown reflects the fixed rate in effect at June 30, 2017. At a predetermined date, the fixed rate will change to a floating rate or a variable rate.
- (j) This security, sold within the terms of a private placement memorandum, is exempt from registration upon resale under Rule 144A of the 1933 Act, and may be resold in transactions exempt from registration normally to

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qualified institutional buyers. (see Note 2F - Restricted Securities in the Notes to Financial Statements).

- (k) This issuer has filed for bankruptcy protection in a Sao Paulo state court.
- (l) Perpetual maturity.
- (m) Aggregate cost for financial reporting purposes, which approximates the aggregate cost for federal income tax purposes. As of June 30, 2017, the aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all securities in which there was an excess of value over tax cost was \$17,198,935 and the aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all securities in which there was an excess of tax cost over value was \$4,728,807.

ADR American Depositary Receipt

Currency Abbreviations

| | |
|-----|------------------------|
| ARS | Argentine Peso |
| BRL | Brazilian Real |
| CLP | Chilean Peso |
| DOP | Dominican Peso |
| EGP | Egyptian Pound |
| EUR | Euro |
| GBP | British Pound Sterling |
| GHS | Ghanaian Cedi |
| HKD | Hong Kong Dollar |
| HUF | Hungarian Forint |
| IDR | Indonesian Rupiah |
| INR | Indian Rupee |
| KRW | South Korean Won |
| MXN | Mexican Peso |
| MYR | Malaysian Ringgit |
| PEN | Peruvian New Sol |
| PHP | Philippines Peso |
| PLN | Polish Zloty |
| RUB | Russian Ruble |
| THB | Thailand Baht |
| TRY | Turkish Lira |
| TWD | Taiwan New Dollar |
| USD | United States Dollar |
| UYU | Uruguayan Peso |
| ZAR | South African Rand |

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See Notes to Financial Statements

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)
PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)
JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)

VALUATION INPUTS

A summary of the inputs used to value the Fund's investments as of June 30, 2017 is as follows (see Note 2A - Portfolio Valuation in the Notes to Financial Statements):

ASSETS TABLE

| | TOTAL VALUE AT 6/30/2017 | LEVEL 1 QUOTED PRICES | LEVEL 2 SIGNIFICANT OBSERVABLE INPUTS |
|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Common Stocks: | | | |
| Indonesia..... | \$ 2,209,218 | \$ -- | \$ 2,209,218 |
| Thailand..... | 1,824,947 | 904,398 | 920,547 |
| Other Country Categories*..... | 36,974,160 | 36,974,160 | |
| Total Common Stocks..... | 41,008,325 | 37,878,558 | 3,129,765 |
| Foreign Sovereign Bonds and Notes*..... | 40,340,837 | -- | 40,340,837 |
| Foreign Corporate Bonds and Notes*..... | 13,475,188 | -- | 13,475,188 |
| Total Investments..... | \$ 94,824,350 | \$ 37,878,558 | \$ 56,945,790 |
| Forward Foreign Currency Contracts**..... | 85,232 | -- | 85,232 |
| Total..... | \$ 94,909,582 | \$ 37,878,558 | \$ 57,031,022 |

LIABILITIES TABLE

| | TOTAL VALUE AT 6/30/2017 | LEVEL 1 QUOTED PRICES | LEVEL 2 SIGNIFICANT OBSERVABLE INPUTS |
|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Forward Foreign Currency Contracts**..... | \$ (7,495) | \$ -- | \$ (7,495) |

* See Portfolio of Investments for country breakout.

** See the Forward Foreign Currency Contracts table for contract and currency detail.

All transfers in and out of the Levels during the period are assumed to be transferred on the last day of the period at their current value. As of June 30, 2017, the Fund transferred common stocks valued at \$1,791,755 from Level 1 to Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy. The common stocks that transferred from Level 1 to Level 2 did so as a result of the common stocks being priced based on the June 29, 2017 local exchange closing price, as the local exchange was closed for holiday on June 30, 2017. For the December 31, 2016 shareholder report, these common stocks were valued using the local exchange closing price on that date.

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FORWARD FOREIGN CURRENCY CONTRACTS (SEE NOTE 2C - FORWARD FOREIGN CURRENCY CONTRACTS IN THE NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS):

| FORWARD FOREIGN CURRENCY CONTRACTS | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|--------|
| SETTLEMENT DATE | COUNTERPARTY | AMOUNT PURCHASED (a) | AMOUNT SOLD (a) | PURCHASE VALUE AS OF 6/30/2017 | VAL 6/ |
| 7/14/2017 | JPM | USD 844,252 | ZAR 11,063,000 | \$ 844,252 | \$ |
| 8/23/2017 | CIT | INR 32,218,000 | USD 497,652 | 494,961 | |
| 8/23/2017 | CIT | USD 1,087,986 | EGP 20,074,000 | 1,087,986 | |
| 8/23/2017 | GS | RUB 160,493,000 | USD 2,692,474 | 2,689,951 | |
| 8/23/2017 | CIT | USD 1,117,288 | RUB 64,596,000 | 1,117,288 | |
| 8/23/2017 | CIT | USD 1,656,538 | RUB 95,897,000 | 1,656,538 | |

Net Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)

(a) See Portfolio of Investments for currency descriptions.

See Note 2D - Offsetting on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities in the Notes to Financial Statements for a table that presents the forward foreign currency contracts' assets and liabilities on a gross basis.

Counterparty Abbreviations:

- CIT Citibank, NA
- GS Goldman Sachs
- JPM JPMorgan Chase

| CURRENCY EXPOSURE DIVERSIFICATION | % OF TOTAL INVESTMENTS + |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| USD | 34.7% |
| INR | 8.2 |
| BRL | 7.1 |
| TRY | 6.1 |
| RUB | 5.6 |
| HKD | 5.3 |
| MXN | 4.3 |
| KRW | 4.0 |
| ZAR | 3.8 |
| IDR | 3.6 |
| PEN | 2.2 |
| TWD | 2.2 |
| PLN | 1.9 |
| THB | 1.9 |
| HUF | 1.8 |
| ARS | 1.7 |
| PHP | 1.7 |
| DOP | 1.2 |
| EUR | 0.5 |
| GBP | 0.5 |
| GHS | 0.5 |
| MYR | 0.5 |
| CLP | 0.4 |
| UYU | 0.2 |
| EGP | 0.1 |

 Total 100.0%
 =====

+ The weightings include the impact of currency forwards.

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See Notes to Financial Statements

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)
 STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
 JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)

ASSETS:

Investments, at value
 (Cost \$82,354,222).....
 Cash.....
 Foreign currency (Cost \$273,320).....
 Unrealized appreciation on forward foreign currency contracts.....
 Receivables:
 Interest.....
 Investment securities sold.....
 Dividends.....
 Miscellaneous.....
 Dividend reclaims.....
 Prepaid expenses.....

 Total Assets.....

LIABILITIES:

Outstanding loan.....
 Unrealized depreciation on forward foreign currency contracts.....
 Payables:
 Investment securities purchased.....
 Deferred foreign capital gains tax.....
 Investment advisory fees.....
 Due to broker.....
 Custodian fees.....
 Audit and tax fees.....
 Transfer agent fees.....
 Legal fees.....
 Printing fees.....
 Interest and fees on loan.....
 Financial reporting fees.....
 Administrative fees.....
 Trustees' fees and expenses.....
 Other liabilities.....

 Total Liabilities.....

NET ASSETS.....

NET ASSETS CONSIST OF:

Paid-in capital.....
 Par value.....

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Accumulated net investment income (loss).....
 Accumulated net realized gain (loss) on investments, forward foreign currency
 contracts and foreign currency transactions.....
 Net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments, forward foreign
 currency contracts and foreign currency translation.....
 NET ASSETS.....
 NET ASSET VALUE, per Common Share (par value \$0.01 per Common Share).....
 Number of Common Shares outstanding (unlimited number of Common Shares has been authorized)....

See Notes to Financial Statements

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FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)
 STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
 FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)

INVESTMENT INCOME:
 Interest (net of foreign withholding tax of \$4,187).....
 Dividends (net of foreign withholding tax of \$67,271).....
 Total investment income.....
 EXPENSES:
 Investment advisory fees.....
 Custodian fees.....
 Interest and fees on loan.....
 Administrative fees.....
 Audit and tax fees.....
 Legal fees.....
 Transfer agent fees.....
 Printing fees.....
 Trustees' fees and expenses.....
 Financial reporting fees.....
 Other.....
 Total expenses.....
 NET INVESTMENT INCOME (LOSS).....
 NET REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAIN (LOSS):
 Net realized gain (loss) on:
 Investments.....
 Forward foreign currency contracts.....
 Foreign currency transactions.....
 Foreign capital gains tax.....
 Net realized gain (loss).....
 Net increase from payment by the sub-advisor.....

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| | |
|--|--|
| Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on: | |
| Investments..... | |
| Forward foreign currency contracts..... | |
| Foreign currency translation..... | |
| Deferred foreign capital gains tax..... | |
| Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation)..... | |
| NET REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAIN (LOSS)..... | |
| NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS..... | |

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See Notes to Financial Statements

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)
STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

| | SIX MONTH ENDED 6/30/20 (UNAUDITED) |
|--|--|
| OPERATIONS: | |
| Net investment income (loss)..... | \$ 1,982 |
| Net realized gain (loss)..... | 1,472 |
| Net increase from payment by the sub-advisor..... | 5 |
| Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation)..... | 7,528 |
| Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations..... | 10,988 |
| DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS FROM: | |
| Net investment income..... | (3,616) |
| Net realized gain..... | |
| Return of capital..... | |
| Total distributions to shareholders..... | (3,616) |
| CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS: | |
| Repurchase of Common Shares..... | (177) |
| Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from capital transactions..... | (177) |
| Total increase (decrease) in net assets..... | 7,193 |
| NET ASSETS: | |
| Beginning of period..... | 83,679 |
| End of period..... | \$ 90,872 |
| Accumulated net investment income (loss) at end of period..... | \$ (1,811) |

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CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS WERE AS FOLLOWS:

| | |
|---|-------|
| Common Shares at beginning of period..... | 5,179 |
| Common Shares repurchased*..... | (12) |
| <hr/> | |
| Common Shares at end of period..... | 5,167 |
| <hr/> | |

* On September 15, 2015, the Fund commenced a share repurchase program. The program originally expired on March 15, 2016, but the Board of Trustees of the Fund has subsequently authorized the continuation of the Fund's share repurchase program until September 15, 2017. For the six months ended June 30, 2017, and the year ended December 31, 2016, the Fund repurchased 12,207 and 110,092, respectively, of its shares at a weighted-average discount of 13.52% and 14.54%, respectively, from net asset value per share. The Fund expects to continue the share repurchase program until the earlier of (i) the repurchase of an additional 105,644 common shares (for an aggregate of 266,389), or (ii) September 15, 2017.

See Notes to Financial Statements

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FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)
 STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
 FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations..... | \$ 10,988,586 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations to net cash provided by operating activities: | |
| Purchases of investments..... | (23,134,230) |
| Sales, maturities and paydowns of investments..... | 26,242,213 |
| Net amortization/accretion of premiums/discounts on investments..... | (160,644) |
| Net realized gain/loss on investments..... | (1,624,912) |
| Net increase from payment by the sub-advisor..... | (5,000) |
| Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation on forward foreign currency contracts..... | (143,398) |
| Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation on investments..... | (7,412,231) |
| CHANGES IN ASSETS AND LIABILITIES: | |
| Decrease in interest receivable..... | 118,445 |
| Increase in dividend reclaims receivable..... | (1,760) |
| Increase in dividends receivable..... | (27,983) |
| Decrease in due from broker..... | 14,019 |
| Increase in prepaid expenses..... | (12,905) |
| Decrease in due to custodian..... | (66,630) |
| Decrease in interest and fees on loan payable..... | (8,846) |
| Increase in investment advisory fees payable..... | 4,409 |
| Decrease in audit and tax fees payable..... | (21,122) |
| Increase in due to broker..... | 65,233 |
| Increase in legal fees payable..... | 4,074 |
| Decrease in printing fees payable..... | (9,941) |
| Decrease in administrative fees payable..... | (14,669) |
| Increase in custodian fees payable..... | 15,764 |

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| | |
|--|-------------|
| Increase in transfer agent fees payable..... | 10,913 |
| Increase in Trustees' fees and expenses payable..... | 165 |
| Increase in foreign capital gains tax..... | 9,584 |
| Increase in other liabilities payable..... | 664 |
| <hr/> | |
| CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES..... | |
| CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES: | |
| Repurchase of Common Shares..... | (225,571) |
| Distributions to Common Shareholders from net investment income..... | (3,616,928) |
| <hr/> | |
| CASH USED IN FINANCING ACTIVITIES..... | |
| Increase in cash and foreign currency (a)..... | |
| Cash and foreign currency at beginning of period..... | |
| Cash and foreign currency at end of period..... | |
| SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION | |
| Cash paid during the period for interest and fees..... | |

(a) Includes net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on foreign currency of \$(17,557).

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See Notes to Financial Statements

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)
 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS
 FOR A COMMON SHARE OUTSTANDING THROUGHOUT EACH PERIOD

| | SIX MONTHS | YEAR ENDED DECEMBER | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------|----------|----------|
| | ENDED 6/30/2017 (UNAUDITED) | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Net asset value, beginning of period..... | \$ 16.16 | \$ 15.34 | \$ 18.59 | \$ 20.61 |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| INCOME FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS: | | | | |
| Net investment income (loss)..... | 0.38 | 0.64 | 0.65 | 0.77 |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss).... | 1.74 (a) | 1.53 | (2.52) | (1.39) |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| Total from investment operations..... | 2.12 | 2.17 | (1.87) | (0.62) |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| DISTRIBUTIONS PAID TO SHAREHOLDERS FROM: | | | | |
| Net investment income..... | (0.70) | (0.30) | -- | (0.32) |
| Net realized gain..... | -- | (0.35) | -- | (0.44) |
| Return of capital..... | -- | (0.75) | (1.40) | (0.64) |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| Total from distributions..... | (0.70) | (1.40) | (1.40) | (1.40) |
| <hr/> | | | | |

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| | | | | |
|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Common share repurchases..... | 0.01 | 0.05 | 0.02 | -- |
| Net asset value, end of period..... | \$ 17.59 | \$ 16.16 | \$ 15.34 | \$ 18.59 |
| Market value, end of period..... | \$ 16.06 | \$ 13.90 | \$ 13.06 | \$ 16.45 |
| TOTAL RETURN BASED ON NET ASSET VALUE (b).. | 13.76% | 15.93% | (9.16)% | (2.49) |
| TOTAL RETURN BASED ON MARKET VALUE (b).... | 20.75% | 17.12% | (12.61)% | (1.47) |

RATIOS TO AVERAGE NET ASSETS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:

| | | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Net assets, end of period (in 000's)..... | \$ 90,873 | \$ 83,679 | \$ 81,145 | \$ 99,053 |
| Ratio of expenses to average net assets.... | 1.76% (c) | 1.76% | 1.69% | 1.71 |
| Ratio of total expenses to average net assets excluding interest expense..... | 1.64% (c) | 1.66% | 1.62% | 1.64 |
| Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets..... | 4.48% (c) | 3.99% | 3.66% | 3.73 |
| Portfolio turnover rate..... | 23% | 53% | 44% | 48 |

INDEBTEDNESS:

| | | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Total loan outstanding (in 000's)..... | \$ 5,800 | \$ 5,800 | \$ 5,800 | \$ 5,800 |
| Asset coverage per \$1,000 of indebtedness (d)..... | \$ 16,668 | \$ 15,427 | \$ 14,990 | \$ 18,078 |

(a) During the period ended June 30, 2017, the Fund received a reimbursement from the sub-advisor in the amount of \$5,000 in connection with a trade error, which represents less than \$0.01 per share. Since the sub-advisor reimbursed the Fund, there was no effect on the total return.

(b) Total return is based on the combination of reinvested dividend, capital gain and return of capital distributions, if any, at prices obtained by the Dividend Reinvestment Plan, and changes in net asset value per share for net asset value returns and changes in Common Share Price for market value returns. Total returns do not reflect sales load and are not annualized for periods of less than one year. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

(c) Annualized.

(d) Calculated by subtracting the Fund's total liabilities (not including the loan outstanding) from the Fund's total assets, and dividing by the outstanding loan balance in 000's.

See Notes to Financial Statements

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)
JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)

1. ORGANIZATION

First Trust/Aberdeen Emerging Opportunity Fund (the "Fund") is a diversified, closed-end management investment company organized as a Massachusetts business trust on May 16, 2006 and is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). The Fund trades under the ticker symbol FEO on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE").

The Fund's investment objective is to provide a high level of total return. The Fund pursues its objective by investing at least 80% of its Managed Assets in a diversified portfolio of equity and fixed-income securities of issuers in emerging market countries. "Managed Assets" means the total asset value of the Fund minus the sum of the Fund's liabilities other than the principal amount of borrowings, if any. There can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Fund is considered an investment company and follows accounting and reporting guidance under Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 946, "Financial Services-Investment Companies." The following is a summary of significant accounting policies consistently followed by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements. The preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP") requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

A. PORTFOLIO VALUATION

The net asset value ("NAV") of the Common Shares of the Fund is determined daily, as of the close of regular trading on the NYSE, normally 4:00 p.m. Eastern time, on each day the NYSE is open for trading. If the NYSE closes early on a valuation day, the NAV is determined as of that time. Domestic debt securities and foreign securities are priced using data reflecting the earlier closing of the principal markets for those securities. The Fund's NAV per Common Share is calculated by dividing the value of all assets of the Fund (including accrued interest and dividends), less all liabilities (including accrued expenses, dividends declared but unpaid and any borrowings of the Fund), by the total number of Common Shares outstanding.

The Fund's investments are valued daily at market value or, in the absence of market value with respect to any portfolio securities, at fair value. Market value prices represent last sale or official closing prices from a national or foreign exchange (i.e., a regulated market) and are primarily obtained from third-party pricing services. Fair value prices represent any prices not considered market value prices and are either obtained from a third-party pricing service or are determined by the Pricing Committee of the Fund's investment advisor, First Trust Advisors L.P. ("First Trust" or the "Advisor"), in accordance with valuation procedures adopted by the Fund's Board of Trustees, and in accordance with provisions of the 1940 Act. Investments valued by the Advisor's Pricing Committee, if any, are footnoted as such in the footnotes to the Portfolio of Investments. The Fund's investments are valued as follows:

Bonds, notes and other debt securities are valued on the basis of valuations provided by dealers who make markets in such securities or by a third-party pricing service approved by the Fund's Board of Trustees, which may use the following valuation inputs when available:

- 1) benchmark yields;

- 2) reported trades;
- 3) broker/dealer quotes;
- 4) issuer spreads;
- 5) benchmark securities;
- 6) bids and offers; and
- 7) reference data including market research publications.

Fixed income and other debt securities having a remaining maturity of sixty days or less when purchased are fair valued at cost adjusted for amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts (amortized cost), provided the Advisor's Pricing Committee has determined that the use of amortized cost is an appropriate reflection of fair value given market and issuer specific conditions existing at the time of the determination. Factors that may be considered in determining the appropriateness of the use of amortized cost include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1) the credit conditions in the relevant market and changes thereto;
- 2) the liquidity conditions in the relevant market and changes thereto;
- 3) the interest rate conditions in the relevant market and changes thereto (such as significant changes in interest rates);

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)
JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)

- 4) issuer-specific conditions (such as significant credit deterioration); and
- 5) any other market-based data the Advisor's Pricing Committee considers relevant. In this regard, the Advisor's Pricing Committee may use last-obtained market-based data to assist it when valuing portfolio securities using amortized cost.

Common stocks and other securities listed on any national or foreign exchange (excluding The Nasdaq Stock Market, LLC ("Nasdaq") and the London Stock Exchange Alternative Investment Market ("AIM")) are valued at the last sale price on the exchange on which they are principally traded or, for Nasdaq and AIM securities, the official closing price. Securities traded on more than one securities exchange are valued at the last sale price or official closing price, as applicable, at the close of the securities exchange representing the principal market for such securities.

Securities traded in an over-the-counter market are fair valued at the

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mean of their most recent bid and asked prices, if available, and otherwise at their closing bid price.

Forward foreign currency contracts are valued at the current day's interpolated foreign exchange rate, as calculated using the current day's spot rate, and the thirty, sixty, ninety and one-hundred eighty day forward rates provided by a third-party pricing service.

Certain securities may not be able to be priced by pre-established pricing methods. Such securities may be valued by the Fund's Board of Trustees or its delegate, the Advisor's Pricing Committee, at fair value. These securities generally include, but are not limited to, restricted securities (securities which may not be publicly sold without registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, (the "1933 Act")) for which a third-party pricing service is unable to provide a market price; securities whose trading has been formally suspended; a security whose market or fair value price is not available from a pre-established pricing source; a security with respect to which an event has occurred that is likely to materially affect the value of the security after the market has closed but before the calculation of the Fund's NAV or make it difficult or impossible to obtain a reliable market quotation; and a security whose price, as provided by the third-party pricing service, does not reflect the security's fair value. As a general principle, the current fair value of a security would appear to be the amount which the owner might reasonably expect to receive for the security upon its current sale. When fair value prices are used, generally they will differ from market quotations or official closing prices on the applicable exchanges. A variety of factors may be considered in determining the fair value of such securities, including, but not limited to, the following:

- 1) the fundamental business data relating to the issuer, or economic data relating to the country of issue;
- 2) an evaluation of the forces which influence the market in which these securities are purchased and sold;
- 3) the type, size and cost of security;
- 4) the financial statements of the issuer, or the financial condition of the country of issue;
- 5) the credit quality and cash flow of the issuer, or country of issue, based on Aberdeen Asset Management Inc.'s ("Aberdeen" or the "Sub-Advisor") or external analysis;
- 6) the information as to any transactions in or offers for the security;
- 7) the price and extent of public trading in similar securities (or equity securities) of the issuer/borrower, or comparable companies;
- 8) the coupon payments;
- 9) the quality, value and salability of collateral, if any, securing the security;
- 10) the business prospects of the issuer, including any ability to obtain money or resources from a parent or affiliate and an assessment of the issuer's management (for corporate debt only);
- 11) the economic, political and social prospects/developments of the country of issue and the assessment of the country's governmental leaders/officials (for sovereign debt only);

- 12) the prospects for the issuer's industry, and multiples (of earnings and/or cash flows) being paid for similar businesses in that industry (for corporate debt only); and
- 13) other relevant factors.

Fair valuation of an equity security will be based on the consideration of all available information, including, but not limited to the following:

- 1) the type of security;
- 2) the size of the holding;
- 3) the initial cost of the security;
- 4) transactions in comparable securities;
- 5) price quotes from dealers and/or third-party pricing services;
- 6) relationships among various securities;
- 7) information obtained by contacting the issuer, analysts, or the appropriate stock exchange;
- 8) an analysis of the issuer's financial statements; and
- 9) the existence of merger proposals or tender offers that might affect the value of the security.

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)
JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)

If the equity security in question is a foreign security, the following additional information may be considered:

- 1) the value of similar foreign securities traded on other foreign markets;
- 2) ADR trading of similar securities;
- 3) closed-end fund trading of similar securities;
- 4) foreign currency exchange activity;
- 5) the trading prices of financial products that are tied to baskets of foreign securities;
- 6) factors relating to the event that precipitated the pricing problem;

- 7) whether the event is likely to recur; and
- 8) whether the effects of the event are isolated or whether they affect entire markets, countries or regions.

Because foreign markets may be open on different days than the days during which investors may transact in the shares of the Fund, the value of the Fund's securities may change on the days when investors are not able to transact in the shares of the Fund. The value of securities denominated in foreign currencies is converted into U.S. dollars using exchange rates determined daily as of the close of regular trading on the NYSE.

The Fund is subject to fair value accounting standards that define fair value, establish the framework for measuring fair value and provide a three-level hierarchy for fair valuation based upon the inputs to the valuation as of the measurement date. The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are as follows:

- o Level 1 - Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical investments. An active market is a market in which transactions for the investment occur with sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis.
- o Level 2 - Level 2 inputs are observable inputs, either directly or indirectly, and include the following:
 - o Quoted prices for similar investments in active markets.
 - o Quoted prices for identical or similar investments in markets that are non-active. A non-active market is a market where there are few transactions for the investment, the prices are not current, or price quotations vary substantially either over time or among market makers, or in which little information is released publicly.
 - o Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the investment (for example, interest rates and yield curves observable at commonly quoted intervals, volatilities, prepayment speeds, loss severities, credit risks, and default rates).
 - o Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.
- o Level 3 - Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs. Unobservable inputs may reflect the reporting entity's own assumptions about the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the investment.

The inputs or methodologies used for valuing investments are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in those investments. A summary of the inputs used to value the Fund's investments as of June 30, 2017, is included with the Fund's Portfolio of Investments.

B. SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS AND INVESTMENT INCOME

Securities transactions are recorded as of the trade date. Realized gains and losses from securities transactions are recorded on the identified cost basis. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date. Interest income is recorded daily on the accrual basis. Amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts are recorded by using the effective interest method.

Securities purchased on a when-issued, delayed-delivery or forward commitment

basis may have extended settlement periods. The value of the security so purchased is subject to market fluctuations during this period. The Fund maintains liquid assets with a current value at least equal to the amount of its when-issued, delayed-delivery or forward purchase commitments until payment is made. At June 30, 2017, the Fund had no when-issued, delayed-delivery or forward purchase commitments.

C. FORWARD FOREIGN CURRENCY CONTRACTS

The Fund is subject to foreign currency risk in the normal course of pursuing its investment objective. Forward foreign currency contracts are agreements between two parties ("Counterparties") to exchange one currency for another at a future date and at a specified price. The Fund uses forward foreign currency contracts to facilitate transactions in foreign securities and to manage the Fund's foreign currency exposure. These contracts are valued daily, and the Fund's net equity therein, representing unrealized gain or loss on the contracts as measured by the difference between the forward foreign exchange rates at the dates of entry into the contracts and the forward rates at the reporting date, is included in "Unrealized appreciation on forward foreign currency contracts" and "Unrealized depreciation on forward foreign currency contracts" on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. The change in unrealized appreciation/(depreciation) is included in "Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on forward foreign currency contracts" on the Statement of Operations. When the forward contract is closed, the Fund records a realized gain or loss equal to the difference between the proceeds from (or the

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cost of) the closing transaction and the Fund's basis in the contract. This realized gain or loss is included in "Net realized gain (loss) on forward foreign currency contracts" on the Statement of Operations. Risks arise from the possible inability of counterparties to meet the terms of their contracts and from movement in currency and securities values and interest rates. Due to the risks, the Fund could incur losses in excess of the net unrealized value shown on the Forward Foreign Currency Contracts table in the Portfolio of Investments. In the event of default by the Counterparty, the Fund will provide notice to the Counterparty of the Fund's intent to convert the currency held by the Fund into the currency that the Counterparty agreed to exchange with the Fund. If a Counterparty becomes bankrupt or otherwise fails to perform its obligations due to financial difficulties, the Fund may experience significant delays in obtaining any recovery in a bankruptcy or other reorganization proceeding. The Fund may obtain only limited recovery or may obtain no recovery in such circumstances.

D. OFFSETTING ON THE STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Offsetting Assets and Liabilities requires entities to disclose both gross and net information about instruments and transactions eligible for offset on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities, and disclose instruments and transactions

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subject to master netting or similar agreements. These disclosure requirements are intended to help investors and other financial statement users better assess the effect or potential effect of offsetting arrangements on a fund's financial position. The transactions subject to offsetting disclosures are derivative instruments, repurchase agreements and reverse repurchase agreements, and securities borrowing and securities lending transactions.

For financial reporting purposes, the Fund does not offset financial assets and financial liabilities that are subject to master netting arrangements ("MNAs") or similar agreements on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. MNAs provide the right, in the event of default (including bankruptcy and insolvency) for the non-defaulting Counterparty to liquidate the collateral and calculate the net exposure to the defaulting party or request additional collateral.

At June 30, 2017, derivative assets and liabilities (by type) on a gross basis are as follows:

| | Gross Amounts of Recognized Assets | Gross Amounts Offset in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities | Net Amounts of Assets Presented in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities | Gross not O St Assets ----- Financi Instrume |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Forward Foreign Currency Contracts* | \$ 85,232 | \$ -- | \$ 85,232 | \$ (3, |

| | Gross Amounts of Recognized Liabilities | Gross Amounts Offset in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities | Net Amounts of Liabilities Presented in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities | Gross not O St Assets ----- Financi Instrume |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| Forward Foreign Currency Contracts* | \$ (7,495) | \$ -- | \$ (7,495) | \$ 3, |

* The respective Counterparties for each contract are disclosed in the Forward Foreign Currency Contracts table in the Portfolio of Investments.

E. FOREIGN CURRENCY

The books and records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. Foreign currencies, investments and other assets and liabilities are translated into U.S. dollars at the exchange rates prevailing at the end of the period. Purchases and sales of investments and items of income and expense are translated on the respective dates of such transactions. Unrealized gains and losses on assets and liabilities, other than investments in securities, which result from changes in foreign currency exchange rates have been included in

"Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on foreign currency translation" on the Statement of Operations. Unrealized gains and losses on investments in securities which result from changes in foreign exchange rates are included with fluctuations arising from changes in market price and are shown in "Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments" on the Statement of Operations. Net realized foreign currency gains and losses include the effect of changes in exchange rates between trade date and

 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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settlement date on investment security transactions, foreign currency transactions and interest and dividends received and are shown in "Net realized gain (loss) on foreign currency transactions" on the Statement of Operations. The portion of foreign currency gains and losses related to fluctuation in exchange rates between the initial purchase settlement date and subsequent sale trade date is included in "Net realized gain (loss) on investments" on the Statement of Operations.

F. RESTRICTED SECURITIES

The Fund invests in restricted securities, which are securities that may not be offered for public sale without first being registered under the 1933 Act. Prior to registration, restricted securities may only be resold in transactions exempt from registration under Rule 144A under the 1933 Act, normally to qualified institutional buyers. As of June 30, 2017, the Fund held restricted securities as shown in the following table that Aberdeen has deemed illiquid pursuant to procedures adopted by the Trust's Board of Trustees. Although market instability can result in periods of increased overall market illiquidity, liquidity for each security is determined based on security-specific factors and assumptions, which require subjective judgment. The Fund does not have the right to demand that such securities be registered. These securities are valued according to the valuation procedures as stated in the Portfolio Valuation note (Note 2A) and are not expressed as a discount to the carrying value of a comparable unrestricted security. There are no unrestricted securities with the same maturity date and yield for these issuers.

| SECURITY | ACQUISITION DATE | PAR AMOUNT | CURRENT PRICE | CARRYING COST |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| OAS Finance Ltd, 8.88% | 4/18/2013 | 350,000 | \$ 5.50 | \$ 350,00 |
| OAS Investments GmbH, 8.25%, 10/19/19 | 10/15/2012 | 200,000 | 5.50 | 200,00 |
| | | | | ----- \$ 550,00 ===== |

G. DIVIDENDS AND DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS

Level dividend distributions are declared and paid quarterly to Common Shareholders after the payment of interest and/or dividends in connection with leverage. The level dividend rate may be modified by the Board of Trustees from time to time. If, for any quarterly distribution, net investment company taxable income, if any (which term includes net short-term capital gain), is less than the amount of the distribution, the difference will generally be a tax-free return of capital distributed from the Fund's assets. Distributions of any net long-term capital gains earned by the Fund are distributed at least annually. Distributions will automatically be reinvested into additional Common Shares pursuant to the Fund's Dividend Reinvestment Plan unless cash distributions are elected by the shareholder.

Distributions from income and capital gains are determined in accordance with federal income tax regulations, which may differ from U.S. GAAP. Certain capital accounts in the financial statements are periodically adjusted for permanent differences in order to reflect their tax character. These permanent differences are primarily due to the varying treatment of income and gain/loss on portfolio securities held by the Fund and have no impact on net assets or NAV per Common Share. Temporary differences, which arise from recognizing certain items of income, expense and gain/loss in different periods for financial statement and tax purposes, will reverse at some point in the future.

The tax character of distributions paid during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 was as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Distributions paid from: | |
| Ordinary income..... | \$ 1,690,613 |
| Capital gain..... | 1,709,674 |
| Return of capital..... | 3,931,866 |

As of December 31, 2016, the distributable earnings and net assets on a tax basis were as follows:

| | |
|--|------------|
| Accumulated capital and other losses | (294,550) |
| Net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) | 4,585,408 |
| | ----- |
| Total accumulated earnings (losses)..... | 4,290,858 |
| Other..... | (23,259) |
| Paid-in capital..... | 79,411,500 |
| | ----- |
| Net assets..... | 83,679,099 |
| | ===== |

 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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H. INCOME AND OTHER TAXES

The Fund intends to continue to qualify as a regulated investment company by complying with the requirements under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), which includes distributing substantially all of its net investment income and net realized gains to shareholders. Accordingly, no provision has been made for federal or state income taxes. However, due to the timing and amount of distributions, the Fund may be subject to an excise tax of 4% of the amount by which approximately 98% of the Fund's taxable income exceeds the distributions from such taxable income for the calendar year.

Certain countries assess a capital gains tax on securities sold in their local markets. This tax is accrued as the securities in these foreign markets appreciate in value and is paid at the time of sale to the extent a capital gain is realized. Taxes accrued on securities in an unrealized appreciation position are included in "Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation)" on the Statement of Operations. The capital gains tax paid on securities sold is included in "Net realized gain (loss) on foreign capital gains tax" on the Statement of Operations.

The Fund intends to utilize provisions of the federal income tax laws which allow it to carry a realized capital loss forward indefinitely following the year of the loss and offset such loss against any future realized capital gains. The Fund is subject to certain limitations under U.S. tax rules on the use of capital loss carryforwards and net unrealized built-in losses. These limitations apply when there has been a 50% change in ownership. At December 31, 2016, the Fund had no non-expiring capital loss carryforwards for federal income tax purposes.

Certain losses realized during the current fiscal year may be deferred and treated as occurring on the first day of the following fiscal year for federal income tax purposes. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, the Fund incurred and elected to defer capital losses of \$294,550 .

The Fund is subject to accounting standards that establish a minimum threshold for recognizing, and a system for measuring, the benefits of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. Taxable years ended 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016 remain open to federal and state audit. As of June 30, 2017, management has evaluated the application of these standards to the Fund and has determined that no provision for income tax is required in the Fund's financial statements for uncertain tax positions.

I. EXPENSES

The Fund will pay all expenses directly related to its operations.

J. NEW AND AMENDED FINANCIAL REPORTING RULES AND FORMS On October 13, 2016, the SEC adopted new rules and forms, and amended existing rules and forms. The new and amended rules and forms are intended to modernize the reporting of information provided by funds and to improve the quality and type of information that funds provide to the SEC and investors. The new and amended rules and forms will be effective for the First Trust funds, including the Fund, for reporting periods beginning on and after June 1, 2018. Management is evaluating the new and amended rules and forms to determine the impact to the Fund.

3. INVESTMENT ADVISORY FEE, AFFILIATED TRANSACTIONS AND OTHER FEE ARRANGEMENTS

First Trust, the investment advisor to the Fund, is a limited partnership with one limited partner, Grace Partners of DuPage L.P., and one general partner, The Charger Corporation. The Charger Corporation is an Illinois corporation controlled by James A. Bowen, Chief Executive Officer of First Trust. First Trust is responsible for the ongoing monitoring of the Fund's investment

portfolio, managing the Fund's business affairs and providing certain administrative services necessary for the management of the Fund. For these services, First Trust is entitled to a monthly fee calculated at an annual rate of 1.00% of the Fund's Managed Assets. First Trust also provides fund reporting services to the Fund for a flat annual fee in the amount of \$9,250.

Aberdeen serves as the Fund's sub-advisor and manages the Fund's portfolio subject to First Trust's supervision. The Sub-Advisor receives a monthly portfolio management fee calculated at an annual rate of 0.50% of the Fund's Managed Assets that is paid by First Trust out of its investment advisory fee.

During the six months ended June 30, 2017, the Fund received a payment from the Sub-Advisor of \$5,000 in connection with a trade error.

BNY Mellon Investment Servicing (US) Inc. ("BNYM IS") serves as the Fund's transfer agent in accordance with certain fee arrangements. As transfer agent, BNYM IS is responsible for maintaining shareholder records for the Fund. The Bank of New York Mellon ("BNYM") serves as the Fund's administrator, fund accountant, and custodian in accordance with certain fee arrangements. As administrator and fund accountant, BNYM is responsible for providing certain

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FIRST TRUST/ABERDEEN EMERGING OPPORTUNITY FUND (FEO)
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administrative and accounting services to the Fund, including maintaining the Fund's books of account, records of the Fund's securities transactions, and certain other books and records. As custodian, BNYM is responsible for custody of the Fund's assets. BNYM IS and BNYM are subsidiaries of The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation, a financial holding company.

Each Trustee who is not an officer or employee of First Trust, any sub-advisor or any of their affiliates ("Independent Trustees") is paid a fixed annual retainer that is allocated equally among each fund in the First Trust Fund Complex. Each Independent Trustee is also paid an annual per fund fee that varies based on whether the fund is a closed-end or other actively managed fund, or is an index fund.

Additionally, the Lead Independent Trustee and the Chairmen of the Audit Committee, Nominating and Governance Committee and Valuation Committee are paid annual fees to serve in such capacities, with such compensation allocated pro rata among each fund in the First Trust Fund Complex based on net assets. Trustees are reimbursed for travel and out-of-pocket expenses in connection with all meetings. The Lead Independent Trustee and Committee Chairmen rotate every three years. The officers and "Interested" Trustee receive no compensation from the Trust for acting in such capacities.

4. PURCHASES AND SALES OF SECURITIES

The cost of purchases and proceeds from sales of investments, excluding short-term investments, for the six months ended June 30, 2017, were \$20,776,437 and \$24,767,529, respectively.

5. DERIVATIVES TRANSACTIONS

The following table presents the type of derivative held by the Fund at June 30, 2017, the primary underlying risk exposure and location of these instruments as presented on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

| DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENT | RISK EXPOSURE | ASSET DERIVATIVES | | LIABILITY |
|------------------------------------|---------------|---|-----------|---|
| | | STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES LOCATION | VALUE | STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES LOCATION |
| Forward foreign currency contracts | Currency Risk | Unrealized appreciation on forward foreign currency contracts | \$ 85,232 | Unrealized depreciation on forward foreign currency contracts |

The following table presents the amount of net realized gain(loss) and change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) recognized for the six months ended June 30, 2017, on derivative instruments, as well as the primary underlying risk exposure associated with each instrument.

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS LOCATION

| CURRENCY RISK EXPOSURE | |
|--|-------------|
| Net realized gain (loss) on forward foreign currency contracts | \$ (99,790) |
| Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on forward foreign currency contracts | \$ 143,398 |

During the six months ended June 30, 2017, notional values of forward foreign currency contracts opened and closed were \$34,830,827 and \$33,932,969, respectively.

6. BORROWINGS

The Fund has entered into a credit agreement with The Bank of Nova Scotia, which provides for a revolving credit facility to be used as leverage for the Fund. The revolving credit facility provides for a secured line of credit for the Fund where Fund assets are pledged against advances made to the Fund. Under the requirements of the 1940 Act, the Fund, immediately after any such borrowings, must have an "asset coverage" of at least 300% (33-1/3% of the Fund's total assets after borrowings). Effective November 4, 2016, the credit facility was amended, whereby the expiration date was extended until November 3, 2017. The total commitment under the facility is up to \$10,000,000. The borrowing rate under the revolving credit facility is equal to the 1-month LIBOR plus 80 basis points. Prior to November 4, 2016, the borrowing rate under the revolving credit facility was equal to the 1-month LIBOR plus 75 basis points. As of June 30, 2017, the Fund had one loan outstanding under the revolving credit facility totaling \$5,800,000. For six months ended June 30, 2017, the average amount outstanding was \$5,800,000. The high and low annual interest rates during the six months ended June 30, 2017 were 2.02% and 1.53%, respectively, and the weighted average interest rate was 1.69%. The interest rate at June 30, 2017 was 2.02%. The Fund pays a commitment fee of 0.15% (or 0.25% if loan balance drops below 75% of total commitment) per year, which is included in "Interest and fees on loan" on the Statement of Operations.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

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7. INDEMNIFICATION

The Fund has a variety of indemnification obligations under contracts with its service providers. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown. However, the Fund has not had prior claims or losses pursuant to these contracts and expects the risk of loss to be remote.

8. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated the impact of all subsequent events on the Fund through the date the financial statements were issued, and has determined that there were the following subsequent events: Aberdeen, a Securities and Exchange Commission registered investment advisor, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Aberdeen Asset Management PLC ("Aberdeen PLC"). The merger of Standard Life plc and Aberdeen PLC, announced on March 6, 2017 ("Merger"), closed on August 14, 2017. Aberdeen PLC became a direct subsidiary of Standard Life plc as a result of the Merger and the combined company changed its name to Standard Life Aberdeen plc. Shareholders of the Fund are not required to take any action as a result of the Merger. Following the Merger, the Sub-Advisor is an indirect subsidiary of Standard Life Aberdeen plc, but otherwise did not change. The sub-advisory agreement, the services provided under the agreement, and the fees charged for services did not change as a result of the Merger. The portfolio management team did not change as a result of the Merger.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT PLAN

If your Common Shares are registered directly with the Fund or if you hold your Common Shares with a brokerage firm that participates in the Fund's Dividend Reinvestment Plan (the "Plan"), unless you elect, by written notice to the Fund, to receive cash distributions, all dividends, including any capital gain distributions, on your Common Shares will be automatically reinvested by BNY Mellon Investment Servicing (US) Inc. (the "Plan Agent"), in additional Common Shares under the Plan. If you elect to receive cash distributions, you will receive all distributions in cash paid by check mailed directly to you by the Plan Agent, as the dividend paying agent.

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If you decide to participate in the Plan, the number of Common Shares you will receive will be determined as follows:

- (1) If Common Shares are trading at or above net asset value ("NAV") at the time of valuation, the Fund will issue new shares at a price equal to the greater of (i) NAV per Common Share on that date or (ii) 95% of the market price on that date.
- (2) If Common Shares are trading below NAV at the time of valuation, the Plan Agent will receive the dividend or distribution in cash and will purchase Common Shares in the open market, on the NYSE or elsewhere, for the participants' accounts. It is possible that the market price for the Common Shares may increase before the Plan Agent has completed its purchases. Therefore, the average purchase price per share paid by the Plan Agent may exceed the market price at the time of valuation, resulting in the purchase of fewer shares than if the dividend or distribution had been paid in Common Shares issued by the Fund. The Plan Agent will use all dividends and distributions received in cash to purchase Common Shares in the open market within 30 days of the valuation date except where temporary curtailment or suspension of purchases is necessary to comply with federal securities laws. Interest will not be paid on any uninvested cash payments.

You may elect to opt-out of or withdraw from the Plan at any time by giving written notice to the Plan Agent, or by telephone at (866) 340-1104, in accordance with such reasonable requirements as the Plan Agent and the Fund may agree upon. If you withdraw or the Plan is terminated, you will receive a certificate for each whole share in your account under the Plan, and you will receive a cash payment for any fraction of a share in your account. If you wish, the Plan Agent will sell your shares and send you the proceeds, minus brokerage commissions.

The Plan Agent maintains all Common Shareholders' accounts in the Plan and gives written confirmation of all transactions in the accounts, including information you may need for tax records. Common Shares in your account will be held by the Plan Agent in non-certificated form. The Plan Agent will forward to each participant any proxy solicitation material and will vote any shares so held only in accordance with proxies returned to the Fund. Any proxy you receive will include all Common Shares you have received under the Plan.

There is no brokerage charge for reinvestment of your dividends or distributions in Common Shares. However, all participants will pay a pro rata share of brokerage commissions incurred by the Plan Agent when it makes open market purchases.

Automatically reinvesting dividends and distributions does not mean that you do not have to pay income taxes due upon receiving dividends and distributions. Capital gains and income are realized although cash is not received by you. Consult your financial advisor for more information.

If you hold your Common Shares with a brokerage firm that does not participate in the Plan, you will not be able to participate in the Plan and any dividend reinvestment may be effected on different terms than those described above.

The Fund reserves the right to amend or terminate the Plan if in the judgment of the Board of Trustees the change is warranted. There is no direct service charge to participants in the Plan; however, the Fund reserves the right to amend the Plan to include a service charge payable by the participants. Additional information about the Plan may be obtained by writing BNY Mellon Investment Servicing (US) Inc., 301 Bellevue Parkway, Wilmington, Delaware 19809.

PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A description of the policies and procedures that the Fund uses to determine how to vote proxies and information on how the Fund voted proxies relating to portfolio investments during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 is available (1) without charge, upon request, by calling (800) 988-5891; (2) on the Fund's website located at <http://www.ftportfolios.com>; and (3) on the Securities and Exchange Commission's ("SEC") website located at <http://www.sec.gov>.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

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PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS

The Fund files its complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the SEC for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year on Form N-Q. The Fund's Form N-Qs are available (1) by calling (800) 988-5891; (2) on the Fund's website located at <http://www.ftportfolios.com>; (3) on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>; and (4) for review and copying at the SEC's Public Reference Room ("PRR") in Washington, DC. Information regarding the operation of the PRR may be obtained by calling (800) SEC-0330 ..

SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SHAREHOLDERS

The Fund held its Annual Meeting of Shareholders ("Annual Meeting") on April 24, 2017. At the Annual Meeting, Robert F. Keith was elected by the Common Shareholders of the First Trust Strategic High Income Fund II as the Class I Trustee for a three-year term expiring at the Fund's annual meeting of shareholders in 2020. The number of votes cast in favor of Mr. Keith was 4,252,538, the number of votes withheld was 420,249 and the number of broker non-votes was 502,449. James A. Bowen, Niel B. Nielson, Richard E. Erickson, and Thomas R. Kadlec are the other current and continuing Trustees.

ADVISORY AND SUB-ADVISORY AGREEMENTS

BOARD CONSIDERATION REGARDING CONTINUATION OF INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT AND
SUB-ADVISORY AGREEMENTS

The Board of Trustees of First Trust/Aberdeen Emerging Opportunity Fund (the "Fund"), including the Independent Trustees, unanimously approved the continuation of the Investment Management Agreement (the "Advisory Agreement") between the Fund and First Trust Advisors L.P. (the "Advisor") and the Investment Sub Advisory Agreement (the "Sub Advisory Agreement" and together with the Advisory Agreement, the "Agreements") among the Fund, the Advisor and Aberdeen Asset Management Inc. (the "Sub-Advisor") for a one-year period ending June 30, 2018 at a meeting held on June 12, 2017. The Board determined that the

continuation of the Agreements is in the best interests of the Fund in light of the extent and quality of the services provided and such other matters as the Board considered to be relevant in the exercise of its reasonable business judgment.

To reach this determination, the Board considered its duties under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), as well as under the general principles of state law in reviewing and approving advisory contracts; the requirements of the 1940 Act in such matters; the fiduciary duty of investment advisors with respect to advisory agreements and compensation; the standards used by courts in determining whether investment company boards have fulfilled their duties; and the factors to be considered by the Board in voting on such agreements. At meetings held on April 24, 2017 and June 12, 2017, the Board, including the Independent Trustees, reviewed materials provided by the Advisor and the Sub-Advisor responding to requests for information from counsel to the Independent Trustees that, among other things, outlined the services provided by the Advisor and the Sub-Advisor to the Fund (including the relevant personnel responsible for these services and their experience); the advisory fee rate payable by the Fund and the sub-advisory fee rate as compared to fees charged to a peer group of funds compiled by Management Practice, Inc. ("MPI"), an independent source (the "MPI Peer Group"), and as compared to fees charged to other clients of the Advisor and the Sub-Advisor; expenses of the Fund as compared to expense ratios of the funds in the MPI Peer Group; performance information for the Fund; the nature of expenses incurred in providing services to the Fund and the potential for economies of scale, if any; financial data on the Advisor and the Sub-Advisor; any fall out benefits to the Advisor and the Sub-Advisor; and information on the Advisor's and the Sub-Advisor's compliance programs. The Board reviewed initial materials with the Advisor at the meeting held on April 24, 2017, prior to which the Independent Trustees and their counsel met separately to discuss the information provided by the Advisor and the Sub-Advisor. Following the April meeting, independent legal counsel on behalf of the Independent Trustees requested certain clarifications and supplements to the materials provided, and the information provided in response to those requests was considered at an executive session of the Independent Trustees and independent legal counsel held prior to the June 12, 2017 meeting, as well as at the meeting held that day. The Board applied its business judgment to determine whether the arrangements between the Fund and the Advisor and among the Fund, the Advisor and the Sub-Advisor continue to be reasonable business arrangements from the Fund's perspective as well as from the perspective of shareholders. The Board determined that, given the totality of the information provided with respect to the Agreements, the Board had received sufficient information to renew the Agreements. The Board considered that shareholders chose to invest or remain invested in the Fund knowing that the Advisor and the Sub-Advisor manage the Fund.

In reviewing the Agreements, the Board considered the nature, extent and quality of the services provided by the Advisor and the Sub-Advisor under the Agreements. With respect to the Advisory Agreement, the Board considered that the Advisor is responsible for the overall management and administration of the Fund and reviewed all of the services provided by the Advisor to the Fund, including the oversight of the Sub-Advisor, as well as the background and experience of the persons responsible for such services. The Board noted that the Advisor oversees the Sub-Advisor's day-to-day management of the Fund's investments, including portfolio risk monitoring and performance review. In reviewing the services provided, the Board noted the compliance program that had been developed by the Advisor and considered that it includes a robust program for monitoring the Advisor's, the Sub-Advisor's and the Fund's compliance with the 1940 Act, as well as the Fund's compliance with its investment objective and

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

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policies. The Board also considered a report from the Advisor with respect to its risk management functions related to the operation of the Fund. Finally, as part of the Board's consideration of the Advisor's services, the Advisor, in its written materials and at the April 24, 2017 meeting, described to the Board the scope of its ongoing investment in additional infrastructure and personnel to maintain and improve the quality of services provided to the Fund and the other funds in the First Trust Fund Complex. With respect to the Sub-Advisory Agreement, the Board reviewed the materials provided by the Sub-Advisor and considered the services that the Sub-Advisor provides to the Fund, including the Sub-Advisor's day-to-day management of the Fund's investments. In considering the Sub-Advisor's management of the Fund, the Board noted the background and experience of the Sub-Advisor's portfolio management team and the Board's prior meetings with members of the portfolio management team. The Board also considered information provided by the Sub-Advisor on the transaction between the Sub-Advisor's parent company, Aberdeen Asset Management plc, and Standard Life plc that is expected to close in the third quarter of 2017 and result in the combination of the two companies. The Board noted the Sub-Advisor's statements that the transaction is not expected to have a significant impact on its management of the Fund and that the same portfolio management team is expected to continue to provide services after the completion of the transaction. In light of the information presented and the considerations made, the Board concluded that the nature, extent and quality of the services provided to the Fund by the Advisor and the Sub-Advisor under the Agreements have been and are expected to remain satisfactory and that the Sub-Advisor, under the oversight of the Advisor, has managed the Fund consistent with its investment objective and policies.

The Board considered the advisory and sub-advisory fee rates payable under the Agreements for the services provided. The Board noted that the sub-advisory fee is paid by the Advisor from its advisory fee. The Board received and reviewed information showing the advisory fee rates and expense ratios of the peer funds in the MPI Peer Group, as well as advisory fee rates charged by the Advisor and the Sub-Advisor to other fund and non-fund clients, as applicable. With respect to the MPI Peer Group, the Board discussed with representatives of the Advisor how the MPI Peer Group was assembled and limitations in creating a relevant peer group for the Fund, including that (i) the Fund is unique in its composition, which makes assembling peers with similar strategies and asset mix difficult; (ii) peer funds may use different amounts and types of leverage with different costs associated with them or may use no leverage; (iii) none of the peer funds employs an advisor/sub-advisor management structure with an unaffiliated sub-advisor; (iv) all of the peer funds are larger than the Fund, which causes the Fund's fixed expenses to be higher on a percentage basis as compared to the larger peer funds; and (v) some of the peer funds are part of a larger fund complex that may allow for additional economies of scale. The Board took these limitations into account in considering the peer data, and noted that the advisory fee rate payable by the Fund, based on average managed assets, was at the median of the MPI Peer Group. With respect to fees charged to other clients, the Board considered differences between the Fund and other clients that limited their comparability. In considering the advisory fee rate overall, the Board also considered the Advisor's statement that it seeks to meet investor needs

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through innovative and value-added investment solutions and the Advisor's description of its long-term commitment to the Fund.

The Board considered performance information for the Fund. The Board noted the process it has established for monitoring the Fund's performance and portfolio risk on an ongoing basis, which includes quarterly performance reporting from the Advisor and Sub-Advisor for the Fund. The Board determined that this process continues to be effective for reviewing the Fund's performance. The Board received and reviewed information comparing the Fund's performance for periods ended December 31, 2016 to the performance of the MPI Peer Group and to a blended benchmark index. In reviewing the Fund's performance as compared to the performance of the MPI Peer Group, the Board took into account the limitations described above with respect to creating a relevant peer group for the Fund. Based on the information provided on net asset value performance, the Board noted that the Fund outperformed the MPI Peer Group average for the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2016. The Board also noted that the Fund outperformed its blended benchmark in each period. In addition, the Board considered information provided by the Advisor on the impact of leverage on the Fund's returns. The Board also received information on the Fund's annual distribution rate as of December 31, 2016 and the Fund's average trading discount during 2016 and comparable information for the peer group.

On the basis of all the information provided on the fees, expenses and performance of the Fund and the ongoing oversight by the Board, the Board concluded that the advisory and sub-advisory fees continued to be reasonable and appropriate in light of the nature, extent and quality of the services provided by the Advisor and the Sub-Advisor under the Agreements.

The Board considered information and discussed with the Advisor whether there were any economies of scale in connection with providing advisory services to the Fund and noted the Advisor's statement that it expects its expenses to increase over the next twelve months as the Advisor continues to make investments in personnel and infrastructure. The Board determined that due to the Fund's closed-end structure, the potential for realization of economies of scale as Fund assets grow was not a material factor to be considered. The Board considered the revenues and allocated costs (including the allocation methodology) of the Advisor in serving as investment advisor to the Fund for the twelve months ended December 31, 2016 and the estimated profitability level for the Fund calculated by the Advisor based on such data, as well as complex-wide and product-line profitability data for the same period. The Board noted the inherent limitations in the profitability analysis and concluded that, based on the information provided, the Advisor's profitability level for the Fund was not

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unreasonable. In addition, the Board considered fall-out benefits described by the Advisor that may be realized from its relationship with the Fund, including the Advisor's compensation for fund reporting services pursuant to a separate Fund Reporting Services Agreement. The Board concluded that the character and

amount of potential fall-out benefits to the Advisor were not unreasonable.

The Board considered the Sub-Advisor's representation that because it manages the Fund in a similar fashion to other accounts it is able to achieve economies of scale through relationships with brokers, administrative systems and other operational efficiencies and that while it expects operating costs in general to continue to rise, it continues to expect to experience the benefits of economies of scale. The Board did not review the profitability of the Sub-Advisor with respect to the Fund. The Board noted that the Advisor pays the Sub-Advisor from its advisory fee, and its understanding that the Fund's sub-advisory fee rate was the product of an arm's length negotiation. The Board concluded that the profitability analysis for the Advisor was more relevant. The Board considered fall-out benefits that may be realized by the Sub-Advisor from its relationship with the Fund, including that the Sub-Advisor may enter into soft dollar and commission sharing arrangements, and considered a summary of such arrangements. The Board concluded that the character and amount of potential fall-out benefits to the Sub-Advisor were not unreasonable.

Based on all of the information considered and the conclusions reached, the Board, including the Independent Trustees, unanimously determined that the terms of the Agreements continue to be fair and reasonable and that the continuation of the Agreements is in the best interests of the Fund. No single factor was determinative in the Board's analysis.

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Risks are inherent in all investing. The following summarizes some, but not all, of the risks that should be considered for the Fund. For additional information about the risks associated with investing in the Fund, please see the Fund's prospectus and statement of additional information, as well as other Fund regulatory filings.

CURRENCY RISK: The value of securities denominated or quoted in foreign currencies may be adversely affected by fluctuations in the relative currency exchange rates and by exchange control regulations. The Fund's investment performance may be negatively affected by a devaluation of a currency in which the Fund's investments are denominated or quoted. Further, the Fund's investment performance may be significantly affected, either positively or negatively, by currency exchange rates because the U.S. dollar value of securities denominated or quoted in another currency will increase or decrease in response to changes in the value of such currency in relation to the U.S. dollar. While certain of the Fund's non-U.S. dollar-denominated securities may be hedged into U.S. dollars, hedging may not alleviate all currency risks.

EMERGING MARKETS RISK: Under normal market conditions, the Fund will invest at least 80% of its Managed Assets in equity or fixed-income securities of issuers located in countries considered to be emerging markets. Investments in such securities are considered speculative. In addition to the general risks of investing in non-U.S. securities, heightened risks of investing in emerging markets securities include: smaller market capitalization of securities markets, which may suffer periods of relative illiquidity; significant price volatility; restrictions on foreign investment; and possible restrictions on repatriation of investment income and capital. Furthermore, foreign investors may be required to register the proceeds of sales, and future economic or political crises could lead to price controls, forced mergers, expropriation or confiscatory taxation, seizure, nationalization or creation of government monopolies. The currencies of emerging market countries may experience significant declines against the U.S. dollar, and devaluation may occur subsequent to investments in these currencies by the Fund. Inflation and rapid fluctuations in inflation rates have had, and may continue to have, negative effects on the economies and securities markets of certain emerging market countries.

EQUITY SECURITIES RISK: Stock markets are volatile, and the prices of equity securities fluctuate based on changes in a company's financial condition and overall market and economic conditions. Although common stocks have historically generated higher average total returns than fixed income securities over the long-term, common stocks also have experienced significantly more volatility in those returns and, in certain periods, have significantly under-performed relative to fixed income securities. An adverse event, such as an unfavorable earnings report, may depress the value of a particular common stock held by the Fund. A common stock may also decline due to factors which affect a particular industry or industries, such as labor shortages or increased production costs and competitive conditions within an industry. The value of a particular common stock held by the Fund may decline for a number of other reasons which directly relate to the issuer, such as management performance, financial leverage, the issuer's historical and prospective earnings, the value of its assets and reduced demand for its goods and services. Also, the prices of common stocks are sensitive to general movements in the stock market and a drop in the stock market may depress the price of common stocks to which the Fund has exposure. Common stock prices fluctuate for several reasons, including changes in investors' perceptions of the financial condition of an issuer or the general condition of the relevant stock market, or when political or economic events affecting the issuers occur. In addition, common stock prices may be particularly sensitive to rising interest rates, as the cost of capital rises and borrowing costs increase. Common equity securities in which the Fund may invest are structurally subordinated to preferred stock, bonds and other debt instruments in a company's capital structure in terms of priority to corporate income and are therefore inherently more risky than preferred stock or debt instruments of such issuers.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

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FIXED-INCOME SECURITIES RISK: Debt securities, including high-yield securities, are subject to certain risks, including: (i) issuer risk, which is the risk that the value of fixed-income securities may decline for a number of reasons which directly relate to the issuer, such as management performance, financial leverage and reduced demand for the issuer's goods and services or; (ii) reinvestment risk, which is the risk that income from the Fund's portfolio will decline if the Fund invests the proceeds from matured, traded or called bonds at market interest rates that are below the Fund portfolio's current earnings rate; (iii) prepayment risk, which is the risk that during periods of declining interest rates, the issuer of a security may exercise its option to prepay principal earlier than scheduled, forcing the reinvestment in lower yielding securities; and (iv) credit risk, which is the risk that a security in the Fund's portfolio will decline in price or the issuer fails to make interest payments when due because the issuer of the security experiences a decline in its financial status.

GEOGRAPHIC CONCENTRATION RISK: The Fund may invest from time to time a substantial amount of its assets in issuers located in a single country or region. Investments in a single region, although representing a number of

different countries within the region, may be affected by common economic forces and other factors. Because the Fund may concentrate its investments in this manner, it could assume the risk that economic, political and social conditions in those countries will have a significant impact on its investment performance. In addition, the Fund's investment performance may also be more volatile if it concentrates its investments in certain countries, especially emerging market countries.

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES RISK: The ability of a government issuer, especially in an emerging market country, to make timely and complete payments on its debt obligations will be strongly influenced by the government issuer's balance of payments, including export performance, its access to international credits and investments, fluctuations of interest rates and the extent of its foreign reserves. A country whose exports are concentrated in a few commodities or whose economy depends on certain strategic imports could be vulnerable to fluctuations in international prices of these commodities or imports. To the extent that a country receives payment for its exports in currencies other than U.S. dollars, its ability to make debt payments denominated in U.S. dollars could be adversely affected. If a government issuer cannot generate sufficient earnings from foreign trade to service its external debt, it may need to depend on continuing loans and aid from foreign governments, commercial banks, and multinational organizations. There are no bankruptcy proceedings similar to those in the United States by which defaulted government debt may be collected. Additional factors that may influence a government issuer's ability or willingness to service debt include, but are not limited to, a country's cash flow situation, the availability of sufficient foreign exchange on the date a payment is due, the relative size of its debt service burden to the economy as a whole, and the issuer's policy towards the International Monetary Fund, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and other international agencies to which a government debtor may be subject.

INTEREST RATE RISK: The Fund's portfolio is also subject to interest rate risk. Interest rate risk is the risk that fixed-income securities will decline in value because of changes in market interest rates. Investments in debt securities with long-term maturities may experience significant price declines if long-term interest rates increase. Interest rate risk may be greater in the current market environment because certain interest rates are at or near historic lows and are anticipated to rise in the near future.

INVESTMENT AND MARKET RISK: An investment in the Fund's Common Shares is subject to investment risk, including the possible loss of the entire principal invested. An investment in Common Shares represents an indirect investment in the securities owned by the Fund, which include a global bond and equity portfolio of investment grade and below-investment grade government and corporate debt securities. The value of these securities, like other market investments, may move up or down, sometimes rapidly and unpredictably. Common Shares at any point in time may be worth less than the original investment, even after taking into account the reinvestment of Fund dividends and distributions. Security prices can fluctuate for several reasons including the general condition of the bond market, or when political or economic events affecting the issuers occur. When the Advisor or Sub-Advisor determines that it is temporarily unable to follow the Fund's investment strategy or that it is impractical to do so (such as when a market disruption event has occurred and trading in the securities is extremely limited or absent), the Fund may take temporary defensive positions.

LEVERAGE RISK: The use of leverage results in additional risks and can magnify the effect of any losses. The funds borrowed pursuant to a leverage borrowing program constitute a substantial lien and burden by reason of their prior claim against the income of the Fund and against the net assets of the Fund in liquidation. The rights of lenders to receive payments of interest on and repayments of principal on any borrowings made by the Fund under a leverage

borrowing program are senior to the rights of holders of Common Shares with respect to payment of dividends or upon liquidation. If the Fund is not in compliance with certain credit facility provisions, the Fund may not be permitted to declare dividends or other distributions, including dividends and distributions with respect to Common Shares or purchase Common Shares.

MARKET DISRUPTION AND GEOPOLITICAL RISK: Some countries in which the Fund invests have experienced security concerns, war or threats of war and aggression, terrorism, economic uncertainty, natural and environmental disasters and/or systemic market dislocations that have led, and in the future may lead, to increased short term market volatility and may have adverse long term effects on the local and world economies and markets generally, each of which may negatively impact the Fund's investments. The events occurring in one country or region may spread through, or otherwise effect, other countries and regions and therefore adversely impact the Fund's investments in such countries and regions.

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NON-INVESTMENT GRADE SECURITIES RISK: The Fund may invest up to 80% of its Managed Assets in non-investment grade securities. Non-investment grade securities are rated below "Baa3" by Moody's Investors Service, Inc., below "BBB-" by Standard & Poor's, or comparably rated by another nationally recognized statistical rating organization or, if unrated, determined by the Sub-Advisor to be of comparable credit quality. Non-investment grade debt instruments are commonly referred to as "high-yield" or "junk" bonds and are considered speculative with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal and are susceptible to default or decline in market value due to adverse economic and business developments. The market values for high-yield securities tend to be very volatile, and these securities are less liquid than investment grade debt securities.

NON-U.S. ISSUER RISK: Investments in the securities and instruments of non-U.S. issuers involve certain considerations and risks not ordinarily associated with investments in securities and instruments of U.S. issuers. Non-U.S. companies are not generally subject to uniform accounting, auditing and financial standards and requirements comparable to those applicable to U.S. companies. Non-U.S. securities exchanges, brokers and listed companies may be subject to less government supervision and regulation than exists in the United States. Dividend and interest income may be subject to withholding and other non-U.S. taxes, which may adversely affect the net return on such investments. There may be difficulty in obtaining or enforcing a court judgment abroad.

NON-U.S. GOVERNMENT SECURITIES RISK: Economies and social and political climates in individual countries may differ unfavorably from the United States. Non-U.S. economies may have less favorable rates of growth of gross domestic product, rates of inflation, currency valuation, capital reinvestment, resource self-sufficiency and balance of payments positions. Many countries have experienced extremely high rates of inflation for many years. Unanticipated economic, political and social developments may also affect the values of the Fund's investments and limit the availability of additional investments in such

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countries. Furthermore, such developments may significantly disrupt the financial markets or interfere with the Fund's ability to enforce its rights against non-U.S. government issuers.

Investments in debt instruments of issuers located in emerging market countries are considered speculative. Heightened risks of investing in emerging markets government debt include: smaller market capitalization of securities markets, which may suffer periods of relative illiquidity; significant price volatility; restrictions on foreign investment; and possible repatriation of investment income and capital. Furthermore, foreign investors may be required to register the proceeds of sales and future economic or political crises could lead to price controls, forced mergers, expropriation or confiscatory taxation, seizure, nationalization or creation of government monopolies. The currencies of emerging market countries may experience significant declines against the U.S. dollar, and devaluation may occur subsequent to investments in these currencies by the Fund. Inflation and rapid fluctuations in inflation rates have had, and may continue to have, negative effects on the economies and securities markets of certain emerging market countries.

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INVESTMENT SUB-ADVISOR

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TRANSFER AGENT

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Wilmington, DE 19809

ADMINISTRATOR, FUND ACCOUNTANT, AND CUSTODIAN

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INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

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111 S. Wacker Drive
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LEGAL COUNSEL
Chapman and Cutler LLP
111 W. Monroe Street
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ITEM 2. CODE OF ETHICS.

Not applicable.

ITEM 3. AUDIT COMMITTEE FINANCIAL EXPERT.

Not applicable.

ITEM 4. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES.

Not applicable.

ITEM 5. AUDIT COMMITTEE OF LISTED REGISTRANTS.

Not applicable.

ITEM 6. INVESTMENTS.

(a) Schedule of Investments in securities of unaffiliated issuers as of the close of the reporting period is included as part of the report to shareholders filed under Item 1 of this form.

(b) Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

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

(a) Not applicable.

(b) There have been no changes, as of the date of this filing, in any of the portfolio managers identified in response to paragraph (a)(1) of this Item in the Registrant's most recent annual report on Form N-CSR.

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

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| PERIOD | (a) TOTAL NUMBER OF SHARES (OR UNITS) PURCHASED | (b) AVERAGE PRICE PAID PER SHARE (OR UNIT) | (c) TOTAL NUMBER OF SHARES (OR UNITS) PURCHASED AS PART OF PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED PLANS OR PROGRAMS | (d) MAXIMUM NUMBER OF APPROXIMATE DOLLAR OF SHARES (OR UNITS) MAY YET BE PURCHASED UNDER THE PLANS OR PROGRAMS |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| Month #1 (01/01/2017 - 01/31/2017) | 4,011 | 14.248 | 152,549 | 113,844 |
| Month #2 (02/01/2017 - 02/29/2017) | 5,696 | 14.630 | 158,245 | 108,144 |
| Month #3 (03/01/2017 - 03/31/2017) | 2,500 | 14.910 | 160,745 | 105,644 |
| Month #4 (04/01/2017- 04/30/2017) | 0 | 0 | 160,745 | 105,644 |
| Month #5 (05/01/2017- 05/31/2017) | 0 | 0 | 160,745 | 105,644 |
| Month #6 (06/01/2017- 06/30/2017) | 0 | 0 | 160,745 | 105,644 |
| Total | 12,207 | 14.562 | 160,745 | 105,644 |

On September 15, 2015, the Fund commenced a share repurchase program. The program originally expired on March 15, 2016, but the Board of Trustees of the Fund has subsequently authorized the continuation of the Fund's share repurchase program until September 15, 2017. For the six months ended June 30, 2017, and the year ended December 31, 2016, the Fund repurchased 12,207 and 110,092, respectively, of its shares at a weighted-average discount of 13.52% and 14.54%, respectively, from net asset value per share. The Fund expects to continue the share repurchase program until the earlier of (i) the repurchase of an additional 105,644 common shares (for an aggregate of 266,389), or (ii) September 15, 2017.

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

There have been no material changes to the procedures by which the shareholders may recommend nominees to the registrant's board of directors, where those changes were implemented after the registrant last provided disclosure in response to the requirements of Item 407(c)(2)(iv) of Regulation S-K (17 CFR 229.407) (as required by Item 22(b)(15) of Schedule 14A (17 CFR 240.14a-101)), or this Item.

ITEM 11. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.

- (a) The registrant's principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, have concluded that the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 30a-3(c) under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act") (17 CFR 270.30a-3(c))) are effective, as of a date within 90 days of the filing

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date of the report that includes the disclosure required by this paragraph, based on their evaluation of these controls and procedures required by Rule 30a-3(b) under the 1940 Act (17 CFR 270.30a-3(b)) and Rules 13a-15(b) or 15d-15(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (17 CFR 240.13a-15(b) or 240.15d-15(b)).

- (b) There were no changes in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 30a-3(d) under the 1940 Act (17 CFR 270.30a-3(d)) that occurred during the registrant's second fiscal quarter of the period covered by this report that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

ITEM 12. EXHIBITS.

- (a) (1) Not applicable.
(a) (2) Certifications pursuant to Rule 30a-2(a) under the 1940 Act and Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 are attached hereto.
(a) (3) Not applicable.
(b) Certifications pursuant to Rule 30a-2(b) under the 1940 Act and Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 are attached hereto.

SIGNATURES

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

(registrant) First Trust/Aberdeen Emerging Opportunity Fund

By (Signature and Title)* /s/ James M. Dykas

James M. Dykas, President and
Chief Executive Officer
(principal executive officer)

Date: August 21, 2017

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

By (Signature and Title)* /s/ James M. Dykas

James M. Dykas, President and
Chief Executive Officer
(principal executive officer)

Date: August 21, 2017

By (Signature and Title)* /s/ Donald P. Swade

Donald P. Swade, Treasurer,
Chief Financial Officer and
Chief Accounting Officer
(principal financial officer)

Date: August 21, 2017

* Print the name and title of each signing officer under his or her signature.