

# FORTIS B GLOBAL Growth World

## *Simplified Prospectus*

### Information about the sicav

**Name**

FORTIS B GLOBAL

**Date of incorporation**

23/02/1994

**Period of existence**

Unlimited

**Member state in which the sicav has its registered office**

Belgium

**Status**

A multi-sub-fund sicav undertaking placements compliant under the terms of Directive 85/611/EEC and governed, in regard to its operations and investments, by the Law of 20 July 2004 relating to certain forms of collective management of investment portfolios.

**Type of management**

Sicav that has designated a company for managing collective investment undertakings.

**Management company**

**Name:** Fortis Investment Management Belgium

**Registered office:** avenue de l'Astronomie, 14 - 1210 Bruxelles

**Designated administrator**

Fastnet Belgium S.A., avenue du Port, 86C b320 - 1000 Bruxelles

**Financial services**

Fortis Banque S.A., Montagne du Parc, 3 - 1000 Bruxelles

**Distributor(s)**

Fortis Investment Management Belgium S.A.

Fortis Banque S.A.

Dierickx, Leys & Cie S.A.

Petercam S.A.

**Custodian**

Fortis Banque S.A., Montagne du Parc, 3 - 1000 Bruxelles

**Auditor**

Pricewaterhouse Coopers Corporate Auditors S.C.C.R.L., Woluwedal, 18 - 1932 Sint-Stevens-Woluwe represented by Emmanuèle Attout

**Promoter**

Fortis Banque S.A.

**Taxation**

- Annual tax of 0.08%, deducted against net sums invested in Belgium at 31 December of the preceding year.
- Recovery of the amounts withheld on Belgian dividends and foreign revenues deposited by the sicav (in conformity with the agreements aimed at preventing double taxation).

The taxation of revenue and gains collected by an investor depends on the laws applicable to his specific status in the country of collection. If there is any doubt about the applicable tax system, it is the investor's personal responsibility to obtain appropriate legal advice.

### **Additional information**

#### *1. Sources of information*

On request, the prospectuses, articles of association, annual and bi-annual reports as well as complete information on the other sub-funds may be obtained free of charge, before or after subscription for units, from the company's head office or from distributors.

The total amount of fees on outstanding amounts and the portfolio rotation rates for previous periods may be obtained at the headquarters of the company or from the agency providing the financial services.

The prospectus is available on the website [www.fortisinvestments.com](http://www.fortisinvestments.com).

#### *2. Competent authority*

Belgian Banking, Finance and Insurance Commission (BFIC), Rue du Congrès, 12-14 - 1000 Brussels.

The simplified prospectus is published after being approved by the BFIC in conformity with Article 53, § 1 of the Law of 20 July 2004 relating to forms of collective management of investment portfolios. This approval does not imply any assessment of the suitability or quality of the offering, or of the situation of the offeror.

#### *3. Point of contact where additional explanations may be obtained if necessary*

Fortis Investment Management Belgium S.A., Avenue de l'Astronomie, 14 - 1210 Bruxelles

Tel: 02/274.85.43 (Customer Service) between 9.00 a.m. and 5.00 p.m.

#### *4. Person(s) responsible for the content of the prospectus and the simplified prospectus*

Fortis Investment Management Belgium S.A., avenue de l'Astronomie, 14 - 1210 Bruxelles

The person responsible for the prospectus declares that to his knowledge, the data contained in the prospectus and the simplified prospectus is true and correct and free from any material misstatement.

### **Co-management**

In order to reduce operational and administrative expenses while allowing the greatest diversification in investments, the Board of Directors may decide that all or part of the Company's assets shall be co-managed with assets belonging to other entities or that all or part of the assets of the sub-funds shall be co-managed between them.

The explanatory note on co-management is included in the prospectus.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **Name**

Growth World

### **Date of incorporation**

29/05/1997

### **Maturity date**

unlimited

### **Investment portfolio manager**

Fortis Investment Management France S.A. - 23, Rue de l'Amiral d'Estaing - F 75209 Paris - Cedex 16 (European Equities, Euro Fixed Income, Emerging Fixed Income, Convertible Bonds)

Fortis Investment Management Nederland N.V. - De Entree 27, 1101 BH Amsterdam Z.O. (Real Estate)

Fortis Investment Management U.S.A., Inc. - 75, State Street, Suite 27, Boston, U.S.A. (US Equities, Global Equities)

Fortis Investment Management Japan, Ltd. - Hibiya Marine Building 9F - 1-5-1 Yurakucho - Chiyoda - ku - Tokyo - Japan (Japanese equities)

The designated management company remains in charge of allocating assets and managing non-delegated assets except for the assets entrusted to its branch FIM UK Branch – Camomile Court, Camomile Street 23, London EC3A 7PP (European Small Caps Equities, Global Fixed Income).

## **2. INFORMATION ABOUT THE INVESTMENTS**

### **Sub-fund objectives**

To provide its shareholders with the highest possible appreciation of capital invested while offering a broad distribution of risks.

### **Policy on sub-fund investments**

The mission of this sub-fund is to invest in international bond and equity markets, in money market instruments, in undertakings for collective investment whose mission is to invest primarily in the above-mentioned classes of assets and, on an ancillary basis, in liquidities, to yield maximum profits compared to the risk incurred. Emphasis is placed on international diversification of investments. The risk is closely related to the percentages invested in the different classes of assets. The least risky sub-fund, Stability World, shall be primarily invested in low-risk bond- or absolute return-type investments, and to a lesser extent, in equities. The sub-fund Growth World presents a more significant risk as it is primarily invested in low-risk bond- or absolute return-type investments. The sub-fund Balanced World is situated between Stability World and Growth World sub-funds, both in terms of investment policy and in terms of risk. The manager may deviate from these compositions depending on the market outlook.

**Classes of shares authorised:** transferable securities, units in collective investment undertakings, deposits with credit institutions, derivatives, money market instruments, cash.

**Authorised derivatives transactions:** the sub-fund may utilise **derivatives for hedging and for investment objectives**. The derivatives used have as underlying assets shares or share indices or instruments similar to shares (options, futures contracts, swaps, etc.), bonds or bond indices (interest rate swaps, futures contracts, credit default swaps, etc.) or cash in various currencies. This list is not exhaustive and depends on the sub-fund's investment objectives. As a general rule, these instruments serve to duplicate or neutralise with more precision and flexibility the inherent risks in investment in the underlying assets and their use does not increase the risks as such. If the instruments used are not traded on a regulated market, the OTC derivative instruments are subjected to a reliable and verifiable daily valuation, and may on the initiative of the sub-fund be sold, liquidated or closed by a symmetrical transaction, at any time and at fair value.

**Specific strategy:** The sub-fund seeks to offer a very broad diversification both in terms of the level of classes of assets used and geographical distribution.

**Characteristics of bonds and debt instruments:** the bonds and debt instruments in which the sub-fund invests may be issued by any kind of issuer: governments, local authorities, international public agencies, private corporations, etc. The term is generally aligned with the market; however, the manager may depart from this as it sees fit according to forecast interest rate movements. The vast majority of bonds have at least investment grade rating.

The sub-fund may be exposed to fluctuations in the prices of commodities via investment in derivative instruments on financial indices whose value will fluctuate with the prices of commodities as well as in transferable securities whose value depends on or is influenced by the prices of commodities.

In the sale of Credit Default Swaps (CDS), the sub-fund takes a risk comparable to that taken in the purchase of a bond issued by the same issuer for an identical notional amount: in both cases if the issuer defaults, the risk is represented by the difference between the nominal value and the recoverable value. There is however an additional risk linked to the counterparty in the sale of CDS: the sub-fund runs the risk that the counterparty is not able to make a required payment. The sub-fund using CDS makes sure that the counterparties involved in this type of transaction are rigorously selected and that the risk associated with the counterparty is limited and rigorously controlled.

The use of CDS for any purpose other than hedging meets the following conditions: (a) they are used solely in the exclusive interest of the shareholders with the aim of a beneficial return in relation to the risks involved; (b) the general investment restrictions apply to the issuer of the CDS and to the end-debtor risk of the CDS; (c) the use of CDS fits the investment profile and risk profile of the sub-fund; (d) the sub-fund must ensure a continuous adequate hedge of the commitments linked to the CDS that allows it to honour the requests for redemption by shareholders and (e) the selected CDS are adequately liquid to allow the sub-fund to sell/unwind the contracts in question at theoretically determined prices.

### **Sub-fund risk profile**

The assessment of the risk profile associated with the UCI and/or the investor type profile is based on a recommendation of the Belgian Association of Asset Managers, which may be consulted online at <http://www.beama.be>.

The value of one unit may increase or decrease, so an investor may receive less than his original investment.

A detailed description of all the risks is summarised in the prospectus.

*Summary table of the pertinent and significant risks as evaluated by the sub-fund:*

<b>Type of risk</b>	<b>Concise definition of the risk</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>High</b>
Market risk	Risk of market decline in a particular class of shares that could affect the prices and value of shares in the portfolio		<b>X</b>
Credit risk	Risk of default of an issuer or a counterparty	<b>X</b>	
Currency translation risk	Risk that the value of an investment is affected by a fluctuation in exchange rates	<b>X</b>	
Performance risk	Risk related to performance		<b>X</b>
Capital risk	Risk related to capital		<b>X</b>
Inflation risk	Risk associated with inflation	<b>X</b>	

### **Risk profile of the average investor**

Recommended investment horizon: 10 years.

This sub-fund is specially intended for investors with a dynamic risk profile.

This information is presented for illustrative purposes only. It does not imply an undertaking on behalf of the Company.

### **3. ECONOMIC INFORMATION**

#### **Commissions and fees**

<b>Commissions and one-time fees borne by the investor (in EUR or as a percentage of the net asset value per share)</b>			
	Front load	Back load	Change of sub-fund
Sales commission	2.5% (maximum)	--	if higher, additional commission
Administrative fees			
➤ Change of sub-fund	--	--	EUR 25
➤ Fees for physical delivery of certificates		--	
TOB	--	Capitalisation shares: 0.5% with a maximum of EUR 750	Cap. -> Cap./Dis: 0.5% with a maximum of EUR 750

<b>Commissions and recurring fees borne by the sub-fund (in EUR or as a percentage of the net asset value per share)</b>	
Fee for management of the investment portfolio	1.50% per annum
Performance commission	--
Administration fee	0.125% per annum
Sales fee	--
Fee for financial services	--
Custodian's fee	0.05% per annum
Annual tax	0,08% net amounts invested in Belgium at 31 December of the previous year
Other fees (estimated)	0.05% per annum (audit fees, taxes, publications, etc., including commissioner fees).

#### **Existence of soft commissions**

For more information on this point, see the prospectus.

#### **Existence of fee-sharing agreements**

For more information on this point, see the prospectus.

### **4. INFORMATION CONCERNING UNITS AND UNIT TRADING**

#### **Types of units offered to the public**

Capitalisation or distribution shares in registered or electronic form.

#### **ISIN**

Capitalisation: BE0163304539

Distribution: BE0163305544

#### **Currency for calculating the net asset value**

EUR

#### **Distribution of dividends**

The Annual General Meeting of the sub-fund shall determine each year, on the recommendation of the Board of Directors, the share in earnings that may be allocated to the sub-fund as allowed by law. The Company may distribute dividends to distribution shares in accordance with the law. The Board of Directors may decide to pay interim dividends subject to applicable laws.

#### **Period for initial subscription**

from 3 to 28 March 1997

#### **Initial subscription price**

BEF 5,000 (EUR 123.94)

**Calculation of the net asset value**

The net asset value is calculated each banking day in Belgium provided that the financial markets corresponding to 80% of the assets of the sub-fund have been open for at least one day since the day that served as a basis for calculating the preceding net asset value.

**Publication of the net asset value**

The net asset value is published daily in the Belgian financial press and is also available at the offices of the agency providing the financial service.

**Arrangements for the subscription and redemption of units and for switching sub-funds**

Requests for subscription, redemption and conversion received by the financial services agency or the distributor before 4.00 p.m. shall be processed on the basis of the first net asset value following the date the request is received; this net asset value shall be calculated on the basis of the closing price on the day of receipt of the order, or based on the following day's price, for Asian markets. They will be paid at the value of the payment currency on the currency market two banking days after the calculation of the net asset value.

### **Synthetic risk indicator**

3 on a scale of Ø (lowest risk) to VI (highest risk).

The risk class is a risk indicator linked to an investment in a fixed-maturity UCI or a UCI sub-fund with capital protection in case of early withdrawal. The risk class is assigned using the average standard deviation of classes of similar products. The new UCI sub-fund is initially assigned the risk class of the category to which it belongs. As soon as the new UCI sub-fund has a net asset value history longer than one year, the risk class is assigned by calculating the standard deviation on the basis of the annual returns in EUR. Any change in the risk class will be mentioned in the prospectus. Any change in the risk class occurring at a later time will be mentioned in the annual and semi-annual reports of the UCI.

### **Historical performance by class of units**

Past performance data is no guarantee of future performance. This data does not take account of any restructuring.

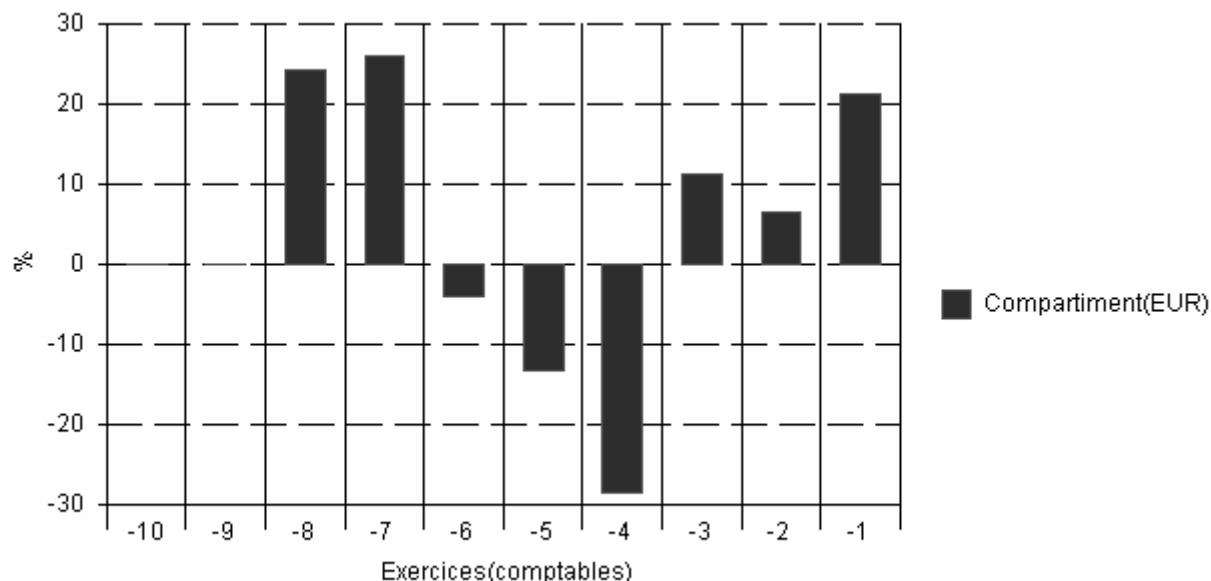


Table of historic performance

	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	From 28/03/1997
Sub-fund (EUR)	21,26%	12,81%	-2,32%		5,13%

The performance data presented here does not take into consideration the commissions and fees for the issue and redemption of units. They concern units of Capitalisation and represent the change in annualised net asset value before fees (for subscription and redemption).

### **Total Expense Ratio (TER)**

1,49%

The following fees are not included in the TER: transaction fees, interest on borrowings, payments linked to derivatives, commissions and fees that are directly paid by the investor, soft commissions.

### **Rate of rotation**

Portfolio rate of rotation: 243,80%

Adjusted portfolio rate of rotation: 199,17%

### **Taxes**

The sub-fund directly or indirectly invests less than 40% of its assets in debt securities within the meaning of Article 19bis of the 1992 Code des Impôts sur les Revenus. Consequently, the individual investor is not responsible for the 15% advance levy on income derived from redemption of capitalisation shares which corresponds to the interest, capital gains or capital loss component on the above-mentioned securities.