

ANNUAL REPORT

# AB VARIABLE PRODUCTS SERIES FUND, INC.

+AB SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO

#### Investment Products Offered

- Are Not FDIC Insured
- May Lose Value
- Are Not Bank Guaranteed

AllianceBernstein Investments, Inc. (ABI) is the distributor of the AB family of mutual funds. ABI is a member of FINRA and is an affiliate of AllianceBernstein L.P., the Adviser of the funds.

You may obtain a description of the Fund's proxy voting policies and procedures, and information regarding how the Fund voted proxies relating to portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30, without charge. Simply visit AB's website at www.abfunds.com or go to the Securities and Exchange Commission's (the "Commission") website at www.sec.gov, or call AB at (800) 227 4618.

The Fund files its complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the Commission for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year as an exhibit to its reports on Form N-PORT. The Fund's Form N-PORT reports are available on the Commission's website at www.sec.gov.

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#### LETTER TO INVESTORS

February 14, 2024

The following is an update of AB Variable Products Series Fund—Sustainable Global Thematic Portfolio (the "Portfolio") for the annual reporting period ended December 31, 2023.

#### **INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE AND POLICIES**

The Portfolio's investment objective is long-term growth of capital. The Portfolio pursues opportunistic growth by investing in a global universe of companies whose business activities the Adviser believes position the company to benefit from certain sustainable investment themes that align with one or more of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals ("SDGs"). These themes principally include the advancement of climate, health and empowerment. Under normal circumstances, the Portfolio invests at least 80% of its net assets in equity securities of issuers located throughout the world that satisfy the Portfolio's sustainable thematic criteria. An issuer that derives at least 25% of its total revenues from activities consistent with the achievement of the SDGs meets such criteria, although many of the issuers in which the Portfolio invests will derive a much greater portion of their revenues from such activities.

The Adviser employs a combination of "top-down" and "bottom-up" investment processes with the goal of identifying, based on its internal research and analysis, securities of companies worldwide that fit into sustainable investment themes. First, the Adviser identifies through its "top-down" process the sustainable investment themes. In addition to this "top-down" thematic approach, the Adviser then uses a "bottom-up" analysis of individual companies that focuses on prospective earnings growth, valuation, and quality of company management and on evaluating a company's risks, including those related to environmental, social and corporate governance ("ESG") factors. ESG factors, which can vary across companies and industries, may include environmental impact, corporate governance, ethical business practices, diversity and employee practices, product safety, supply-chain management and community impact. Eligible investments include securities of issuers that the Adviser believes will maximize total return while also contributing to positive societal impact aligned with one or more SDGs. While the Adviser emphasizes company-specific positive selection criteria over broadbased negative screens in assessing a company's exposure to ESG factors, the Portfolio will not invest in companies that derive revenue from direct involvement in adult entertainment, alcohol, coal, controversial weapons, firearms, gambling, genetically modified organisms, military contracting, prisons or tobacco.

The Adviser considers a large universe of companies world-wide for investment. The Portfolio typically invests primarily in mid- to large-capitalization companies and invests, to a lesser degree, in small-capitalization companies.

The Portfolio invests in securities issued by US and non-US companies from multiple industry sectors in an attempt to maximize opportunity, which should also tend to reduce risk. The Portfolio invests in both developed-and emerging-market countries. Under normal market conditions, the Portfolio invests significantly (at least 40%—unless market conditions are not deemed favorable by the Adviser) in securities of non-US companies. In addition, the Portfolio invests, under normal circumstances, in the equity securities of companies located in at least three countries. The percentage of the Portfolio's assets invested in securities of companies in a particular country or denominated in a particular currency varies in accordance with the Adviser's assessment of the appreciation potential of such securities.

Currency exposures can have a dramatic impact on equity return, significantly adding to returns in some years and greatly diminishing them in others. The Adviser may seek to hedge the currency exposure resulting from a securities position when it finds the currency exposure unattractive. To hedge all or a portion of its currency risk, the Portfolio may from time to time invest in currency-related derivatives, including forward currency exchange contracts, futures contracts, options on futures contracts, swaps and options. Decisions regarding portfolio investments and whether to hedge currency exposure are evaluated separately by the Adviser. The Adviser may also seek investment opportunities by taking long or short positions in currencies through the use of currency-related derivatives.

#### **INVESTMENT RESULTS**

The table on page 5 shows the Portfolio's performance compared with its benchmark, the Morgan Stanley Capital International All Country World Index ("MSCI ACWI") (net), for the one-, five- and 10-year periods ended December 31, 2023.

All share classes of the Portfolio underperformed the benchmark for the 12-month period. Security selection drove underperformance, relative to the benchmark. Security selection within the technology and industrials sectors detracted the most, while selection within health care contributed. Sector allocation was positive. An overweight to technology and an underweight to energy helped offset losses from an overweight to health care and an underweight to communication services. Country selection (a result of bottom-up security analysis driven by fundamental research) was positive; losses from overweights to

Hong Kong and India detracted most but were offset by underweights to China and Canada, which contributed.

The Climate theme consists of companies that improve overall resource efficiency and provide environmentally positive solutions in fields such as energy production, manufacturing, construction, transportation, agriculture and sanitation. The Health theme consists of companies that develop innovative health treatments and therapies, broaden access to high-quality and affordable care, ensure a steady supply of nutritious food and clean water, and promote overall physical and emotional well-being. The Empowerment theme consists of companies that provide the physical, financial and technological infrastructure and services that allow more people to gain control of their lives by enabling sustainable economic development, employment growth, poverty eradication, knowledge sharing and social inclusion.

The Portfolio used derivatives in the form of currency forwards for hedging purposes, which had no material impact on absolute returns for the annual period.

#### **MARKET REVIEW AND INVESTMENT STRATEGY**

US, international and emerging-market stocks rose during the 12-month period ended December 31, 2023. Early in the period, aggressive central bank tightening—led by the US Federal Reserve—pressured global equity markets. Bouts of volatility continued as central banks reduced and then began to pause rate hikes but reiterated hawkish higher-for-longer rhetoric that weighed on sentiment. Later in the period, stronger-than-expected third-quarter economic growth triggered a rapid rise in

bond yields—especially the 10-year US Treasury note, which briefly crossed the 5% threshold for the first time in 16 years. Headwinds from higher Treasury yields, conflict in the Middle East and mixed third-quarter earnings weighed on investor sentiment globally and briefly sent all major indices into correction territory in October. Equity markets rallied sharply during November and December, as optimism rose that the US Federal Reserve would begin to cut interest rates in 2024—both earlier and more than previously anticipated. Although US mega-cap technology stocks drove returns through much of the year, the rally broadened considerably during the fourth quarter as softlanding expectations in the US continued to be underpinned by cooling inflation and moderating economic growth. Within large-cap markets, both growth-and valueoriented stocks rose, but growth significantly outperformed value, led by the technology sector and artificial intelligence optimism. Large-cap stocks outperformed small-cap stocks, although both rose in absolute terms.

The Portfolio's exposures remain focused on secular growth themes, particularly those related to providing solutions to some of the world's largest and most persistent sustainability challenges. This has helped the Portfolio's Senior Investment Management Team (the "Team") to identify financially strong companies that the Team believes are less dependent on overall macroeconomic strength for success, leading to more resilient earnings growth. The Team also believes higher quality attributes like lower leverage, durable earnings growth, and profitability, are more likely to hold up well during challenging economic periods. The Portfolio is positioned particularly well in this regard.

# SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO DISCLOSURES AND RISKS

**AB Variable Products Series Fund** 

#### Benchmark Disclosure

The MSCI ACWI is unmanaged and does not reflect fees and expenses associated with the active management of a mutual fund portfolio. The MSCI ACWI (net, free float-adjusted, market capitalization weighted) represents the equity market performance of developed and emerging markets. MSCI makes no express or implied warranties or representations, and shall have no liability whatsoever with respect to any MSCI data contained herein. The MSCI data may not be further redistributed or used as a basis for other indices, any securities or financial products. This report is not approved, reviewed or produced by MSCI. Net returns reflect the reinvestment of dividends after deduction of non-US withholding tax. An investor cannot invest directly in an index, and its results are not indicative of the performance for any specific investment, including the Portfolio.

#### A Word About Risk

**Market Risk:** The value of the Portfolio's assets will fluctuate as the stock or bond market fluctuates. The value of its investments may decline, sometimes rapidly and unpredictably, simply because of economic changes or other events, including public health crises (including the occurrence of a contagious disease or illness) and regional and global conflicts, that affect large portions of the market. It includes the risk that a particular style of investing may underperform the market generally.

**Sector Risk:** The Portfolio may have more risk than a more diversified portfolio because it may invest to a significant extent in one or more particular market sectors, such as the technology sector. To the extent it does so, market or economic factors affecting the relevant sector(s) could have a major effect on the value of the Portfolio's investments.

ESG Risk: Applying ESG and sustainability criteria to the investment process may exclude securities of certain issuers for non-investment reasons and, therefore, the Portfolio may forgo some market opportunities available to funds that do not use ESG or sustainability criteria. Securities of companies with ESG practices may shift into and out of favor depending on market and economic conditions, and the Portfolio's performance may at times be better or worse than the performance of funds that do not use ESG or sustainability criteria. Furthermore, ESG and sustainability criteria are not uniformly defined, and the Portfolio's ESG and sustainability criteria may differ from those used by other funds. In addition, in evaluating an investment, the Adviser is dependent upon information and data that may be incomplete, inaccurate or unavailable, which could adversely affect the analysis of the ESG and sustainability factors relevant to a particular investment.

**Foreign (Non-US) Risk:** Investments in securities of non-US issuers may involve more risk than those of US issuers. These securities may fluctuate more widely in price and may be more difficult to trade due to adverse market, economic, political, regulatory or other factors.

**Emerging-Market Risk:** Investments in emerging-market countries may have more risk because the markets are less developed and less liquid, and because these investments may be subject to increased economic, political, regulatory or other uncertainties.

Currency Risk: Fluctuations in currency exchange rates may negatively affect the value of the Portfolio's investments or reduce its returns.

**Capitalization Risk:** Investments in small- and mid-capitalization companies may be more volatile than investments in large-capitalization companies. Investments in small- and mid-capitalization companies may have additional risks because these companies may have limited product lines, markets or financial resources.

**Derivatives Risk:** Derivatives may be difficult to price or unwind and leveraged so that small changes may produce disproportionate losses for the Portfolio. A short position in a derivative instrument involves the risk of a theoretically unlimited increase in the value of the underlying asset, which could cause the Portfolio to suffer a potentially unlimited loss. Derivatives, especially over-the-counter derivatives, are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the counterparty (the party on the other side of the transaction) on a derivative transaction will be unable or unwilling to honor its contractual obligations to the Portfolio.

**Focused Portfolio Risk:** Investments in a limited number of companies may have more risk because changes in the value of a single security may have a more significant effect, either negative or positive, on the Portfolio's net asset value ("NAV"), than would be the case if the Portfolio were invested in a larger number of companies.

#### **DISCLOSURES AND RISKS**

(continued)

AB Variable Products Series Fund

**Management Risk:** The Portfolio is subject to management risk because it is an actively managed investment fund. The Adviser will apply its investment techniques and risk analyses in making investment decisions for the Portfolio, but there is no guarantee that its techniques will produce the intended results. Some of these techniques may incorporate, or rely upon, quantitative models, but there is no guarantee that these models will generate accurate forecasts, reduce risk or otherwise perform as expected.

These risks are fully discussed in the Variable Products prospectus. As with all investments, you may lose money by investing in the Portfolio.

#### **An Important Note About Historical Performance**

The investment return and principal value of an investment in the Portfolio will fluctuate, so that shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Performance shown in this report represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance information shown. Please contact your financial advisor or insurance agent representative at your financial institution to obtain portfolio performance information current to the most recent month-end.

Investors should consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses of the Portfolio carefully before investing. For additional copies of the Portfolio's prospectus or summary prospectus, which contains this and other information, call your financial advisor or (800) 227 4618. Please read the prospectus and/or summary prospectus carefully before investing.

All fees and expenses related to the operation of the Portfolio have been deducted, but no adjustment has been made for insurance company separate account or annuity contract charges, which would reduce total return to a contract owner. Performance assumes reinvestment of distributions and does not account for taxes.

There are additional fees and expenses associated with all Variable Products. These fees can include mortality and expense risk charges, administrative charges, and other charges that can significantly reduce investment returns. Those fees and expenses are not reflected in this annual report. You should consult your Variable Products prospectus for a description of those fees and expenses and speak to your insurance agent or financial representative if you have any questions. You should read the prospectus before investing or sending money.

# SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE

AB Variable Products Series Fund

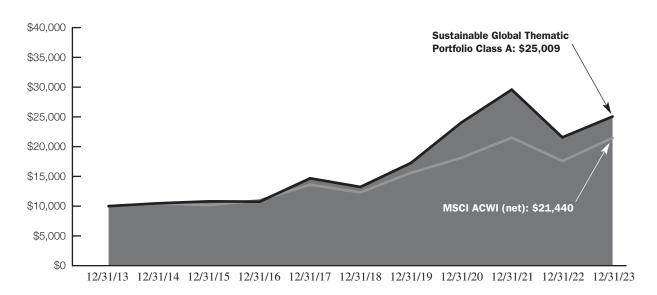
THE PORTFOLIO VS. ITS BENCHMARK	Ne	Net Asset Value Returns					
PERIODS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 (unaudited)	1 Year	1 Year 5 Years <sup>1</sup> 10 Ye					
Sustainable Global Thematic Portfolio Class A	16.01%	13.56%	9.60%				
Sustainable Global Thematic Portfolio Class B	15.70%	13.27%	9.33%				
MSCI ACWI (net)	22.20%	11.72%	7.93%				
1 Average annual returns.							

The Portfolio's current prospectus fee table shows the Portfolio's total annual operating expense ratios as 0.96% and 1.21% for Class A and Class B shares, respectively, gross of any fee waivers or expense reimbursements. Contractual fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements reduced the Portfolio's total annual operating expense ratios to 0.90% and 1.15% for Class A and Class B shares, respectively. These waivers/reimbursements may not be terminated before May 1, 2024, and may be extended by the Adviser for additional one-year terms. Absent reimbursements or waivers, performance would have been lower. The Financial Highlights section of this report sets forth expense ratio data for the current reporting period; the expense ratios shown above may differ from the expense ratios in the Financial Highlights section since they are based on different time periods.

### GROWTH OF A \$10,000 INVESTMENT 12/31/2013 TO 12/31/2023 (unaudited)

Sustainable Global Thematic Portfolio Class A

—— MSCI ACWI (net)



This chart illustrates the total value of an assumed \$10,000 investment in Sustainable Global Thematic Portfolio Class A shares (from 12/31/2013 to 12/31/2023) as compared with the performance of the Portfolio's benchmark. The chart assumes the reinvestment of dividends and capital gains distributions.

# SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO EXPENSE EXAMPLE (unaudited)

AB Variable Products Series Fund

As a shareholder of the Portfolio, you incur two types of costs: (1) transaction costs, including sales charges (loads) on purchase payments, contingent deferred sales charges on redemptions and (2) ongoing costs, including management fees; distribution (12b-1) fees; and other Portfolio expenses. This example is intended to help you understand your ongoing costs (in dollars) of investing in the Portfolio and to compare these costs with the ongoing costs of investing in other mutual funds.

The Example is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the period and held for the entire period as indicated below.

#### **Actual Expenses**

The first line of each class' table below provides information about actual account values and actual expenses. You may use the information in this line, together with the amount you invested, to estimate the expenses that you paid over the period. Simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the first line under the heading entitled "Expenses Paid During Period" to estimate the expenses you paid on your account during this period. The estimate of expenses does not include fees or other expenses of any variable insurance product. If such expenses were included, the estimate of expenses you paid during the period would be higher and your ending account value would be lower.

#### **Hypothetical Example for Comparison Purposes**

The second line of each class' table below provides information about hypothetical account values and hypothetical expenses based on the Portfolio's actual expense ratio and an assumed annual rate of return of 5% before expenses, which is not the Portfolio's actual return. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period. You may use this information to compare the ongoing costs of investing in the Portfolio and other funds by comparing this 5% hypothetical example with the 5% hypothetical examples that appear in the shareholder reports of other funds. The estimate of expenses does not include fees or other expenses of any variable insurance product. If such expenses were included, the estimate of expenses you paid during the period would be higher and your ending account value would be lower.

Please note that the expenses shown in the table are meant to highlight your ongoing costs only and do not reflect any transactional costs, such as sales charges (loads), or contingent deferred sales charges on redemptions. Therefore, the second line of each classes' table is useful in comparing ongoing costs only, and will not help you determine the relative total costs of owning different funds. In addition, if these transactional costs were included, your costs would have been higher.

	Account Value July 1, 2023	Account Value December 31, 2023	Expenses Paid During Period*	Annualized Expense Ratio*
Class A Actual	\$ 1.000	\$ 1.036.70	\$ 4.77	0.93%
Hypothetical**	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,020.52	\$ 4.74	0.93%
Class B				
Actual	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,035.30	\$ 6.05	1.18%
Hypothetical**	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,019.26	\$ 6.01	1.18%

<sup>\*</sup> Expenses are equal to each classes' annualized expense ratios, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 184/365 (to reflect the one-half year period).

<sup>\*\*</sup> Assumes 5% annual return before expenses.

### SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO TEN LARGEST HOLDINGS<sup>1</sup>

December 31, 2023 (unaudited)

AB Variable Products Series Fund

COMPANY	U.S. \$ VALUE	PERCENT OF NET ASSETS
Visa, Inc.—Class A	\$ 5,152,327	3.1%
Microsoft Corp.	5,085,941	3.1
Partners Group Holding AG	4,616,918	2.8
Waste Management, Inc.	4,500,425	2.7
Accenture PLC—Class A	4,090,909	2.5
MSCI, Inc.	4,081,165	2.5
Deutsche Boerse AG	4,036,320	2.5
London Stock Exchange Group PLC	3,946,846	2.4
Flex Ltd.	3,847,006	2.3
Intuit, Inc.	3,755,805	2.3
	\$ 43,113,662	26.2%

### SECTOR BREAKDOWN<sup>2</sup> December 31, 2023 (unaudited)

SECTOR	U.S. \$ VALUE	PERCENT OF TOTAL INVESTMENTS
Information Technology	\$ 53,258,557	32.6%
Health Care	28,157,535	17.2
Industrials	28,009,087	17.2
Financials	27,594,326	16.9
Consumer Staples	10,493,082	6.4
Consumer Discretionary	8,425,352	5.2
Utilities	4,430,577	2.7
Energy	2,148,346	1.3
Materials	265,859	0.2
Short-Term Investments	535,667	0.3
Total Investments	\$ 163,318,388	100.0%

<sup>1</sup> Long-term investments.

<sup>2</sup> The Portfolio's sector breakdown is expressed as a percentage of total investments and may vary over time. The Portfolio also enters into derivative transactions, which may be used for hedging or investment purposes (see "Portfolio of Investments" section of the report for additional details).

Please note: The sector classifications presented herein are based on the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) which was developed by Morgan Stanley Capital International and Standard & Poor's. The components are divided into sector, industry group, and industry sub-indices as classified by the GICS for each of the market capitalization indices in the broad market. These sector classifications are broadly defined. The "Portfolio of Investments" section of the report reflects more specific industry information and is consistent with the investment restrictions discussed in the Portfolio's prospectus.

# SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO COUNTRY BREAKDOWN<sup>1</sup>

December 31, 2023 (unaudited)

COUNTRY	U.S. \$ VALUE	PERCENT OF TOTAL INVESTMENTS
United States	\$ 110,971,923	67.9%
United Kingdom	8,619,863	5.3
Germany	7,654,215	4.7
Switzerland	7,585,582	4.6
India	5,316,132	3.3
Japan	4,856,199	3.0
Taiwan	3,201,647	2.0
Netherlands	3,174,302	1.9
China	3,006,725	1.8
Hong Kong	2,245,343	1.4
Canada	2,231,039	1.4
Finland	2,148,346	1.3
Norway	1,505,546	0.9
Denmark	265,859	0.2
Short-Term Investments	535,667	0.3
Total Investments	\$ 163,318,388	100.0%

<sup>1</sup> The Portfolio's country breakdown is expressed as a percentage of total investments and may vary over time. The Portfolio also enters into derivative transactions, which may be used for hedging or investment purposes (see "Portfolio of Investments" section of the report for additional details).

# SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS

December 31, 2023

Company	Shares	U.S. \$ Value	Company	Shares	U.S. \$ Value
COMMON STOCKS-99.4%			PHARMACEUTICALS-1.3%		
INFORMATION			Johnson & Johnson	13,908	\$ 2,179,940
TECHNOLOGY-32.5%					28,157,535
COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT-1.3%			INDUSTRIALS-17.1%		
Calix, Inc.(a)	50,827	\$ 2,220,632	AEROSPACE & DEFENSE-1.6%	25 767	2 627 916
ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT,	,	·	Hexcel Corp.	35,767	2,637,816
INSTRUMENTS &			COMMERCIAL SERVICES & SUPPLIES-6.6%		
COMPONENTS-5.8%			Tetra Tech, Inc.	19,823	3,309,053
Flex Ltd.(a)		3,847,006	Veralto Corp	35,896	2,952,805
Keyence Corp Keysight Technologies, Inc.(a)	4,600 22,854	2,021,039 3,635,843	Waste Management, Inc	25,128	4,500,425
recysignt reenhologies, me.(a)	22,031	9,503,888			10,762,283
IT SERVICES-2.5%		9,505,666	CONSTRUCTION &		
Accenture PLC–Class A	11,658	4,090,909	ENGINEERING-1.4%	15.016	2 221 020
SEMICONDUCTORS &	11,050	1,000,000	WSP Global, Inc.	15,916	2,231,039
SEMICONDUCTOR  SEMICONDUCTOR			MACHINERY-4.3%	6 775	2 700 110
EQUIPMENT-10.3%			Deere & Co	6,775 5,300	2,709,119 2,835,161
ASML Holding NV	4,205	3,174,302	TOMRA Systems ASA	124,178	1,505,547
Infineon Technologies AG  NVIDIA Corp	86,630	3,617,895	•		7,049,827
NXP Semiconductors NV	5,010 10,376	2,481,052 2,383,160	PROFESSIONAL		
ON Semiconductor Corp.(a)	24,112	2,014,075	SERVICES-3.2%		
Taiwan Semiconductor	,	, ,	Experian PLC	83,317	3,398,943
Manufacturing Co., Ltd	167,000	3,201,647	RELX PLC (London)	48,626	1,929,179
		16,872,131			5,328,122
SOFTWARE-12.6%					28,009,087
Adobe, Inc.(a)	6,160	3,675,056	FINANCIALS-16.9%		
Bentley Systems, Inc.–Class B Fair Isaac Corp.(a)	38,684 2,848	2,018,531 3,315,101	CAPITAL MARKETS-10.2%	10.600	4.027.220
Intuit, Inc.	6,009	3,755,805	Deutsche Boerse AG  London Stock Exchange Group	19,600	4,036,320
Microsoft Corp	13,525	5,085,941	PLC	33,388	3,946,846
Palo Alto Networks, Inc.(a)	9,226	2,720,563	MSCI, Inc	7,215	4,081,165
		20,570,997	Partners Group Holding AG	3,193	4,616,918
		53,258,557			16,681,249
HEALTH CARE-17.2%			FINANCIAL SERVICES-3.2%		
HEALTH CARE EQUIPMENT &			Visa, Inc.–Class A	19,790	5,152,327
SUPPLIES-5.3% Alcon, Inc.	37,945	2,968,664	INSURANCE-3.5%	10 (11	2.515.405
Becton Dickinson & Co.	12,261	2,989,599	Aflac, Inc	42,611 258,000	3,515,407 2,245,343
STERIS PLC	12,101	2,660,405	74174 Group Eta.	230,000	5,760,750
		8,618,668			27,594,326
HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS &			CONSUMER STAPLES-6.4%		
SERVICES-3.0%			HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS-1.6%		
Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Ltd	40,797	2,796,678	Procter & Gamble Co. (The)	17,511	2,566,062
Laboratory Corp. of America Holdings	9,226	2,096,978	PERSONAL CARE	,	
Holdings	9,220	4,893,656	PRODUCTS-4.8%		
LIFE COLENGES TOOLS 0		4,093,030	Dabur India Ltd	376,777	2,519,454
LIFE SCIENCES TOOLS & SERVICES-7.6%			Haleon PLC Unilever PLC	650,599 56,678	2,663,728 2,743,838
Bio-Rad Laboratories, Inc.–			Officer LEC	30,076	7,927,020
Class A(a)	4,836	1,561,496			
Bruker Corp.	25,666	1,885,938	CONCLIMED		10,493,082
Danaher Corp ICON PLC(a)	13,826 12,751	3,198,507 3,609,425	CONSUMER DISCRETIONARY-5.1%		
West Pharmaceutical Services,	14,/31	3,007,423	AUTOMOBILE		
Inc	6,276	2,209,905	COMPONENTS-1.6%		
		12,465,271	Aptiv PLC(a)	29,664	2,661,454

# SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS

(continued)

**AB Variable Products Series Fund** 

Company	Shares	U.S. \$ Value	Company	Shares	U.S. \$ Value
AUTOMOBILES-1.8% BYD Co., LtdClass H HOUSEHOLD DURABLES-1.7%	109,000	\$ 3,006,725	MATERIALS-0.2% CHEMICALS-0.2% Chr Hansen Holding A/S	3,170	\$ 265,859
TopBuild Corp.(a)	7,367	2,757,173 8,425,352	Total Common Stocks (cost \$121,336,290)		162,782,721
UTILITIES-2.7% ELECTRIC UTILITIES-1.7% NextEra Energy, Inc		2,848,281 1,582,296 4,430,577	SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS-0.3% INVESTMENT COMPANIES-0.3% AB Fixed Income Shares, Inc Government Money Market Portfolio-Class AB, 5.27%(b)(c)(d)		
ENERGY-1.3%			(cost \$535,667)	535,667	535,667
OIL, GAS & CONSUMABLE FUELS-1.3% Neste Oyj	60,432	2,148,346	TOTAL INVESTMENTS-99.7% (cost \$121,871,957)		163,318,388 426,925 \$ 163,745,313

#### FORWARD CURRENCY EXCHANGE CONTRACTS (see Note D)

Counterparty	D	tracts to eliver 000)	In Exchange For (000)		Settlement Date	Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)
Bank of America, NA	CNH	13,387	USD	1,842	01/11/2024	\$ (37,656)
Bank of America, NA	USD	3,080	CNH	22,379	01/11/2024	62,875
Bank of America, NA	USD	3,939	JPY	581,403	01/12/2024	189,390
Bank of America, NA	NOK	6,605	USD	609	02/16/2024	(41,666)
Barclays Bank PLC	BRL	3,851	USD	795	01/03/2024	2,669
Barclays Bank PLC	USD	783	BRL	3,851	01/03/2024	9,585
Barclays Bank PLC	USD	1,139	SEK	11,865	02/16/2024	39,269
Barclays Bank PLC	INR	198,673	USD	2,376	03/14/2024	(3,957)
Citibank, NA	USD	1,795	KRW	2,418,517	01/18/2024	72,405
Citibank, NA	CHF	2,699	USD	3,056	02/15/2024	(167,201)
Citibank, NA	TWD	19,469	USD	625	02/26/2024	(18,237)
Citibank, NA	HKD	9,960	USD	1,279	03/14/2024	1,308
Morgan Stanley Capital Services, Inc.	BRL	3,851	USD	797	01/03/2024	4,530
Morgan Stanley Capital Services, Inc.	USD	795	BRL	3,851	01/03/2024	(2,669)
Morgan Stanley Capital Services, Inc.	USD	809	EUR	740	01/10/2024	8,368
Morgan Stanley Capital Services, Inc.	GBP	6,515	USD	8,095	01/25/2024	(210,711)
Morgan Stanley Capital Services, Inc.	USD	794	BRL	3,851	02/02/2024	(2,659)
State Street Bank & Trust Co.	EUR	353	USD	378	01/10/2024	(11,866)
State Street Bank & Trust Co.	USD	376	EUR	353	01/10/2024	13,771
State Street Bank & Trust Co.	CNH	2,077	USD	284	01/11/2024	(7,721)
State Street Bank & Trust Co.	USD	492	CNH	3,534	01/11/2024	4,055
State Street Bank & Trust Co.	JPY	129,329	USD	882	01/12/2024	(36,191)
State Street Bank & Trust Co.	USD	395	JPY	57,827	01/12/2024	15,945
State Street Bank & Trust Co.	GBP	511	USD	645	01/25/2024	(6,572)
State Street Bank & Trust Co.	USD	475	ZAR	9,091	02/07/2024	20,674
State Street Bank & Trust Co.	CHF	281	USD	326	02/15/2024	(9,399)

#### **AB Variable Products Series Fund**

Counterparty	Contracts to Deliver (000)	In Exchange For (000)	Settlement Date	Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)
State Street Bank & Trust Co.	NOK 4,176	USD 381	02/16/2024	\$ (30,473)
UBS AG	USD 1,947	CAD 2,680	01/10/2024	76,078
UBS AG	USD 2,471	AUD 3,791	01/25/2024	114,259
				\$ 48,203

- (b) Affiliated investments.
- (c) The rate shown represents the 7-day yield as of period end.
- (d) To obtain a copy of the fund's shareholder report, please go to the Securities and Exchange Commission's website at www.sec.gov, or call AB at (800) 227-4618.

Currency Abbreviations:

AUD—Australian Dollar

BRL—Brazilian Real

CAD—Canadian Dollar

CHF—Swiss Franc

CNH—Chinese Yuan Renminbi (Offshore)

EUR-Euro

GBP—Great British Pound

HKD—Hong Kong Dollar

INR—Indian Rupee

JPY—Japanese Yen

KRW—Ŝouth Korean Won

NOK-Norwegian Krone

SEK—Swedish Krona

TWD—New Taiwan Dollar

USD-United States Dollar

ZAR—South African Rand

See notes to financial statements.

<sup>(</sup>a) Non-income producing security.

# SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES

December 31, 2023

ASSETS				
Investments in securities, at value				
Unaffiliated issuers (cost \$121,336,290)				\$162,782,721
Affiliated issuers (cost \$535,667)				535,667
Foreign currencies, at value (cost \$653,528)				666,539
Unrealized appreciation on forward currency exchange con-				635,181
Unaffiliated dividends receivable				231,444
Receivable for investment securities sold				44,328
Receivable due from Advisor				6,946
Affiliated dividends receivable				4,746
Receivable for capital stock sold				2,387
Total assets				164,909,959
LIABILITIES				
Unrealized depreciation on forward currency exchange cont	tract	s		586,978
Foreign capital gains tax payable				179,830
Custody and accounting fees payable				132,507
Advisory fee payable				102,142
Payable for capital stock redeemed				34,657
Administrative fee payable				23,300
Distribution fee payable				21,961
Transfer Agent fee payable				150
Accrued expenses				83,121
Total liabilities				1,164,646
NET ASSETS				\$163,745,313
COMPOSITION OF NET ASSETS				
Capital stock, at par				\$ 5,154
Additional paid-in capital				122,293,371
Distributable earnings				41,446,788
NET ASSETS				\$163,745,313
THE AUGUSTS				Ψ103,743,313
Net Asset Value Per Share—1 billion shares of capital stoc	k at	thorized, \$.001	par value	
Class		Net Assets	Shares Outstanding	Net Asset Value
A	\$	58,246,685	1,756,219	\$ 33.17
В	\$	105,498,628	3,397,917	\$ 31.05

# SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

Year Ended December 31, 2023

INVESTMENT INCOME		
Dividends		
Unaffiliated issuers (net of foreign taxes withheld of \$147,130)	\$	1,703,372
Affiliated issuers		224,027
Interest		1,451
Securities lending income		3,510
Other income		67
		1,932,427
EXPENSES		
Advisory fee (see Note B)		1,171,880
Distribution fee—Class B		253,819
Transfer agency—Class A		2,002
Transfer agency—Class B		3,710
Administrative		94,632
Custody and accounting		82,237
Audit and tax		64,640
Legal		36,592
Printing		26,898
Directors' fees		18,752
Miscellaneous	_	17,543
Total expenses		1,772,705
Less: expenses waived and reimbursed by the Adviser (see Note B)		(83,266)
Net expenses		1,689,439
Net investment income		242,988
REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAIN (LOSS) ON INVESTMENT AND FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSACTIONS Net realized gain (loss) on:		
Investment transactions(a)		1,275,766
Forward currency exchange contracts		(419,408)
Foreign currency transactions		7,680
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of:		
Investments(b)		22,763,844
Forward currency exchange contracts		(654,576)
Foreign currency denominated assets and liabilities		21,239
Net gain on investment and foreign currency transactions		22,994,545
NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS	\$2	23,237,533

<sup>(</sup>a) Net of foreign realized capital gains taxes of \$71,136.

<sup>(</sup>b) Net of decrease in accrued foreign capital gains taxes on unrealized gains of \$32,256. See notes to financial statements.

# SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

	Year Ended December 31, 2023	Year Ended December 31, 2022
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS		
Net investment income	\$ 242,988	\$ 52,469
Net realized gain on investment and foreign currency transactions	864,038	9,249,524
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments and foreign		
currency denominated assets and liabilities	22,130,507	(68,416,642)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from operations	23,237,533	(59,114,649)
Distributions to Shareholders		
Class A	(3,403,390)	(5,619,793)
Class B	(6,377,144)	(11,762,309)
CAPITAL STOCK TRANSACTIONS		
Net increase (decrease)	(2,769,396)	9,023,323
Total increase (decrease)	10,687,603	(67,473,428)
NET ASSETS		
Beginning of period	153,057,710	220,531,138
End of period	\$163,745,313	\$153,057,710

### SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2023

AB Variable Products Series Fund

#### **NOTE A: Significant Accounting Policies**

The AB Sustainable Global Thematic Portfolio (the "Portfolio") (formerly known as AB Global Thematic Growth Portfolio) is a series of AB Variable Products Series Fund, Inc. (the "Fund"). The Portfolio's investment objective is long-term growth of capital. The Portfolio is diversified as defined under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "1940 Act"). The Fund was incorporated in the State of Maryland as an open-end series investment company. The Fund offers 10 separately managed pools of assets which have differing investment objectives and policies. The Portfolio offers Class A and Class B shares. Both classes of shares have identical voting, dividend, liquidating and other rights, except that Class B shares bear a distribution expense and have exclusive voting rights with respect to the Class B distribution plan.

The Portfolio offers and sells its shares only to separate accounts of certain life insurance companies for the purpose of funding variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies. Sales are made without a sales charge at the Portfolio's net asset value per share.

The financial statements have been prepared in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("U.S. GAAP"), which require management to make certain estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities in the financial statements and amounts of income and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The Portfolio is an investment company under U.S. GAAP and follows the accounting and reporting guidance applicable to investment companies. The following is a summary of significant accounting policies followed by the Portfolio.

#### 1. Security Valuation

Portfolio securities are valued at market value determined on the basis of market quotations or, if market quotations are not readily available or are unreliable, at "fair value" as determined in accordance with procedures approved by and under the oversight of the Fund's Board of Directors (the "Board"). Pursuant to these procedures, AllianceBernstein L.P. (the "Adviser") serves as the Portfolio's valuation designee pursuant to Rule 2a-5 of the 1940 Act. In this capacity, the Adviser is responsible, among other things, for making all fair value determinations relating to the Portfolio's portfolio investments, subject to the Board's oversight.

In general, the market values of securities which are readily available and deemed reliable are determined as follows: securities listed on a national securities exchange (other than securities listed on the NASDAQ Stock Market, Inc. ("NASDAQ")) or on a foreign securities exchange are valued at the last sale price at the close of the exchange or foreign securities exchange. If there has been no sale on such day, the securities are valued at the last traded price from the previous day. Securities listed on more than one exchange are valued by reference to the principal exchange on which the securities are traded; securities listed only on NASDAQ are valued in accordance with the NASDAQ Official Closing Price; listed or over the counter ("OTC") market put or call options are valued at the mid level between the current bid and ask prices. If either a current bid or current ask price is unavailable, the Adviser will have discretion to determine the best valuation (e.g., last trade price in the case of listed options); open futures are valued using the closing settlement price or, in the absence of such a price, the most recent quoted bid price. If there are no quotations available for the day of valuation, the last available closing settlement price is used; U.S. Government securities and any other debt instruments having 60 days or less remaining until maturity are generally valued at market by an independent pricing vendor, if a market price is available. If a market price is not available, the securities are valued at amortized cost. This methodology is commonly used for short term securities that have an original maturity of 60 days or less, as well as short term securities that had an original term to maturity that exceeded 60 days. In instances when amortized cost is utilized, the Valuation Committee (the "Committee") must reasonably conclude that the utilization of amortized cost is approximately the same as the fair value of the security. Factors the Committee will consider include, but are not limited to, an impairment of the creditworthiness of the issuer or material changes in interest rates. Fixed-income securities, including mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities, may be valued on the basis of prices provided by a pricing service or at a price obtained from one or more of the major broker-dealers. In cases where broker-dealer quotes are obtained, the Adviser may establish procedures whereby changes in market yields or spreads are used to adjust, on a daily basis, a recently obtained quoted price on a security. Swaps and other derivatives are valued daily, primarily using independent pricing services, independent pricing models using market inputs, as well as third party broker-dealers or counterparties. Open-end mutual funds are valued at the closing net asset value per share, while exchange-traded funds are valued at the closing market price per share.

### SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(continued)

**AB Variable Products Series Fund** 

Securities for which market quotations are not readily available (including restricted securities) or are deemed unreliable are valued at fair value as deemed appropriate by the Adviser. Factors considered in making this determination may include, but are not limited to, information obtained by contacting the issuer, analysts, analysis of the issuer's financial statements or other available documents. In addition, the Portfolio may use fair value pricing for securities primarily traded in non-U.S. markets because most foreign markets close well before the Portfolio values its securities at 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time. The earlier close of these foreign markets gives rise to the possibility that significant events, including broad market moves, may have occurred in the interim and may materially affect the value of those securities. To account for this, the Portfolio generally values many of its foreign equity securities using fair value prices based on third party vendor modeling tools to the extent available.

#### 2. Fair Value Measurements

In accordance with U.S. GAAP regarding fair value measurements, fair value is defined as the price that the Portfolio would receive to sell an asset or pay to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. U.S. GAAP establishes a framework for measuring fair value, and a three-level hierarchy for fair value measurements based upon the transparency of inputs to the valuation of an asset or liability (including those valued based on their market values as described in Note A.1 above). Inputs may be observable or unobservable and refer broadly to the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. Observable inputs reflect the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability based on market data obtained from sources independent of the Portfolio. Unobservable inputs reflect the Portfolio's own assumptions about the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability based on the best information available in the circumstances. Each investment is assigned a level based upon the observability of the inputs which are significant to the overall valuation. The three-tier hierarchy of inputs is summarized below.

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

The fair value of debt instruments, such as bonds, and over-the-counter derivatives is generally based on market price quotations, recently executed market transactions (where observable) or industry recognized modeling techniques and are generally classified as Level 2. Pricing vendor inputs to Level 2 valuations may include quoted prices for similar investments in active markets, interest rate curves, coupon rates, currency rates, yield curves, option adjusted spreads, default rates, credit spreads and other unique security features in order to estimate the relevant cash flows which are then discounted to calculate fair values. If these inputs are unobservable and significant to the fair value, these investments will be classified as Level 3.

Where readily available market prices or relevant bid prices are not available for certain equity investments, such investments may be valued based on similar publicly traded investments, movements in relevant indices since last available prices or based upon underlying company fundamentals and comparable company data (such as multiples to earnings or other multiples to equity). Where an investment is valued using an observable input, such as another publicly traded security, the investment will be classified as Level 2. If management determines that an adjustment is appropriate based on restrictions on resale, illiquidity or uncertainty, and such adjustment is a significant component of the valuation, the investment will be classified as Level 3. An investment will also be classified as Level 3 where management uses company fundamentals and other significant inputs to determine the valuation.

The following table summarizes the valuation of the Portfolio's investments by the above fair value hierarchy levels as of December 31, 2023:

	Level 1	Level 2	Le	evel 3	Total
Investments in Securities:					
Assets:					
Common Stocks:					
Information Technology	\$ 41,243,674	\$12,014,883	\$	-0-	\$ 53,258,557
Health Care	22,392,193	5,765,342		-0-	28,157,535
Industrials	18,340,257	9,668,830		-0-	28,009,087
Financials	12,748,899	14,845,427		-0-	27,594,326
Consumer Staples	2,566,062	7,927,020		-0-	10,493,082

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Consumer Discretionary	\$ 5,418,627	\$ 3,006,725	\$ -0-	\$ 8,425,352
Utilities	4,430,577	-0-	-0-	4,430,577
Energy	-0-	2,148,346	-0-	2,148,346
Materials	-0-	265,859	-0-	265,859
Short-Term Investments	535,667			535,667
Total Investments in Securities  Other Financial Instruments(b):	107,675,956	55,642,432(a)	-0-	163,318,388
Assets:				
Forward Currency Exchange Contracts	-0-	635,181	-0-	635,181
Liabilities:				
Forward Currency Exchange Contracts		(586,978)		(586,978)
Total	\$107,675,956	\$55,690,635	<u>\$ -0</u> -	\$163,366,591

- (a) A significant portion of the Portfolio's foreign equity investments are categorized as Level 2 investments since they are valued using fair value prices based on third party vendor modeling tools to the extent available, see Note A.1.
- (b) Other financial instruments are derivative instruments, such as futures, forwards and swaps, which are valued at the unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on the instrument. Other financial instruments may also include swaps with upfront premiums, written options and written swaptions which are valued at market value.

#### 3. Currency Translation

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies and commitments under forward currency exchange contracts are translated into U.S. dollars at the mean of the quoted bid and ask prices of such currencies against the U.S. dollar. Purchases and sales of portfolio securities are translated into U.S. dollars at the rates of exchange prevailing when such securities were acquired or sold. Income and expenses are translated into U.S. dollars at rates of exchange prevailing when accrued.

Net realized gain or loss on foreign currency transactions represents foreign exchange gains and losses from sales and maturities of foreign fixed income investments, holding of foreign currencies, currency gains or losses realized between the trade and settlement dates on foreign investment transactions, and the difference between the amounts of dividends, interest and foreign withholding taxes recorded on the Portfolio's books and the U.S. dollar equivalent amounts actually received or paid. Net unrealized currency gains and losses from valuing foreign currency denominated assets and liabilities at period end exchange rates are reflected as a component of net unrealized appreciation or depreciation of foreign currency denominated assets and liabilities.

#### 4. Taxes

It is the Portfolio's policy to meet the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code applicable to regulated investment companies and to distribute all of its investment company taxable income and net realized gains, if any, to shareholders. Therefore, no provisions for federal income or excise taxes are required. The Portfolio may be subject to taxes imposed by countries in which it invests. Such taxes are generally based on income and/or capital gains earned or repatriated. Taxes are accrued and applied to net investment income, net realized gains and net unrealized appreciation/depreciation as such income and/or gains are earned.

In accordance with U.S. GAAP requirements regarding accounting for uncertainties in income taxes, management has analyzed the Portfolio's tax positions taken or expected to be taken on federal and state income tax returns for all open tax years (the current and the prior three tax years) and has concluded that no provision for income tax is required in the Portfolio's financial statements.

#### 5. Investment Income and Investment Transactions

Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date or as soon as the Portfolio is informed of the dividend. Interest income is accrued daily. Investment transactions are accounted for on the date the securities are purchased or sold. Investment gains or losses are determined on the identified cost basis. Non-cash dividends, if any, are recorded on the ex-dividend date at the fair value of the securities received. The Portfolio amortizes premiums and accretes discounts as adjustments to interest income. The Portfolio accounts for distributions received from REIT investments or from regulated investment companies as dividend income, realized gain, or return of capital based on information provided by the REIT or the investment company.

### SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(continued)

**AB Variable Products Series Fund** 

#### 6. Class Allocations

All income earned and expenses incurred by the Portfolio are borne on a pro-rata basis by each outstanding class of shares, based on the proportionate interest in the Portfolio represented by the net assets of such class, except for class specific expenses which are allocated to the respective class. Expenses of the Fund are charged proportionately to each portfolio or based on other appropriate methods. Realized and unrealized gains and losses are allocated among the various share classes based on respective net assets.

#### 7. Dividends and Distributions

Dividends and distributions to shareholders, if any, are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Income dividends and capital gains distributions are determined in accordance with federal tax regulations and may differ from those determined in accordance with U.S. GAAP. To the extent these differences are permanent, such amounts are reclassified within the capital accounts based on their federal tax basis treatment; temporary differences do not require such reclassification.

#### NOTE B: Advisory Fee and Other Transactions with Affiliates

Under the terms of the investment advisory agreement, the Portfolio pays the Adviser an advisory fee at an annual rate of .75% of the first \$2.5 billion, .65% of the next \$2.5 billion and .60% in excess of \$5 billion, of the Portfolio's average daily net assets. The fee is accrued daily and paid monthly. The Adviser has contractually agreed to waive its management fee and/or bear expenses of the Portfolio in order to reduce the Portfolio's total operating expenses by an amount equal to .05% on an annual basis of the average net assets for Class A and Class B. For the year ended December 31, 2023, such reimbursements/waivers amounted to \$78,128. This fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement agreement extends through May 1, 2024 and then may be extended by the Adviser for additional one-year terms.

Pursuant to the investment advisory agreement, the Portfolio may reimburse the Adviser for certain legal and accounting services provided to the Portfolio by the Adviser. For the year ended December 31, 2023, the reimbursement for such services amounted to \$94,632.

The Portfolio compensates AllianceBernstein Investor Services, Inc. ("ABIS"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Adviser, under a Transfer Agency Agreement for providing personnel and facilities to perform transfer agency services for the Portfolio. Such compensation retained by ABIS amounted to \$1,800 for the year ended December 31, 2023.

The Portfolio may invest in AB Government Money Market Portfolio (the "Government Money Market Portfolio") which has a contractual annual advisory fee rate of .20% of the portfolio's average daily net assets and bears its own expenses. The Adviser had contractually agreed to waive .10% of the advisory fee of Government Money Market Portfolio (resulting in a net advisory fee of .10%) until August 31, 2023. Effective September 1, 2023, the Adviser has contractually agreed to waive .05% of the advisory fee of Government Money Market Portfolio (resulting in a net advisory fee of .15%) until August 31, 2024. In connection with the investment by the Portfolio in Government Money Market Portfolio, the Adviser has contractually agreed to waive its advisory fee from the Portfolio in an amount equal to the Portfolio's pro rata share of the effective advisory fee of Government Money Market Portfolio, as borne indirectly by the Portfolio as an acquired fund fee and expense. For the year ended December 31, 2023, such waiver amounted to \$5,138.

A summary of the Portfolio's transactions in AB mutual funds for the year ended December 31, 2023 is as follows:

	Market value	Purchases	Sales	Market value	Dividend	
	12/31/22	at Cost	Proceeds	12/31/23	Income	
Portfolio	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	
Government Money Market Portfolio	\$5,497	\$31,249	\$36,210	\$536	\$224	

#### **NOTE C: Distribution Plan**

The Portfolio has adopted a Distribution Plan (the "Plan") for Class B shares pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act. Under the Plan, the Portfolio pays distribution and servicing fees to AllianceBernstein Investments, Inc. (the "Distributor"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Adviser, at an annual rate of up to .50% of the Portfolio's average daily net assets attributable to Class B shares. The fees are accrued daily and paid monthly. The Board currently limits payments under the Plan to .25% of the Portfolio's average daily net assets attributable to Class B shares. The Plan provides that the Distributor will use such payments in their entirety for distribution assistance and promotional activities.

The Portfolio is not obligated under the Plan to pay any distribution and servicing fees in excess of the amounts set forth above. The purpose of the payments to the Distributor under the Plan is to compensate the Distributor for its distribution services with respect to the sale of the Portfolio's Class B shares. Since the Distributor's compensation is not directly tied to its expenses, the amount of

D......

C-1--

compensation received by it under the Plan during any year may be more or less than its actual expenses. For this reason, the Plan is characterized by the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission as being of the "compensation" variety.

In the event that the Plan is terminated or not continued, no distribution or servicing fees (other than current amounts accrued but not yet paid) would be owed by the Portfolio to the Distributor.

The Plan also provides that the Adviser may use its own resources to finance the distribution of the Portfolio's shares.

#### **NOTE D: Investment Transactions**

Purchases and sales of investment securities (excluding short-term investments) for the year ended December 31, 2023 were as follows:

	Purchases	Sales	-
Investment securities (excluding U.S. government securities)	\$47,883,025	\$55,567,274	ļ
U.S. government securities	-0-	-0	)_
The cost of investments for federal income tax purposes, gross unrealized appreciation	and unrealized	depreciation are	as

as follows:

Cost	\$122,192,479
Gross unrealized appreciation	\$ 44,666,924
Gross unrealized depreciation	(3,557,944)
Net unrealized appreciation	\$ 41,108,980

#### 1. Derivative Financial Instruments

The Portfolio may use derivatives in an effort to earn income and enhance returns, to replace more traditional direct investments, to obtain exposure to otherwise inaccessible markets (collectively, "investment purposes"), or to hedge or adjust the risk profile of its portfolio.

The principal type of derivative utilized by the Portfolio, as well as the methods in which they may be used are:

#### Forward Currency Exchange Contracts

The Portfolio may enter into forward currency exchange contracts in order to hedge its exposure to changes in foreign currency exchange rates on its foreign portfolio holdings, to hedge certain firm purchase and sale commitments denominated in foreign currencies and for non-hedging purposes as a means of making direct investments in foreign currencies, as described below under "Currency Transactions".

A forward currency exchange contract is a commitment to purchase or sell a foreign currency at a future date at a negotiated forward rate. The gain or loss arising from the difference between the original contract and the closing of such contract would be included in net realized gain or loss on forward currency exchange contracts. Fluctuations in the value of open forward currency exchange contracts are recorded for financial reporting purposes as unrealized appreciation and/or depreciation by the Portfolio. Risks may arise from the potential inability of a counterparty to meet the terms of a contract and from unanticipated movements in the value of a foreign currency relative to the U.S. dollar.

During the year ended December 31, 2023, the Portfolio held forward currency exchange contracts for hedging purposes.

The Portfolio typically enters into International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. Master Agreements ("ISDA Master Agreement") with its OTC derivative contract counterparties in order to, among other things, reduce its credit risk to OTC counterparties. ISDA Master Agreements include provisions for general obligations, representations, collateral and events of default or termination. Under an ISDA Master Agreement, the Portfolio typically may offset with the OTC counterparty certain derivative financial instruments' payables and/or receivables with collateral held and/or posted and create one single net payment (close-out netting) in the event of default or termination. In the event of a default by an OTC counterparty, the return of collateral with market value in excess of the Portfolio's net liability, held by the defaulting party, may be delayed or denied.

The Portfolio's ISDA Master Agreements may contain provisions for early termination of OTC derivative transactions in the event the net assets of the Portfolio decline below specific levels ("net asset contingent features"). If these levels are triggered, the Portfolio's OTC counterparty has the right to terminate such transaction and require the Portfolio to pay or receive a settlement amount in connection with the terminated transaction. If OTC derivatives were held at period end, please refer to netting arrangements by the OTC counterparty table below for additional details.

### SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(continued)

**AB Variable Products Series Fund** 

During the year ended December 31, 2023, the Portfolio had entered into the following derivatives:

	Asset Derivatives	Liability l			
Derivative Type	Statement of Assets and Liabilities Location	Fair Value	Statement of Assets and Liabilities Location		Fair Value
Foreign currency contracts	Unrealized appreciation on forward currency exchange contracts	\$635,181	Unrealized depreciation on forward currency exchange contracts		\$586,978
Total		\$635,181			\$586,978
Derivative Type	Location of Gain or (Loss) Within Statement of C		Realized Gain or (Loss) on Derivatives	Appre	n Unrealized ciation or reciation)
Foreign currency contracts	Net realized gain (loss) on forward currency exchange contracts; Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of forward currency exchange contracts		\$(419,408)	\$(6:	54,576)
Total			\$(419,408)	\$(6:	54,576)

The following table represents the average monthly volume of the Portfolio's derivative transactions during the year ended December 31, 2023:

Forward Currency Exchange Contracts:

Average principal amount of buy contracts	\$24,102,617
Average principal amount of sale contracts	\$25,435,845

For financial reporting purposes, the Portfolio does not offset derivative assets and derivative liabilities that are subject to netting arrangements in the statement of assets and liabilities.

All OTC derivatives held at period end were subject to netting arrangements. The following table presents the Portfolio's derivative assets and liabilities by OTC counterparty net of amounts available for offset under ISDA Master Agreements ("MA") and net of the related collateral received/pledged by the Portfolio as of December 31, 2023. Exchange-traded derivatives and centrally cleared swaps are not subject to netting arrangements and as such are excluded from the table.

Counterparty	Derivative Assets Subject to a MA	Available for Offset	Collateral cived*	Security Collatera Received*		Net Amount of Derivative Assets
Bank of America, NA	\$252,265	\$ (79,322)	\$ -0-	\$	-0-	\$172,943
Barclays Bank PLC	51,523	(3,957)	-0-		-0-	47,566
Citibank, NA	73,713	(73,713)	-0-		-0-	-0-
Morgan Stanley Capital Services, Inc	12,898	(12,898)	-0-		-0-	-0-
State Street Bank & Trust Co	54,445	(54,445)	-0-		-0-	-0-
UBS	190,337		 _0_		_0_	190,337
Total	\$635,181	<u>\$(224,335)</u>	\$ _0_	\$	_0_	\$410,846^

Counterparty	DerivativeLiabilities Subjectto a MA	Derivatives Available for Offset	 Collateral lged*	Security Collateral Pledged*		al Net Amount o Derivative Liabili	
Bank of America, NA	\$ 79,322	\$ (79,322)	\$ -0-	\$	-0-	\$	-0-
Barclays Bank PLC	3,957	(3,957)	-0-		-0-		-0-
Citibank, NA	185,438	(73,713)	-0-		-0-	11	1,725
Morgan Stanley Capital Services,							
Inc	216,039	(12,898)	-0-		-0-	20:	3,141
State Street Bank & Trust Co	102,222	(54,445)	 -0-		-0-	_ 4	7,777
Total	\$586,978	\$(224,335)	\$ _0_	\$	_0_	\$36	2,643^

<sup>\*</sup> The actual collateral received/pledged may be more than the amount reported due to over-collateralization.

#### 2. Currency Transactions

The Portfolio may invest in non-U.S. Dollar-denominated securities on a currency hedged or unhedged basis. The Portfolio may seek investment opportunities by taking long or short positions in currencies through the use of currency-related derivatives, including forward currency exchange contracts, futures and options on futures, swaps, and other options. The Portfolio may enter into transactions for investment opportunities when it anticipates that a foreign currency will appreciate or depreciate in value but securities denominated in that currency are not held by the Portfolio and do not present attractive investment opportunities. Such transactions may also be used when the Adviser believes that it may be more efficient than a direct investment in a foreign currency-denominated security. The Portfolio may also conduct currency exchange contracts on a spot basis (i.e., for cash at the spot rate prevailing in the currency exchange market for buying or selling currencies).

#### **NOTE E: Securities Lending**

The Portfolio may enter into securities lending transactions. Under the Portfolio's securities lending program, all loans of securities will be collateralized continually by cash collateral and/or non-cash collateral. Non-cash collateral will include only securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government or its agencies or instrumentalities. If the Portfolio cannot sell or repledge any non-cash collateral, such collateral will not be reflected in the portfolio of investments. If a loan is collateralized by cash, the Portfolio will be compensated for the loan from a portion of the net return from the income earned on cash collateral after a rebate is paid to the borrower (in some cases, this rebate may be a "negative rebate" or fee paid by the borrower to the Portfolio in connection with the loan), and payments are made for fees of the securities lending agent and for certain other administrative expenses. If the Portfolio receives non-cash collateral, the Portfolio will receive a fee from the borrower generally equal to a negotiated percentage of the market value of the loaned securities. The Portfolio will have the right to call a loan and obtain the securities loaned at any time on notice to the borrower within the normal and customary settlement time for the securities. While the securities are on loan, the borrower is obligated to pay the Portfolio amounts equal to any dividend income or other distributions from the securities; however, these distributions will not be afforded the same preferential tax treatment as qualified dividends. The Portfolio will not be able to exercise voting rights with respect to any securities during the existence of a loan, but will have the right to regain ownership of loaned securities in order to exercise voting or other ownership rights. Collateral received and securities loaned are marked to market daily to ensure that the securities loaned are secured by collateral. The lending agent currently invests the cash collateral received in Government Money Market Portfolio, an eligible money market vehicle, in accordance with the investment restrictions of the Portfolio, and as approved by the Board. The collateral received on securities loaned is recorded as an asset as well as a corresponding liability in the statement of assets and liabilities. The collateral will be adjusted the next business day to maintain the required collateral amount. The amounts of securities lending income from the borrowers and Government Money Market Portfolio are reflected in the statement of operations. When the Portfolio earns net securities lending income from Government Money Market Portfolio, the income is inclusive of a rebate expense paid to the borrower. In connection with the cash collateral investment by the Portfolio in Government Money Market Portfolio, the Adviser has agreed to waive a portion of the Portfolio's share of the advisory fees of Government Money Market Portfolio, as borne indirectly by the Portfolio as an acquired fund fee and expense. When the Portfolio lends securities, its investment performance will continue to reflect changes in the value of the securities loaned. A principal risk of lending portfolio securities is that the borrower may fail to return the loaned securities upon termination of the loan and that the collateral will not be sufficient to replace the loaned securities. The lending agent has agreed to indemnify the Portfolio in the case of default of any securities borrower.

<sup>^</sup> Net amount represents the net receivable/payable that would be due from/to the counterparty in the event of default or termination. The net amount from OTC financial derivative instruments can only be netted across transactions governed under the same master agreement with the same counterparty.

### SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(continued)

**AB Variable Products Series Fund** 

A summary of the Portfolio's transactions surrounding securities lending for the year ended December 31, 2023 is as follows:

					nt Money Market Portfolio
Market Value of Securities on Loan*	Cash Collateral*	Market Value of Non-Cash Collateral*	Income from Borrowers	Income Earned	Advisory Fee Waived
\$-0-	\$-0-	\$-0-	\$3,510	\$-0-	\$-0-

<sup>\*</sup> As of December 31, 2023.

#### **NOTE F: Capital Stock**

Each class consists of 500,000,000 authorized shares. Transactions in capital shares for each class were as follows:

	SHARES		AMO	UNT
	Year Ended December 31, 2023	Year Ended December 31, 2022	Year Ended December 31, 2023	Year Ended December 31, 2022
Class A				
Shares sold	129,672	203,270	\$ 4,084,925	\$ 7,169,402
Shares issued in reinvestment of dividends and				
distributions	106,924	170,090	3,403,390	5,619,793
Shares redeemed	(207,721)	(176,800)	(6,621,923)	(6,064,541)
Net increase	28,875	196,560	\$ 866,392	\$ 6,724,654
Class B				
Shares sold	197,320	342,113	\$ 5,765,234	\$ 11,115,948
Shares issued on reinvestment of dividends and				
distributions	213,783	378,453	6,377,144	11,762,309
Shares redeemed	(529,397)	<u>(624,992</u> )	(15,778,166)	(20,579,588)
Net increase (decrease)	<u>(118,294</u> )	95,574	\$ (3,635,788)	\$ 2,298,669

At December 31, 2023, certain shareholders of the Portfolio owned 59% in aggregate of the Portfolio's outstanding shares. Significant transactions by such shareholders, if any, may impact the Portfolio's performance.

#### NOTE G: Risks Involved in Investing in the Portfolio

Market Risk—The value of the Portfolio's assets will fluctuate as the stock or bond market fluctuates. The value of its investments may decline, sometimes rapidly and unpredictably, simply because of economic changes or other events, including public health crises (including the occurrence of a contagious disease or illness) and regional and global conflicts, that affect large portions of the market. It includes the risk that a particular style of investing may underperform the market generally.

**Sector Risk**—The Portfolio may have more risk than a more diversified portfolio because it may invest to a significant extent in one or more particular market sectors, such as the information technology sector. To the extent it does so, market or economic factors affecting the relevant sector(s) could have a major effect on the value of the Portfolio's investments.

ESG Risk—Applying ESG and sustainability criteria to the investment process may exclude securities of certain issuers for non-investment reasons and, therefore, the Portfolio may forgo some market opportunities available to funds that do not use ESG or sustainability criteria. Securities of companies with ESG practices may shift into and out of favor depending on market and economic conditions, and the Portfolio's performance may at times be better or worse than the performance of funds that do not use ESG or sustainability criteria. Furthermore, ESG and sustainability criteria are not uniformly defined, and the Portfolio's ESG and sustainability criteria may differ from those used by other funds. In addition, in evaluating an investment, the Adviser is dependent upon information and data that may be incomplete, inaccurate or unavailable, which could adversely affect the analysis of the ESG and sustainability factors relevant to a particular investment.

**Foreign (Non-U.S.) Risk**—Investments in securities of non-U.S. issuers may involve more risk than those of U.S. issuers. These securities may fluctuate more widely in price and may be more difficult to trade due to adverse market, economic, political, regulatory or other factors.

**Emerging-Market Risk**—Investments in emerging market countries may have more risk because the markets are less developed and less liquid, and because these investments may be subject to increased economic, political, regulatory or other uncertainties.

Currency Risk—Fluctuations in currency exchange rates may negatively affect the value of the Portfolio's investments or reduce its returns.

**Capitalization Risk**—Investments in small- and mid-capitalization companies may be more volatile than investments in large-capitalization companies. Investments in small- and mid-capitalization companies may have additional risks because these companies may have limited product lines, markets or financial resources.

**Derivatives Risk**—Derivatives may be difficult to price or unwind and leveraged so that small changes may produce disproportionate losses for the Portfolio. A short position in a derivative instrument involves the risk of a theoretically unlimited increase in the value of the underlying asset, which could cause the Portfolio to suffer a potentially unlimited loss. Derivatives, especially over-the-counter derivatives, are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the counterparty (the party on the other side of the transaction) on a derivative transaction will be unable or unwilling to honor its contractual obligations to the Portfolio.

**Focused Portfolio Risk**—Investments in a limited number of companies may have more risk because changes in the value of a single security may have a more significant effect, either negative or positive, on the Portfolio's net asset value, or NAV, than would be the case if the Portfolio were invested in a larger number of companies.

LIBOR Replacement Risk—The Portfolio may be exposed to debt securities, derivatives or other financial instruments that recently transitioned from the London Interbank Offered Rate, or "LIBOR," as a "benchmark" or "reference rate" for various interest rate calculations. LIBOR's administrator, ICE Benchmark Administration, ceased publishing most LIBOR settings (including some U.S. LIBOR settings) by the end of 2021 and the remaining (and most widely used) U.S. Dollar LIBOR settings after June 30, 2023. The United Kingdom Financial Conduct Authority, which regulates LIBOR, will permit the use of synthetic U.S. Dollar LIBOR rates for non-U.S. contracts through September 30, 2024, but any such rates would be considered non-representative of the underlying market. Since 2018 the Federal Reserve Bank of New York has published the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (referred to as SOFR), which is intended to replace U.S. Dollar LIBOR. SOFR is a broad measure of the cost of borrowing cash overnight collateralized by U.S. Treasury securities in the repurchase agreement (repo) market. There is no assurance that the composition or characteristics of SOFR or any such alternative reference rate will be similar to or produce the same value or economic equivalence as LIBOR or that the market for SOFR-linked financial instruments will have the same volume or liquidity as did the market for LIBOR-linked financial instruments prior to LIBOR's discontinuance or unavailability. Neither the long-term effects of the LIBOR transition process nor its ultimate success can yet be known.

**Indemnification Risk**—In the ordinary course of business, the Portfolio enters into contracts that contain a variety of indemnifications. The Portfolio's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown. However, the Portfolio has not had prior claims or losses pursuant to these indemnification provisions and expects the risk of loss thereunder to be remote. Therefore, the Portfolio has not accrued any liability in connection with these indemnification provisions.

Management Risk—The Portfolio is subject to management risk because it is an actively-managed investment fund. The Adviser will apply its investment techniques and risk analyses in making investment decisions for the Portfolio, but there is no guarantee that its techniques will produce the intended results. Some of these techniques may incorporate, or rely upon, quantitative models, but there is no guarantee that these models will generate accurate forecasts, reduce risk or otherwise perform as expected.

#### **NOTE H: Joint Credit Facility**

A number of open-end mutual funds managed by the Adviser, including the Portfolio, participate in a \$325 million revolving credit facility (the "Facility") intended to provide short-term financing related to redemptions and other short term liquidity requirements, subject to certain restrictions. Commitment fees related to the Facility are paid by the participating funds and are included in miscellaneous expenses in the statement of operations. The Portfolio did not utilize the Facility during the year ended December 31, 2023.

### SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(continued)

**AB Variable Products Series Fund** 

#### **NOTE I: Distributions to Shareholders**

The tax character of distributions paid during the fiscal years ended December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022 were as follows:

	2023	2022
Distributions paid from:		
Ordinary income	\$ 186,160	\$ 176,259
Net long-term capital gains	9,594,374	17,205,843
Total taxable distributions paid	\$9,780,534	\$17,382,102
As of December 31, 2023, the components of accumulated earnings (deficit) on a tax basis w	ere as follows:	
Undistributed capital gains		\$ 498,580
Unrealized appreciation (depreciation)		40,948,208(a)
Total accumulated earnings (deficit)		\$41,446,788

<sup>(</sup>a) The differences between book-basis and tax-basis unrealized appreciation (depreciation) are attributable primarily to the recognition for tax purposes of unrealized gains/losses on certain derivative instruments and the tax deferral of losses on wash sales.

For tax purposes, net realized capital losses may be carried over to offset future capital gains, if any. Funds are permitted to carry forward capital losses for an indefinite period, and such losses will retain their character as either short-term or long-term capital losses. As of December 31, 2023, the Portfolio did not have any capital loss carryforwards.

During the current fiscal year, permanent differences primarily due to the disallowance of a net operating loss resulted in a net increase in distributable earnings and a net decrease in additional paid-in capital. These reclassifications had no effect on net assets.

#### NOTE J: Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In December 2022, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued an Accounting Standards Update, ASU 2022-06, "Reference Rate Reform (Topic 848)—Deferral of the Sunset Date of Topic 848". ASU 2022-06 is an amendment to ASU 2020-04, which provided optional guidance to ease the potential accounting burden due to the discontinuation of the LIBOR and other interbank-offered based reference rates and which was effective as of March 12, 2020 through December 31, 2022. ASU 2022-06 extends the effective period through December 31, 2024. Management is currently evaluating the impact, if any, of applying ASU 2022-06.

#### **NOTE K: Subsequent Events**

Management has evaluated subsequent events for possible recognition or disclosure in the financial statements through the date the financial statements are issued. Management has determined that there are no material events that would require disclosure in the Portfolio's financial statements through this date.

Selected Data For A Share Of Capital Stock Outstanding Throughout Each Period

	CLASS A				
•	Year Ended December 31,				
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$ 30.42	\$ 46.20	\$ 42.40	\$ 33.52	\$ 27.35
<b>Income From Investment Operations</b>					
Net investment income (loss)(a)(b)	.10	.07	(.10)	(.10)	.08
currency transactions	4.68	(12.25)	9.46	12.64	8.00
Net increase (decrease) in net asset value from operations	4.78	(12.18)	9.36	12.54	8.08
Less: Dividends and Distributions					
Dividends from net investment income	(.09)	-0-	-0-	(.24)	(.13)
Distributions from net realized gain on investment transactions	(1.94)	(3.60)	(5.56)	(3.42)	(1.78)
Total dividends and distributions	(2.03)	(3.60)	(5.56)	(3.66)	(1.91)
Net asset value, end of period	\$ 33.17	\$ 30.42	\$ 46.20	\$ 42.40	\$ 33.52
Total Return					
Total investment return based on net asset value(c)	16.01%	(26.98)	% 22.87%	39.41%	30.16%
Ratios/Supplemental Data					
Net assets, end of period (000's omitted)	\$58,246	\$52,543	\$70,723	\$58,316	\$43,237
Ratio to average net assets of:					
Expenses, net of waivers/reimbursements(d)‡	.92%				
Expenses, before waivers/reimbursements(d)‡	.97%				1.04%
Net investment income (loss)(b)	.32%	.20%	$(.22)^{\circ}$	% (.29)	% .27%
Portfolio turnover rate	32%	43%	24%	44%	43%
‡ Expense ratios exclude the estimated acquired fund fees of the affilia					
portfolios	.00%	.00%	.00%	.01%	.00%

(continued)

**AB Variable Products Series Fund** 

#### Selected Data For A Share Of Capital Stock Outstanding Throughout Each Period

	CLASS B								
	Year Ended December 31,								
		2023	2022			2021		2020	2019
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$	28.59	\$	43.80	\$	40.54	\$	32.19	\$ 26.33
<b>Income From Investment Operations</b>									
Net investment income (loss)(a)(b)		.02		(.02)		(.20)		(.18)	.01
foreign currency transactions		4.39		(11.59)		9.02		12.11	7.68
Net increase (decrease) in net asset value from operations $\ldots\ldots$		4.41	_	(11.61)	_	8.82	_	11.93	7.69
Less: Dividends and Distributions									
Dividends from net investment income		(.01)		-0-		-0-		(.16)	(.05)
transactions		(1.94)		(3.60)		(5.56)		(3.42)	(1.78)
Total dividends and distributions		(1.95)		(3.60)		(5.56)		(3.58)	(1.83)
Net asset value, end of period	\$	31.05	\$	28.59	\$	43.80	\$	40.54	\$ 32.19
Total Return									
Total investment return based on net asset value(c)		15.70%	ó	(27.17)	%	22.57%	,	39.08%	29.78%
Ratios/Supplemental Data									
Net assets, end of period (000's omitted)	\$1	05,499	\$	100,515	\$1	149,808	\$1	127,062	\$93,645
Expenses, net of waivers/reimbursements(d):		1.17%	ó	1.15%	)	1.13%	,	1.19%	1.24%
Expenses, before waivers/reimbursements(d)‡		1.22%	ó	1.21%		1.18%	,	1.25%	1.29%
Net investment income (loss)(b)		.07%	ó	(.05)9	%	$(.47)^{9}$	%	(.54)%	6 .02%
Portfolio turnover rate		32%	ó	43%	)	24%	,	44%	43%
‡ Expense ratios exclude the estimated acquired fund fees of the	affili	ated/una	ffil	iated und	erly	ing			
portfolios		.00%	ó	.00%	,	.00%	,	.01%	.00%

<sup>(</sup>a) Based on average shares outstanding.

<sup>(</sup>b) Net of expenses waived/reimbursed by the Adviser.

<sup>(</sup>c) Total investment return is calculated assuming an initial investment made at the net asset value at the beginning of the period, reinvestment of all dividends and distributions at net asset value during the period, and redemption on the last day of the period. Total return does not reflect (i) insurance company's separate account related expense charges and (ii) the deductions of taxes that a share-holder would pay on Portfolio distributions or the redemption of Portfolio shares. Total investment return calculated for a period of less than one year is not annualized.

<sup>(</sup>d) In connection with the Portfolio's investments in affiliated underlying portfolios, the Portfolio incurs no direct expenses, but bears proportionate shares of the fees and expenses (i.e., operating, administrative and investment advisory fees) of the affiliated underlying portfolios. The Adviser has contractually agreed to waive its fees from the Portfolio in an amount equal to the Portfolio's pro rata share of certain acquired fund fees and expenses, and for the year ended December 31, 2020, such waiver amounted to .01%.

See notes to financial statements.

#### To the Shareholders and the Board of Directors of AB Sustainable Global Thematic Portfolio

#### **Opinion on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities of AB Sustainable Global Thematic Portfolio (the "Portfolio") (one of the series constituting AB Variable Products Series Fund, Inc. (the "Fund")), including the portfolio of investments, as of December 31, 2023, and the related statement of operations for the year then ended, the statements of changes in net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended, the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended and the related notes (collectively referred to as the "financial statements"). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Portfolio (one of the series constituting AB Variable Products Series Fund, Inc.) at December 31, 2023, the results of its operations for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended and its financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Fund's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Portfolio's financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) ("PCAOB") and are required to be independent with respect to the Fund in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. The Fund is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of the Fund's internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audits, we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of December 31, 2023, by correspondence with the custodian, brokers and others; when replies were not received from brokers or others, we performed other auditing procedures. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Ernst + Young LLP

We have served as the auditor of one or more of the AB investment companies since 1968.

New York, New York February 14, 2024 For Federal income tax purposes, the following information is furnished with respect to the distributions paid by the Portfolio during the taxable year ended December 31, 2023. For corporate shareholders, 100% of dividends paid qualify for the dividends received deduction. The Portfolio designates \$9,594,374 of dividends paid as long-term capital gain dividends.

#### SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO AB Variable Products Series Fund

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Garry L. Moody<sup>(1)</sup>, Chairman Jorge A. Bermudez<sup>(1)</sup> Michael J. Downey<sup>(1)</sup> Onur Erzan, President and Chief Executive Officer

#### **OFFICERS**

Daniel C. Roarty<sup>(2)</sup>, Vice President Benjamin Ruegsegger<sup>(2)</sup>, Vice President Nancy E. Hay, Secretary Michael B. Reyes, Senior Vice President

CUSTODIAN AND ACCOUNTING AGENT State Street Bank and Trust Company

One Congress Street, Suite 1 Boston, MA 02114

#### DISTRIBUTOR

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Jeanette W. Loeb<sup>(1)</sup>
Carol C. McMullen<sup>(1)</sup>
Marshall C. Turner, Jr.<sup>(1)</sup>
Emilie D. Wrapp, Advisory Board Member

Stephen M. Woetzel, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer Phyllis J. Clarke, Controller Jennifer Friedland, Chief Compliance Officer

LEGAL COUNSEL Seward & Kissel LLP One Battery Park Plaza New York, NY 10004

TRANSFER AGENT AllianceBernstein Investor Services, Inc. P.O. Box 786003 San Antonio, TX 78278 Toll-Free (800) 221-5672

<sup>(1)</sup> Member of the Audit Committee, the Governance and Nominating Committee, and the Independent Directors Committee.

<sup>(2)</sup> The day-to-day management of, and investment decisions for, the Portfolio's portfolio are made by the Adviser's Sustainable Thematic Equities Investment Team. Messrs. Roarty and Ruegsegger are the investment professional with the most significant responsibility for the day-to-day management of the Portfolio's portfolio.

# SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT OF THE FUND

**AB Variable Products Series Fund** 

#### **Board of Directors Information**

The business and affairs of the Fund are managed under the direction of the Board of Directors. Certain information concerning the Fund's Directors and Advisory Board Member is set forth below.

ing the Fund's Directors and Advisory Board Member is set forth below.					
NAME, ADDRESS*, AGE, (YEAR FIRST ELECTED**)	PRINCIPAL OCCUPATION(S) DURING PAST FIVE YEARS AND OTHER INFORMATION***	PORTFOLIOS IN AB FUND COMPLEX OVERSEEN BY DIRECTOR	OTHER PUBLIC COMPANY DIRECTORSHIPS CURRENTLY HELD BY DIRECTOR		
INTERESTED DIRECTOR					
Onur Erzan,# 1345 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10105 48 (2021)	Senior Vice President of the Adviser**, Head of Global Client Group and Head of Private Wealth. He oversees AB's entire private wealth management business and third-party institutional and retail franchise, where he is responsible for all client services, sales and marketing, as well as product strategy, management and development worldwide. Director, President and Chief Executive Officer of the AB Mutual Funds as of April 1, 2021. He is also a member of the Equitable Holdings Management Committee. Prior to joining the firm in January 2021, he spent 20 years with McKinsey (management consulting firm), most recently as a senior partner and co-leader of its Wealth & Asset Management practice. In addition, he co-led McKinsey's Banking & Securities Solutions (a portfolio of data, analytics, and digital assets and capabilities) globally.	82	None		
DISINTERESTED DIRECTOR	RS				
Garry L. Moody## Chairman of the Board 71 (2008)	Private Investor since prior to 2019. Formerly, Partner, Deloitte & Touche LLP (1995–2008) where he held a number of senior positions, including Vice Chairman, and U.S. and Global Investment Management Practice Managing Partner; President, Fidelity Accounting and Custody Services Company (1993–1995), where he was responsible for accounting, pricing, custody and reporting for the Fidelity mutual funds; and Partner, Ernst & Young LLP (1975–1993), where he served as the National Director of Mutual Fund Tax Services and Managing	82	None		

Deloitte & Touche LLP (1995–2008) where he held a number of senior positions, including Vice Chairman, and U.S. and Global Investment Management Practice Managing Partner; President, Fidelity Accounting and Custody Services Company (1993–1995), where he was responsible for accounting, pricing, custody and reporting for the Fidelity mutual funds; and Partner, Ernst & Young LLP (1975–1993), where he served as the National Director of Mutual Fund Tax Services and Managing Partner of its Chicago Office Tax department. He served as a member of the Investment Company Institute's Board of Governors and the Independent Directors Council's Governing Council from October 2019 through September 2023, where he also served as Chairman of the Governance Committee from October 2021 through September 2023. He is Chairman of the AB Funds and Chairman of the Independent Directors Committees since January 2023; he has served as a director or trustee since 2008, and served as Chairman of the Audit Committee of

such funds from 2008 to February 2023.

NAME, ADDRESS*, AGE, (YEAR FIRST ELECTED**)	PRINCIPAL OCCUPATION(S) DURING PAST FIVE YEARS AND OTHER INFORMATION***	PORTFOLIOS IN AB FUND COMPLEX OVERSEEN BY DIRECTOR	OTHER PUBLIC COMPANY DIRECTORSHIPS CURRENTLY HELD BY DIRECTOR
DISINTERESTED DIRECTOR (continued)	RS		
Jorge A. Bermudez,## 72 (2020)	Private Investor since prior to 2019. Formerly, Chief Risk Officer of Citigroup, Inc., a global financial services company, from November 2007 to March 2008; Chief Executive Officer of Citigroup's Commercial Business Group in North America and Citibank Texas from 2005 to 2007; and a variety of other executive and leadership roles at various businesses within Citigroup prior to then; Chairman (2017–2018) of the Texas A&M Foundation Board of Trustees (Trustee 2014–2021) and Chairman of the Smart Grid Center Board at Texas A&M University since 2012; director of, among others, Citibank N.A. from 2005 to 2008, the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, Houston Branch from 2009 to 2011, the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas from 2011 to 2017, and the Electric Reliability Council of Texas from 2010 to 2016; and Chair of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors of Moody's Corporation since December 2022. He has served as director or trustee of the AB Funds since January 2020.	82	Moody's Corporation since April 2011
Michael J. Downey,## 80 (2005)	Private Investor since prior to 2019. Formerly, Chairman of The Asia Pacific Fund, Inc. (registered investment company) since prior to 2018 until January 2019. From 1987 until 1993, Chairman and CEO of Prudential Mutual Fund Management, director of the Prudential mutual funds, and member of the Executive Committee of Prudential Securities, Inc. He has served as a director or trustee of the AB Funds since 2005.	82	None
Nancy P. Jacklin,## 75 (2006)	Private Investor since prior to 2019. Professorial Lecturer at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (2008–2015). U.S. Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund (which is responsible for ensuring the stability of the international monetary system), (December 2002–May 2006); Partner, Clifford Chance (1992–2002); Sector Counsel, International Banking and Finance, and Associate General Counsel, Citicorp (1985–1992); Assistant General Counsel (International), Federal Reserve Board of Governors (1982–1985); and Attorney Advisor, U.S. Department of the Treasury (1973–1982). Member of the Bar of the District of Columbia and of New York; and member of the Council on Foreign Relations. She has served as a director or trustee of the AB Funds since 2006 and served as Chair of the Governance and Nominating Committees of the AB Funds from 2014 to August 2023.	82	None

# SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT OF THE FUND

(continued)

NAME, ADDRESS*, AGE, (YEAR FIRST ELECTED**)	PRINCIPAL OCCUPATION(S) DURING PAST FIVE YEARS AND OTHER INFORMATION***	PORTFOLIOS IN AB FUND COMPLEX OVERSEEN BY DIRECTOR	OTHER PUBLIC COMPANY DIRECTORSHIPS CURRENTLY HELD BY DIRECTOR
DISINTERESTED DIRECTOR (continued)	RS		
Jeanette W. Loeb,## 71 (2020)	Private Investor since prior to 2019. Director of New York City Center since 2005. Formerly, Chief Executive Officer of PetCareRx (e-commerce pet pharmacy) from 2002 to 2011 and 2015 to April 2023. She was a director of MidCap Financial Investment Corporation (business development company) from August 2011 to July 2023 and a director of AB Multi-Manager Alternative Fund (fund of hedge funds) from 2012 to 2018. Formerly, affiliated with Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. (financial services) from 1977 to 1994, including as a partner thereof from 1986 to 1994. She has served as director or trustee of the AB Funds since April 2020 and serves as Chair of the Governance and Nominating Committees of the AB Funds since August 2023.	82	None
Carol C. McMullen,## 68 (2016)	Private Investor and a member of the Advisory Board of Butcher Box (since 2018) and serves as Advisory Board Chair as of June 2023. Formerly, Managing Director of Slalom Consulting (consulting) from 2014 until July 2023; member, Mass General Brigham (formerly, Partners Healthcare) Investment Committee (2010-2019); Director of Norfolk & Dedham Group (mutual property and casualty insurance) from 2011 until November 2016; Director of Partners Community Physicians Organization (healthcare) from 2014 until December 2016; and Managing Director of The Crossland Group (consulting) from 2012 until 2013. She has held a number of senior positions in the asset and wealth management industries, including at Eastern Bank (where her roles included President of Eastern Wealth Management), Thomson Financial (Global Head of Sales for Investment Management), and Putnam Investments (where her roles included Chief Investment Officer, Core and Growth and Head of Global Investment Research). She has served on a number of private company and non-profit boards, and as a director or trustee of the AB Funds since June 2016 and serves as Chair of the Audit Committees of such funds since February 2023.	82	None
Marshall C. Turner, Jr.## 82 (2005)	Private Investor since prior to 2019. He was a Director of Xilinx, Inc. (programmable logic semi-conductors and adaptable, intelligent computing) from 2007 through August 2020, and is a former director of 33 other companies and organizations. Former Chairman and CEO of Dupont Photomasks, Inc. (semi-conductor manufacturing equipment) from 2003 through 2006. He has extensive operating leadership and venture capital investing experience, including five interim or full-time CEO roles, and prior service as general partner of institutional venture capital partnerships. He also has extensive non-profit board leadership experience, and currently serves on the board of the George Lucas Educational Foundation. He has served as a director of one AB Fund since 1992, and director or trustee of all AB Funds since 2005. He has served as both Chairman of the AB Funds and Chairman of the Independent Directors Committees from 2014 through December 2022.	82	None

NAME, ADDRESS*, AGE, (YEAR FIRST ELECTED**) ADVISORY BOARD MEMBE	PRINCIPAL OCCUPATION(S) DURING PAST FIVE YEARS AND OTHER INFORMATION***	PORTFOLIOS IN AB FUND COMPLEX OVERSEEN BY DIRECTOR	OTHER PUBLIC COMPANY DIRECTORSHIPS CURRENTLY HELD BY DIRECTOR
Emilie D. Wrapp,# 68 (2024)	Former Senior Vice President, Counsel, Assistant Secretary & Senior Mutual Fund Legal Advisor of the Adviser (January 2023-June 2023). Prior thereto, Senior Vice President, Assistant Secretary, Counsel, and Head of Mutual Fund & Retail Legal of the Adviser; Assistant General Counsel and Assistant Secretary of ABI since prior to 2019 until June 2023.	82	None

<sup>\*</sup> The address for each of the Fund's disinterested Directors and Advisory Board member is c/o AllianceBernstein L.P., Attention: Legal & Compliance Department—Mutual Fund Legal, 1345 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10105

<sup>\*\*</sup> There is no stated term of office for the Fund's Directors or Advisory Board member.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> The information above includes each Director's principal occupation during the last five years and other information relating to the experience, attributes, and skills relevant to each Director's qualifications to serve as a Director, which led to the conclusion that each Director should serve as a Director for the Fund.

<sup>#</sup> Mr. Erzan is an "interested person" of the Fund, as defined in the "1940 Act", due to his position as a Senior Vice President of the Adviser. Ms. Wrapp is an "interested person" of the Fund, as defined in the 1940 Act, due to her former role with the Adviser.

<sup>##</sup> Member of the Audit Committee, the Governance and Nominating Committee, and the Independent Directors Committee.

# SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT OF THE FUND

(continued)

**AB Variable Products Series Fund** 

#### **Officer Information**

Certain information concerning the Portfolio's Officers is listed below.

NAME, ADDRESS,* AGE	PRINCIPAL POSITION(S) HELD WITH FUND	PRINCIPAL OCCUPATION DURING PAST FIVE YEARS
Onur Erzan 48	President and Chief Executive Officer	See biography above.
Daniel C. Roarty 52	Vice President	Senior Vice President of the Adviser**, with which he has been associated since prior to 2019. He is also Chief Investment Officer of Sustainable Thematic Equities.
Benjamin Ruegsegger 44	Vice President	Senior Vice President and Senior Research Analyst of the Adviser**, with which he has been associated since prior to 2019.
Nancy E. Hay 51	Secretary	Senior Vice President and Counsel of the Adviser**, with which she has been associated since prior to 2019 and Assistant Secretary of ABI**.
Michael B. Reyes 47	Senior Vice President	Vice President of the Adviser**, with which he has been associated since prior to 2019.
Stephen M. Woetzel 52	Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer	Senior Vice President of ABIS**, with which he has been associated since prior to 2019.
Phyllis J. Clarke 63	Controller	Vice President of ABIS**, with which she has been associated since prior to 2019.
Jennifer Friedland 49	Chief Compliance Officer	Vice President of the Adviser** since 2020 and Mutual Fund Chief Compliance Officer (of all Funds since January 2023 and of the ETF Funds since 2022). Before joining the Adviser in 2020, she was Chief Compliance Officer at WestEnd Advisors, LLC from 2013 until 2019.

<sup>\*</sup> The address for each of the Portfolio's Officers is 1345 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10105.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The Adviser, ABI and ABIS are affiliates of the Fund.

The Fund's Statement of Additional Information ("SAI") has additional information about the Fund's Directors and Officers and is available without charge upon request. Contact your financial representative or the Adviser at (800) 227-4618, or visit www.abfunds.com, for a free prospectus or SAI.

#### SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO AB Variable Products Series Fund

#### OPERATION AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PORTFOLIO'S LIQUIDITY RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM:

In October 2016, the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") adopted the open-end fund liquidity rule (the "Liquidity Rule"). In June 2018 the SEC adopted a requirement that funds disclose information about the operation and effectiveness of their Liquidity Risk Management Program ("LRMP") in their reports to shareholders.

One of the requirements of the Liquidity Rule is for the Portfolio to designate an Administrator of the Portfolio's Liquidity Risk Management Program. The Administrator of the Portfolio's LRMP is AllianceBernstein L.P., the Portfolio's investment adviser (the "Adviser"). The Adviser has delegated the responsibility to its Liquidity Risk Management Committee (the "Committee").

Another requirement of the Liquidity Rule is for the Portfolio's Board of Directors/Trustees (the "Fund Board") to receive an annual written report from the Administrator of the LRMP, which addresses the operation of the Portfolio's LRMP and assesses its adequacy and effectiveness. The Adviser provided the Fund Board with such annual report during the first quarter of 2024, which covered the period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 (the "Program Reporting Period").

The LRMP's principal objectives include supporting the Portfolio's compliance with limits on investments in illiquid assets and mitigating the risk that the Portfolio will be unable to meet its redemption obligations in a timely manner.

Pursuant to the LRMP, the Portfolio classifies the liquidity of its portfolio investments into one of the four categories defined by the SEC: Highly Liquid, Moderately Liquid, Less Liquid, and Illiquid. These classifications are reported to the SEC on Form N-PORT.

During the Program Reporting Period, the Committee reviewed whether the Portfolio's strategy is appropriate for an open-end structure, incorporating any holdings of less liquid and illiquid assets. If the Portfolio participated in derivative transactions, the exposure from such transactions were considered in the LRMP.

The Committee also performed an analysis to determine whether the Portfolio is required to maintain a Highly Liquid Investment Minimum ("HLIM"). The Committee also incorporated the following information when determining the Portfolio's reasonably anticipated trading size for purposes of liquidity monitoring: historical net redemption activity, a Portfolio's concentration in an issuer, shareholder concentration, investment performance, total net assets, and distribution channels.

The Adviser informed the Fund Board that the Committee believes the Portfolio's LRMP is adequately designed, has been implemented as intended, and has operated effectively since its inception. No material exceptions have been noted since the implementation of the LRMP. During the Program Reporting Period, liquidity in all markets was challenged due to rising rates and economic uncertainty. However, markets also remained orderly during the Program Reporting Period. There were no liquidity events that impacted the Portfolio or its ability to timely meet redemptions during the Program Reporting Period.

# SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO CONTINUANCE DISCLOSURE

**AB Variable Products Series Fund** 

#### INFORMATION REGARDING THE REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE FUND'S ADVISORY AGREEMENT

The disinterested directors (the "directors") of AB Variable Products Series Fund, Inc. (the "Company") unanimously approved the continuance of the Company's Advisory Agreement with the Adviser in respect of AB Sustainable Global Thematic Portfolio (formerly AB Global Thematic Growth Portfolio) (the "Fund") at a meeting held in-person on May 2-4, 2023 (the "Meeting").

Prior to approval of the continuance of the Advisory Agreement, the directors had requested from the Adviser, and received and evaluated, extensive materials. They reviewed the proposed continuance of the Advisory Agreement with the Adviser and with experienced counsel who are independent of the Adviser, who advised on the relevant legal standards. The directors also reviewed additional materials, including comparative analytical data prepared by the Senior Vice President of the Fund. The directors also discussed the proposed continuance in private sessions with counsel.

The directors considered their knowledge of the nature and quality of the services provided by the Adviser to the Fund gained from their experience as directors or trustees of most of the registered investment companies advised by the Adviser, their overall confidence in the Adviser's integrity and competence they have gained from that experience, the Adviser's initiative in identifying and raising potential issues with the directors and its responsiveness, frankness and attention to concerns raised by the directors in the past, including the Adviser's willingness to consider and implement organizational and operational changes designed to improve investment results and the services provided to the AB Funds. The directors noted that they have four regular meetings each year, at each of which they review extensive materials and information from the Adviser, including information on the investment performance of the Fund.

The directors also considered all factors they believed relevant, including the specific matters discussed below. During the course of their deliberations, the directors evaluated, among other things, the reasonableness of the advisory fee. The directors did not identify any particular information that was all-important or controlling, and different directors may have attributed different weights to the various factors. The directors determined that the selection of the Adviser to manage the Fund and the overall arrangements between the Fund and the Adviser, as provided in the Advisory Agreement, including the advisory fee, were fair and reasonable in light of the services performed, expenses incurred and such other matters as the directors considered relevant in the exercise of their business judgment. The material factors and conclusions that formed the basis for the directors' determinations included the following:

#### Nature, Extent and Quality of Services Provided

The directors considered the scope and quality of services provided by the Adviser under the Advisory Agreement, including the quality of the investment research capabilities of the Adviser and the other resources it has dedicated to performing services for the Fund. The directors noted that the Adviser from time to time reviews the Fund's investment strategies and from time to time proposes changes intended to improve the Fund's relative or absolute performance for the directors' consideration. They also noted the professional experience and qualifications of the Fund's portfolio management team and other senior personnel of the Adviser. The directors also considered that the Advisory Agreement provides that the Fund will reimburse the Adviser for the cost to it of providing certain clerical, accounting, administrative and other services to the Fund by employees of the Adviser or its affiliates. Requests for these reimbursements are made on a quarterly basis and subject to approval by the directors. Reimbursements, to the extent requested and paid, result in a higher rate of total compensation from the Fund to the Adviser than the fee rate stated in the Advisory Agreement. The directors noted that the methodology used to determine the reimbursement amounts had been reviewed by an independent consultant at the request of the directors. The quality of administrative and other services, including the Adviser's role in coordinating the activities of the Fund's other service providers, also was considered. The directors concluded that, overall, they were satisfied with the nature, extent and quality of services provided to the Fund under the Advisory Agreement.

#### Costs of Services Provided and Profitability

The directors reviewed a schedule of the revenues and expenses and related notes indicating the profitability of the Fund to the Adviser for calendar years 2021 and 2022 that had been prepared with an expense allocation methodology arrived at in consultation with an independent consultant at the request of the directors. The directors noted the assumptions and methods of allocation used by the Adviser in preparing fund-specific profitability data and understood that there are a number of potentially acceptable allocation methodologies for information of this type. The directors noted that the profitability information reflected all revenues and expenses of the Adviser's relationship with the Fund, including those relating to its subsidiaries that provide transfer agency, distribution and brokerage services to the Fund. The directors recognized that it is difficult to make comparisons of the profitability of the Advisory Agreement with the profitability of fund advisory contracts

for unaffiliated funds because comparative information is not generally publicly available and is affected by numerous factors. The directors focused on the profitability of the Adviser's relationship with the Fund before taxes and distribution expenses. The directors concluded that the Adviser's level of profitability from its relationship with the Fund was not unreasonable.

#### **Fall-Out Benefits**

The directors considered the other benefits to the Adviser and its affiliates from their relationships with the Fund, including, but not limited to, benefits relating to soft dollar arrangements (whereby investment advisers receive brokerage and research services from brokers that execute agency transactions for their clients); 12b-1 fees and sales charges received by the Fund's principal underwriter (which is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Adviser) in respect of the Fund's Class B shares; brokerage commissions paid by the Fund to brokers affiliated with the Adviser; and transfer agency fees paid by the Fund to a wholly owned subsidiary of the Adviser. The directors recognized that the Adviser's profitability would be somewhat lower without these benefits. The directors understood that the Adviser also might derive reputational and other benefits from its association with the Fund.

#### **Investment Results**

In addition to the information reviewed by the directors in connection with the Meeting, the directors receive detailed performance information for the Fund at each regular Board meeting during the year.

At the Meeting, the directors reviewed performance information prepared by an independent service provider (the "15(c) service provider"), showing the performance of the Class A Shares of the Fund against a group of similar funds ("peer group") and a larger group of similar funds ("peer universe"), each selected by the 15(c) service provider, and information prepared by the Adviser showing performance of the Class A Shares against a broad-based securities market index, in each case for the 1-, 3-, 5- and 10-year periods ended February 28, 2023. Based on their review, the directors concluded that the Fund's investment performance was acceptable.

#### **Advisory Fees and Other Expenses**

The directors considered the advisory fee rate payable by the Fund to the Adviser and information prepared by the 15(c) service provider concerning advisory fee rates payable by other funds in the same category as the Fund. The directors recognized that it is difficult to make comparisons of advisory fees because there are variations in the services that are included in the fees paid by other funds. The directors compared the Fund's contractual effective advisory fee rate with a peer group median and the directors took into account the impact on the advisory fee rate of the administrative expense reimbursement paid to the Adviser in the latest fiscal year.

The directors also considered the Adviser's fee schedule for other clients utilizing investment strategies similar to those of the Fund. For this purpose, they reviewed the relevant advisory fee information from the Adviser's Form ADV and in a report from the Fund's Senior Vice President and noted the differences between the Fund's fee schedule, on the one hand, and the Adviser's institutional fee schedule and the schedule of fees charged by the Adviser to any offshore funds and for services to any sub-advised funds utilizing investment strategies similar to those of the Fund, on the other. The directors noted that the Adviser may, in some cases, agree to fee rates with large institutional clients that are lower than those reviewed by the directors and that they had previously discussed with the Adviser its policies in respect of such arrangements. The directors also compared the advisory fee rate for the Fund with that for another fund advised by the Adviser utilizing similar investment strategies.

The Adviser reviewed with the directors the significantly greater scope of the services it provides to the Fund relative to institutional, offshore fund and sub-advised fund clients. In this regard, the Adviser noted, among other things, that, compared to institutional and offshore or sub-advisory accounts, the Fund (i) demands considerably more portfolio management, research and trading resources due to significantly higher daily cash flows; (ii) has more tax and regulatory restrictions and compliance obligations; (iii) must prepare and file or distribute regulatory and other communications about fund operations; and (iv) must provide shareholder servicing to retail investors. The Adviser also reviewed the greater legal risks presented by the large and changing population of Fund shareholders who may assert claims against the Adviser in individual or class actions, and the greater entrepreneurial risk in offering new fund products, which require substantial investment to launch, may not succeed, and generally must be priced to compete with larger, more established funds resulting in lack of profitability to the Adviser until a new fund achieves scale. In light of the substantial differences in services rendered by the Adviser to institutional, offshore fund and sub-advised fund clients as compared to funds such as the Fund, and the different risk profile, the directors considered these fee comparisons inapt and did not place significant weight on them in their deliberations.

### SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL THEMATIC PORTFOLIO CONTINUANCE DISCLOSURE

(continued)

**AB Variable Products Series Fund** 

In connection with their review of the Fund's advisory fee, the directors also considered the total expense ratio of the Class A shares of the Fund in comparison to the medians for a peer group and a peer universe selected by the 15(c) service provider. The Class A expense ratio of the Fund was based on the Fund's latest fiscal year. The directors noted that it was likely that the expense ratios of some of the other funds in the Fund's category were lowered by waivers or reimbursements by those funds' investment advisers, which in some cases might be voluntary or temporary. The directors view expense ratio information as relevant to their evaluation of the Adviser's services because the Adviser is responsible for coordinating services provided to the Fund by others. The directors noted that the Fund's expense ratio was above the medians, after giving effect to a voluntary waiver by the Adviser. After reviewing and discussing the Adviser's explanations of the reasons for this, the directors concluded that the Fund's expense ratio was acceptable.

#### **Economies of Scale**

The directors noted that the advisory fee schedule for the Fund contains breakpoints that reduce the fee rates on assets above specified levels. The directors took into consideration prior presentations by an independent consultant on economies of scale in the mutual fund industry and for the AB Funds, and presentations from time to time by the Adviser concerning certain of its views on economies of scale. The directors also had requested and received from the Adviser certain updates on economies of scale in advance of the Meeting. The directors believe that economies of scale may be realized (if at all) by the Adviser across a variety of products and services, and not only in respect of a single fund. The directors noted that there is no established methodology for setting breakpoints that give effect to the fund-specific services provided by a fund's adviser and to the economies of scale that an adviser may realize in its overall mutual fund business or those components of it which directly or indirectly affect a fund's operations. The directors observed that in the mutual fund industry as a whole, as well as among funds similar to the Fund, there is no uniformity or pattern in the fees and asset levels at which breakpoints (if any) apply. The directors also noted that the advisory agreements for many funds do not have breakpoints at all. Having taken these factors into account, the directors concluded that the Fund's shareholders would benefit from a sharing of economies of scale in the event the Fund's net assets exceed a breakpoint in the future.





