# Performa High Yield Fund Ltd.

Financial Statements and Independent Auditors' Report

**December 31, 2017** 



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#### **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

To the Shareholders and Board of Directors of Performa High Yield Fund Ltd.

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Performa High Yield Fund Ltd. (the "Fund"), which comprise the statement of net assets, including the condensed schedule of investments, as at December 31, 2017, and the related statements of operations and changes in net assets for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

#### Management responsibility for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Fund's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

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

#### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund as at December 31, 2017 and the results of its operations and changes in its net assets for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in United States of America.



March 29, 2018

# PERFORMA HIGH YIELD FUND LTD. STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

as at December 31, 2017 (Expressed in U.S. dollars)

#### **ASSETS**

Investments at fair value (cost: \$337,594,179) Cash and cash equivalents Cash pledged as collateral Accrued interest receivable		\$	341,485,594 24,809,351 12,264,942 5,636,514
		_	384,196,401
LIABILITIES		_	
Management fees payable Derivative liabilities, at fair value Accounts payable and accrued expenses			142,664 106,281 59,545
		_	308,490
NET ASSETS		\$	383,887,911
Class A Shares issued and outstanding		_	27,235,796
Net Asset Value per Class A Shares		\$	13.97
Class B Shares issued and outstanding			245,221
Net Asset Value per Class B Shares		\$	13.93
Approved on behalf of the Board:			
Hugh Barit Director	Gary M. LeBlanc Director		_

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these statements

# PERFORMA HIGH YIELD FUND LTD. CONDENSED SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS

as at December 31, 2017 (Expressed in U.S. dollars)

Bermuda Industrial 651,200	0.17%
	0.17/0
Total – Bermuda (cost - \$640,000) 651,200	0.17%
Canada	
	0.43%
Industrial 20,777,005	5.41%
Total – Canada (cost - \$22,210,438) 22,438,574	5.85%
France	
Industrial 2,375,769	0.62%
<b>Total – France (cost - \$2,333,650)</b> 2,375,769	0.62%
Ireland	
Financial 4,603,801	1.20%
<b>Total – Ireland (cost - \$4,749,160)</b> 4,603,801	1.20%
Luxembourg	
	0.50%
Industrial 5,176,350	1.34%
<b>Total - Luxembourg (cost - \$7,138,969)</b> 7,079,532	1.84%
Netherlands	
	0.51%
Agencies 3,560,210	0.93%
<b>Total - Netherlands (cost - \$5,583,604)</b> 5,514,560	1.44%
Switzerland	
Financial 2,026,650	0.53%
Total – Switzerland (cost - \$2,080,125) 2,026,650	0.53%
United Kingdom	
Financial 7,210,763	1.88%
Total – United Kingdom (cost - \$7,314,849) 7,210,763	1.88%

# PERFORMA HIGH YIELD FUND LTD. CONDENSED SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS

as at December 31, 2017 (Expressed in U.S. dollars)

United States	Investments in securities, at fair value (cont'd)	Fair value \$	% of Net Assets
Financial 1,000,502 13,000,502 55,49% Utility 213,000,502 55,49% 4,345,588 1.13%  Total – United States (cost - \$283,451,985) 287,448,595 74.88%  Total – Corporate Debt (cost - \$335,502,779) 339,349,444 88.40%  Preferred Securities  United States Industrial 2,136,150 0.56%  Total – United States (cost - \$2,091,400) 2,136,150 0.56%  Total – Preferred Securities (cost - \$2,091,400) 2,136,150 0.56%  Total Investments in securities, at fair value (cost - \$337,594,179) 341,485,594 88.96%  Derivative liabilities, at fair value  Futures Contracts  Index Derivative 106,281 0.03%	United States		
Utility		70,102,505	18.26%
Total – United States (cost - \$283,451,985)         287,448,595         74.88%           Total – Corporate Debt (cost - \$335,502,779)         339,349,444         88.40%           Preferred Securities           United States Industrial         2,136,150         0.56%           Total – United States (cost - \$2,091,400)         2,136,150         0.56%           Total – Preferred Securities (cost - \$2,091,400)         2,136,150         0.56%           Total Investments in securities, at fair value (cost - \$337,594,179)         341,485,594         88.96%           Derivative liabilities, at fair value           Futures Contracts         106,281         0.03%	Industrial		55.49%
Total - Corporate Debt (cost - \$335,502,779)         339,349,444         88.40%           Preferred Securities         United States	Utility	4,345,588	1.13%
Preferred Securities   United States   Industrial   2,136,150   0.56%     Total - United States (cost - \$2,091,400)   2,136,150   0.56%     Total - Preferred Securities (cost - \$2,091,400)   2,136,150   0.56%     Total Investments in securities, at fair value (cost - \$337,594,179)   341,485,594   88.96%     Derivative liabilities, at fair value   Futures Contracts   Index Derivative   106,281   0.03%	<b>Total – United States (cost - \$283,451,985)</b>	287,448,595	74.88%
United States       2,136,150       0.56%         Total – United States (cost - \$2,091,400)       2,136,150       0.56%         Total – Preferred Securities (cost - \$2,091,400)       2,136,150       0.56%         Total Investments in securities, at fair value (cost - \$337,594,179)       341,485,594       88.96%         Derivative liabilities, at fair value         Futures Contracts       106,281       0.03%	<b>Total – Corporate Debt (cost - \$335,502,779)</b>	339,349,444	88.40%
Industrial   2,136,150   0.56%     Total - United States (cost - \$2,091,400)   2,136,150   0.56%     Total - Preferred Securities (cost - \$2,091,400)   2,136,150   0.56%     Total Investments in securities, at fair value (cost - \$337,594,179)   341,485,594   88.96%     Derivative liabilities, at fair value     Futures Contracts   106,281   0.03%	Preferred Securities		
Total – United States (cost - \$2,091,400)  Total – Preferred Securities (cost - \$2,091,400)  Total Investments in securities, at fair value (cost – \$337,594,179)  Derivative liabilities, at fair value  Futures Contracts  Index Derivative  106,281  0.56%	United States		
Total – Preferred Securities (cost - \$2,091,400)  Total Investments in securities, at fair value (cost – \$337,594,179)  Derivative liabilities, at fair value  Futures Contracts  Index Derivative  106,281  0.56%  88.96%	Industrial	2,136,150	0.56%
Total Investments in securities, at fair value (cost – \$337,594,179)  Derivative liabilities, at fair value  Futures Contracts  Index Derivative  106,281  0.03%	Total – United States (cost - \$2,091,400)	2,136,150	0.56%
\$337,594,179)  Derivative liabilities, at fair value  Futures Contracts  Index Derivative  106,281  0.03%	Total – Preferred Securities (cost - \$2,091,400)	2,136,150	0.56%
\$337,594,179)  Derivative liabilities, at fair value  Futures Contracts  Index Derivative  106,281  0.03%	Total Investments in securities, at fair value (cost –		
Futures Contracts Index Derivative 106,281 0.03%		341,485,594	88.96%
Index Derivative 106,281 0.03%	Derivative liabilities, at fair value		
	<b>Futures Contracts</b>		
Total derivative assets, at fair value 106,281 0.03%	Index Derivative	106,281	0.03%
	Total derivative assets, at fair value	106,281	0.03%

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these statements

# PERFORMA HIGH YIELD FUND LTD. STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

for the year ended December 31, 2017 (Expressed in U.S. dollars)

#### **INCOME**

Interest income Dividend income Other income	21,195,744 473,013 153,819
	21,822,576
EXPENSES	
Management fees (Note 4) Administration fees (Note 4) Miscellaneous fees Custodian fees (Note 4) Professional fees	1,576,368 215,421 147,351 89,138 76,817
NET INVESTMENT INCOME	2,105,095
REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAIN ON INVESTMENTS	
Net realized gain on investments and derivatives Net realized loss on foreign currency transactions Change in unrealized depreciation of investments and derivatives	6,095,580 (5,576) (4,788,235)
	1,301,769
NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS \$	21,019,250

# PERFORMA HIGH YIELD FUND LTD. STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

for the year ended December 31, 2017 (Expressed in U.S. dollars)

NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS	\$ 21,019,250
CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS Issuance of Shares Redemption of Shares	42,318,000 (15,807,773)
NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS	26,510,227
NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	47,529,477
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	336,358,434
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 383,887,911

December 31, 2017 (Expressed in U.S. dollars)

#### 1. THE FUND

Performa High Yield Fund Ltd. (the "Company" or "Fund") was incorporated under the laws of Bermuda on July 29, 2002. On October 1, 2005 the Company, at the time known as MVI Investment Fund Ltd., redeemed all its issued shares and ceased trading. The Company remained dormant until its re-launch on February 2, 2012, at which time the Company changed its name from MVI Investment Fund Ltd. to Performa High Yield Fund Ltd.

The Company is organized into distinct Sub-Funds. All income and capital gains earned on the assets of each Sub-Fund shall accrue to such Sub-Fund, as will all expenses and liabilities related to a particular Sub-Fund. Any redemption of the Shares related thereto shall be charged to and paid from the Sub-Fund in question. Thus, the trading results of any one Sub-Fund should have no effect on the value of any other Sub-Fund and the holders of any class of Share will not have any interest in any assets of the Company other than the Sub-Fund attributable to the class of Shares held by them. Each Sub-Fund, however, is not a separate legal entity, as such, the assets of each Sub-Fund may be subject to the general creditors of the Fund.

The Investment Advisors, P.R.P. Performa Limited and Performa Limited (US), LLC (collectively the "Investment Advisor"), provide investment management advisory services to the Fund.

The objective of the Company is to achieve an above average rate of total return while attempting to limit investment risk by investing in a diversified portfolio of fixed income securities, investing primarily in high yield debt instruments of U.S. and non-U.S. issuers. An instrument is considered "High-Yield" if it is rated below investment grade by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations such as S&P, Moody's or Fitch.

#### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### a. Basis of accounting:

The financial statements have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in United States of America ("U.S. GAAP"). The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

The Fund is classified as an investment company as defined in Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2013-08, Investment Companies (Topic 946): Amendments to the Scope, Measurement and Disclosure Requirements. The Fund applies the guidance set forth in Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 946, *Financial Services – Investment Companies* ("ASC 946") in its financial statements and related notes.

December 31, 2017 (Expressed in U.S. dollars)

#### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)

#### b. Investments:

Trading activity is recorded on a trade date basis. Securities that are listed on a national securities exchange are valued at their last sales prices on the date of valuation on the largest national securities exchange on which such securities have traded on such date. If no sales of such securities occurred on the date of valuation, the securities are valued at the "bid" price on the largest national securities exchange on which such securities are traded. The resulting unrealized appreciation and depreciation of securities is reflected in the statement of operations. Realized gains and losses on sales of securities are calculated using the first-in, first-out basis of accounting.

#### c. Cash and cash equivalents:

As at December 31, 2017, cash and cash equivalents includes an investment of \$24,809,351 in a money market fund which is managed by the Investment Advisor.

As at December 31, 2017 there was cash pledged as collateral in the amount of \$12,694,942 to be used for futures trading.

#### d. Investment income:

Interest is recorded on the accrual basis of accounting, except for securities in default for which interest is recognized on the cash basis.

#### e. New accounting standards:

For the year ended December 31, 2017, there were no recent accounting pronouncements that would significantly impact the financial statements of the Fund.

#### 3. SHARE CAPITAL

The authorized share capital of the Fund is 100 Founder Shares of a par value of \$0.01 and 100,000,000 redeemable Common Shares with a par value of \$0.0001 each.

The Founder Shares are voting, non-participating and, non-redeemable and are not entitled to any dividends. The Founder Shares have been issued and are unpaid. The Fund has issued all of the Founder Shares to P.R.P. Performa Limited. The Common Shares are non-voting, and are redeemable. Any number of classes of Common Shares can be issued as determined by the Directors of the Fund.

Effective January 1, 2017 the previously unfunded Class A was funded in the amount of \$330,994,602 through a transfer from Class B. Both Class A and Class B shares were issued and outstanding during the year ended December 31, 2017.

December 31, 2017 (Expressed in U.S. dollars)

#### 3. SHARE CAPITAL (cont'd)

Share transactions for the year ended December 31, 2017, were as follows:

	Shares at				Shares at
	December 31,				December 31,
Class	2016	Transferred	<b>Issued</b>	Redeemed	2017
Class A	-	25,121,505	3,109,158	(994,867)	27,235,796
Class B	25,536,238	(25,121,505)	-	(169,512)	245,221

#### 4. MANAGEMENT, ADMINISTRATION AND CUSTODIAN FEES

Under the terms of the Fund's prospectus:

- a. The Investment Advisor provides investment management advisory services to the Fund. The Investment Advisor is responsible for the investment of the Fund's assets and is entitled to receive an advisory fee equal to:
  - 0.45% per annum, calculated daily on Class A total assets and paid monthly in arrears
  - 0.75% per annum, calculated daily on the Class B total assets and paid monthly in arrears

The Investment Advisor has appointed Seix Investment Advisors LLC (the "Sub Investment Advisor") to advise the Fund. The Sub Investment Advisor is paid a portion of the advisory fee.

b. STP Investment Services, Inc. (the "Administrator") provides services as the Administrator, Share Registrar & Transfer Agent for the Fund. For these services, the Administrator receives an administration fee calculated at the following rates:

0.060% per annum on first \$1,250 million

0.050% per annum on the next \$250 million

0.045% per annum on the next \$500 million

0.040% per annum on in excess of \$2,000 million

The administration fee is calculated daily on the total assets and paid monthly in arrears.

c. The custodian, Comerica Bank, is entitled to receive fees calculated at the following rates:

0.050% per annum on the first US\$100 million

0.030% per annum on the next US\$200 million

0.025% per annum on the excess of US\$300 million

The custodian fee is calculated daily on the net assets and is paid quarterly in arrears.

December 31, 2017 (Expressed in U.S. dollars)

#### 5. CREDIT RISK

In the normal course of business, the Fund manages a variety of risks including market risk, credit risk and liquidity risk.

Market risk is the potential for changes in the value of investments due to market changes, including interest and foreign exchange rate movements and fluctuations in security prices. Market risk is directly impacted by the volatility and liquidity in the markets in which the underlying assets are traded. The Fund manages its exposure to market risk related to trading instruments on an aggregate basis combining the effects of cash instruments and fixed income securities.

As at December 31, 2017, the custody of cash and cash equivalents and investments are with Comerica Bank and Interactive Brokers LLC. The Fund has all its individual counterparty concentration with these parties who are both based in the United States of America.

Transactions in OTC derivative contracts are entered into with major commercial and investment banks. Estimated credit risk exposure with respect to the Fund's outstanding OTC derivatives is \$Nil as of December 31, 2017.

The following table identifies the fair value amounts of derivative instruments included in the Statement of Net Assets as derivative liabilities at fair value, categorized by primary underlying risk, as of December 31, 2017:

Derivative Liabilities	١,
at fair value	

#### **Futures Contracts**

Index Derivative contracts

\$ 106,281

The following table presents the impact of derivative financial instruments on the statement of operations, arranged by type of contract. The Fund did not designate any derivatives as hedging instruments for the year ended December 31, 2017.

Derivative Type	Net realized gain/(loss) on investment and foreign currency	Net change in unrealized gain/(loss) on investments and foreign currency	Number of contracts bought/sold during the year ended December 31, 2017
Futures Contracts	\$ (2,566,897)	\$ 227,981	20
Forwards	\$ 47,178	\$ (53,310)	7

December 31, 2017 (Expressed in U.S. dollars)

#### 6. FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Fund discloses the fair value of its investments in a hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure the fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to valuations based upon unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1 measurement) and the lowest priority to valuations based upon unobservable inputs that are significant to the valuation (level 3 measurements). The guidance establishes three levels of the fair value hierarchy as follows:

- Level 1: Inputs that reflect unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Fund has the ability to access at the measurement date;
- Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability either directly or indirectly, including inputs in markets that are not considered to be active;
- Level 3: Inputs that are unobservable.

Inputs are used in applying the various valuation techniques and broadly refer to the assumptions that market participants use to make valuation decisions, including assumptions about risk. Inputs may include price information, volatility statistics, specific and broad credit data, liquidity statistics, and other factors. A financial instrument's level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. However, the determination of what constitutes observable requires significant judgment by the Investment Advisor.

A financial instrument's level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. However, the determination of what constitutes observable requires significant judgment by the Investment Advisor. The Investment Advisor considers observable data to be that market data which is readily available, regularly distributed or updated, reliable and verifiable, not proprietary, and provided by independent sources that are actively involved in the relevant market. The categorization of a financial instrument within the hierarchy is based upon the pricing transparency of the instrument and does not necessarily correspond to the Investment Advisor's perceived risk of that instrument.

Derivative instruments can be exchange-traded or privately negotiated over-the-counter ("OTC"). Exchange-traded derivatives, such as futures contracts, are typically classified within level 1 or level 2 of the fair value hierarchy depending on whether or not they are deemed to be actively traded.

OTC derivatives, including currency forwards, are valued using third party quotations which are calculated using straight line interpolation of mid forward points as reported by time zone close from the market on which the foreign currency primarily trades. Certain OTC derivatives, such as generic forwards, have inputs which can generally be corroborated by market data and are therefore classified within level 2.

December 31, 2017 (Expressed in U.S. dollars)

#### 6. FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (cont'd)

Those OTC derivatives that have less liquidity or for which inputs are unobservable are classified within level 3. While the valuations of these less liquid OTC derivatives may utilize some level 1 and/or level 2 inputs, they also include other unobservable inputs which are considered significant to the fair value determination. At each measurement date, the Investment Advisor updates the level 1 and level 2 inputs to reflect observable inputs, though the resulting gains and losses are reflected within level 3 due to the significance of the unobservable inputs. There were no level 3 financial instruments held during the year or at year end.

The following table presents the financial instruments carried on the Statement of Net Assets by caption and by level within the valuation hierarchy as of December 31, 2017:

	Level 1		Level 2		Lev	el 3	Total		
Investments in securities, at fair value									
Corporate debt									
Industrial	\$	-	\$	253,172,589	\$	-	\$	253,172,589	
Financial		-		78,271,057		-		78,271,057	
Utility		-		4,345,588		-		4,345,588	
Agencies		-		3,560,210		-		3,560,210	
Preferred Securities									
Industrial		_		2,136,150		-		2,136,150	
	\$	-	\$	341,485,594	\$	-	\$	341,485,594	
Derivative Liabilities, at fair value	<b>A</b>	10.00	<b>A</b>		Φ.		<b>.</b>	106931	
Futures Contracts	\$	106,281	\$	-	\$	-	\$	106,281	
	_								

#### 7. TAXES

Under current laws, there are no income, profit, capital or capital gains taxes levied in Bermuda, and accordingly, no provision for such taxes has been recorded by the Fund. In the event that such taxes are levied, the Fund has received an undertaking from the Government of Bermuda exempting it from all such taxes until March 31, 2035.

Management has reviewed the Fund's tax positions for all open tax years and has concluded that no provision for uncertain tax positions is required in the Fund's financial statements as of December 31, 2017. Such open tax years remain subject to examination by tax authorities.

December 31, 2017 (Expressed in U.S. dollars)

#### 8. FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Financial highlights of the Fund for the year ended December 31, 2017 is as follows:

Per share operating performance	Class A*		Class B
Net asset value per share at beginning of year	\$ 13.17	\$	13.17
Net investment income Net realized and unrealized gain on investments	0.74 0.06	-	0.72 0.04
Net increase in net assets resulting from operations	0.80	-	0.76
Net asset value per share at end of year	\$ 13.97	\$	13.93
TOTAL RETURN:	6.06%		5.76%
RATIO TO AVERAGE NET ASSETS:		=	
Expenses	0.59%	<u> </u>	0.89%
Net investment income	5.51%	:	5.21%

<sup>\*</sup>Class A was funded January 1, 2017 through a transfer from Class B.

An individual investor's return may vary from these returns based on the timing of capital transactions.

#### 9. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Subsequent events have been evaluated up to the date of the audit report for recognition and disclosure, and determined that there were no material events that would require recognition or disclosure in the Fund's financial statement through that date.