

FRANKLIN TEMPLETON LTD DURATION INCOME TRUST

Form N-CSR

May 31, 2013

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Dear Shareholder:

We are pleased to bring you Franklin Templeton Limited Duration Income Trust's annual report for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2013.

### **Performance Overview**

For the 12 months under review, Franklin Templeton Limited Duration Income Trust delivered cumulative total returns of +11.04% based on net asset value and +13.41% based on market price. Net asset value increased from \$13.82 per share on March 31, 2012, to \$14.30 at period-end, and the market price increased from \$14.01 to \$14.82 over the same period. You can find the Fund's long-term performance data in the Performance Summary on page 7.

### **Economic and Market Overview**

During the 12 months under review, U.S. economic data remained mixed. The nation's gross domestic product (GDP) growth rate varied each quarter but

**The dollar value, number of shares or principal amount, and names of all portfolio holdings are listed in the Fund's Statement of Investments (SOI). The SOI begins on page 20.**

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overall expanded modestly. Large declines in federal and local government spending, business disruptions caused by Hurricane Sandy and the continuing effects of the Midwest drought on farm production initially offset the benefit of solid consumer spending. However, generally positive construction, housing, manufacturing, energy pricing and labor market trends seemed to suggest the U.S. economic recovery remained largely intact. Consumer sentiment rose to a five-year high, although potential U.S. tax hikes and spending cuts scheduled to take effect in 2013 contributed to fluctuations in consumer and business confidence.

In September, the Federal Reserve Board (Fed) acknowledged the need for further policy accommodation and announced a third round of quantitative easing (QE3). QE3 consists of additional \$40 billion monthly purchases of mortgage-backed securities until the labor market improves. The Fed also continued buying long-term Treasuries and selling short-term Treasuries in an effort to put downward pressure on long-term interest rates. In December, the Fed announced a 6.5% unemployment target as a guide to maintaining the historically low federal funds target rate. Although inflation rose slightly during the reporting period, the Fed noted little evidence of wage pressures. Economists, business leaders and market watchers were concerned about the U.S. fiscal cliff, which meant that unless Congress acted, automatic income tax increases and federal budget cuts would take effect in 2013. They feared these events could cause another U.S. recession. Lawmakers reached a late compromise on January 1, 2013, that maintained some tax cuts for most Americans but increased rates on the wealthiest. Congress, however, was unable to resolve differences related to a series of automatic federal spending cuts known as the sequester. The cuts will reduce funding for domestic and defense programs by \$85 billion in the current U.S. fiscal year.

Ongoing investor concerns about the fiscal cliff, eurozone uncertainty and mixed economic data lowered the 10-year U.S. Treasury note yield to 1.87% at year-end from 2.23% on March 31, 2012. During the 12 months under review, investors sought higher bond returns and were willing to assume some risk. Below-investment-grade corporate bonds, as measured by the Credit Suisse (CS) High Yield Index, delivered strong results and outperformed investment-grade fixed income markets, as measured by the Barclays U.S. Aggregate Index.

### **Investment Strategy**

We invest in a diversified mix of fixed income securities, primarily high yield corporate bonds, senior secured floating rate corporate loans, and mortgage- and other asset-backed securities. Our top-down analysis of macroeconomic

trends combined with a bottom-up fundamental analysis of market sectors, industries and issuers drives our investment process. We seek to maintain a limited duration, or interest rate sensitivity, to moderate the impact that fluctuating interest rates might have on the Fund's fixed income portfolio. Within the corporate bond and corporate loan sectors, we seek securities trading at reasonable valuations from issuers with characteristics such as strong market positions, stable cash flows, reasonable capital structures, supportive asset values, strong sponsorship and improving credit fundamentals. In the mortgage- and other asset-backed securities sector, we look to capture an attractive income stream and total return through our analysis of security prepayment assumptions, potential pricing inefficiencies and underlying collateral characteristics.

### **Manager's Discussion**

Performance of the Fund's primary asset classes was positive during the fiscal year under review. The U.S. economy continued to grow at a modest but uneven rate. Europe caused a period of risk aversion during the spring of 2012, but markets recovered after European Central Bank President Mario Draghi made it clear that he would do whatever it took to preserve the euro. Uncertainty regarding future fiscal policy and tax rates caused markets to fall again following the U.S. presidential election. Fears surrounding the fiscal cliff were ultimately overcome by mounting evidence of a housing market recovery and hopes that the overall economy would be buoyed by housing sector strength. Given the Fed's reiterated commitment to an accommodative monetary policy, including a prolonged period of ultra-low interest rates, investors continued to seek ways to enhance the yield of their investment portfolios. As a result, high yield bonds and term loans experienced healthy investment inflows.

Overall, despite being another somewhat volatile year in the markets, financial investments generally posted positive returns. The broad U.S. stock market, as measured by the Standard & Poor's<sup>®</sup> 500 Index returned +13.96%.<sup>1</sup> During the Fund's fiscal year, 10-year Treasury yields fell from 2.23% to 1.87%. In this environment, high yield corporate bonds returned +12.43%, followed by +8.27% for leveraged loans and +1.97% for mortgage-backed securities, as measured by the CS High Yield, CS Leveraged Loan and Barclays U.S.

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Mortgage-Backed Securities Indexes, respectively.<sup>1</sup> Over the course of the year, we increased our exposure to leveraged loans and mortgage-backed securities while reducing our exposure to high yield corporate bonds.

### **High Yield Corporate Bonds**

High yield bonds generated a total return of +12.43% for the year, driven by a combination of solid credit fundamentals and robust flows into the asset class.<sup>1</sup> The modest decline in Treasury yields provided a slight boost to returns, but a bigger impact came from the spread over Treasuries tightening from 6.2 to 5.1 percentage points during the year. The spread tightening was supported by a continued low default rate, as only 1.7% of high yield bonds defaulted in 2012, the third consecutive year with defaults below 2%.<sup>2</sup> The default rate remained below 2% through the first three months of 2013.<sup>2</sup> In general, the moderate pace of economic growth supported credit profiles, while high yield market strength enabled companies to refinance debt at lower borrowing costs and extend maturities. Given below-average valuations and a record-high average dollar price for high yield bonds, we reduced our initially overweighted position in high yield corporate bonds to end the year at a more neutral position. We remained positive toward the high yield asset class, particularly given expectations for a continued below-average default rate.

### **Floating Rate Corporate Loans**

For the one-year period, the corporate loan asset class returned +8.27%.<sup>1</sup> Lower credit quality corporate loans rated CCC or distressed outperformed higher quality corporate loans rated split BB or higher as steady inflows and new collateralized loan obligations (CLOs) helped drive demand.<sup>3</sup> The average loan price increased to 100.0 cents on the dollar on March 31, 2013, from 98.6 cents on March 31, 2012, and the discounted spread to maturity was LIBOR +429 basis points (100 basis points equal one percentage point).<sup>4</sup>

During the reporting period the loan market remained strong, supported by technical factors. CLO issuance accelerated throughout the period, reaching a

2. Source: Copyright © 2013 CREDIT SUISSE GROUP AG and/or its affiliates. All Rights Reserved.

3. Split BB means for credit rating agencies Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investors Service, a BB or equivalent rating by one agency and a B rating by the other.

4. Source: Standard & Poor's Leveraged Commentary & Data.

post-credit crisis high at the end of the period. Inflows into loan mutual funds also increased during the period, as corporate fundamentals remained supportive and investors looked to the relative attractiveness of loans as well as potential interest rate protection offered by the loan asset class. As a result of increased investor demand that outpaced primary market supply, investors sought opportunities in the secondary market, causing loan prices to rise, which led to a larger volume of repricing transactions and lower overall credit spreads. Although refinancing dominated the market, many opportunistic transactions took place to fund dividends to equity sponsors. In addition, mergers and acquisitions activity and leveraged buyouts moderately increased. Overall loan default rates remained below the historical average as the loan default rate increased to 2.21% by principal amount at the end of the period.<sup>4</sup>

### **Mortgage-Backed and Asset-Backed Securities**

During the period, high-quality agency mortgage-backed securities (MBS) and asset-backed securities (ABS) generally underperformed Treasuries with similar duration. As Treasuries rallied, mortgages and spread products could not keep pace. MBS sector valuations were generally fairly valued, in our analysis, and the Fed remained the largest source of demand and provided support for the sector. Expectations were for prepayments to remain around their recent levels with the potential for gradual increases as homeowners sought to take advantage of extremely low mortgage rates. However, the factors such as tighter underwriting standards and originator processing capacity that kept prepayment rates from reaching the elevated levels of past prepayment cycles remained in place.

We shifted our MBS allocation to lower coupons during the period. Our heaviest exposure was in 3.0% and 5.0% coupons, as we decreased exposure to 4.0% and 4.5% coupons and increased allocation to 3.0% and 3.5% coupons, concentrating on specified pools. We continued to invest in bonds from higher quality securitized sectors as we found bonds we considered fundamentally sound at attractive yields in these markets. We maintained our allocations to higher quality ABS and collateralized mortgage-backed securities.

Thank you for your continued participation in Franklin Templeton Limited Duration Income Trust. We look forward to serving your future investment needs.

Sincerely,

CFA<sup>®</sup> is a trademark owned by CFA Institute.

**The foregoing information reflects our analysis, opinions and portfolio holdings as of March 31, 2013, the end of the reporting period. The way we implement our main investment strategies and the resulting portfolio holdings may change depending on factors such as market and economic conditions. These opinions may not be relied upon as investment advice or an offer for a particular security. The information is not a complete analysis of every aspect of any market, country, industry, security or the Fund. Statements of fact are from sources considered reliable, but the investment manager makes no representation or warranty as to their completeness or accuracy. Although historical performance is no guarantee of future results, these insights may help you understand our investment management philosophy.**



## Performance Summary as of 3/31/13

Your dividend income will vary depending on dividends or interest paid by securities in the Fund's portfolio, adjusted for operating expenses. Capital gain distributions are net profits realized from the sale of portfolio securities. Total return reflects reinvestment of the Fund's dividends and capital gain distributions, if any, and any unrealized gains or losses. Total returns do not reflect any sales charges paid at inception or brokerage commissions paid on secondary market purchases. The performance table does not reflect any taxes that a shareholder would pay on Fund dividends, capital gain distributions, if any, or any realized gains on the sale of Fund shares.

*Performance data represent past performance, which does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate, and you may have a gain or loss when you sell your shares. Current performance may differ from figures shown.*

### Endnotes

**All investments involve risks, including possible loss of principal. Interest rate movements and mortgage prepayments will affect the Fund's share price and yield. Bond prices generally move in the opposite direction of interest rates. As the prices of bonds in a fund adjust to a rise in interest rates, the Fund's share price may decline. Investments in lower rated bonds include higher risk of default and loss of principal. The Fund is actively managed but there is no guarantee that the manager's investment decisions will produce the desired results.**

1. Figures are for common shares. As of 3/31/13, the Fund had leverage in the amount of 31.32% of the Fund's total assets. The Fund employs leverage through the issuance of Auction Preferred Shares and purchase of Mortgage Dollar Rolls. The use of financial leverage creates an opportunity for increased income but, at the same time, creates special risks (including the likelihood of greater volatility of net asset value and market price of common shares). The cost of leverage rises and falls with changes in short-term interest rates. Such increases/decreases in the cost of the Fund's leverage may be offset by increased/decreased income from the Fund's floating rate investments.
2. Total return calculations represent the cumulative and average annual changes in value of an investment over the periods indicated.
3. Assumes reinvestment of distributions at net asset value.
4. Assumes reinvestment of distributions based on the dividend reinvestment plan.

## Important Notice to Shareholders

Effective June 1, 2013, Madeline Lam and Justin Ma, CFA, joined the Fund's portfolio management team, replacing Richard Hsu, CFA, who is no longer a Fund portfolio manager.

### **Collateralized Debt Obligations**

The Fund may invest in any tranche (other than the equity tranche) of collateralized debt obligations.

Collateralized debt obligations and similarly structured securities, sometimes known generally as CDOs, are interests in a trust or other special purpose entity (SPE) and are typically backed by a diversified pool of bonds, loans or other debt obligations. CDOs are not limited to investments in one type of debt and, accordingly, a CDO may be collateralized by corporate bonds, commercial loans, asset-backed securities, residential mortgage-backed securities, real estate investment trusts (REITs), commercial mortgage-backed securities, emerging market debt, and municipal bonds. Certain CDOs may use derivatives contracts, such as credit default swaps, to create synthetic exposure to assets rather than holding such assets directly, which entails the risks of derivative instruments.

Common varieties of CDOs include the following:

*Collateralized loan obligations.* Collateralized loan obligations (CLOs) are interests in a trust typically collateralized substantially by a pool of loans, which may include, among others, domestic and foreign senior secured loans, senior unsecured loans, and subordinate corporate loans made to domestic and foreign borrowers, including loans that may be rated below investment grade or equivalent unrated loans.

*Collateralized bond obligations.* Collateralized bond obligations (CBOs) are interests in a trust typically backed substantially by a diversified pool of high risk, below investment grade fixed income securities.

*Structured finance CDOs.* Structured finance CDOs are interests in a trust typically backed substantially by structured investment products such as asset-backed securities and commercial mortgage-backed securities.

*Synthetic CDOs.* In contrast to CDOs that directly own the underlying debt obligations, referred to as cash CDOs, synthetic CDOs are typically collateralized substantially by derivatives contracts, such as credit default swaps, to create synthetic exposure to assets rather than holding such assets directly, which entails the risks of derivative instruments, principally counterparty risk.

CDOs are similar in structure to collateralized mortgage obligations. Unless the context indicates otherwise, the discussion of CDOs below also applies to CLOs, CBOs and other similarly structured securities.

In CDOs, the cash flows from the SPE are split into two or more portions, called tranches (or classes), that vary in risk and yield. The riskiest portion is the equity tranche, which bears the first loss from defaults on the bonds or loans in the SPE and is intended to protect the other, more senior tranches from severe, and potentially unforeseen, defaults or delinquent collateral payments (though such protection is not complete). Because they may be partially protected from defaults, senior tranches from a CDO typically have higher ratings and lower yields than the underlying collateral securities held by the trust, and may be rated investment grade. Despite protection from the equity tranche, more senior tranches can experience, and may have experienced in the past, substantial losses due to actual defaults, increased sensitivity to defaults due to collateral default, downgrades of the underlying collateral by rating agencies, forced liquidation of a collateral pool due to a failure of coverage tests, disappearance of protecting tranches, market anticipation of defaults, as well as a market aversion to CDO securities as a class.

The risks of an investment in a CDO depend largely on the type of collateral held by the SPE and the tranche of the CDO in which the Fund invests. Investment risk may also be affected by the performance of a CDO's collateral manager (the entity responsible for selecting and managing the pool of collateral securities held by the SPE trust), especially during a period of market volatility like that experienced in 2007-2008. Normally, CDOs are privately offered and sold, and thus, are not registered under the securities laws and traded in a public market. As a result, investments in CDOs may be characterized by the Fund as illiquid securities. However, an active dealer market may exist for CDOs allowing the Fund to trade CDOs with other qualified institutional investors under Rule 144A. To the extent such investments are characterized as illiquid, they will be subject to the Fund's restrictions on investments in illiquid securities. The Fund's investment in unregistered securities such as CDOs will not receive the same investor protection as an investment in registered securities.

All tranches of CDOs, including senior tranches with high credit ratings, can experience, and many have recently experienced, substantial losses due to actual defaults, increased sensitivity to future defaults due to the disappearance of protecting tranches, market anticipation of defaults, as well as market aversion to CDO securities as a class. Prices of CDO tranches have declined considerably. The drop in prices was initially triggered by the subprime mortgage crisis. Subprime mortgages make up a significant portion of the mortgage securities that collateralize many CDOs. As floating interest rates and mortgage default rates increased, the rating agencies that had rated the mortgage securities and CDO transactions backed by such mortgages realized their default assumptions were too low and began to downgrade the credit rating of these transactions. There can be no assurance that additional losses of equal or greater magnitude will not occur in the future.

In addition to the normal risks associated with debt securities and asset-backed securities (e.g., interest rate risk, credit risk and default risk), CDOs carry additional risks including, but not limited to: (i) the possibility that distributions from collateral securities will not be adequate to make interest or other payments; (ii) the quality of the collateral may decline in value or quality or go into default or be downgraded; (iii) the Fund may invest in tranches of a CDO that are subordinate to other classes; and (iv) the complex structure of the security may not be fully understood at the time of investment and may produce disputes with the issuer, difficulty in valuing the security or unexpected investment results.

Certain issuers of CDOs may be deemed to be investment companies as defined in the 1940 Act. As a result, the Fund's investment in these structured investments from these issuers may be limited by the restrictions contained in the 1940 Act. CDOs generally charge management fees and administrative expenses that the shareholders of the Fund would pay indirectly.

### **Swap Agreements**

Generally, swap agreements are contracts between the Fund and, typically, a brokerage firm, bank or other institutional buyer (the swap counterparty) for periods ranging from a few days to multiple years. In a basic swap transaction, the Fund agrees with the swap counterparty to exchange the returns (or differentials in rates of return) and/or cash flows earned or realized on a particular notional amount or value of predetermined underlying reference instruments. The notional amount is the set dollar or other value selected by the parties to use as the basis on which to calculate the obligations that the parties to a swap agreement have agreed to exchange. The parties typically do not actually exchange the notional amount. Instead they agree to exchange the returns that would be earned or realized if the notional amount were invested in given investments or at given interest rates. Examples of returns that may be exchanged in a swap agreement are those of a particular security, a particular fixed or variable interest rate, a particular non-U.S. currency, or a basket of securities representing a particular index. The Fund customarily enters into swap agreements that are based on the standard terms and conditions of an International Swaps and Derivatives Association (ISDA) Master Agreement. ISDA is a voluntary industry association of participants in the over-the-counter (OTC) derivatives markets that has developed standardized contracts used by such participants that have agreed to be bound by such standardized contracts.

The Fund will generally enter into swap agreements on a net basis, which means that the two payment streams that are to be made by the Fund and its counter-party are netted out, with the Fund receiving or paying, as the case may be,

only the net difference in the two payments. The Fund's obligations (or rights) under a swap agreement that is entered into on a net basis will generally be the net amount to be paid or received under the agreement based on the relative values of the obligations of each party upon termination of the agreement or at set valuation dates. The Fund will accrue its obligations under a swap agreement daily (offset by any amounts the counterparty owes the Fund). If the swap agreement does not provide for that type of netting, the full amount of the Fund's obligations will be accrued on a daily basis.

During the term of a swap agreement, the Fund is usually required to pledge to the swap counterparty, from time to time, an amount of cash and/or other assets equal to the total net amount (if any) that would be payable by the Fund to the counterparty if the swap were terminated on the date in question, including any early termination payments. Periodically, changes in the amount pledged are made to recognize changes in value of the contract resulting from, among other things, interest on the notional value of the contract, market value changes in the underlying investment, and/or dividends paid by the issuer of the underlying instrument. Likewise, the counterparty may be required to pledge cash or other assets to cover its obligations to the Fund. However, the amount pledged may not always be equal to or more than the amount due to the other party. Therefore, if a counterparty defaults on its obligations to the Fund, the amount pledged by the counterparty and available to the Fund may not be sufficient to cover all the amounts due to the Fund and the Fund may sustain a loss.

*Inflation Index Swaps.* An inflation index swap is a contract between two parties, whereby one party makes payments based on the cumulative percentage increase in an index that serves as a measure of inflation (typically, the Consumer Price Index) and the other party makes a regular payment based on a compounded fixed rate. Each party's payment obligation is determined by reference to a specified notional amount of money. Typically, an inflation index swap has payment obligations netted and exchanged upon maturity. The value of an inflation index swap is expected to change in response to changes in the rate of inflation. If inflation increases at a faster rate than anticipated at the time the swap is entered into, the swap will increase in value. Similarly, if inflation increases at a rate slower than anticipated at the time the swap is entered into, the swap will decrease in value.

*Risks of Swaps.* The use of swap transactions is a highly specialized activity, which involves investment techniques and risks different from those associated with ordinary portfolio securities transactions. Whether the Fund will be successful in using swap agreements to achieve its investment goal depends on the ability of the investment manager correctly to predict which types of investments are likely to produce greater returns. If the investment manager, in using swap agreements, is incorrect in its forecasts of market values, interest

rates, inflation, currency exchange rates or other applicable factors, the investment performance of the Fund will be less than its performance would have been if it had not used the swap agreements.

The risk of loss to the Fund for swap transactions that are entered into on a net basis depends on which party is obligated to pay the net amount to the other party. If the counterparty is obligated to pay the net amount to the Fund, the risk of loss to the Fund is loss of the entire amount that the Fund is entitled to receive. If the Fund is obligated to pay the net amount, the Fund's risk of loss is limited to that net amount. If the swap agreement involves the exchange of the entire principal value of a security, the entire principal value of that security is subject to the risk that the other party to the swap will default on its contractual delivery obligations.

Because swap agreements are two-party contracts and may have terms of greater than seven days, they may be illiquid and, therefore, subject to the Fund's limitation on investments in illiquid securities. If a swap transaction is particularly large or if the relevant market is illiquid, the Fund may not be able to establish or liquidate a position at an advantageous time or price, which may result in significant losses. Participants in the swap markets are not required to make continuous markets in the swap contracts they trade. Participants could refuse to quote prices for swap contracts or quote prices with an unusually wide spread between the price at which they are prepared to buy and the price at which they are prepared to sell. However, the swap markets have grown substantially in recent years, with a large number of financial institutions acting both as principals and agents, utilizing standardized swap documentation. As a result, the swap markets have become increasingly liquid. Some swap agreements entail complex terms and may require a greater degree of subjectivity in their valuation.

Swap agreements currently are not automatically traded on exchanges and are not subject to government regulation. As a result, swap participants are not as protected as participants on organized exchanges. Performance of a swap agreement is the responsibility only of the swap counterparty and not of any exchange or clearinghouse. As a result, the Fund is subject to the risk that a counterparty will be unable or will refuse to perform under such agreement, including because of the counterparty's bankruptcy or insolvency. No limitations on daily price movements or speculative position limits apply to swap transactions. Counterparties may, however, limit the size or duration of a swap agreement with the Fund as a consequence of credit considerations. The Fund risks the loss of the accrued but unpaid amounts under a swap agreement, which could be substantial, in the event of a default, insolvency or bankruptcy by a swap counterparty. In such an event, the Fund will have contractual remedies pursuant to the swap agreements, but bankruptcy and insolvency laws

could affect the Fund's rights as a creditor. If the counterparty's creditworthiness declines, the value of a swap agreement would likely decline, potentially resulting in losses. The Fund's investment manager will only approve a swap agreement counterparty for the Fund if the investment manager deems the counterparty to be creditworthy under the Fund's Counterparty Credit Review Standards, adopted and reviewed annually by the Fund's board. However, in unusual or extreme market conditions, a counterparty's creditworthiness and ability to perform may deteriorate rapidly, and the availability of suitable replacement counterparties may become limited.

As a result of the recent turmoil in the financial markets, legislation has been enacted that will likely result in numerous proposals by various entities to regulate the OTC derivatives markets, including, specifically, most swaps. The Fund cannot predict the outcome or final form of any of these proposals or if or when any of them would become effective. However, any additional regulation or limitation on the OTC markets for derivatives could materially and adversely impact the ability of the Fund to buy or sell OTC derivatives, including certain swaps.

Certain Internal Revenue Service positions may limit the Fund's ability to use swap agreements in a desired tax strategy. It is possible that developments in the swap markets and/or the laws relating to swap agreements, including potential government regulation, could adversely affect the Fund's ability to benefit from using swap agreements, or could have adverse tax consequences.

### **Derivative Instruments**

The performance of derivative instruments (including currency-related derivatives) depends largely on the performance of an underlying currency, security or index and such instruments often have risks similar to their underlying instrument in addition to other risks. Derivative instruments involve costs and can create economic leverage in the Fund's portfolio that may result in significant volatility and cause the Fund to participate in losses (as well as gains) in an amount that significantly exceeds the Fund's initial investment. Certain derivatives have the potential for unlimited loss, regardless of the size of the initial investment. Other risks include illiquidity, mispricing or improper valuation of the derivative instrument, and imperfect correlation between the value of the derivative and the underlying instrument so that the Fund may not realize the intended benefits. Their successful use will usually depend on the investment manager's ability to accurately forecast movements in the market relating to the underlying instrument. Should a market or markets, or prices of particular classes of investments, move in an unexpected manner, especially in unusual or extreme market conditions, the Fund may not achieve the anticipated benefits.

of the transaction, and it may realize losses, which could be significant. If the investment manager is not successful in using such derivative instruments, the Fund's performance may be worse than if the investment manager did not use such derivative instruments at all. To the extent that the Fund uses such instruments for hedging purposes, there is the risk of imperfect correlation between movements in the value of the derivative instrument and the value of the underlying investment or other asset being hedged. There is also the risk, especially under extreme market conditions, that an instrument, which usually would operate as a hedge, provides no hedging benefits at all.

Use of these instruments could also result in a loss if the counterparty to the transaction (with respect to swap agreements, forward currency contracts and other OTC derivatives) does not perform as promised, including because of such counterparty's bankruptcy or insolvency. This risk may be heightened during volatile market conditions. Other risks include the inability to close out a position because the trading market becomes illiquid (particularly in the OTC markets) or the availability of counterparties becomes limited for a period of time. In addition, the presence of speculators in a particular market could lead to price distortions. To the extent that the Fund is unable to close out a position because of market illiquidity, the Fund may not be able to prevent further losses of value in its derivatives holdings and the Fund's liquidity may be impaired to the extent that it has a substantial portion of its otherwise liquid assets marked as segregated to cover its obligations under such derivative instruments. The Fund may also be required to take or make delivery of an underlying instrument that the investment manager would otherwise have attempted to avoid. Some derivatives can be particularly sensitive to changes in interest rates or other market prices. Investors should bear in mind that, while the Fund intends to use derivative strategies on a regular basis, it is not obligated to actively engage in these transactions, generally or in any particular kind of derivative, if the investment manager elects not to do so due to availability, cost or other factors.

The use of derivative strategies may also have a tax impact on the Fund. The timing and character of income, gains or losses from these strategies could impair the ability of the investment manager to utilize derivatives when it wishes to do so.



# Annual Shareholders Meeting

**September 20, 2012**

At an annual Meeting of Shareholders of the Fund held on September 20, 2012, shareholders approved the election of the following persons as Trustees of the Fund.

The results of the voting are as follows:

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## Dividend Reinvestment Plan

The Fund's Dividend Reinvestment Plan (Plan) offers you a prompt and simple way to reinvest dividends and capital gain distributions (Distributions) in shares of the Fund. BNY Mellon Investment Servicing (US) Inc. (Agent), P.O. Box 43006, Providence, RI 02940-3006, will act as your Agent in administering the Plan. The Agent will open an account for you under the Plan in the same name as your outstanding shares are registered. The complete Terms and Conditions of the Dividend Reinvestment Plan are contained in the Fund's Dividend Reinvestment Plan Brochure. Participants may contact the Agent at the address above to obtain a copy of the Brochure.

You are automatically enrolled in the Plan unless you elect to receive Distributions in cash. If you own shares in your own name, you should notify the Agent, in writing, if you wish to receive Distributions in cash.

If the Fund declares a Distribution, you, as a participant in the Plan, will automatically receive an equivalent amount of shares of the Fund purchased on your behalf by the Agent.

If on the payment date for a Distribution, the net asset value per share is equal to or less than the market price per share plus estimated brokerage commissions, the Agent shall receive newly issued shares, including fractions, from the Fund for your account. The number of additional shares to be credited shall be determined by dividing the dollar amount of the Distribution by the greater of the net asset value per share on the payment date, or 95% of the then current market price per share.

If the net asset value per share exceeds the market price plus estimated brokerage commissions on the payment date for a Distribution, the Agent (or a broker-dealer selected by the Agent) shall try, for a purchase period of 30 days, to apply the amount of such Distribution on your shares (less your pro rata share of brokerage commissions incurred) to purchase shares on the open market. The weighted average price (including brokerage commissions) of all shares it purchases shall be your allocated price per share. If, before the Agent has completed its purchases, the market price plus estimated brokerage commissions exceeds the net asset value of the shares as of the payment date, the purchase price the Agent paid may exceed the net asset value of the shares, resulting in the acquisition of fewer shares than if such Distribution had been paid in shares issued by the Fund. Participants should note that they will not be able to instruct the Agent to purchase shares at a specific time or at a specific price. The Agent may make open-market purchases on any securities exchange where shares are traded, in the over-the-counter market or in negotiated transactions, and may be on such terms as to price, delivery and otherwise as the Agent shall determine.

The market price of shares on a particular date shall be the last sales price on NYSE Amex, or, if there is no sale on the exchange on that date, then the mean between the closing bid and asked quotations on the exchange on such date. The net asset value per share on a particular date shall be the amount most recently calculated by or on behalf of the Fund as required by law.

The Agent shall at all times act in good faith and agree to use its best efforts within reasonable limits to ensure the accuracy of all services performed under this agreement and to comply with applicable law, but assumes no responsibility and shall not be liable for loss or damage due to errors unless such error is caused by the Agent's negligence, bad faith, or willful misconduct or that of its employees. Your uninvested funds held by the Agent will not bear interest. The Agent shall have no responsibility for the value of shares acquired. For the purpose of cash investments, the Agent may commingle your funds with those of other participants in the same Fund.

There is no direct charge to participants for reinvesting Distributions, since the Agent's fees are paid by the Fund. However, when shares are purchased in the open market, each participant will pay a pro rata portion of any brokerage commissions incurred. If you elect by notice to the Agent to have it sell part or all of your shares and remit the proceeds, the Agent will deduct brokerage commissions from the proceeds.

The automatic reinvestment of Distributions does not relieve you of any taxes that may be payable on Distributions. In connection with the reinvestment of Distributions, shareholders generally will be treated as having received a Distribution equal to the cash Distribution that would have been paid.

The Agent will forward to you any proxy solicitation material and will vote any shares so held for you first in accordance with the instructions set forth on proxies you return to the Fund, and then with respect to any proxies you do not return to the Fund in the same portion as the Agent votes proxies the participants return to the Fund.

As long as you participate in the Plan, the Agent will hold the shares it has acquired for you in safekeeping, in its name or in the name of its nominee. This convenience provides added protection against loss, theft or inadvertent destruction of certificates. However, you may request that a certificate representing your Plan shares be issued to you. Upon your written request, the Agent will deliver to you, without charge, a certificate or certificates for the full shares. The Agent will send you a confirmation of each acquisition made for your account as soon as practicable, but not later than 60 days after the acquisition date. Although from time to time you may have an undivided

fractional interest in a share of the Fund, no certificates for a fractional share will be issued. Distributions on fractional shares will be credited to your account. If you terminate your account under the Plan, the Agent will adjust for any such undivided fractional interest in cash at the market value of shares at the time of termination.

You may withdraw from the Plan at any time, without penalty, by notifying the Agent in writing at the address above or by telephone at (866) 340-2909. Such termination will be effective with respect to a Distribution if the Agent receives your notice prior to the Distribution record date. The Agent or the Fund may terminate the Plan upon notice to you in writing mailed at least 30 days prior to any record date for the payment of any Distribution. Upon any termination, the Agent will issue, without charge, stock certificates for all full shares you own and will convert any fractional shares you hold at the time of termination to cash at current market price and send you a check for the proceeds.

The Fund or the Agent may amend the Plan. You will receive written notice at least 30 days before the effective date of any amendment.

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**Statement of Investments, March 31, 2013**

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**Statement of Investments, March 31, 2013** *(continued)*

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**Statement of Investments, March 31, 2013** *(continued)*

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**Statement of Investments, March 31, 2013** *(continued)*

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**Statement of Investments, March 31, 2013** *(continued)*

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**Statement of Investments, March 31, 2013** *(continued)*

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**Statement of Investments, March 31, 2013** *(continued)*

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# Franklin Templeton

## Limited Duration Income Trust

### Statement of Investments, March 31, 2013 *(continued)*

\*The principal amount is stated in U.S. dollars unless otherwise indicated.

<sup>a</sup>Non-income producing.

<sup>b</sup>Security has been deemed illiquid because it may not be able to be sold within seven days.

<sup>c</sup>See Note 10 regarding restricted securities.

<sup>d</sup>Security was purchased pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933 and may be sold in transactions exempt from registration only to qualified institutional buyers or in a public offering registered under the Securities Act of 1933. These securities have been deemed liquid under guidelines approved by the Trust's Board of Trustees. At March 31, 2013, the aggregate value of these securities was \$93,217,990, representing 24.30% of net assets.

<sup>e</sup>Income may be received in additional securities and/or cash.

<sup>f</sup>Perpetual security with no stated maturity date.

<sup>g</sup>See Note 9 regarding defaulted securities.

<sup>h</sup>The coupon rate shown represents the rate at period end.

<sup>i</sup>A portion or all of the security purchased on a when-issued, delayed delivery, or to-be-announced basis. See Note 1(c).

<sup>j</sup>At March 31, 2013, pursuant to the Fund's policies and the requirements of applicable securities law, the Fund may be restricted from trading these securities for a limited or extended period of time due to ownership limits and/or potential possession of material non-public information.

<sup>k</sup>See Note 1(g) regarding senior floating rate interests.

<sup>l</sup>The bond pays interest and/or principal based upon the issuer's ability to pay, which may be less than the stated interest rate or principal paydown.

<sup>m</sup>Security was purchased pursuant to Regulation S under the Securities Act of 1933, which exempts from registration securities offered and sold outside of the United States. Such a security cannot be sold in the United States without either an effective registration statement filed pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, or pursuant to an exemption from registration. This security has been deemed liquid under guidelines approved by the Trust's Board of Trustees. At March 31, 2013, the value of this security was \$887,206, representing 0.23% of net assets.

<sup>n</sup>The security is traded on a discount basis with no stated coupon rate.

<sup>o</sup>See Note 8 regarding investments in the Institutional Fiduciary Trust Money Market Portfolio.



Annual Report | The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements. | 37

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38 | The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements. | Annual Report

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Annual Report | The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements. | 39

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40 | The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements. | Annual Report

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# Franklin Templeton

## Limited Duration Income Trust

### Notes to Financial Statements

#### 1. ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Franklin Templeton Limited Duration Income Trust (Fund) is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, (1940 Act) as a closed-end investment company.

The following summarizes the Fund's significant accounting policies.

##### a. Financial Instrument Valuation

The Fund's investments in financial instruments are carried at fair value daily. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. Under procedures approved by the Fund's Board of Trustees (the Board), the Fund's administrator, investment manager and other affiliates have formed the Valuation and Liquidity Oversight Committee (VLOC). The VLOC provides administration and oversight of the Fund's valuation policies and procedures, which are approved annually by the Board. Among other things, these procedures allow the Fund to utilize independent pricing services, quotations from securities and financial instrument dealers, and other market sources to determine fair value.

Equity securities listed on an exchange or on the NASDAQ National Market System are valued at the last quoted sale price or the official closing price of the day, respectively. Over-the-counter (OTC) securities are valued within the range of the most recent quoted bid and ask prices. Securities that trade in multiple markets or on multiple exchanges are valued according to the broadest and most representative market. Certain equity securities are valued based upon fundamental characteristics or relationships to similar securities.

Debt securities generally trade in the OTC market rather than on a securities exchange. The Fund's pricing services use multiple valuation techniques to determine fair value. In instances where sufficient market activity exists, the pricing services may utilize a market-based approach through which quotes from market makers are used to determine fair value. In instances where sufficient market activity may not exist or is limited, the pricing services also utilize proprietary valuation models which may consider market characteristics such as benchmark yield curves, credit spreads, estimated default rates, anticipated market interest rate volatility, coupon rates, anticipated timing of principal repayments, underlying collateral, and other unique security features in order to estimate the relevant cash flows, which are then discounted to calculate the fair value. Securities denominated in a foreign currency are converted into their U.S. dollar equivalent at the foreign exchange rate in effect at the close of the NYSE on the date that the values of the foreign debt securities are determined. Investments in open-end mutual funds are valued at the closing net asset value.

# Franklin Templeton

## Limited Duration Income Trust

### Notes to Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### 1. ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(continued)*

##### a. Financial Instrument Valuation *(continued)*

Certain derivative financial instruments (derivatives) trade in the OTC market. The Fund's pricing services use various techniques including industry standard option pricing models and proprietary discounted cash flow models to determine the fair value of those instruments. The Fund's net benefit or obligation under the derivative contract, as measured by the fair market value of the contract, is included in net assets.

The Fund has procedures to determine the fair value of financial instruments for which market prices are not reliable or readily available. Under these procedures, the VLOC convenes on a regular basis to review such financial instruments and considers a number of factors, including significant unobservable valuation inputs, when arriving at fair value. The VLOC primarily employs a market-based approach which may use related or comparable assets or liabilities, recent transactions, market multiples, book values, and other relevant information for the investment to determine the fair value of the investment. An income-based valuation approach may also be used in which the anticipated future cash flows of the investment are discounted to calculate fair value. Discounts may also be applied due to the nature or duration of any restrictions on the disposition of the investments. Due to the inherent uncertainty of valuations of such investments, the fair values may differ significantly from the values that would have been used had an active market existed. The VLOC employs various methods for calibrating these valuation approaches including a regular review of key inputs and assumptions, transactional back-testing or disposition analysis, and reviews of any related market activity.

Trading in securities on foreign securities stock exchanges and OTC markets may be completed before the daily close of business on the NYSE. Occasionally, events occur between the time at which trading in a foreign security is completed and the close of the NYSE that might call into question the reliability of the value of a portfolio security held by the Fund. As a result, differences may arise between the value of the Fund's portfolio securities as determined at the foreign market close and the latest indications of value at the close of the NYSE. In order to minimize the potential for these differences, the VLOC monitors price movements following the close of trading in foreign stock markets through a series of country specific market proxies (such as baskets of American Depositary Receipts, futures contracts and exchange traded funds). These price movements are measured against established trigger thresholds for each specific market proxy to assist in determining if an event has occurred that may call into question the reliability of the values of the foreign securities held by the Fund. If such an event occurs, the securities may be valued using fair value procedures, which may include the use of independent pricing services.

In addition, certain foreign markets may be open on days that the NYSE is closed, which could result in differences between the value of the Fund's portfolio securities on the last business day and the last calendar day of the reporting period. Any significant security valuation changes due to an open foreign market are adjusted and reflected in the Fund for financial reporting purposes.

# Franklin Templeton

## Limited Duration Income Trust

### Notes to Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### 1. ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(continued)*

##### b. Foreign Currency Translation

Portfolio securities and other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollars based on the exchange rate of such currencies against U.S. dollars on the date of valuation. The Fund may enter into foreign currency exchange contracts to facilitate transactions denominated in a foreign currency. Purchases and sales of securities, income and expense items denominated in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollars at the exchange rate in effect on the transaction date. Portfolio securities and assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies contain risks that those currencies will decline in value relative to the U.S. dollar. Occasionally, events may impact the availability or reliability of foreign exchange rates used to convert the U.S. dollar equivalent value. If such an event occurs, the foreign exchange rate will be valued at fair value using procedures established and approved by the Board.

The Fund does not separately report the effect of changes in foreign exchange rates from changes in market prices on securities held. Such changes are included in net realized and unrealized gain or loss from investments on the Statement of Operations.

Realized foreign exchange gains or losses arise from sales of foreign currencies, currency gains or losses realized between the trade and settlement dates on securities transactions and the difference between the recorded amounts of dividends, interest, and foreign withholding taxes and the U.S. dollar equivalent of the amounts actually received or paid. Net unrealized foreign exchange gains and losses arise from changes in foreign exchange rates on foreign denominated assets and liabilities other than investments in securities held at the end of the reporting period.

##### c. Securities Purchased on a When-Issued, Delayed Delivery, and TBA Basis

The Fund purchases securities on a when-issued, delayed delivery, and to-be-announced (TBA) basis, with payment and delivery scheduled for a future date. These transactions are subject to market fluctuations and are subject to the risk that the value at delivery may be more or less than the trade date purchase price. Although the Fund will generally purchase these securities with the intention of holding the securities, it may sell the securities before the settlement date. Sufficient assets have been segregated for these securities.

##### d. Derivative Financial Instruments

The Fund invested in derivatives in order to manage risk or gain exposure to various other investments or markets. Derivatives are financial contracts based on an underlying or notional amount, require no initial investment or an initial net investment that is smaller than would normally be

# Franklin Templeton

## Limited Duration Income Trust

### Notes to Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### 1. ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(continued)*

##### d. Derivative Financial Instruments *(continued)*

required to have a similar response to changes in market factors, and require or permit net settlement. Derivatives contain various risks including the potential inability of the counterparty to fulfill their obligations under the terms of the contract, the potential for an illiquid secondary market, and/or the potential for market movements which expose the Fund to gains or losses in excess of the amounts shown on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Realized gain and loss and unrealized appreciation and depreciation on these contracts for the period are included in the Statement of Operations.

The Fund investments in OTC derivatives are subject to the terms of International Swaps and Derivatives Association Master Agreements and other related agreements between the Fund and certain derivative counterparties. These agreements contain various provisions, including but not limited to collateral requirements, events of default, requirements for the Fund to maintain certain net asset levels and/or limit the decline in net assets over various periods of time. Should the Fund fail to meet any of these provisions, the derivative counterparty has the right to terminate the derivative contract and require immediate payment by the Fund for those OTC derivatives with that particular counterparty that are in a net liability position.

At March 31, 2013, the Fund had OTC derivatives in a net liability position for such contracts of \$15,771.

The Fund entered into OTC forward exchange contracts primarily to manage and/or gain exposure to certain foreign currencies. A forward exchange contract is an agreement between the Fund and a counterparty to buy or sell a foreign currency at a specific exchange rate on a future date. Pursuant to the terms of the forward exchange contracts, cash or securities may be required to be deposited as collateral. Unrestricted cash may be invested according to the Fund's investment objectives.

The Fund entered into OTC credit default swap contracts primarily to manage and/or gain exposure to credit risk. A credit default swap is an agreement between the Fund and a counter-party whereby the buyer of the contract receives credit protection and the seller of the contract guarantees the credit worthiness of a referenced debt obligation. The underlying referenced debt obligation may be a single issuer of corporate or sovereign debt, a credit index, or a tranche of a credit index. In the event of a default of the underlying referenced debt obligation, the buyer is entitled to receive the notional amount of the credit default swap contract from the seller in exchange for the referenced debt obligation, a net settlement amount equal to the notional amount

# Franklin Templeton

## Limited Duration Income Trust

### Notes to Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### 1. ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(continued)*

##### d. Derivative Financial Instruments *(continued)*

of the credit default swap less the recovery value of the referenced debt obligation, or other agreed upon amount. Over the term of the contract, the buyer pays the seller a periodic stream of payments, provided that no event of default has occurred. Such periodic payments are accrued daily as an unrealized appreciation or depreciation until the payments are made, at which time they are realized. Payments received or paid to initiate a credit default swap contract are reflected on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities and represent compensating factors between stated terms of the credit default swap agreement and prevailing market conditions (credit spreads and other relevant factors). These upfront payments are amortized over the term of the contract as a realized gain or loss on the Statement of Operations. Pursuant to the terms of the credit default swap contract, cash or securities may be required to be deposited as collateral. Unrestricted cash may be invested according to the Fund's investment objectives.

At March 31, 2013, the Fund held \$277,287, in a U.S. Treasury Note, as collateral for derivatives.

See Note 11 regarding other derivative information.

##### e. Restricted Cash

At March 31, 2013, the Fund held restricted cash in connection with investments in certain derivative securities. Restricted cash is held in a segregated account with the Fund's custodian and is reflected in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

##### f. Mortgage Dollar Rolls

The Fund enters into mortgage dollar rolls, typically on a TBA basis. Mortgage dollar rolls are agreements between the Fund and a financial institution to simultaneously sell and repurchase mortgage-backed securities at a future date. Gains or losses are realized on the initial sale, and the difference between the repurchase price and the sale price is recorded as an unrealized gain or loss to the Fund upon entering into the mortgage dollar roll. In addition, the Fund may invest the cash proceeds that are received from the initial sale. During the period between the sale and repurchase, the Fund is not entitled to principal and interest paid on the mortgage backed securities. The risks of mortgage dollar roll transactions include the potential inability of the counterparty to fulfill its obligations.

The Fund is investing in mortgage dollar rolls as an alternate form of leverage. As a result, the mortgage dollar rolls are considered indebtedness or a senior security for purposes of the asset coverage requirements under the 1940 Act.

# Franklin Templeton

## Limited Duration Income Trust

### Notes to Financial Statements *(continued)*

#### 1. ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(continued)*

##### g. Senior Floating Rate Interests

The Fund invests in senior secured corporate loans that pay interest at rates which are periodically reset by reference to a base lending rate plus a spread. These base lending rates are generally the prime rate offered by a designated U.S. bank or the London InterBank Offered Rate (LIBOR). Senior secured corporate loans often require prepayment of principal from excess cash flows or at the discretion of the borrower. As a result, actual maturity may be substantially less than the stated maturity.

Senior secured corporate loans in which the Fund invests are generally readily marketable, but may be subject to some restrictions on resale.

##### h. Income and Deferred Taxes

It is the Fund's policy to qualify as a regulated investment company under the Internal Revenue Code. The Fund intends to distribute to shareholders substantially all of its taxable income and net realized gains to relieve it from federal income and excise taxes. As a result, no provision for U.S. federal income taxes is required.

The Fund may be subject to foreign taxation related to income received, capital gains on the sale of securities and certain foreign currency transactions in the foreign jurisdictions in which it invests. Foreign taxes, if any, are recorded based on the tax regulations and rates that exist in the foreign markets in which the Fund invests. When a capital gain tax is determined to apply the Fund records an estimated deferred tax liability in an amount that would be payable if the securities were disposed of on the valuation date.

The Fund recognizes the tax benefits of uncertain tax positions only when the position is more likely than not to be sustained upon examination by the tax authorities based on the technical merits of the tax position. As of March 31, 2013, and for all open tax years