

ABERDEEN AUSTRALIA EQUITY FUND INC
Form N-CSRS
July 07, 2011

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM N-CSR

CERTIFIED SHAREHOLDER REPORT OF REGISTERED MANAGEMENT

INVESTMENT COMPANIES

Investment Company Act file number:	811-04438
Exact name of registrant as specified in charter:	Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.
Address of principal executive offices:	1735 Market Street, 32 nd Floor Philadelphia, PA 19103
Name and address of agent for service:	Ms. Andrea Melia Aberdeen Asset Management Inc. 1735 Market Street 32 nd Floor Philadelphia, PA 19103
Registrant's telephone number, including area code:	866-839-5205
Date of fiscal year end:	October 31
Date of reporting period:	April 30, 2011

Item 1 Reports to Stockholders

11

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

Semi-Annual Report

April 30, 2011

Invests primarily in equity securities of Australian companies listed on the
Australian Stock Exchange Limited.

Managed Distribution Policy

The Board of Directors of the Fund has authorized a managed distribution policy (MDP) of paying quarterly distributions at an annual rate, set once a year, that is a percentage of the rolling average of the Fund's prior four quarter-end net asset values. With each distribution, the Fund will issue a notice to shareholders and an accompanying press release which will provide detailed information regarding the amount and composition of the distribution and other information required by the Fund's MDP exemptive order. The Fund's Board of Directors may amend or terminate the MDP at any time without prior notice to shareholders; however, at this time, there are no reasonably foreseeable circumstances that might cause the termination of the MDP. You should not draw any conclusions about the Fund's investment performance from the amount of distributions or from the terms of the Fund's MDP.

Distribution Disclosure Classification (unaudited)

The Fund's policy is to provide investors with a stable distribution rate. Each quarterly distribution will be paid out of current income, supplemented by realized capital gains and, to the extent necessary, paid-in capital.

The Fund is subject to U.S. corporate, tax and securities laws. Under U.S. tax accounting rules, the amount of distributable income for each fiscal period depends on the actual exchange rates during the entire year between the U.S. Dollar and the currencies in which Fund assets are denominated and on the aggregate gains and losses realized by the Fund during the entire year.

Therefore, the exact amount of distributable income for each fiscal year can only be determined as of the end of the Fund's fiscal year, October 31. However, under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "1940 Act"), the Fund is required to indicate the sources of certain distributions to shareholders.

The Fund estimates that distributions for the period commencing November 1, 2010 including the distribution paid on April 15, 2011, are comprised of 26% net investment income, 25% of net realized long-term capital gains and 49% return of paid-in capital.

This estimated distribution composition may vary from quarter to quarter because it may be materially impacted by future realized gains and losses on securities and fluctuations in the value of the currencies in which Fund assets are denominated.

In January 2012, a Form 1099-DIV will be sent to shareholders, which will state the amount and composition of distributions and provide information with respect to their appropriate tax treatment for the 2011 calendar year.

Dividend Reinvestment and Direct Stock Purchase Plan

The Fund has a Dividend Reinvestment and Direct Stock Purchase Plan (the "Plan"), which is sponsored and administered by Computershare Trust Company, N.A., the Fund's transfer agent.

The Plan allows registered stockholders and first time investors to buy and sell shares and automatically reinvest dividends and capital gains through our transfer agent. This is a cost-effective way to invest in the Fund.

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN AUSTRALIA EQUITY FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

Please note that for both purchases and reinvestment purposes, shares will be purchased in the open market at the current share price and cannot be issued directly by the Fund.

For more information about the Plan and a brochure that includes the terms and conditions of the Plan, please call Computershare at 1-800-647-0584 or visit www.computershare.com/buyaberdeen.

All amounts are U.S. Dollars unless otherwise stated.

Letter to Shareholders (unaudited)

June 8, 2011

Dear Shareholder,

We present this Semi-Annual Report which covers the activities of Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc. (the Fund) for the six months ended April 30, 2011. The Fund's principal investment objective is long-term capital appreciation through investment primarily in equity securities of Australian companies listed on the Australian Stock Exchange Limited. The Fund's secondary investment objective is current income.

Net Asset Value Performance

The Fund's total return based on net asset value (NAV) was 13.1% for the six months ended April 30, 2011, assuming reinvestment of distributions, compared with a return of 17.8% in U.S. dollar terms, for the Fund's benchmark, the S&P/ASX 200 Accumulation Index (the ASX 200).

Share Price Performance

The Fund's share price increased 1.4% over the six month period, from \$12.70 on October 31, 2010 to \$12.88 on April 30, 2011. The Fund's share price on April 30, 2011 represented a premium of 3.0% to the NAV per share of \$12.50 on that date, compared with a premium of 9.7% to the NAV per share of \$11.58 on October 31, 2010. At the date of this letter, the share price was \$12.03, representing a premium of 5.5% to the NAV per share of \$11.40.

Managed Distribution Policy

The Fund has a managed distribution policy of paying quarterly distributions at an annual rate, set once a year, that is a percentage of the rolling average of the Fund's prior four quarter-end net asset values. In March 2011, the Fund's Board of Directors (the Board) determined the rolling distribution rate to be 10% for the 12 month period commencing with the distribution payable in April 2011. This policy is subject to regular review by the Board. The distributions will be made from current income, supplemented by realized capital gains and, to the extent necessary, paid-in capital, which is a non-taxable return of capital.

On June 7, 2011, the Board authorized a quarterly distribution of \$0.29 per share, payable on July 15, 2011 to all shareholders of record as of June 30, 2011.

Portfolio Holdings Disclosure

The Fund files its complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the SEC for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year on Form N-Q. The Fund's Forms N-Q are available on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov> and may be reviewed and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. Information about the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling

1-800-SEC-0330. The Fund makes the information on Form N-Q available to shareholders on the Fund's website or upon request and without charge by calling Investor Relations toll-free at 1-866-839-5205.

Proxy Voting

A description of the policies and procedures that the Fund uses to determine how to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities, and information regarding how the Fund voted proxies relating to portfolio securities during the twelve months ended June 30, 2010, is available: (i) upon request and without charge by calling Investor Relations toll-free at 1-866-839-5205; and (ii) on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

Investor Relations Information

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN AUSTRALIA EQUITY FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

For information about the Fund, daily updates of share price, NAV and details of recent distributions, please contact Aberdeen Asset Management Inc. by:

Calling toll free at 1-866-839-5205 in the United States,
E-mailing InvestorRelations@aberdeen-asset.com, or
Visiting the website at www.aberdeeniaf.com.

For more information about Aberdeen Closed-End Funds, please visit our Closed-End Investor Center at www.aberdeen-asset.us/cef.

From the site you will also be able to review performance, download literature and sign up for email services. The site houses topical information about the funds, including fact sheets from Morningstar that are updated daily and monthly manager reports. If you sign up for our email service online, we can ensure that you are among the first to know about Aberdeen's latest closed-end fund news.

Included within this report is a reply card with postage paid envelope. Please complete and mail the card if you would like to be added to our enhanced email service and receive future communications from Aberdeen.

Yours sincerely,

Christian Pittard

President

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

Report of the Investment Manager (unaudited)

Economic Review

The Australian share market, as represented by the ASX 200, the Fund's benchmark, rose by 17.8% in U.S. Dollar terms over the six months ended April 30, 2011.

In November the ASX 200 declined by 1.1%, with the stock market responding to news regarding tensions developing on the Korean peninsula, Eurozone debt worries in Ireland and policy tightening within China. The Resources sector (+1.1%) outperformed, but Banks (-5.3%) were under pressure politically from out-of-step hikes in interest rate rises on their variable mortgage books. BHP Billiton Limited withdrew its offer for Potash Corporation after political objections within Canada, but AMP Limited (AMP) revived its bid for AXA Asia-Pacific Holdings Limited (AXA) after National Australia Bank was precluded from its bid by the ACCC (Australia's competition authority). The Annual General Meeting (AGM) season also featured some cautious outlook statements. After five months on hold, the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) raised its cash rate by 25 basis points on Melbourne Cup Day to 4.75%, taking the market by surprise.

December saw a rebound in the Australian Market, with ASX 200 rising by 3.7%, although not as strong as other markets such as FTSE100 which was up 6.5% and Dow Jones Industrials up 5.2%. Yet again, resources performed strongly (+6.1%) as M&A activity continued and a report was released on the proposed Mineral Resources Rent Tax which contained no surprises. Banks (+3.3%) traded roughly in-line as competition proposals from the Australian Government proved less onerous than feared. The RBA left rates on hold stating the current setting is appropriate for the current outlook. November employment numbers in Australia were very strong with the unemployment rate falling from 5.4% to 5.2%.

In the first month of 2011, the ASX 200 hardly moved (+0.2%), with Australia being one of the weaker developed markets. Emerging markets in general lost ground over the month. The resources sector retreated (-3.1%) with buyers favouring more domestic plays like banks (+2.9%), as RBA rate hike fears receded. Oil prices rose as attention focused on events in Tunisia and Egypt. In Australia, all eyes were focused on the floods in Queensland and Victoria and anticipating the effects on some companies. Woolworths Ltd. lowered its outlook citing weak discretionary spending as a result of the floods. The Australian Government proposed a flood levy on individuals and spending cuts to help fund reconstruction in flood-hit areas.

The Fund disposed of its small holdings in Billabong International Limited. The Fund re-allocated the proceeds by increasing its weighting by 1% to Leighton Holdings Company with the balance topping up its holding in David Jones Limited.

February was a strong month with the ASX 200 rising 2.3% higher despite the political unrest in the Middle East and North Africa which sent the price of oil northwards and sent jitters through global markets, especially emerging markets. Both the materials sector and energy sector had a strong month. The earnings season brought mixed news, with the mining sector encouraged by strong commodity prices and increased volumes, some signs of improving economic news from Europe and the U.S. and a number of Australian based companies reporting slow trading conditions, especially in retailing. Australian economic news though was positive with unemployment continuing to decline, capital expenditure intentions were positive and consumer confidence was positive despite the recent flooding in Queensland and Victoria. Another feature was the Australian Dollar (AUD) moving to parity with the U.S. Dollar (USD).

During March, the ASX 200 increased by 0.7% as continued unrest in the Middle East and North Africa weighed on markets and kept oil prices high. The energy sector was the strongest performer with property sector being the weakest. The earthquake in Japan was the focus of attention with demand for gas expected to leap due to the closure of nuclear plants in Northern Japan. Uranium stocks were hard hit in anticipation of a fall in demand. Australian economic news was mixed with employment falling, but full-time employees up, and consumer confidence, housing starts and mortgage approvals falling. The AUD closed at a record at \$1.03 against the USD.

In April, the ASX 200 fell 0.3% but the focus was on the AUD which closed at \$1.09 against the USD. Against this companies with large U.S. earnings were under pressure. Also two of the Fund's holdings issued profit warnings, namely Leighton Holdings Company and Goodman Fielder Limited. Reports from the mining sector showed the impact from flooding and retailers continued to indicate tough trading conditions. The Australian Government rejected the bid by the Singapore Stock Exchange for the ASX, which was disappointing. Telecommunications was the best performing sector and industrials the worst. The RBA left interest rates on hold at 4.75%.

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN AUSTRALIA EQUITY FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

During the first quarter of 2011, no new holdings were initiated, but the Fund disposed of its holding in Sonic Healthcare Limited due to the Investment Managers' concerns of alterations to the Australian Government funding to the pathology sector. The Fund added to its holdings in Tattersall's Limited, Leighton Holdings Company and Computershare Limited. The bid for AXA, finally closed during the period with the portfolio receiving a mixture of cash and AMP Ltd. shares and topped up the shareholding in AMP Ltd. to 2% of the Fund's holdings.

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

Portfolio Composition (unaudited)

The following chart summarizes the composition of the Fund's portfolio, in industry classification standard sectors, expressed as a percentage of net assets. An industry classification standard sector can include more than one industry group. The Fund may invest between 25% and 35% of its total assets in the securities of any one industry group if, at the time of investment, that industry group represents 20% or more of the S&P/ASX 200 Accumulation Index. As of April 30, 2011, the Fund did not have more than 25% of its assets invested in any industry group. The financial industry sector is comprised of several industry groups.

As of April 30, 2011, the Fund held 97.5% of its net assets in equities, 0.4% in a short-term investment and 2.1% in other assets in excess of liabilities.

Asset Allocation as of April 30, 2011

by Standard & Poor's Global Industry Classification Standard Sectors

Top Ten Equity Holdings (unaudited)

The following were the Fund's top ten holdings as of April 30, 2011:

Name of Security	Percentage of Net Assets
BHP Billiton Ltd.	12.6%
QBE Insurance Group Ltd.	8.0%
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	6.8%
Rio Tinto Ltd.	6.7%
Woolworths Ltd.	6.5%
Westpac Banking Corp. Ltd.	5.7%
Australia & New Zealand Banking Group Ltd.	5.0%
AGL Energy Ltd.	4.7%
Westfield Group Ltd.	4.0%
Singapore Telecommunications Ltd.	3.5%

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

Portfolio of Investments (unaudited)

As of April 30, 2011

Shares	Description	Value (US\$)
LONG-TERM INVESTMENTS 97.5%		
COMMON STOCKS 97.5%		
CONSUMER DISCRETIONARY 6.0%		
1,736,510	David Jones Ltd.*	\$ 8,893,786
2,924,050	Tattersall's Ltd.*	7,447,439
		16,341,225
CONSUMER STAPLES 9.8%		
2,752,520	Goodman Fielder Ltd.*	3,248,451
1,263,190	Metcash Ltd.*	5,627,327
613,900	Woolworths Ltd.*	17,865,162
		26,740,940
ENERGY 3.2%		
168,085	Woodside Petroleum Ltd.*	8,643,371
FINANCIALS 30.8%		
913,260	AMP Ltd.*	5,493,575
510,700	Australia & New Zealand Banking Group Ltd.*	13,603,649
258,295	Australian Stock Exchange Ltd.*	9,108,813
314,180	Commonwealth Bank of Australia*	18,546,909
1,058,220	QBE Insurance Group Ltd.*	21,740,301
563,840	Westpac Banking Corp. Ltd.*	15,392,906
		83,886,153
HEALTH CARE EQUIPMENT & SERVICES 2.0%		
273,940	Ramsay Health Care Ltd.*	5,435,523
INDUSTRIALS 3.0%		
307,778	Leighton Holdings Ltd.*	8,199,611
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY 3.2%		
811,330	Computershare Ltd.*	8,633,621
MATERIALS 23.7%		
680,280	BHP Billiton Ltd.*	34,442,291
1,175,100	Incitec Pivot Ltd.*	4,863,425
243,470	Orica Ltd.*	7,112,734
201,380	Rio Tinto Ltd.*	18,230,037
		64,648,487
PROPERTIES 5.1%		
1,110,530	Westfield Group Ltd.*	11,005,068
1,017,130	Westfield Retail Trust	2,954,420
		13,959,488
TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES 3.5%		
3,707,400	Singapore Telecommunications Ltd.*	9,431,958
UTILITIES 7.2%		
793,825	AGL Energy Ltd.*	12,668,633
7,171,860	SP AusNet*	6,892,745
		19,561,378
	Total Long-Term Investments 97.5% (cost \$169,003,912)	265,481,755

See Notes to Financial Statements.

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

Portfolio of Investments (unaudited) (concluded)

As of April 30, 2011

Par Amount	Description	Value (US\$)
SHORT-TERM INVESTMENT 0.4%		
\$ 959,000	Repurchase Agreement, State Street Bank & Trust Co., 0.01% dated 04/29/2011, due 5/02/11 in the amount of \$959,001, collateralized by U.S. Treasury Bond, maturing 8/15/39; total market value of \$982,800	\$ 959,000
	Total Short-Term Investment 0.4% (cost \$959,000)	959,000
	Total Investments 97.9% (cost \$169,962,912)	266,440,755
	Other Assets in Excess of Liabilities 2.1%	5,795,239
	Net Assets 100.0%	\$272,235,994

* Fair Valued Security; Fair Values are determined pursuant to procedures approved by the Board of Directors.

See Notes to Financial Statements.

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities (unaudited)

As of April 30, 2011

Assets

Investments, at value (cost \$169,962,912)	\$ 266,440,755
Foreign currency, at value (cost \$5,163,882)	5,421,152
Cash	136
Interest and dividends receivable	689,016
Prepaid expenses	92,447
Total assets	272,643,506

Liabilities

Investment management fees payable	212,082
Administration fees	20,856
Other	174,574
Total liabilities	407,512

Net Assets	\$ 272,235,994
-------------------	-----------------------

Composition of Net Assets:

Common stock (par value \$.01 per share)	\$ 217,776
Paid-in capital in excess of par	159,824,860
Distributions in excess of net investment income	(10,292,334)
Accumulated net realized gain from investment transactions	10,365,107
Net unrealized appreciation on investments	44,712,467
Accumulated net realized foreign exchange gains	15,337,121
Net unrealized foreign exchange gains	52,070,997
Net Assets	\$ 272,235,994
Net asset value per common share based on 21,777,602 shares issued and outstanding	\$ 12.50

See Notes to Financial Statements.

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

Statement of Operations (unaudited)

For the Six Months Ended April 30, 2011

Net Investment Income

Income	
Dividend income (net of foreign withholding taxes of \$56,792)	\$ 5,448,711
Interest	70,895
	5,519,606
Expenses	
Investment management fee	1,020,862
Administration fee	99,668
Directors' fees and expenses	127,935
Investor relations fees and expenses	79,585
Legal fees and expenses	76,698
Insurance expense	53,397
Reports to shareholders and proxy solicitation	52,854
Independent auditors' fees and expenses	28,714
Custodian's fees and expenses	28,439
Transfer agent's fees and expenses	15,329
Miscellaneous	37,335
Total expenses	1,620,816
Net investment income	3,898,790
Realized and Unrealized Gains/(Losses) on Investments and Foreign Currencies	
Net realized gain/(loss) from:	
Investment transactions	7,850,978
Foreign currency transactions	(120,492)
	7,730,486
Net change in unrealized appreciation/(depreciation) on:	
Investments	271,707
Foreign currency translation	19,861,442
	20,133,149
Net gain on investments and foreign currencies	27,863,635
Net Increase in Net Assets Resulting from Operations	\$ 31,762,425

See Notes to Financial Statements.

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	For the Six Months Ended April 30, 2011 (unaudited)	For the Year Ended October 31, 2010
Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets		
Operations:		
Net investment income/(loss)	\$ 3,898,790	\$ 6,158,772
Net realized gain/(loss) from investment transactions	7,850,978	8,794,249
Net realized gain/(loss) from foreign currency transactions	(120,492)	1,626,246
Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation on investments	271,707	6,231,484
Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation on foreign currency translation	19,861,442	8,486,348
Net increase/(decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	31,762,425	31,297,099
Distributions to Shareholders from:		
Net investment income	(12,195,457)	(9,565,222)
Net realized gains		(1,143,155)
Tax return of capital		(8,740,575)
Net decrease in net assets from distributions	(12,195,457)	(19,448,952)
Common Stock Transactions:		
Proceeds from the offering of Common Stock (Note 4)	31,250,000	
Expenses in connection with the offering of Common Stock	(1,753,771)	
Reinvestment of dividends resulting in the issuance of 0 and 41,762 shares of common stock, respectively		459,135
Change in net assets from common stock transactions	29,496,229	459,135
Change in net assets resulting from operations	49,063,197	12,307,282
Net Assets:		
Beginning of period	223,172,797	210,865,515
End of period (including distributions in excess of net investment income of (\$10,292,334) and (\$1,995,667), respectively)	\$ 272,235,994	\$ 223,172,797
See Notes to Financial Statements.		

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

Financial Highlights

	For the Six Months Ended	For the Year Ended October 31,				
	April 30, 2011 (unaudited)	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
Per Share Operating Performance^(a):						
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$11.58	\$10.96	\$8.37	\$18.53	\$13.25	\$11.75
Net investment income	0.18	0.32	0.29	0.51	0.39	0.41
Net realized and unrealized gains/(losses) on investments and foreign currencies	1.31	1.31	3.34	(8.83)	6.47	2.47
Total from investment operations	1.49	1.63	3.63	(8.32)	6.86	2.88
Distributions from:						
Net investment income	(0.56)	(0.50)	(0.31)	(0.24)	(0.53)	(0.48)
Net realized gains		(0.06)		(0.84)	(0.98)	(0.90)
Tax return of capital		(0.45)	(0.73)	(0.76)		
Total distributions	(0.56)	(1.01)	(1.04)	(1.84)	(1.51)	(1.38)
Payment by shareholder of short-swing profit ^(b)						
Offering cost on common stock	(0.01)				(0.07)	
Net asset value, end of period	\$12.50	\$11.58	\$10.96	\$8.37	\$18.53	\$13.25
Market value, end of period	\$12.88	\$12.70	\$11.40	\$8.60	\$18.25	\$14.00
Total Investment Return Based on^(c):						
Market value	6.23%	21.62%	50.76%	(45.57%)	43.46%	20.09%
Net asset value	13.07%	15.35%	48.92%	(47.83%)	53.91%	25.66%
Ratio to Average Net Assets/Supplementary Data:						
Net assets, end of period (000 omitted)	\$272,236	\$223,173	\$210,866	\$160,886	\$354,970	\$223,588
Average net assets (000 omitted)	\$251,235	\$211,324	\$163,795	\$282,702	\$283,749	\$209,507
Net operating expenses	1.30% ^(d)	1.39%	1.73%	1.26%	1.44%	1.45%
Net operating expenses without reimbursement	1.30% ^(d)	1.39%	1.73%	1.26%	1.51%	1.55%
Net investment income	3.13% ^(d)	2.91%	3.41%	3.46%	2.56%	3.31%
Portfolio turnover	10%	11%	16%	22%	30%	16%

(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

(b) Less than \$0.005 per share.

(c) Total investment return is calculated assuming a purchase of common stock on the opening of the first day and a sale on the closing of the last day of each period reported. Dividends and distributions, if any, are assumed, for purposes of this calculation, to be reinvested at prices obtained under the Fund's dividend reinvestment plan. Total investment return does not reflect brokerage commissions.

(d) Annualized.

See Notes to Financial Statements

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited)

April 30, 2011

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc. (the Fund) is a closed-end, non-diversified management investment company incorporated in Maryland on September 30, 1985. The Fund's principal investment objective is long-term capital appreciation through investment primarily in equity securities of Australian companies listed on the Australian Stock Exchange Limited (ASX). The Fund's secondary investment objective is current income. In order to comply with a rule adopted by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the 1940 Act) regarding fund names, the Board of Directors (the Board) has adopted an investment policy that, for as long as the name of the Fund remains Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc., it is the policy of the Fund normally to invest at least 80% of its net assets, plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes, in equity securities, consisting of common stock, preferred stock and convertible stock, of Australian companies listed on the ASX. For these purposes, Australian companies means companies that are tied economically to Australia. This 80% investment policy is a non-fundamental policy of the Fund and may be changed by the Board upon 60 days prior written notice to shareholders.

1. Accounting Policies

The following is a summary of significant accounting policies followed by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements. The policies are in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of income and expenses for the period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The U.S. Dollar is used as both the functional and reporting currency. However, the Australian Dollar is the functional currency for U.S. federal tax purposes.

(a) Security Valuation:

Securities for which market quotations are readily available are valued at current market value as of the Valuation Time. The Valuation Time is as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (usually 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time). Equity securities are valued at the last quoted sale price. Effective January 1, 2011, if there is no sale price available, the last quoted mean price provided by an independent pricing service approved by the Board is used. Prior to January 1, 2011, if there was no sale price, the last quoted bid price provided by an independent pricing service was used. Securities traded on NASDAQ are valued at the NASDAQ official closing price. Management has concluded there is no significant effect on the value of the portfolio due to the change in

methodology. Prices are taken from the primary market or exchange on which each security trades. Investment companies are valued at net asset value as reported by such company.

Most securities listed on a foreign exchange are valued at the last sale price at the close of the exchange on which the security is principally traded or by application of a valuation factor by an independent pricing service to the last sales price as further discussed below. Foreign securities, currencies, and other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. Dollars at the exchange rate of said currencies against the U.S. Dollar, as of the Valuation Time, as provided by an independent pricing service approved by the Board.

Debt and other fixed-income securities (other than short-term obligations) are valued at the last quoted bid price and/or by using a combination of daily quotes and matrix evaluations provided by an independent pricing service, the use of which has been approved by the Board. In the event such quotes are not available from such pricing agents, then the security may be priced based on bid quotations from broker-dealers. Short-term debt securities of sufficient credit quality such as commercial paper and U.S. Treasury Bills having a remaining maturity of 60 days or less at the time of purchase, are valued at amortized cost, which approximates fair value.

Securities for which market quotations are not readily available, or for which an independent pricing service does not provide a value or provides a value that does not represent fair value in the judgment of the Fund's investment adviser or designee, are valued at fair value under procedures approved by the Board. In addition, fair value determinations are required for securities whose value is affected by a significant event that materially affects the value of a domestic or foreign security which occurs subsequent to the time of the close of the principal market on which such domestic or foreign security trades and before the Valuation Time (i.e., a subsequent event). Typically, this will involve events occurring after the close of a foreign market on which a security trades and before the next Valuation Time.

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN AUSTRALIA EQUITY FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

The Fund's equity securities that are traded on a foreign exchange or market which closes prior to the Fund's Valuation Time are fair valued by an independent pricing service. The fair value of each such security generally is calculated by applying a valuation factor provided by the independent pricing service to the last sales price for that security. If the pricing service is unable to provide a fair value for a security, the security will continue to be valued at the last sale price at the close of the exchange on which it is principally traded, subject to adjustment by the Fund's Pricing Committee. When the fair value prices are utilized, the value assigned to the foreign

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited) (continued)

April 30, 2011

securities may not be the quoted or published prices of the securities on their primary markets.

For the six months ended April 30, 2011, other than described above, there have been no significant changes to the valuation procedures approved by the Board.

The Fund is required to disclose information regarding the fair value measurements of the Fund's assets and liabilities. Fair value is defined as the price that the Fund would receive upon selling an investment in an orderly transaction to an independent buyer in the principal or most advantageous market for the investment. The disclosure requirements utilize a three-tier hierarchy to maximize the use of observable market data, minimize the use of unobservable inputs and establish classification of fair value measurements for disclosure purposes. Inputs refer broadly to the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability, including assumptions about risk (for example, the risk inherent in a particular valuation technique used to measure fair value including such a pricing model and/or the risk inherent in the inputs to the valuation technique). Inputs may be observable or unobservable.

Observable inputs are inputs that reflect the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability, which are based on market data obtained from sources independent of the reporting entity. Unobservable inputs are inputs that reflect the reporting entity's own assumptions about the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability, which are based on the best information available in the circumstances.

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 securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.)

Level 3 significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments)

The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities. The Fund uses valuation techniques to measure fair value that are consistent with the market approach and/or income approach, depending on the type of security and the particular circumstance. The market approach uses prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions involving identical or comparable securities. The income approach uses valuation techniques to discount estimated future cash flows to present value. The following is a summary of the inputs used to value the Fund's investments as of April 30, 2011:

Investments	Level 1*	Level 2*	Level 3	Total
Equity Investments	\$ 2,954,420	\$ 262,527,335	\$	\$ 265,481,755
Short-Term Investment		959,000		959,000
Total Investments	\$ 2,954,420	\$ 263,486,335	\$	\$ 266,440,755

* For the six months ended April 30, 2011, there were no significant transfers in or out of Level 1 and Level 2 fair value measurements. For further information, please refer to the Portfolio of Investments that begins on page 6.

For the six months ended April 30, 2011, there have been no significant changes to the fair valuation methodologies.

(b) Repurchase Agreements:

The Fund may enter into repurchase agreements. It is the Fund's policy that its custodian/counterparty segregate the underlying collateral securities, the value of which exceeds the principal amount of the repurchase transaction, including accrued interest. The repurchase price generally equals the price paid by the Fund plus interest negotiated on the basis of current short-term rates. To the extent that any repurchase transaction exceeds one business day, the collateral is valued on a daily basis to determine its adequacy. If the counterparty defaults and the value of the collateral declines or if bankruptcy proceedings are commenced with respect to the counterparty of the security, realization of the collateral by the Fund may be delayed or limited. The Fund held a repurchase agreement of \$959,000 as of April 30, 2011.

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN AUSTRALIA EQUITY FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

(c) Foreign Currency Translation:

Australian Dollar amounts are translated into U.S. Dollar on the following basis:

- (i) market value of investment securities, other assets and liabilities at the exchange rates at the current daily rates of exchange; and
- (ii) purchases and sales of investment securities, income and expenses at the rate of exchange prevailing on the respective dates of such transactions.

The Fund isolates that portion of the results of operations arising from changes in the foreign exchange rates due to the fluctuations in the market prices of the securities held at the end of the reporting period. Similarly, the Fund isolates the effect of changes in foreign exchange rates from the fluctuations arising from changes in the market prices of portfolio securities sold during the reporting period.

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited) (continued)

April 30, 2011

Net exchange gain/(loss) is realized from sales and maturities of portfolio securities, sales of foreign currencies, settlement of securities transactions, dividends, interest and foreign withholding taxes recorded on the Fund's books. Net unrealized foreign exchange appreciation/(depreciation) includes changes in the value of portfolio securities and other assets and liabilities arising as a result of changes in the exchange rate. The net realized and unrealized foreign exchange gain/(loss) shown in the composition of net assets represents foreign exchange gain/(loss) for book purposes that may not have been recognized for tax purposes.

Foreign security and currency transactions may involve certain considerations and risks not typically associated with those of domestic origin, including unanticipated movements in the value of the foreign currency relative to the U.S. Dollar. Generally, when the U.S. Dollar rises in value against foreign currency, the Fund's investments denominated in that currency will lose value because its currency is worth fewer U.S. Dollars; the opposite effect occurs if the U.S. Dollar falls in relative value.

(d) Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts:

A forward foreign currency exchange contract (forward contract) involves an obligation to purchase and sell a specific currency at a future date at a price set at the time of the contract. The Fund may enter into forward contracts in connection with security transactions or to hedge the U.S. Dollar value of portfolio securities denominated in Australian Dollars. The forward contract is marked-to-market daily and the change in market value is recorded by the Fund as unrealized appreciation or depreciation. Forwards prices are received daily from an independent pricing provider. When the forward contract is closed, the Fund records a realized gain or loss equal to the difference between the value at the time it was opened and the value at the time it was closed. These unrealized and realized gains and losses are reported on the Statement of Operations. The Fund could be exposed to risks if the counterparties to the contracts are unable to meet the terms of their contracts and from unanticipated movements in exchange rates. There were no forward contracts outstanding as of April 30, 2011.

(e) Security Transactions and Investment Income:

Securities transactions are recorded on the trade date. Realized and unrealized gains/(losses) from security and currency transactions are calculated on the identified cost basis. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date except for certain dividends on foreign securities, which are recorded as soon as the Fund is informed after the ex-dividend date. Interest income is recorded on an accrual basis. Expenses are recorded on an accrual basis.

(f) Distributions:

The Fund has a managed distribution policy of paying quarterly distributions at an annual rate, set once a year, that is a percentage of the rolling average of the Fund's prior four quarter-end net asset values. In March 2011, the Board determined the rolling distribution rate to be 10% for the 12 month period commencing with the distribution payable in April 2011. This policy is subject to regular review by the Board. Under the policy, distributions will be made from current income, supplemented by realized capital gains and, to the extent necessary, paid-in capital.

On an annual basis, the Fund intends to distribute its net realized capital gains, if any, by way of a final distribution to be declared during the calendar quarter ending December 31. Dividends and distributions to shareholders are recorded on the ex-dividend date.

Dividends and distributions to shareholders are determined in accordance with federal income tax regulations, which may differ from GAAP. These differences are primarily due to differing treatments for foreign currencies.

(g) Federal Income Taxes:

For federal income and excise tax purposes, substantially all of the Fund's transactions are accounted for using the Australian Dollar as the functional currency. Accordingly, only realized currency gains/(losses) resulting from the repatriation of Australian Dollars into U.S. Dollars are recognized for U.S. federal tax purposes.

The Fund intends to qualify or continue to qualify as a regulated investment company by complying with the provisions available to certain investment companies, as defined in Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code, and to make distributions of net investment income and net realized capital gains sufficient to relieve the Fund from all, or substantially all, federal income taxes. Therefore, no federal income tax provision

is required.

Management of the Fund has concluded that there are no significant uncertain tax positions that would require recognition in the financial statements. Since tax authorities can examine previously filed tax returns, the Fund's U.S. federal and state tax returns for each of the four fiscal years up to the period ended October 31, 2010 are subject to such review.

2. Agreements

Aberdeen Asset Management Asia Limited (the Investment Manager) serves as investment manager to the Fund and Aberdeen Asset Management Limited (the Investment Adviser) serves as investment adviser to the Fund, pursuant to a management agreement and an advisory agreement, respectively. The Investment

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited) (continued)

April 30, 2011

Adviser is an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of the Investment Manager, which is a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of Aberdeen Asset Management PLC.

The Investment Manager makes investment decisions on behalf of the Fund on the basis of recommendations and information furnished to it by the Investment Adviser, including the selection of, and responsibility for the placement of orders with, brokers and dealers to execute portfolio transactions on behalf of the Fund.

The management agreement provides the Investment Manager with a fee, payable monthly, at the following annual rates: 1.10% of the Fund's average weekly Managed Assets up to \$50 million, 0.90% of Managed Assets between \$50 million and \$100 million and 0.70% of Managed Assets in excess of \$100 million. Managed Assets are defined in the management agreement as net assets plus the

amount of any borrowings for investment purposes.

The Investment Manager pays fees to the Investment Adviser for its services rendered. The Investment Manager informed the Fund that it paid \$249,922 to the Investment Adviser during the six months ended April 30, 2011.

Aberdeen Asset Management Inc. (AAMI), an affiliate of the Investment Manager and the Investment Adviser, is the Fund's administrator, pursuant to an agreement under which AAMI receives a fee, payable monthly, at an annual fee rate of 0.08% of the Fund's average weekly Managed Assets up to \$500 million, 0.07% of the Fund's average weekly Managed Assets between \$500 million and \$1.5 billion, and 0.06% of the Fund's average weekly Managed Assets in excess of \$1.5 billion.

Under terms of an Investor Relations Services Agreement, AAMI serves as the Fund's investor relations services provider. During the six months ended April 30, 2011, the Fund incurred fees of approximately \$75,024. Investor relations fees and expenses in the Statement of Operations include certain out-of-pocket expenses.

3. Investment Transactions

Purchases and sales of investment securities (excluding short-term securities) for the six months ended April 30, 2011, were \$47,168,063 and \$24,409,926, respectively.

4. Capital

There are 30 million shares of \$0.01 par value common stock authorized. At April 30, 2011, there were 21,777,602 shares of common stock issued and outstanding.

The Fund has filed a shelf registration statement with the SEC, which would permit the Fund to issue up to \$130 million in shares of

common stock through one or more public offerings. On December 9, 2010, the Fund announced the pricing of a public offering of its shares of common stock under which the Fund agreed to sell a total of 2,500,000 shares of common stock at a price of \$12.50 per share. The offering closed on December 14, 2010. The net proceeds of the offering, which were approximately \$30 million, were used to make additional portfolio investments that are consistent with the Fund's investment objectives and policies. Under the shelf registration statement, the Fund may also sell the Fund's common shares in one or more at-the-market offerings when market conditions are considered favorable. Such shares would only be issued when the premium to net asset value is greater than the costs associated with the transaction. Any proceeds raised would be used for investment purposes. Through April 30, 2011, there were no shares sold through the at-the-market offering.

On March 1, 2001, the Board approved a stock repurchase program. The Board amended the program on December 12, 2007. The stock repurchase program allows the Fund to repurchase up to 10% of its outstanding common stock in the open market during any 12-month period, if and when the discount to NAV is at least 8%. For the six months ended April 30, 2011 and fiscal year ended October 31, 2010, the Fund did not purchase any shares through this program.

5. Risks Associated with Foreign Securities and Currencies

Investments in securities of foreign issuers carry certain risks not ordinarily associated with investments in securities of U.S. issuers. These risks include future political and economic developments, and the possible imposition of exchange controls or other foreign governmental laws and restrictions. In addition, with respect to certain countries, there is the possibility of expropriation of assets, confiscatory taxation, political or social instability or diplomatic developments, which could adversely affect investments in those countries.

Certain countries also may impose substantial restrictions on investments in their capital markets by foreign entities, including restrictions on investments in issuers of industries deemed sensitive to relevant national interests. These factors may limit the investment opportunities available and result in a lack of liquidity and high price volatility with respect to securities of issuers from developing countries.

6. Contingencies

In the normal course of business, the Fund may provide general indemnifications pursuant to certain contracts and organizational documents. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is dependent on future claims that may be made

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited) (concluded)

April 30, 2011

against the Fund, and therefore, cannot be estimated; however, based on experience, the risk of loss from such claims is considered remote.

7. Tax Cost of Investments

The United States federal income tax basis of the Fund's investments and the net unrealized appreciation as of April 30, 2011 were as follows:

			Net
			Unrealized
Cost	Appreciation	Depreciation	Appreciation
\$ 170,569,396	\$ 100,015,379	\$ 4,144,020	\$ 95,871,359

8. Subsequent Events

Management has evaluated the need for disclosures and/or adjustments resulting from subsequent events through the date the Financial Statements were issued. Based on this evaluation, no disclosures or adjustments were required to the Financial Statements as of April 30, 2011 other than the following disclosed subsequent event.

The Fund declared a quarterly distribution of \$0.29 cents per share payable on July 15, 2011 to shareholders of record as of June 30, 2011.

Through June 10, 2011 the Fund sold 228,182 shares through the at-the-market offering.

Supplemental Information (unaudited)

Results of Annual Meeting of Shareholders

The Annual Meeting of Shareholders was held on Tuesday, March 15, 2011 at 1735 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The description of the proposals and number of shares voted at the meeting are as follows:

1. To elect three directors to serve as Class II directors for three year terms and until their successors are duly elected to qualify:

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN AUSTRALIA EQUITY FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

Votes

	Votes For	Withheld
P. Gerald Malone	18,923,138	434,449
Peter D. Sacks	18,943,819	418,769
Hugh Young	18,826,224	536,364

Directors whose term of office continued beyond this meeting are as follows: Neville J. Miles, William J. Potter, Moritz Sell, Brian M. Sherman and John T. Sheehy.

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

Corporate Information

Directors

Neville J. Miles, *Chairman*

P. Gerald Malone

William J. Potter

Peter D. Sacks

Moritz Sell

John T. Sheehy

Brian Sherman

Hugh Young

Officers

Christian Pittard, *President*

Jeffrey Cotton, *Chief Compliance Officer and Vice President* *Compliance*

Andrea Melia, *Treasurer and Principal Accounting Officer*

Megan Kennedy, *Vice President and Secretary*

Lucia Sitar, *Vice President*

Mark Daniels, *Vice President*

Martin Gilbert, *Vice President*

Alan Goodson, *Vice President*

Jennifer Nichols, *Vice President*

Timothy Sullivan, *Vice President*

Sharon Greenstein, *Assistant Treasurer*

Matthew Keener, *Assistant Secretary*

Investment Manager

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN AUSTRALIA EQUITY FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

Aberdeen Asset Management Asia Limited

21 Church Street

#01-01 Capital Square Two

Singapore 049480

Investment Adviser

Aberdeen Asset Management Limited

Level 6, 201 Kent Street

Sydney, NSW 2000, Australia

Administrator

Aberdeen Asset Management Inc.

1735 Market Street, 32nd Floor

Philadelphia, PA 19103

Custodian

State Street Bank and Trust Company

One Heritage Drive

North Quincy, MA 02171

Transfer Agent

Computershare Trust Company, N.A.

P.O. Box 43078

Providence, RI 02940

Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

KPMG LLP

1601 Market Street

Philadelphia, PA 19103

Legal Counsel

Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP

787 Seventh Ave

New York, NY 10019

Investor Relations

Aberdeen Asset Management Inc.

1735 Market Street, 32nd Floor

Philadelphia, PA 19103

1-866-839-5205

InvestorRelations@aberdeen-asset.com

Aberdeen Asset Management Asia Limited

The accompanying Financial Statements as of April 30, 2011, were not audited and accordingly, no opinion is expressed thereon.

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 23(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 that the Fund may purchase, from time to time, shares of its common stock in the open market.

Shares of Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc. are traded on the NYSE Amex Equities Exchange under the symbol IAF . Information about the Fund's net asset value and market price is available at www.aberdeeniaf.com.

This report, including the financial information herein, is transmitted to the shareholders of Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc. for their general information only. It does not have regard to the specific investment objectives, financial situation and the particular needs of any specific person. Past performance is no guarantee of future returns.

Item 2 Code of Ethics.

Not applicable to this filing.

Item 3 Audit Committee Financial Expert.

Not required to be included in this filing.

Item 4 Principal Accountant Fees and Services.

Not required to be included in this filing.

Item 5 Audit Committee of Listed Registrants.

Not required to be included in this filing.

Item 6 Investments.

(a) Included as part of the Report to Stockholders filed under Item 1 of this Form N-CSR.

(b) Not applicable.

Item 7 Disclosure of Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures for Closed-End Management Investment Companies.

Not required to be included in this filing.

Item 8 Portfolio Managers of Closed-End Management Investment Companies.

(a) Not required to be included in this filing

(b) During the period ended April 30, 2011, there were no changes in any of the Portfolio Managers identified in the Registrant's Annual Report on Form N-CSR filed on January 7, 2011.

Item 9 Purchases of Equity Securities by Closed-End Management Investment Company and Affiliated Purchasers.

REGISTRANT PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Period	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs ¹	Maximum Number of Shares That May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs ¹
November 1 through November 30, 2010	0	0	0	1,927,760
December 1 through December 31, 2010	0	0	0	1,927,760
January 1 through January 31, 2011	0	0	0	2,177,760
February 1 through February 29, 2011	0	0	0	2,177,760
March 1 through March 31, 2011	0	0	0	2,177,760
April 1 through	0	0	0	2,177,760

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN AUSTRALIA EQUITY FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

April 30, 2011

Total	0	0	0	-
-------	---	---	---	---

¹ The Registrant's stock repurchase program was announced on March 19, 2001 and further amended by the Registrant's Board of Directors on December 12, 2007. Under the terms of the current program, the Registrant is permitted to repurchase up to 10% of its outstanding shares of common stock, par value \$.01 per share, on the open market during any 12 month period if and when the discount to net asset value is at least 8%.

Item 10 Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders.

During the period ended April 30, 2011, there were no material changes to the policies by which stockholders may recommend nominees to the Fund's Board.

Item 11 Controls and Procedures.

- (a) It is the conclusion of the Registrant's principal executive officer and principal financial officer that the effectiveness of the Registrant's current disclosure controls and procedures (such disclosure controls and procedures having been evaluated within 90 days of the date of this filing) provide reasonable assurance that the information required to be disclosed by the Registrant has been recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time period specified in the Commission's rules and forms and that the information required to be disclosed by the Registrant has been accumulated and communicated to the Registrant's principal executive officer and principal financial officer in order to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.
- (b) There have been no changes in the Registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the second fiscal quarter of the period covered by this report that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Item 12 Exhibits.

(a)(1) Not applicable.

(a)(2) Certifications pursuant to Rule 30a-2(a) under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended.

(a)(3) Not applicable.

(b) Certifications pursuant to Rule 30a-2(b) under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended.

(c) A copy of the Registrant's notices to stockholders, which accompanied distributions paid, pursuant to the Registrant's Managed Distribution Policy since the Registrant's last filed N-CSR, are filed herewith as Exhibits (c)(1) and (c)(2), as required by the terms of the Registrant's SEC exemptive order.

SIGNATURES

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

Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

By: /s/ Christian Pittard
Christian Pittard,
President of
Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

Date: July 7, 2011

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

By: /s/ Christian Pittard
Christian Pittard,
President of
Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

Date: July 7, 2011

By: /s/ Andrea Melia
Andrea Melia,
Treasurer of
Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.

Date: July 7, 2011

Exhibit List

12(a)(2) Rule 30a-2(a) Certifications

12(b) Rule 30a-2(b) Certifications

12(c)(1) Distribution notice to stockholders

12(c)(2) Distribution notice to stockholders