MSCI Launches the MSCI Frontier Markets 100 Index

Forthcoming iShares ETF to be based on new index

London – April 11, 2012 – MSCI Inc. (NYSE: MSCI), a leading provider of investment decision support tools worldwide, announced today the launch of a new index, the MSCI Frontier Markets 100 Index. The index is highly correlated to the broader MSCI Frontier Markets Index, but is composed of just 100 of its largest and most liquid constituents. The index will be used by BlackRock for a forthcoming iShares ETF.

"We have seen significant demand from clients around the world for a more tradable version of our MSCI Frontier Markets Index—especially from those who face various obstacles in replicating broader frontier markets indices," said Baer Pettit, Managing Director and Head of the MSCI Index Business. "We expect that the MSCI Frontier Markets 100 Index will serve as the basis for numerous index-linked investment vehicles, ultimately providing investors with new ways to gain exposure to the frontier markets."

Based on the broader MSCI Frontier Markets Index, the MSCI Frontier Markets 100 Index is a representative and more easily replicable alternative. The new index provides broad coverage of the frontier markets while putting a stronger emphasis on tradability compared to the parent MSCI Frontier Markets Index, through the application of a number of inclusion criteria.

For more information on the MSCI Frontier Markets 100 Index, including the index methodology, please visit our <u>website</u>.

To access the MSCI Frontier Markets 100 Index in real time: Bloomberg MXFM100 Reuters .MXFM100

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About MSCI

MSCI Inc. is a leading provider of investment decision support tools to investors globally, including asset managers, banks, hedge funds and pension funds. MSCI products and services include indices, portfolio risk and performance analytics, and governance tools.

The company's flagship product offerings are: the MSCI indices with approximately USD 7 trillion estimated to be benchmarked to them on a worldwide basis¹; Barra multi-asset class factor models, portfolio risk and performance analytics; RiskMetrics multi-asset class market and credit risk analytics; MSCI ESG (environmental, social and governance) Research screening, analysis and ratings; ISS governance research and outsourced proxy voting and reporting services; FEA valuation models and risk management software for the energy and commodities markets; and CFRA forensic accounting risk research, legal/regulatory risk assessment, and due-diligence. MSCI is headquartered in New York, with research and commercial offices around the world.

¹As of June 30, 2011, based on eVestment, Lipper and Bloomberg data.

For further information on MSCI, please visit our web site at www.msci.com

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