

Investec Asset Management Chooses MSCI ESG Research and Ratings

Cape Town – March 22, 2012 – MSCI Inc. (NYSE: MSCI), a leading provider of investment decision support tools worldwide, announced today that Investec Asset Management has selected MSCI ESG Research to provide environmental, social, and governance (ESG) research, ratings, and screening tools to help it integrate ESG factors into its investment process.

Investec Asset Management has subscribed to MSCI ESG Research's full suite of products including MSCI ESG IVA and MSCI ESG Impact Monitor for research and ratings, as well as MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research. These will be used to identify key ESG issues and will also help Investec Asset Management assess whether companies have risk management strategies commensurate with the ESG risks they face.

MSCI ESG Research will provide ESG research on the constituents of the MSCI World, MSCI Emerging Markets and MSCI Emerging Frontier Markets Africa Indices, as well as the MSCI South Africa Investable Market Index. ISS, an MSCI brand, has been providing proxy voting services to Investec for a number of years.

"We are pleased to be adding MSCI ESG Research products to our investment toolkit," said James Hand, co-Head of 4Factor Equities at Investec Asset Management. "As part of our overall approach to Stewardship, Investec Asset Management believes that ESG data are an important and growing component of valuing certain companies. We are confident that MSCI ESG Research will help to deepen our understanding of these issues."

Henry Fernandez, Chairman and CEO of MSCI, added, "Recent developments in South Africa, such as changes to Regulation 28 of the South African Pension Fund Act and the launch of the Code for Responsible Investing in South Africa (CRISA), as well as other developments around the world, place a growing emphasis on ESG factors. As asset owners increase their expectations for effective ESG integration, asset managers are turning to MSCI ESG Research to help them meet investment mandates and understand ESG-driven investment risks and opportunities. We are delighted to be working with Investec Asset Management to help them serve the growing demand for ESG investing around the world."

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Notes to Editors

The UN Principles of Responsible Investment (PRI) commits signatories to integrate ESG factors into investment processes and recent developments in the South African investment market have also driven the need for tools to facilitate ESG integration. Regulation 28 of the South African Pension Fund Act outlines a responsibility to "give appropriate consideration to any factor which may materially affect the sustainable long-term performance of a fund's assets, including factors of an environmental, social and governance character." In addition, the Code for Responsible Investment South Africa (CRISA), directs investors to incorporate ESG into their, "investment activities as part of the delivery of superior risk-adjusted returns."

About MSCI ESG Research

MSCI ESG Research products and services are designed to provide in-depth research, ratings and analysis of environmental, social and governance-related business practices to companies worldwide. ESG ratings, data and analysis from MSCI ESG Research are also used in the construction of the MSCI ESG Indices.

For further information on MSCI ESG Research, contact esgclientservice@msci.com, or visit www.msci.com/esg

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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