BlackRock Licenses MSCI Indexes for iShares ETFs Covering Newest Emerging Markets

New York – May 15, 2014 – MSCI Inc (NYSE: MSCI), a leading provider of investment decision support tools worldwide, announced today that BlackRock has licensed the MSCI All Qatar Capped Index and the MSCI All UAE Capped Index as the basis for two new exchange traded funds (ETFs) for iShares' single country "All Market" series:

- iShares MSCI Qatar Capped ETF (NYSEArca: QAT)
- iShares MSCI UAE Capped ETF (NYSEArca: UAE)

Patrick Dunne, Head of iShares Global Markets and Investments at BlackRock, said, "These new funds meet the needs of investors, particularly pensions, foundations and endowments, who have the most global-oriented portfolios and stand to benefit most by the reclassification of these countries. We're pleased to enter into these licenses with MSCI, the premier international index provider."

"MSCI's reclassification of these countries and their upcoming inclusion in our flagship MSCI Emerging Markets Index reflects the broader global opportunity set available to international institutional investors today," said Baer Pettit, Managing Director and Global Head of the MSCI Index Business. "We are pleased that BlackRock has once again expanded the iShares ETF suite based on MSCI indexes. The continued adoption of our indexes for ETFs reflects investors' desire to access new market opportunities and MSCI's ability to capture the performance of these markets in new and innovative indexes."

In a 2013 report, Greenwich Associates named MSCI the "benchmark of choice" for international equity ETFs.[1] More than 650 ETFs are linked to MSCI indexes.[2]

[1] Greenwich Report "Institutional Investors' Relationship with ETFs Deepens", May 2013, Greenwich Associates
[2] As of March 31, 2013, as reported by Bloomberg

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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 indexes, portfolio risk and performance analytics, and ESG data and research.

The company's flagship product offerings are: the MSCI indexes with approximately USD 8 trillion estimated to be benchmarked to them on a worldwide basis[1]; Barra multi-asset class factor models, portfolio risk and performance analytics; RiskMetrics multi-asset class market and credit risk analytics; IPD real estate information, indexes and analytics; MSCI ESG (environmental, social and governance) Research screening, analysis and ratings; and FEA valuation models and risk management software for the energy and commodities markets. MSCI is headquartered in New York, with research and commercial offices around the world.

[1]As of September 30, 2013, as reported on January 31, 2014, by eVestment, Lipper and Bloomberg

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

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