

MSCI Announces the Conclusions from its Recent MSCI ESG Indices Consultations

New York –May 8, 2012 – MSCI Inc. (NYSE: MSCI), a leading provider of investment decision support tools worldwide, including indices, portfolio risk and performance analytics and corporate governance services announced today the conclusions from its recent discussions with the investment community on the potential methodology enhancements to the MSCI ESG Indices.

The MSCI Global ESG Indices will transition to the enhanced methodology at the May 2013 Index Review. MSCI will provide provisional MSCI Global ESG indices, which will be based on the enhanced methodology starting from the May 2012 Index Review. These indices will accommodate for clients seeking to transition on their own schedule.

The MSCI Global Socially Responsible Indices will transition to the enhanced methodology in May 2012 Index Review in one phase. The Indices will be constructed by targeting 25% free float market capitalization of each GICS sectors of underlying MSCI regional Index instead of 50% of free float market capitalization of each GICS sector of the underlying MSCI regional ESG Index.

The MSCI KLD 400 Social Index will transition to the enhanced methodology over multiple index reviews starting May 2012 Index Review. During the first phase, comprising four index reviews, all existing constituents having ESG rating of B or below will be deleted from the MSCI KLD 400 Social Index, starting with the most overweight sectors. In the second phase, comprising the subsequent four index reviews, all constituents that are not part of the pro forma MSCI USA IMI ESG Index will be deleted from the MSCI KLD 400 Social Index, starting with the most overweight sectors.

The MSCI USA ESG Select Index will transition to the enhanced methodology over multiple index reviews starting May 2012 Index Review. The annual turnover budget is reduced to 30% (10% at Semi-Annual Index Reviews and 5% at Quarterly Index Reviews), from 50% applied in the existing methodology.

As confirmed previously, starting from the May 2012 Index Review, the results of the Index Reviews of the MSCI ESG Indices will be announced nine days before the effective date.

The updated methodology books reflecting the enhanced methodology for all the above indices will be available on the MSCI web site, www.msci.com, along with the Index Review results.

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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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