
MSCI Becomes Signatory to the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment

New York – October 6, 2010 - 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 that it has become a signatory to the UN Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI).

The UN PRI is a global initiative supporting the integration of environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors into institutional investing practices. There are currently over 800 UN PRI signatories from 45 countries, collectively representing more than USD 22 trillion in assets under management¹. They include asset owners, investment managers, as well as service providers such as MSCI.

“Investing in companies who exhibit principles of strong corporate governance and who are committed to sustainable environmental and social practices is becoming increasingly important for our clients,” said Henry Fernandez, Chairman and CEO of MSCI Inc. “By becoming a UN PRI signatory, we are demonstrating our commitment to provide critical investment decision support tools to the growing number of investors throughout the world who are focusing on long-term sustainable investing.”

James Gifford, Executive Director, UN PRI, said, “We welcome MSCI as a signatory to the Principles for Responsible Investment. MSCI's ESG business, formerly RiskMetrics, has been working in this space for many years and has been a strong supporter of the UN PRI. With the whole of MSCI signing up, there is real potential to leverage the index business along with the ESG business and promote the ESG agenda within mainstream investment.”

MSCI provides leading in-depth research into the sustainability practices of thousands of companies globally. The company also applies this research to calculate the MSCI ESG Indices and to offer advanced investment decision support tools that can help investors incorporate ESG factors into their investment processes. MSCI's governance research and proxy voting products delivered under the ISS brand also help investors fulfill an active ownership role.

“Our clients can choose from a wide range of MSCI and ISS tools to help support their UN PRI goals and mandates,” added Mr. Fernandez. “As a signatory, we hope to contribute to and learn from the growing community of investors that have adopted the Principles as a framework for sustainable investing.”

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About MSCI Inc.

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 which include over 120,000 daily indices covering more than 70 countries; Barra portfolio risk and performance analytics covering global equity and fixed income

¹ Source: UN PRI

markets; RiskMetrics market and credit risk analytics; 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.

For further information on MSCI ESG Research, visit www.msci.com/esg

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