

# **MSCI SELECT EMERGING AND FRONTIER MARKETS ACCESS INDEX METHODOLOGY**

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## **1 INTRODUCTION**

The MSCI Select Emerging and Frontier Markets Access Index aims to represent the performance of a selection of 200 securities from select countries within the MSCI Emerging and Frontier Markets Index. The Index screens securities classified in the Emerging Markets to target companies with high economic exposure to the Emerging and Frontier Markets excluding Brazil, Russia, India, China, Korea and Taiwan. A liquidity screen is applied to the securities classified in the Frontier Markets with an aim to enhance the replicability of the Index. The MSCI Select Emerging and Frontier Markets Access Index aims to mitigate concentration risk by applying capping at the country, sector and issuer level.

## 2 CONSTRUCTING THE MSCI SELECT EMERGING AND FRONTIER MARKETS ACCESS INDEX

The MSCI Select Emerging and Frontier Markets Access Index (the “Index”) is constructed by applying the following steps to the MSCI Emerging and Frontier Markets Index (the “Parent Index”).

- Defining the Eligible Universe
- Liquidity Screening
- Economic Exposure Screening
- Security Selection
- Weighting Scheme

### 2.1 DEFINING THE ELIGIBLE UNIVERSE

The Eligible Universe consists of all constituents of the Parent Index, with the exception of securities with an MSCI country of classification<sup>1</sup> of Brazil, Russia, India, China, Korea or Taiwan.

### 2.2 LIQUIDITY SCREENING

All securities from the Eligible Universe within the Frontier Markets with Foreign Inclusion Factor (FIF) adjusted 12-month Annualized Traded Value Ratio<sup>2</sup> (ATVR) of less than 10% are ineligible for inclusion in the Index.

Liquidity screening is not applicable to the securities within the Emerging Markets.

### 2.3 ECONOMIC EXPOSURE SCREENING

All the securities from the Eligible Universe within the Emerging Markets with economic exposure<sup>3</sup> of less than or equal to 80% to the ‘Emerging and Frontier Markets, excluding Brazil, Russia, India, China, Korea and Taiwan’ are ineligible for inclusion in the Index.

Economic exposure screening is not applicable to the securities within the Frontier Markets.

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<sup>1</sup> Please refer to the MSCI Global Investable Market Indexes methodology for further information on MSCI’s country of classification at [www.msci.com/index-methodology](http://www.msci.com/index-methodology)

<sup>2</sup> Please refer to MSCI Index Calculation methodology at [www.msci.com/index-methodology](http://www.msci.com/index-methodology)

<sup>3</sup> Please refer to the MSCI Economic Exposure Data methodology for further information on economic exposure data at [www.msci.com/index-methodology](http://www.msci.com/index-methodology)

## 2.4 SECURITY SELECTION

The securities from the Eligible Universe after Liquidity and Economic Exposure screening are ranked in descending order of their free-float adjusted market capitalization. The 150 highest ranked securities within the Emerging Markets and the 50 highest ranked securities within the Frontier Markets are selected for inclusion in the Index.

In case two or more securities have the same free-float adjusted market capitalization, the security with higher Foreign Inclusion Factor (FIF) adjusted 12-month Annualized Traded Value Ratio (ATVR) will be given a higher rank.

## 2.5 WEIGHTING SCHEME

A fixed weight of 75% in the Index is allocated to securities classified within the Emerging Markets which have been selected for inclusion in the Index, while the remaining 25% is allocated to the selected securities classified within the Frontier Markets. Constituents within each allocation bucket are weighted as per their free float adjusted market capitalization, subject to sector, country, and issuer capping constraint.

The maximum weight of any Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS®) sector in each allocation bucket is capped at 30% of that allocation bucket, which ensures that the maximum weight of any GICS sector in the Index is capped at 30%. The maximum weight of any country in the Index is capped at 10%, while the maximum weight of any issuer in the Index is capped at 2%.

If the sector or country or issuer weight exceeds the applicable capping, the weight of the securities in that sector or country or issuer is capped at the applicable constraint and the additional weight is redistributed to other securities in proportion to their float adjusted market capitalization. If there is a breach in the sector or country or issuer weights while adjusting the sector or country or issuer weights, the process is repeated until sector, country and issuer weights are within the applicable capping constraints. In this process, the sector weights are taken into consideration first followed by the country weights and then issuer weights.

### **3 MAINTAINING THE MSCI SELECT EMERGING AND FRONTIER MARKETS ACCESS INDEX**

#### **3.1 QUARTERLY INDEX REVIEWS**

The MSCI Select Emerging and Frontier Markets Access Index is reviewed on a quarterly basis, coinciding with the May and November Semi-Annual Index Reviews and the February and August Quarterly Index Reviews of the Parent Index.

The allocation of fixed weight between the Emerging Markets and the Frontier Markets securities as well as the sector, country and issuer capping is effective at each Quarterly Index Review. Between Index Reviews, security weights will fluctuate according to market movements.

Economic exposure data as of the end of the month preceding the Index Reviews is used for the rebalancing of the MSCI Select Emerging and Frontier Markets Access Index.

The pro forma Index is typically announced nine business days before the effective date.

At each Quarterly Index Review, the MSCI Select Emerging and Frontier Markets Access Index is rebalanced as described in Section 2. Additionally, a 10% security selection buffer is applied for security selection as described in the following section.

##### **3.1.1 BUFFER RULES**

To reduce turnover and enhance Index stability, a security selection buffer of 10% is applied on securities selected during the security selection step noted in Section 2.4 at each Quarterly Index Review.

The Index targets 150 securities from the Emerging Markets and the 10% buffer is applicable for securities ranked between 135 and 165. The securities with a rank at or below 135 will be added to the Index on a priority basis. Existing constituents not included in the previous step that have a rank between 136 and 165 are then successively added until the number of securities reaches 150. If the number of securities is below 150 after this step, the remaining securities with the highest rank are added until the number of securities in the Index reaches 150 constituents from the Emerging Markets.

The Index targets 50 securities from the Frontier Markets and the 10% buffer is applicable for securities ranked between 45 and 55. The securities with a rank at or below 45 will be added to the Index on a priority basis. Existing constituents not included in the previous step that have a rank between 46 and 55 are then successively added until the number of securities reaches 50. If the number of securities is below 50 after this step, the remaining

securities with the highest rank are added until the number of securities in the Index reaches 50 constituents from the Frontier Markets.

### 3.2 ONGOING EVENT-RELATED CHANGES

The general treatment of corporate events in the MSCI Select Emerging and Frontier Markets Access Index aims to minimize turnover outside of Index Reviews. The methodology aims to appropriately represent an investor’s participation in an event based on relevant deal terms and pre-event weighting of the index constituents that are involved.

The following section briefly describes the treatment of common corporate events within the MSCI Select Emerging and Frontier Markets Access Index.

No new securities will be added (except where noted below) to the Index between Index Reviews. For cases where additions are noted below, securities will be added to the Index only if added to the Parent Index.

Parent Index deletions will be reflected simultaneously.

EVENT TYPE	EVENT DETAILS
<b>New additions to the Parent Index</b>	A new security added to the parent index (such as IPO and other early inclusions) will not be added to the index.
<b>Spin-Offs</b>	All securities created as a result of the spin-off of an existing Index constituent will be added to the Index at the time of event implementation. Reevaluation for continued inclusion in the Index will occur at the subsequent Index Review.
<b>Merger/Acquisition</b>	For Mergers and Acquisitions, the acquirer’s post event weight will account for the proportionate amount of shares involved in deal consideration, while cash proceeds will be invested across the Index.  If an existing Index constituent is acquired by a non-Index constituent, the existing constituent will be deleted from the Index

and the acquiring non-constituent will not be added to the Index.

**Changes in Security Characteristics**

A security will continue to be an Index constituent if there are changes in characteristics (country, sector, size segment, etc.) Reevaluation for continued inclusion in the Index will occur at the subsequent Index Review.

Further detail and illustration regarding specific treatment of corporate events relevant to this Index can be found in the MSCI Corporate Events Methodology.

The MSCI Corporate Events methodology book is available at:  
<https://www.msci.com/index-methodology>

## CONTACT US

clientservice@msci.com

### AMERICAS

Americas	1 888 588 4567 *
Atlanta	+ 1 404 551 3212
Boston	+ 1 617 532 0920
Chicago	+ 1 312 675 0545
Monterrey	+ 52 81 1253 4020
New York	+ 1 212 804 3901
San Francisco	+ 1 415 836 8800
Sao Paulo	+ 55 11 3706 1360
Toronto	+ 1 416 628 1007

### EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA

Cape Town	+ 27 21 673 0100
Frankfurt	+ 49 69 133 859 00
Geneva	+ 41 22 817 9777
London	+ 44 20 7618 2222
Milan	+ 39 02 5849 0415
Paris	0800 91 59 17 *

### ASIA PACIFIC

China North	10800 852 1032 *
China South	10800 152 1032 *
Hong Kong	+ 852 2844 9333
Mumbai	+ 91 22 6784 9160
Seoul	00798 8521 3392 *
Singapore	800 852 3749 *
Sydney	+ 61 2 9033 9333
Taipei	008 0112 7513 *
Tokyo	+ 81 3 5290 1555

\* = toll free

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