

Consultation on China A-Shares Index Inclusion Roadmap

March 2014

This consultation is part of the 2014 MSCI Market Classification Review

Proposed Index Inclusion Roadmap for China A-shares



Objective

- In June 2013, MSCI initiated the review of China A-shares for a potential inclusion into the MSCI Emerging Markets Index following the implementation of a series of positive market opening measures
- The Chinese authorities have continued with the market liberalization efforts. Notable positive developments include:
 - The expansion of the RQFII program to London and Singapore
 - The doubling of the size of aggregate QFII and RQFII quota
 - The shortening of the repatriation restriction from monthly to weekly for QFII open-ended funds
 - The acceleration of investment license requests and quota approvals
- As part of the 2014 MSCI Market Classification Review, MSCI is now consulting on a proposed roadmap for a potential inclusion of China A-shares in the MSCI Emerging Markets Index
 - The results of the 2014 MSCI Market Classification Review, including the decision on the potential inclusion of China A-shares in the MSCI Emerging Markets Index, will be announced in June 2014



Proposed Index Inclusion Roadmap for China A-shares

- MSCI proposes to include China A-shares in the MSCI China Index in steps starting with a partial Inclusion Factor of 5% to be implemented in 2015
- The inclusion in the MSCI China Index would be reflected in its corresponding composite indexes, including the MSCI Emerging Markets Index, simultaneously
 - The pro forma MSCI China Index would be constructed based on one integrated China equity universe comprising A-shares, B-shares, H-shares, Red-chips, and P-chips
 - An 5% Inclusion Factor would be applied to the FIF-adjusted market capitalization of China A-shares in the pro forma MSCI China Index
 - The implementation of this proposal would coincide with the May 2015 Semi-Annual Index Review
- A series of provisional indexes related to this transition would be provided by June
 2014
- Any subsequent increase in the Inclusion Factor of China A-shares in the MSCI Emerging Markets would be subject to positive market liberalization developments and public consultation with market participants
- Please note that this proposal may or may not lead to any changes to the MSCI Indexes

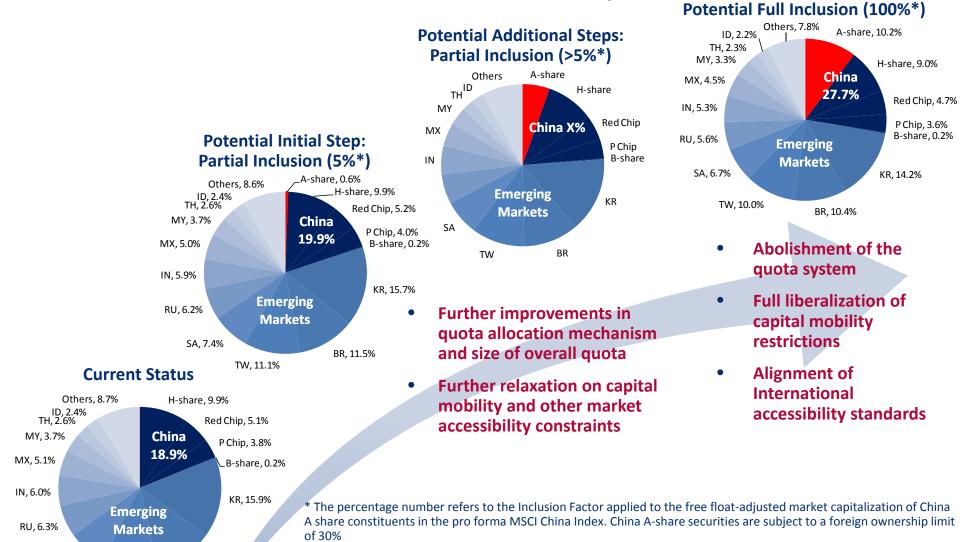


Rationale for the Proposed Index Inclusion Roadmap

- The objective of the MSCI Global Investable Market Indexes is to comprehensively reflect the investable opportunities of global equity markets
 - Over the past several decades, the MSCI Indexes have added new countries/markets as they open up to global investors
- As the China A-share market liberalization continues, the qualified investor base expands
 - Over the past 12 months, the number of qualified investors increased by 33% to 317 and the total quota allocated increased by 56% to US\$82 billion
 - More and more global investors now have exposure to China A-shares, to the extent that some large investors are increasingly finding themselves dealing with benchmark misfit due to the nonindex inclusion of China A shares
- However, there remain significant market accessibility restrictions in the China A-share market. Hence, progressive inclusion starting with a small Inclusion Factor would match the gradual path of market opening and reflect the actual investability over time



An Illustrative Index Inclusion Roadmap of China A-Shares



Data as of October 18, 2013 based on the pro forma results of November 2013 SAIR

SA. 7.5%

TW, 11.2%

BR, 11.6%

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Construction of the Pro Forma MSCI China Index

- The pro forma MSCI China Index would be constructed by applying the standard MSCI Global Investable Market Indexes (GIMI) Methodology on an enlarged universe where Ashares would be eligible for inclusion
- The pro forma MSCI China equity universe would include A-shares, B-shares, H-shares, Red-chips and P-chips
- The free float-adjusted market capitalization of China A-shares would be evaluated based on the Foreign Inclusion Factor (FIF) subject to a 30% Foreign Ownership Limit (FOL)
- The pro forma MSCI China Index would be based on the new universe size segment cutoffs and the investability criteria of the MSCI Emerging Markets Index
- The inclusion of securities would continue to be evaluated based on security level FIF, free float-adjusted market capitalization and liquidity. Given A-, B- and H-shares represent different parts of a company's full market capitalization, they would all be eligible for inclusion subject to passing the investability requirements
- To reflect limited investability of China A-shares, a 5% Inclusion Factor would be applied to the index weight of the A-share constituents of the pro forma MSCI China Index. The Inclusion Factor has no impact on the index membership at the initial construction and subsequent rebalancings



Proposed Initial Inclusion Factor of 5%

- There are currently misalignments in the distribution of QFII quota and the size of investors especially within the global manager segment.
- At 5%, some of the large managers may already require more than US\$1 billion of quota

Inclusion Factor***

 A small inclusion minimizes the potential market friction resulting from limited quota allocation

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		-	100%	5%	
Top 30 Asset Owners + Top 30 Asset Managers	Corresponding Estimated EM Allocation* (\$m)	Quota Obtained by Existing QFIIs** (\$m)	Size of China A Investment (\$m)		
SWF/ Central Bank					
Max	55,273	Danas, F0 to 1 F00	5,659	313	
75 Percentile	33,699	Range: 50 to 1,500	3,450	191	
Median	16,241	Median: 750	1,663	92	
Pension					
Max	37,851	Dames, F0 to C00	3,875	215	
75 Percentile	13,289	Range: 50 to 600	1,361	75	
Median	12,760	Median: 175	1,306	72	
Insurance Co					
Max	15,533	D 50 t- 200	1,590	88	
75 Percentile	7,835	Range: 50 to 300	802	44	
Median	3,354	Median: 200	343	19	
Asset Manager				/***\	
Max	209,095	D 20 t- C00	21,408	1,186	
75 Percentile	44,684	Range: 20 to 600	4,575	253	
Median	30,891	Median: 100	3,163	175	

Source: P&I 500 data as of December 2012, AI Global 500 data as of November 2013



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^{*}Estimated based on latest financial statements and assuming an EM weight in ACWI of 11.3% as of October 18, 2013

^{**}Based on quota granted to foreign investors as of January 27, 2014

^{***}Based on 10.2% weight of the pro forma A-share in EM assuming full inclusion

Key Discussion Points

- Does the current accessibility level of China A-shares warrant a small index inclusion?
- Is the initial Inclusion Factor of 5%* for the pro forma China A-share appropriate?
- Is twelve months a reasonable implementation time frame? Should it be shorter or longer?
- One key challenge in implementing the potential China A-share inclusion with a small weight is the need to spread across a large number of China A-share securities
 - However, a large inclusion weight may potentially creates more frictions for investors who cannot obtain sufficient quota
 - Alternative inclusion approaches/options?

^{*}The percentage number refers to the Inclusion Factor applied to the free float-adjusted market capitalization of China A share constituents in the pro forma MSCI China Index. China A-share securities are subject to a foreign ownership limit of 30%

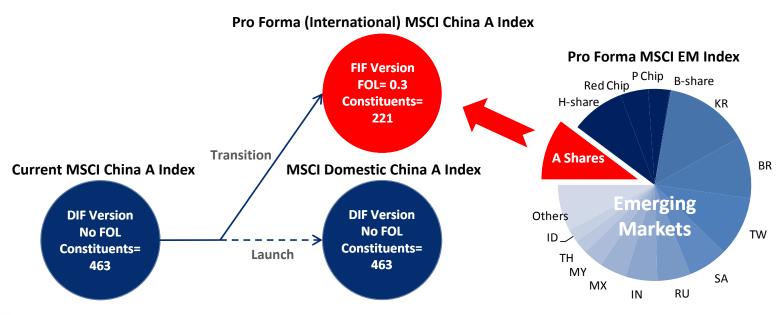


Transition of the Existing MSCI China A Index to the Proposed (International) MSCI China A Index



Proposed Transition for the Existing MSCI China A Indexes

- If the partial inclusion of China A-shares into the MSCI Emerging Markets Index were to take place in May 2015, the current MSCI China A Index would be simultaneously transitioned to the new (International) MSCI China A Index, constructed based on the China A-share constituents of the pro forma MSCI China Index
- A separate MSCI Domestic China A Index, which is identical to the current MSCI China A
 Index would be launched as a standalone domestic benchmark for investors who wish to
 maintain a broad exposure of the China A-share market





Pro Forma (International) MSCI China A Indexes

- The transition of the current MSCI China A Index to the pro forma (International) MSCI China A Index would decrease the number of constituents from 463 to 221 with an one-way index turnover of 26.5%
- For the MSCI China A Investable Market Index (IMI), the number of constituents would decrease from 1,879 to 1,553 with an one-way index turnover of 21.7%
- The turnover is primarily attributed to the higher market size segment cutoff and the application of the 30% FOL on the free float-adjusted market capitalization of China Ashares

	Current	Pro forma	# Sec	One-Way	
	# Sec.	# Sec.	Add	Del	Index
					Turnover
MSCI China A	463	221	-	242	26.5%
MSCI China A IMI	1,879	1,553	45	371	21.7%



Simulated Pro Forma MSCI China Index

- By including China A-shares in the MSCI China equity universe, the number of constituents of the pro forma MSCI China Index would increase from 136 to 385, of which 221 would be China A-shares
- The weight of China A-shares in the pro forma MSCI China Index would be 2.9% for a 5% partial inclusion. Correspondingly, the associated one-way index turnover would be 6.1%

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	Current Standard		Pro for	Pro forma (IF* = 100%)		Pro forma (IF* = 5%)		# Sec	# Securities	
	Weight	# Sec.	Weight	# Sec.	One-Way Turnover	Weight	One-Way Turnover	Add	Del	
MSCI China A	100.0%	463	100.0%	463	-	100.0%	-	-	-	
MSCI China	100.0%	136	100.0%	385	39.1%	100.0%	6.1%	249	-	
A Shares	-	-	37.0%	221	-	2.9%	-	221	-	
B Shares	0.7%	4	0.6%	5	-	1.0%	-	1	-	
H Shares	52.8%	64	32.4%	72	-	50.0%	-	8	-	
Red Chip	27.0%	32	17.0%	40	-	26.3%	-	8	-	
P Chip	19.5%	36	12.9%	47	-	19.9%	-	11	-	
Weight of A Shares in EM	-	-	10.2%	-	-	0.6%	-	-	-	
Weight of China in AC Asia ex Japan	24.7%	-	35.0%	-	-	25.9%	-	-	-	
Weight of China in EM	18.9%	-	27.7%	-	-	19.9%	-	-	-	
Weight of China in ACWI	2.1%	-	3.5%	-	-	2.3%	-	-	-	

^{*}IF refers to Inclusion Factor



Simulated Pro Forma MSCI China IMI

- Due to the extremely flat structure of the China A-share market, the simulated pro forma MSCI China IMI would see a substantial increase in the number of securities from 484 to 2024
- The weight of China A-shares in the pro forma MSCI China IMI would be 4% and the associated one-way index turnover would be 4.8%

	Current IMI		Pro for	Pro forma (IF* = 100%)		Pro forma (IF* = 5%)		# Secu	ırities
	Weight	# Sec.	Weight	# Sec.	One-Way Turnover	Weight	One-Way Turnover	Add	Del
MSCI China A IMI	100.0%	1,879	100.0%	1,879	-	100.0%	-	-	-
MSCI China IMI	100.0%	484	100.0%	2,024	46.1%	100.0%	4.8%	1,561	21
A Shares	-	-	45.7%	1,553	-	4.0%	-	1,553	-
B Shares	2.1%	62	1.0%	55	-	1.8%	-	1	8
H Shares	47.1%	103	25.9%	106	-	45.8%	-	6	3
Red Chip	25.9%	82	14.1%	82	-	24.9%	-	-	-
P Chip	25.0%	237	13.3%	228	-	23.5%	-	1	10
Weight of A Shares in EM IMI	-	-	13.7%	-	-	0.8%	-	-	
Weight of China in AC Asia ex Japan IMI	24.1%	-	36.8%	-	-	24.8%	-	-	_
Weight of China in EM IMI	18.9%	-	30.0%	-	-	19.5%	-	-	-
Weight of China in ACWI IMI	2.1%	-	3.8%	-	-	2.2%	-	-	-

^{*}IF refers to Inclusion Factor



Questions to Existing MSCI China A Index Clients

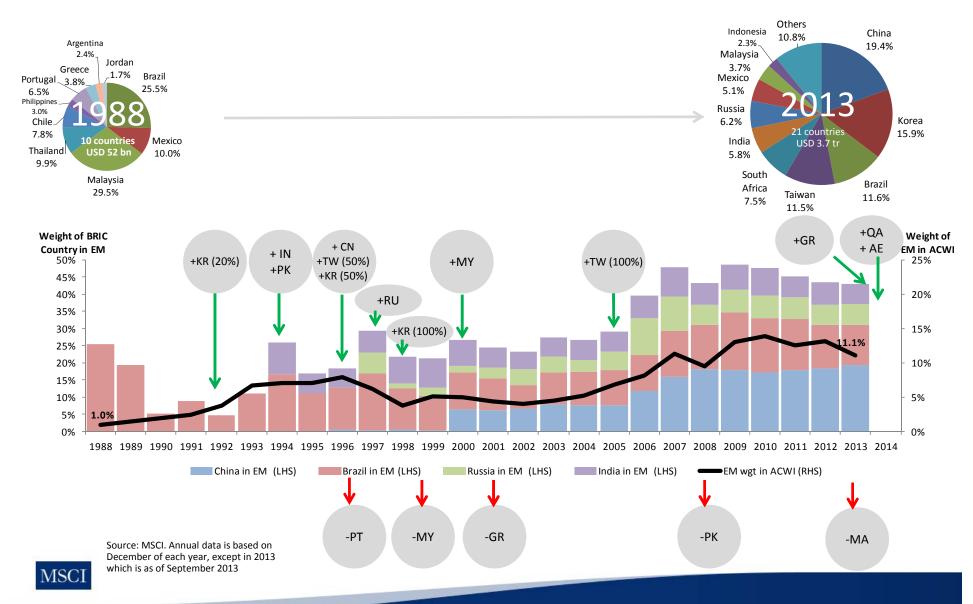
- Do you agree with the proposal to transition the existing MSCI China A Index to the pro forma (International) MSCI China A Index?
 - If yes, do you think an early phased-in approach is more appropriate? For instance, to transition 50% of the market capitalization at the November 2014 SAIR and the remaining 100% at the May 2015 SAIR?
- What potential complications do you expect as a result of this transition?



Appendix

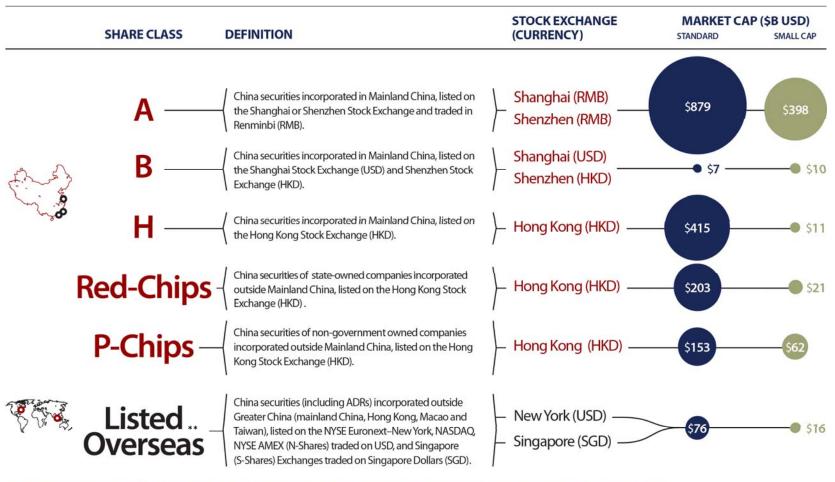


25-Year Evolution of the MSCI Emerging Markets Index



Understanding the China Share Classes

China Market Overview

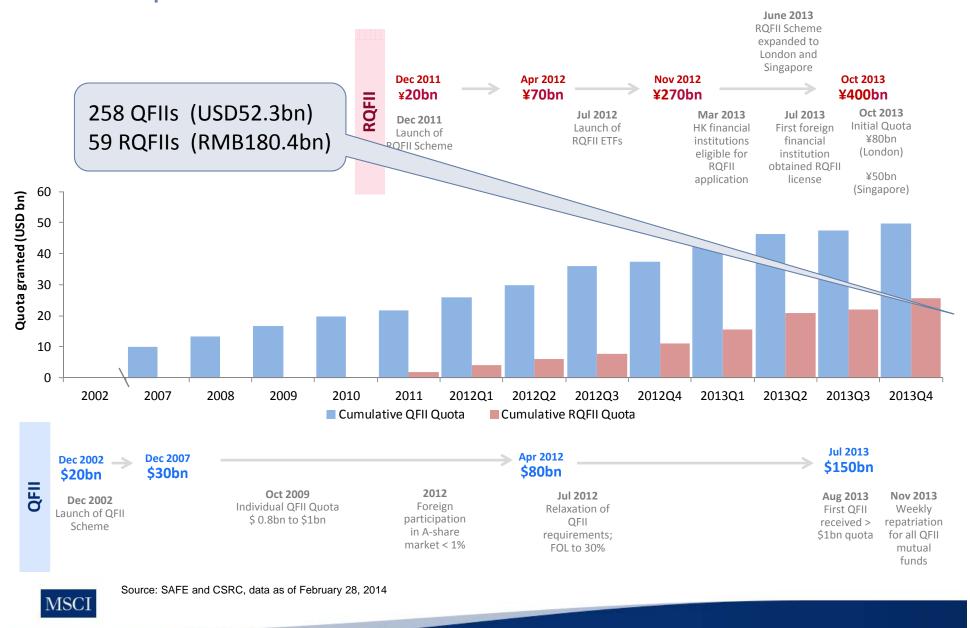


*As of Nov. 29, 2013. Market Cap is free float-adjusted. China A market cap is calculated based on Domestic Inclusion Factor (DIF), and the rest are calculated based on Foreign Inclusion Factor (FIF).

^{**} As per the MSCI Overseas China Index Methodology



Developments of the QFII and RQFII Scheme



Market Reforms and Assessments since June 2013

Capital Mobility (significantly improved):

- The 70% rule on QFII mutual funds has been removed and global mutual fund managers representing 40% of the deployed QFII quota can now repatriate weekly
- The RQFII scheme which accounts for 30% of the total quota has expanded beyond HK to London and Singapore. In addition, transporting RQFII beyond the existing RQFII jurisdictions is now possible

• Quota System (improved):

- Total authorized quota (QFII + RQFII) has almost doubled since June last year. The combined quota has increased from \$124bn to \$216bn (+74%)
- Total number of QFIIs & RQFIIs continues to grow and has reached 258 (+17%) and 59 (+84%) respectively

Tax Issue (marginally improved):

 There remains little clarity on the tax treatment for most foreign investors but Hong Kong based investors/A-share investment products domiciled in Hong Kong are now exempted from the capital gain tax for holding securities of non-land rich companies



The End Game

 As market liberalization continues, China A-shares would eventually be included in the pro forma MSCI China Index at full weight

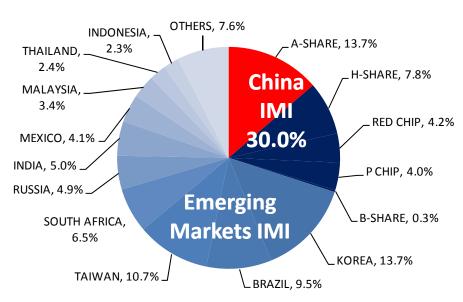
Pro forma weight of China in the MSCI Emerging Markets Index



The pro forma index weight of China is 27.7%. Estimated by applying the current GIMI methodology on a combined universe and 30% FOL using data as of Oct 18, 2013 based on the pro forma result of the November 2013 SAIR

of Constituents; A-Share: 221, H-Share: 72, P-Chip: 47, Red Chip: 40, B-Share: 5

Pro forma weight of China IMI in the MSCI Emerging Markets IMI Index



The pro forma index weight of China IMI is 30.0%. Estimated by applying the current GIMI methodology on a combined universe and 30% FOL using data as of Oct 18, 2013 based on the pro forma result of the November 2013 SAIR

of Constituents; A-Share: 1553, H-Share:106, P-Chip: 228, Red Chip: 82, B-Share: 55



Top 30 Constituents of the Current MSCI China and Pro Forma MSCI China Index

	Current MSCI Chi	<u>ina Index</u>		Pro Forma MSCI China Index*			
Rank	Security name	Share Type	Weight (%)	Rank	Security name	Share Type	Weight (%)
1	China Mobile	RED CHIP	8.9%	1	China Mobile	RED CHIP	8.3%
2	Tencent Holdings	P CHIP	7.6%	2	Tencent Holdings	P CHIP	7.2%
3	China Construction Bank H	Н	7.6%	3	China Construction Bank H	Н	7.1%
4	ICBC H	Н	6.9%	4	ICBC H	Н	6.5%
5	CNOOC	RED CHIP	5.0%	5	CNOOC	RED CHIP	4.7%
6	Bank of China H	Н	4.7%	6	Bank of China H	Н	4.4%
7	Petrochina Co H	Н	3.3%	7	Petrochina Co H	Н	3.1%
8	China Petro & Chem H	Н	2.7%	8	China Petro & Chem H	Н	2.6%
9	China Life Insurance H	Н	2.6%	9	China Life Insurance H	Н	2.5%
10	Ping An Insurance H	Н	1.9%	10	Ping An Insurance H	Н	1.8%
11	China Overseas Land & Inv	RED CHIP	1.7%	11	China Overseas Land & Inv	RED CHIP	1.6%
12	China Shenhua Energy H	Н	1.4%	12	China Shenhua Energy H	Н	1.3%
13	Agri Bank of China H	Н	1.4%	13	Agri Bank of China H	Н	1.3%
14	China Pacific Ins Grp H	Н	1.3%	14	China Pacific Ins Grp H	Н	1.2%
15	China Merchants Bank H	Н	1.2%	15	China Merchants Bank H	Н	1.2%
16	Hengan Int'l Group Co	P CHIP	1.2%	16	Hengan Int'l Group Co	P CHIP	1.1%
17	Want Want China Hldgs	P CHIP	1.2%	17	Want Want China Hldgs	P CHIP	1.1%
18	China Unicom	RED CHIP	1.0%	18	China Unicom	RED CHIP	1.0%
19	China Telecom Corp H	Н	1.0%	19	China Telecom Corp H	Н	0.9%
20	Belle Int'l Hldgs	P CHIP	0.9%	20	Belle Int'l Hldgs	P CHIP	0.9%
21	Lenovo Group	RED CHIP	0.9%	21	Lenovo Group	RED CHIP	0.8%
22	Bank of Communications H	Н	0.9%	22	Bank of Communications H	Н	0.8%
23	China Mengniu Dairy Co	RED CHIP	0.9%	23	China Mengniu Dairy Co	RED CHIP	0.8%
24	Great Wall Motor H	Н	0.9%	24	Great Wall Motor H	Н	0.8%
25	China Minsheng Bank H	Н	0.8%	25	China Minsheng Bank H	Н	0.8%
26	China Resources Land	RED CHIP	0.8%	26	China Resources Land	RED CHIP	0.8%
27	Tingyi Holding Corp	P CHIP	0.7%	27	Tingyi Holding Corp	P CHIP	0.7%
28	Brilliance China Auto	RED CHIP	0.7%	28	Brilliance China Auto	RED CHIP	0.6%
29	Kunlun Energy	RED CHIP	0.7%	29	Kunlun Energy	RED CHIP	0.6%
30	China Resources Power	RED CHIP	0.6%	30	China Resources Power	RED CHIP	0.6%



Data as of October 18, 2013 based on the pro forma results of the November 2013 SAIR *Assuming an Inclusion Factor of 5%

Top 30 Constituents with Multiple Share Classes in the Pro Forma MSCI China Index

No.	Company Name	Weight of H/B-share in the Pro Forma MSCI China Index	Weight of A-share in the Pro Forma China Index*
1	China Construction Bank	7.12%	0.01%
2	ICBC	6.51%	0.06%
3	Bank of China	4.41%	0.02%
4	Petrochina Co	3.13%	0.03%
5	China Petro & Chem	2.58%	0.02%
6	China Life Insurance	2.49%	0.02%
7	Ping An Insurance	1.79%	0.05%
8	China Shenhua Energy	1.35%	0.03%
9	Agri Bank of China	1.28%	0.06%
10	China Pacific Ins Grp	1.21%	0.03%
11	China Merchants Bank	1.15%	0.07%
12	Bank of Communications	0.82%	0.05%
13	Great Wall Motor	0.80%	0.02%
14	China Minsheng Bank	0.78%	0.06%
15	Anhui Cement Conch	0.54%	0.02%
16	China Oilfield Svcs	0.53%	0.01%
17	Huaneng Power Int'l	0.43%	0.01%
18	Tsingtao Brewery	0.37%	0.01%
19	Jiangxi Copper Co	0.34%	0.01%
20	BYD Co	0.33%	0.02%
21	China Coal Energy	0.33%	0.01%
22	China Vanke Co**	0.32%	0.03%
23	Citic Securities Co	0.29%	0.04%
24	China Railway Group	0.28%	0.01%
25	China Railway Const	0.27%	0.01%
26	Weichai Power Co	0.27%	0.01%
27	Haitong Securities Co	0.25%	0.03%
28	New China Life Insurance	0.25%	0.01%
29	Chongqing Changan Auto**	0.19%	0.01%
30	Shanghai Pharm	0.18%	0.01%



^{*}Assuming an Inclusion Factor of 5%

^{**}Currently represented by B-shares in the MSCI China Index

Determining the Initial Inclusion Factor: Some Key Considerations

Key Considerations	Assessment	What Does This Mean?
Size of country quota vs. investable size of market	The total quota of \$216bn (QFII + RQFII) represents approximately 16.8% of the MSCI China A IMI market cap as of Feb 17, 2014.	Only a fraction of the investable market capitalization of China A shares today can be accessed by qualified investors.
Size of country quota vs. size of MSCI Emerging Markets Index	The total quota of \$216bn represents approximately 5% of the MSCI Emerging Markets IMI.	Assuming the quota of \$216bn is fully distributed, it can only translate into an inclusion weight of no more than 5% for the MSCI Emerging Markets IMI.
Individual quota limit vs. investors' equity AUM	The upper limit of US\$1bn applied to non-SWF/Central Banks investors limits the maximum China A-shares exposure of the portfolio.	To ensure most investors are able to replicate the weight of China A-shares in the index, this number sets the upper limit of the Inclusion Factor.
Actual quota allocation vs. investors' AUM	More than \$80bn of quota have been deployed so far. The actual quota distributed to investors ranges between US\$20mn-US\$1.5bn.	Arguably, the most important consideration in determining the Inclusion Factor.
Size of the Qualified Investor base & the entry requirements	There are currently more than 300 qualified QFII/RQFII investors. The entry barriers are considered to be low enough to allow most investors to participate in the China A-share market.	A large number of institutional investors can now access the China A-share market and the number is expected to continue to grow.
Capital mobility restrictions	Although market accessibility has generally improved, the China A-share market is still NOT on par with most Emerging Markets due to the existence of capital mobility restrictions.	A discount factor is warranted as the China A-share market is still not a freely accessible market for international investors.
Accessibility options	Multiple access platforms exist primarily through the QFII and RQFII schemes.	A discount factor is warranted as the China A-share market is still not a freely accessible market for international investors.



Data as of February 2014

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China A-Share Market Accessibility Review

Considerations	China A	Other EM	Assessment	Remarks
Capital Mobility	RQFII is now accessib		lle on QFII mutual funds has domiciled in HK, SG and UK.	been removed. Fransportation of RQFII quota is also permitted.
Repatriation Frequency	QFII funds – Weekly RQFII funds – Daily Others – Monthly	Chile - repatriation can take up to 2 weeks.	Improved	Become less critical as at least 26% (QFII AMs) of the combined deployed quota can do weekly and 28% (RQFII AMs) can do daily. This is less of a concern for long term investors.
Secondary Concern: Lock-up Period	QFII funds – 3months RQFII funds - none Others – 1 year	Not found in other EM	No improvement	Any lock up is not desirable and may pose problems for immediate redemptions and short term investors. However, 3-month lock up is not a deal breaker for mutual funds and less of a concern for long term investors.
Quota Remit Period	RQFII funds - none Others – 6 months	Countries	No improvement	Inflexible if there is a change in their investment view. Taiwan had the same restriction before. Alternatively, go for the RQFII route.
Quota System				
Country Quota QFII + RQFII	# of QFIIs/RQFIIs = 317 (+33%) Total quota = \$216bn (+73%) Deployed quota= \$82bn (+56%) RQFII to be expanded to TW	Not found in	Improved	USD216bn represents 17% of the China A investable market cap. Size is large enough to support a small China A inclusion. In addition, the size of quota can be addressed by adjusting the weight of inclusion.
Primary Concern: Individual Quota	(\$17bn) Technically, no ceiling for RQFIIs and SWF and Central Banks under QFII. Others remain @ \$1bn	other EM Countries	Significant misalignment exists between quota distribution and AUM.	Large investors, notably asset managers, continued to be denied quota. The concern is unlikely to be resolved instantly but can be mitigated by applying an Inclusion Factor. AO's quota could be managed by AMs.
Tax Issue	Except the new development in HK. Generally, no further clarity on the tax treatment	Minor tax issue in India	Marginal improvement	Not a key obstacle to reclassification



Data as of February 2014

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China A-Share Market Accessibility Review (Con't)

Considerations	China A	Other EM	Assessment	Remarks
Registration Process	2 weeks to 1 month.	Russia: < 1 month Chile: > 2 weeks India (FII/QFI): > 2 weeks Korea (IRC system) : < 1 week Taiwan (FINI/FIDI): < 4 days	No change. Other EM countries have more complex and lengthy process.	One-off problem – need to allow investors time to apply for a license. Regulators have simplified and sped up the process.
Qualifications Requirements	QFII: Average of 2 years experience & \$500m AUM. Hedge funds remain not allowed. RQFII: Expanded to include institutions in SG and UK	No major investor qualification requirements for other EM countries	No change	Not ideal but most global investors (P&I Top 500) satisfy the minimum requirements. TW & KR had similar requirements at the time of inclusion.
Currency Convertibility	Yuan is not fully convertible but has offshore convertibility in HK, SG and UK.	Most EM currencies are not fully convertible (i.e., TW, KR, IN, ID etc) and have no offshore markets.	Improving with the establishment of offshore RMB centers	China is already ahead of other EM countries. Additionally, the regulators already made clear that Yuan will be fully convertible in the future.
FOL/Foreign Room Issues	30% FOL Potential foreign room issues	Most EM countries have FOL and foreign room issues.		Size of the quota today is not causing any foreign room issues.
Market Infrastructure	•No DVP •T + 0 •No Overdraft •No OTC & in-kind transfer •No margin trading/short selling	Most EM countries face similar restrictions except for T+0 settlement cycle.	No change but these are common in EM.	Russia was T+0 when included. Just recently changed to T+2.
Competitive Landscape	Restrictive use of stock market data	Examples of EM countries that have restrictions: BR, IN, and KR		Restrictive use of stock market data may potentially hamper the development of financial products

MSCI

Data as of February 2014

MSCI 24 Hour Global Client Service

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