

MSCI Economic Regime Allocator Indexes Methodology

February 2024

Contents

1	Introduction	3
2	Definition of Economic Regimes	5
3	Constructing the MSCI Economic Regime Sector Allocator Indexes	6
3.1	Determining the Component Asset Weight.....	6
3.2	Applying the MSCI Risk Control Indexes Methodology	6
3.3	Maintaining the MSCI Economic Regime Sector Allocator Indexes	7
3.3.1	Index Review	7
3.3.2	Daily Risk Control Application	7
3.3.3	Ongoing Event-Related Changes.....	7
4	Constructing the MSCI Economic Regime Asset Allocator Indexes	8
4.1	Determining the Component Asset Weight.....	8
4.2	Applying the MSCI Risk Control Indexes Methodology.....	8
4.3	Maintaining the MSCI Economic Regime Asset Allocator Indexes.....	9
4.3.1	Index Review	9
4.3.2	Daily Risk Control Application	9
4.3.3	Ongoing Event-Related Changes.....	9
5	Handling Missing or Suspect GDP Growth Indicator or Inflation Indicator	10
	Appendix 1: Methodology of Total Return Variant of SGX 10-Year US Treasury Futures Index	11
	Appendix 2: QuantCube Economic Growth Indicator	12
	Appendix 3: Economic Regime.....	13
	Appendix 4: Parameters Used for the MSCI Economic Regime Allocator Risk Control Indexes.....	15
	Appendix 5: Application of Fallback Mechanism	19

1 Introduction

The MSCI Economic Regime Allocator suite of Indexes¹ consists of following indexes:

- The MSCI World Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index
- The MSCI World Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index
- The MSCI USA Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index
- The MSCI USA Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index
- The MSCI World Economic Regime Sector Allocator 10% Risk Control Index
- The MSCI World Economic Regime Asset Allocator 5% Risk Control Index
- The MSCI USA Economic Regime Sector Allocator 10% Risk Control Index
- The MSCI USA Economic Regime Asset Allocator 5% Risk Control Index

The MSCI World Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index aims to represent the performance of a strategy that allocates daily to cash² and MSCI World Sector Indexes³ based on GDP Growth Indicator and Inflation Indicator calculated by QuantCube Technology⁴.

The MSCI World Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index aims to represent the performance of a strategy that allocates daily to cash, SGX 10-Year US Treasury Futures Index⁵ and MSCI World Sector Indexes based on GDP Growth Indicator and Inflation Indicator calculated by QuantCube Technology.

The MSCI USA Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index aims to represent the performance of a strategy that allocates daily to cash and MSCI USA Sector Indexes⁶ based on GDP Growth Indicator and Inflation Indicator calculated by QuantCube Technology.

The MSCI USA Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index aims to represent the performance of a strategy that allocates daily to cash, SGX 10-Year US Treasury Futures Index and MSCI USA Sector Indexes based on GDP Growth Indicator and Inflation Indicator calculated by QuantCube Technology.

¹ Please note, the MSCI Economic Regime Allocator suite of Indexes are calculated daily on each index calculation date as defined by MSCI as per [MSCI INDEX CALCULATION METHODOLOGY](#)

² LIBOR USD rate is used until 28-Nov-2014, SOFR is used effective 01-Dec-2014

³ Please refer to table of MSCI Regional Sector Indexes in Section 3.1 for list of MSCI World Sector Indexes

⁴ QuantCube is a cross-sectoral Research & Development company which analyses billions of alternative data points in real time to uncover macroeconomic insights ahead of the market for investment. Please refer to Appendix 2 for details

⁵ Total Return variant of SGX 10-Year US Treasury Futures Index is used. Please refer to Appendix 1 for details

⁶ Please refer to table of MSCI Regional Sector Indexes in Section 3.1 for list of MSCI USA Sector Indexes

The MSCI World Economic Regime Sector Allocator 10% Risk Control Index and the MSCI USA Economic Regime Sector Allocator 10% Risk Control Index aim to represent the performance of the MSCI World Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index and of the MSCI USA Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index respectively, while targeting a risk level of 10%.

The MSCI World Economic Regime Asset Allocator 5% Risk Control Index and the MSCI USA Economic Regime Asset Allocator 5% Risk Control Index aim to represent the performance of the MSCI World Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index and the MSCI USA Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index respectively, while targeting a risk level of 5%.

2 Definition of Economic Regimes

The methodology defines four economic regimes labelled as Stagflation, Heating Up, Slow Growth and Goldilocks based on rising or falling GDP Growth Indicator and Inflation Indicator as provided by QuantCube Technology.

- “Goldilocks” – Rising GDP Growth Indicator and Falling Inflation Indicator
- “Slow Growth” – Slowing GDP Growth Indicator and Falling Inflation Indicator
- “Stagflation” – Slowing GDP Growth Indicator and Rising Inflation Indicator
- “Heating Up” – Rising GDP Growth Indicator and Rising Inflation Indicator

For detailed definition of these four economic regimes and their calculation using QuantCube’s GDP Growth Indicator and Inflation Indicator, please refer to Appendix 3.

3 Constructing the MSCI Economic Regime Sector Allocator Indexes

The MSCI World Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index and the MSCI USA Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index are reviewed daily by identifying the economic regime as per the steps described in Appendix 3.

3.1 Determining the Component Asset Weight

At each daily Index Review, based on the economic regime identified, the following weights⁷ are allocated to cash and a set of MSCI Regional Sector Indexes⁸ to create the MSCI World Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index and the MSCI USA Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index:

	MSCI Regional Energy Index	MSCI Regional Materials Index	MSCI Regional Industrials Index	MSCI Regional Consumer Discretionary Index	MSCI Regional Consumer Staples Index	MSCI Regional Health Care Index	MSCI Regional Financials Index	MSCI Regional Information Technology Index	MSCI Regional Communication Services Index	MSCI Regional Utilities Index	Cash
Stagflation	12.5%				12.5%	12.5%				12.5%	50%
Heating Up		25%		25%		25%		25%			
Slow Growth					10%	10%	10%		10%	10%	50%
Goldilocks	25%	25%	25%					25%			

3.2 Applying the MSCI Risk Control Indexes Methodology

The MSCI Risk Control Indexes Methodology⁹ is applied sequentially on the MSCI World Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index and the MSCI USA Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index to construct the MSCI World Economic Regime Sector Allocator 10% Risk Control Index and the MSCI USA Economic Regime Sector Allocator 10% Risk Control Index respectively. The parameters for the application of the risk control methodology in the MSCI World Economic Regime Sector Allocator 10% Risk Control Index and the MSCI USA Economic Regime Sector Allocator 10% Risk Control Index are noted in Appendix 4.

⁷ The weights assigned to cash and MSCI Regional Sector Indexes in the MSCI World Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index the MSCI USA Economic Regime Allocator Index are re-weighted to their target allocation daily even if there is no change in the Economic Regime identified

⁸ The Regions are defined as World and USA for the MSCI World Economic Regime Allocator Indexes and the MSCI USA Economic Regime Allocator Index, respectively

⁹ Please refer to [MSCI Risk Control Indexes Methodology](#) for more details

3.3 Maintaining the MSCI Economic Regime Sector Allocator Indexes

3.3.1 Index Reviews

The MSCI World Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index and the MSCI USA Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index are reviewed on a daily basis as per the steps described in Section 3.1. The pro forma Index for each of the MSCI World Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index and the MSCI USA Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index is announced three business days before the effective date.

3.3.2 Daily Risk Control Application

The MSCI World Economic Regime Sector Allocator 10% Risk Control Index and the MSCI USA Economic Regime Sector Allocator 10% Risk Control Index are rebalanced on a daily basis, in accordance with the MSCI Risk Control Indexes Methodology with the parameters detailed in Appendix 4.

3.3.3 Ongoing Event-Related Changes

The treatment of common corporate events within each of the MSCI World Sector Indexes and the MSCI USA Sector Indexes listed in Section 3.1 are applied as per the MSCI Global Investable Market Indexes Methodology¹⁰.

¹⁰ Please refer to MSCI Global Investable Market Indexes Methodology at: <https://www.msci.com/index-methodology>

4 Constructing the MSCI Economic Regime Asset Allocator Indexes

The MSCI World Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index and the MSCI USA Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index are reviewed daily by identifying the economic regime as per the steps described in Appendix 3.

4.1 Determining the Component Asset Weight

At each daily Index Review, based on the economic regime identified, the following weights¹¹ are allocated to SGX 10-Year US Treasury Futures Index, cash and a set of MSCI Regional Sector Indexes to create the MSCI World Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index and the MSCI USA Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index:

	MSCI Regional Energy Index	MSCI Regional Materials Index	MSCI Regional Industrials Index	MSCI Regional Consumer Discretionary Index	MSCI Regional Consumer Staples Index	MSCI Regional Health Care Index	MSCI Regional Financials Index	MSCI Regional Information Technology Index	MSCI Regional Communication Services Index	MSCI Regional Utilities Index	SGX 10-Year US Treasury Futures Index	Cash
Stagflation	5%				5%	5%				5%		80%
Heating Up		20%		20%		20%		20%				20%
Slow Growth					4%	4%	4%		4%	4%	80%	
Goldilocks	15%	15%	15%					15%			40%	

4.2 Applying the MSCI Risk Control Indexes Methodology

The MSCI Risk Control Indexes Methodology is applied sequentially on the MSCI World Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index and the MSCI USA Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index to construct the MSCI World Economic Regime Asset Allocator 5% Risk Control Index and the MSCI USA Economic Regime Asset Allocator 5% Risk Control Index. The parameters for the application of the risk control methodology in the MSCI World Economic Regime Asset Allocator 5% Risk Control Index and the MSCI USA Economic Regime Asset Allocator 5% Risk Control Index are noted in Appendix 4.

¹¹ The weights assigned to SGX 10-Year US Treasury Futures Index, cash and MSCI World Sector Indexes in the MSCI World Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index are re-weighted to their target allocation daily even if there is no change in the Economic Regime identified

4.3 Maintaining the MSCI Economic Regime Asset Allocator Indexes

4.3.1 Index Reviews

The MSCI World Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index and the MSCI USA Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index are reviewed on a daily basis as per the steps described in Section 4.1. The pro forma Index for each of the MSCI World Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index and the MSCI USA Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index is announced three business days before the effective date.

4.3.2 Daily Risk Control Application

The MSCI World Economic Regime Asset Allocator 5% Risk Control Index and the MSCI USA Economic Regime Asset Allocator 5% Risk Control Index are rebalanced on a daily basis, in accordance with the MSCI Risk Control Indexes Methodology with the parameters detailed in Appendix 4.

4.3.3 Ongoing Event-Related Changes

The treatment of common corporate events within each of the MSCI World Sector Indexes and the MSCI USA Sector Indexes listed in Section 4.1 are applied as per the MSCI Global Investable Market Indexes Methodology¹².

¹² Please refer to MSCI Global Investable Market Indexes Methodology at: <https://www.msci.com/index-methodology>

5 Handling Suspect or Missing GDP Growth Indicator and Inflation Indicator

If, at an Index Review, MSCI determines that the primary source data from QuantCube Technology is not reflective of market conditions or there is temporary outage of data for 4 or more days, the economic regime, component assets and weights will be determined based on latest available OECD CLI¹³ and OECD CPI¹⁴ values as per the following steps (“fallback mechanism”)¹⁵:

- Calculation of change in OECD CLI
- Calculation of change in OECD CPI
- Rules to assign economic regimes
- Determining the component asset weights

When the fallback mechanism comes into effect, the index review frequency will change from daily to a quarterly basis to coincide with the regular February, May, August and November Index Reviews of the MSCI World Index. The changes are implemented at the end of February, May, August, and November.

Subsequently, a review of an alternative data source for the GDP Growth Indicator and Inflation Indicator would be conducted. The adoption of an alternative data source and any amendments to the methodology to reflect this will be announced to all clients simultaneously. MSCI may consult with clients to gather their feedback on the choice of alternative sources in line with MSCI Index Consultation Policy¹⁶.

¹³ Please refer to OECD CLI at: [Leading indicators - Composite leading indicator \(CLI\) - OECD Data](#)

¹⁴ Please refer to OECD CPI at: [Prices - Inflation \(CPI\) - OECD Data](#)

¹⁵ Please refer to Appendix 5 for detailed steps of applying Fallback Mechanism

¹⁶ Please refer to MSCI Index Policies document at: <https://www.msci.com/index-methodology>

Appendix 1: Methodology of Total Return Variant of SGX 10-Year US Treasury Futures Index

The SGX 10-Year US Treasury Futures Index is calculated in USD. The index methodology of SGX 10-Year US Treasury Futures Index (Excess Return) has been published at the link below as iEdge U.S.

Treasury Notes Futures Index Methodology:

https://api2.sgx.com/sites/default/files/2020-06/iEdge%20US%20Treasury%20Futures%20Index%20-%20Index%20Methodology_DCI_A4_4%20Jun%202020_1.pdf

The Total Return variant of the SGX 10-Year US Treasury Futures Index is calculated from the excess return version of the SGX 10-Year US Treasury Futures Index using the formula below:

$$Total\ return = \left(\frac{ER\ Index_t}{ER\ Index_{t-1}} - 1 \right) + \left(\frac{Interest\ rate}{360} \right) * D_{t,t-1}$$

$ER\ Index_t$ – SGX 10-Year US Treasury Futures Index level on business day t

$ER\ Index_{t-1}$ – SGX 10-Year US Treasury Futures Index level on business day t-1

$Interest\ rate$ – Fed Funds Rate is used as funding rate

$D_{t,t-1}$ – Number of actual calendar days between business day t-1 and t

$$TR\ Index = TR\ Index_{t-1} * (1 + Total\ Return)$$

$TR\ Index_{t-1}$ – Total Return variant of SGX 10-Year US Treasury Futures Index level on business day t-1

Appendix 2: QuantCube Economic Growth Indicator

The following two indicators from QuantCube Technology are used in the construction of the MSCI Economic Regime Allocator Indexes.

GDP Growth Indicator

- GDP Growth Indicator tracks year-over-year (YoY) economic growth at a country level in real-time. It relies exclusively on real-time alternative data to provide timely insights ahead of official numbers or other nowcast models relying on official data.

Inflation Indicator

- Inflation Indicator is a real-time indicator that quantifies the current Consumer Price Index at a country level by crossing and aggregating multiple subcomponents like Motor Fuels, Fruits, Vegetables and others.

For further details on the calculation methodology, please refer to

[Real-time macro nowcasting for GDP, Inflation, Investment Decisions – Quant Cube Technology \(quant-cube.com\)](https://quant-cube.com)

Appendix 3: Economic Regime

At each index review, economic regime is defined based on the change in the GDP Growth Indicator and change in the Inflation Indicator. The calculation of change in the GDP Growth Indicator and change in the Inflation Indicator, and the rules to assign economic regime are as follows:

1) Calculation of Change in the GDP Growth Indicator

At each index review date (t), GDP Growth Indicator for USA ($US - QCGGI$) and GDP Growth Indicator for China ($CN - QCGGI$) are both considered to calculate the change in GDP Growth Indicator.

• Calculation of Change in the GDP Growth Indicator for USA

Both short-term and long-term signals for USA are calculated based on the following rules:

$$\begin{aligned}
 US - QCGGI_{short-term} &= Average^{17}(US - QCGGI_{(t)}: US - QCGGI_{(t-4)}) \\
 &\quad - Average(US - QCGGI_{(t-5)}: US - QCGGI_{(t-9)}) \\
 US - QCGGI_{long-term} &= Average(US - QCGGI_{(t)}: US - QCGGI_{(t-4)}) \\
 &\quad - Average(US - QCGGI_{(t-20)}: US - QCGGI_{(t-24)})
 \end{aligned}$$

Where:

$US - QCGGI_{(t)}$ - GDP Growth Indicator value for USA as of t

$US - QCGGI_{(t-i)}$ - GDP Growth Indicator value for USA as of i business days prior to t

• Calculation of Change in the GDP Growth Indicator for China

Both short-term and long-term signals for China are calculated based on the following rules:

$$\begin{aligned}
 CN - QCGGI_{short-term} &= Average(CN - QCGGI_{(t)}: CN - QCGGI_{(t-4)}) \\
 &\quad - Average(CN - QCGGI_{(t-5)}: CN - QCGGI_{(t-9)}) \\
 CN - QCGGI_{long-term} &= Average(CN - QCGGI_{(t)}: CN - QCGGI_{(t-4)}) \\
 &\quad - Average(CN - QCGGI_{(t-20)}: CN - QCGGI_{(t-24)})
 \end{aligned}$$

Where:

$CN - QCGGI_{(t)}$ - GDP Growth Indicator value for China as of t

$CN - QCGGI_{(t-i)}$ - GDP Growth Indicator value for China as of i business days prior to t

¹⁷ When a value is missing for any day, it will be dropped and excluded from the calculation of average. The same missing value treatment is applied in across all average calculation of both GDP Growth Indicator and Inflation Indicator

2) Calculation of Change in the Inflation Indicator

At each index review date (t), Inflation Indicator for USA ($US - QCII$) is used to calculate short-term and long-term signals respectively based on the following rule:

$$\begin{aligned}
 US - QCII_{short-term} &= \text{Average}(US - QCII_{(t)}; US - QCII_{(t-4)}) \\
 &\quad - \text{Average}(US - QCII_{(t-5)}; US - QCII_{(t-9)}) \\
 US - QCII_{long-term} &= \text{Average}(US - QCII_{(t)}; US - QCII_{(t-4)}) \\
 &\quad - \text{Average}(US - QCII_{(t-20)}; US - QCII_{(t-24)})
 \end{aligned}$$

Where:

$US - QCII_{(t)}$ - Inflation Indicator value for USA as of t

$US - QCII_{(t-i)}$ - Inflation Indicator value for USA as of i business days prior to t

3) Rules to Assign Economic Regimes

Economic Regime	Short-term and Long-term Signals
Stagflation	$((US - QCGGI_{short-term} \leq 0 \text{ or } US - QCGGI_{long-term} \leq 0) \text{ and } (CN - QCGGI_{short-term} \leq 0 \text{ or } CN - QCGGI_{long-term} \leq 0)) \text{ and } (US - QCII_{short-term} > 0 \text{ and } US - QCII_{long-term} > 0)$
Heating Up	$((US - QCGGI_{short-term} > 0 \text{ and } US - QCGGI_{long-term} > 0) \text{ or } (CN - QCGGI_{short-term} > 0 \text{ and } CN - QCGGI_{long-term} > 0)) \text{ and } (US - QCII_{short-term} > 0 \text{ and } US - QCII_{long-term} > 0)$
Slow Growth	$((US - QCGGI_{short-term} \leq 0 \text{ or } US - QCGGI_{long-term} \leq 0) \text{ and } (CN - QCGGI_{short-term} \leq 0 \text{ or } CN - QCGGI_{long-term} \leq 0)) \text{ and } (US - QCII_{short-term} \leq 0 \text{ or } US - QCII_{long-term} \leq 0)$
Goldilocks	$((US - QCGGI_{short-term} > 0 \text{ and } US - QCGGI_{long-term} > 0) \text{ or } (CN - QCGGI_{short-term} > 0 \text{ and } CN - QCGGI_{long-term} > 0)) \text{ and } (US - QCII_{short-term} \leq 0 \text{ or } US - QCII_{long-term} \leq 0)$

Appendix 4: Parameters Used for the MSCI Economic Regime Allocator Risk Control Indexes

Parameters for the MSCI World Economic Regime Sector Allocator 10% Risk Control Index

- The MSCI Risk Control Indexes Methodology¹⁸ is applied on the MSCI World Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index using the following parameters:

	MSCI Risk Control Indexes Methodology Parameters	Parameters
1	Calendar Rule	Daily
2	Return Variant of MSCI World Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index	Net Total Return
3	Risk Free Rate	LIBOR up to 31-Aug-2021 and SOFR effective 01-Sep-2021
4	Risk Free Maturity Rate	1D
5	Rebalancing Type	Volatility
	Volatility Rebalancing Parameters	
6	Risk Control Level	10%
7	Base Currency of MSCI World Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index and the cash component	USD
8	Maximum Leverage	150%
9	Buffer	5%
10	Volatility Calculation Type	Equal Weighted Volatility
	Estimator Parameters	
11	Lag Between Rebalancing Date and Effective Date	3 business days
12	Short Term number of days estimate	20
13	Long Term number of days estimate	60

Parameters for the MSCI World Economic Regime Asset Allocator 5% Risk Control Index

- The MSCI Risk Control Indexes Methodology is applied on the MSCI World Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index using the following parameters:

	MSCI Risk Control Indexes Methodology Parameters	Parameters
1	Calendar Rule	Daily
2	Return Variant of MSCI World Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index	Net Total Return
3	Risk Free Rate	LIBOR up to 31-Aug-2021 and SOFR effective 01-Sep-2021
4	Risk Free Maturity Rate	1D
5	Rebalancing Type	Volatility
	Volatility Rebalancing Parameters	

¹⁸Please refer to the MSCI Risk Control Indexes methodology at www.msci.com/index-methodology

6	Risk Control Level	5%
7	Base Currency of MSCI World Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index and the cash component	USD
8	Maximum Leverage	150%
9	Buffer	5%
10	Volatility Calculation Type	Equal Weighted Volatility
Estimator Parameters		
11	Lag Between Rebalancing Date and Effective Date	3 business days
12	Short Term number of days estimate	20
13	Long Term number of days estimate	60

Parameters for the MSCI USA Economic Regime Sector Allocator 10% Risk Control Index

- The MSCI Risk Control Indexes Methodology is applied on the MSCI USA Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index using the following parameters:

	MSCI Risk Control Indexes Methodology Parameters	Parameters
1	Calendar Rule	Daily
2	Return Variant of MSCI USA Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index	Net Total Return
3	Risk Free Rate	LIBOR up to 31-Aug-2021 and SOFR effective 01-Sep-2021
4	Risk Free Maturity Rate	1D
5	Rebalancing Type	Volatility
Volatility Rebalancing Parameters		
6	Risk Control Level	10%
7	Base Currency of MSCI USA Economic Regime Sector Allocator Index and the cash component	USD
8	Maximum Leverage	150%
9	Buffer	5%
10	Volatility Calculation Type	Equal Weighted Volatility
Estimator Parameters		
11	Lag Between Rebalancing Date and Effective Date	3 business days
12	Short Term number of days estimate	20
13	Long Term number of days estimate	60

Parameters for the MSCI USA Economic Regime Asset Allocator 5% Risk Control Index

- The MSCI Risk Control Indexes Methodology is applied on the MSCI USA Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index using the following parameters:

	MSCI Risk Control Indexes Methodology Parameters	Parameters
1	Calendar Rule	Daily
2	Return Variant of MSCI USA Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index	Net Total Return
3	Risk Free Rate	LIBOR up to 31-Aug-2021 and SOFR effective 01-Sep-2021
4	Risk Free Maturity Rate	1D
5	Rebalancing Type	Volatility
	Volatility Rebalancing Parameters	
6	Risk Control Level	5%
7	Base Currency of MSCI USA Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index and the cash component	USD
8	Maximum Leverage	150%
9	Buffer	5%
10	Volatility Calculation Type	Equal Weighted Volatility
	Estimator Parameters	
11	Lag Between Rebalancing Date and Effective Date	3 business days
12	Short Term number of days estimate	20
13	Long Term number of days estimate	60

Appendix 5: Application of Fallback Mechanism

1) Calculation of Change in OECD CLI

The MSCI Risk Control Indexes Methodology is applied on the MSCI USA Economic Regime Asset Allocator Index using the following parameters:

At each index review date (t), OECD CLI for USA ($US - CLI$) and OECD CLI for China ($CN - CLI$) are both considered to calculate signals as per the following rule:

$$US - CLI_{YOY_{qoq\ change}} = \frac{US - CLI_{(t)}}{US - CLI_{(t-12m)}} - \frac{US - CLI_{(t-3m)}}{US - CLI_{(t-15m)}}$$

$$CN - CLI_{YOY_{qoq\ change}} = \frac{CN - CLI_{(t)}}{CN - CLI_{(t-12m)}} - \frac{CN - CLI_{(t-3m)}}{CN - CLI_{(t-15m)}}$$

Where:

$US - CLI_{(t)}$ - latest available OECD CLI value for USA as of t

$US - CLI_{(t-3m)}$ - latest available OECD CLI value for USA as of a quarter prior to t

$US - CLI_{(t-12m)}$ - latest available OECD CLI value for USA as of a year prior to t

$US - CLI_{(t-15m)}$ - latest available OECD CLI value for USA as of a year and a quarter prior to t

$CN - CLI_{(t)}$ - latest available OECD CLI value for China as of t

$CN - CLI_{(t-3m)}$ - latest available OECD CLI value for China as of a quarter prior to t

$CN - CLI_{(t-12m)}$ - latest available OECD CLI value for China as of a year prior to t

$CN - CLI_{(t-15m)}$ - latest available OECD CLI value for China as of a year and a quarter prior to t

2) Calculation of Change in OECD CPI

At each index review date (t), OECD CPI for USA ($US - CPI$) are considered to calculate signals as per the following rule:

$$US - CPI_{YOY_{qoq\ change}} = \frac{US - CPI_{(t)}}{US - CPI_{(t-12m)}} - \frac{US - CPI_{(t-3m)}}{US - CPI_{(t-15m)}}$$

Where:

$US - CPI_{(t)}$ - latest available OECD CPI value for USA as of t

$US - CPI_{(t-3m)}$ - latest available OECD CPI value for USA as of a quarter prior to t

$US - CPI_{(t-12m)}$ - latest available OECD CPI value for USA as of a year prior to t

$US - CPI_{(t-15m)}$ - latest available OECD CPI value for USA as of a year and a quarter prior to t

3) Rules to Assign Economic Regimes

Economic Regime	Short-term and Long-term Signals
Stagflation	$(US - CLIYOY_{qoq\ change} \leq 0 \text{ and } CN - CLIYOY_{qoq\ change} \leq 0) \text{ and } (US - CPIYOY_{qoq\ change} > 0)$
Heating Up	$(US - CLIYOY_{qoq\ change} > 0 \text{ or } CN - CLIYOY_{qoq\ change} > 0) \text{ and } (US - CPIYOY_{qoq\ change} > 0)$
Slow Growth	$(US - CLIYOY_{qoq\ change} \leq 0 \text{ and } CN - CLIYOY_{qoq\ change} \leq 0) \text{ and } (US - CPIYOY_{qoq\ change} \leq 0)$
Goldilocks	$(US - CLIYOY_{qoq\ change} > 0 \text{ or } CN - CLIYOY_{qoq\ change} > 0) \text{ and } (US - CPIYOY_{qoq\ change} \leq 0)$

4) Determining the Component Asset Weights

Based on the economic regime identified quarterly, component assets and weight to each asset class is determined per the steps described in Section 3.1 and Section 4.1.

Contact us

msci.com/contact-us

AMERICAS

United States	+ 1 888 588 4567 *
Canada	+ 1 416 687 6270
Brazil	+ 55 11 4040 7830
Mexico	+ 52 81 1253 4020

EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA

South Africa	+ 27 21 673 0103
Germany	+ 49 69 133 859 00
Switzerland	+ 41 22 817 9777
United Kingdom	+ 44 20 7618 2222
Italy	+ 39 02 5849 0415
France	+ 33 17 6769 810

ASIA PACIFIC

China	+ 86 21 61326611
Hong Kong	+ 852 2844 9333
India	+ 91 22 6784 9160
Malaysia	1800818185 *
South Korea	+ 82 70 4769 4231
Singapore	+ 65 67011177
Australia	+ 612 9033 9333
Taiwan	008 0112 7513 *
Thailand	0018 0015 6207 7181 *
Japan	+ 81 3 4579 0333

* toll-free

About MSCI

MSCI is a leading provider of critical decision support tools and services for the global investment community. With over 50 years of expertise in research, data and technology, we power better investment decisions by enabling clients to understand and analyze key drivers of risk and return and confidently build more effective portfolios. We create industry-leading research-enhanced solutions that clients use to gain insight into and improve transparency across the investment process.

To learn more, please visit www.msci.com.

The process for submitting a formal index complaint can be found on the index regulation page of MSCI's website at: <https://www.msci.com/index-regulation>.

Notice and disclaimer

This document is research for informational purposes only and is intended for institutional professionals with the analytical resources and tools necessary to interpret any performance information. Nothing herein is intended to promote or recommend any product, tool or service.

This document and all of the information contained in it, including without limitation all text, data, graphs, charts (collectively, the "Information") is the property of MSCI Inc. or its subsidiaries (collectively, "MSCI"), or MSCI's licensors, direct or indirect suppliers or any third party involved in making or compiling any Information (collectively, with MSCI, the "Information Providers") and is provided for informational purposes only. The Information may not be modified, reverse-engineered, reproduced or disseminated in whole or in part without prior written permission from MSCI. All rights in the Information are reserved by MSCI and/or its Information Providers.

The Information may not be used to create derivative works or to verify or correct other data or information. For example (but without limitation), the Information may not be used to create indexes, databases, risk models, analytics, software, or in connection with the issuing, offering, sponsoring,

managing or marketing of any securities, portfolios, financial products or other investment vehicles utilizing or based on, linked to, tracking or otherwise derived from the Information or any other MSCI data, information, products or services.

The user of the Information assumes the entire risk of any use it may make or permit to be made of the Information. NONE OF THE INFORMATION PROVIDERS MAKES ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES OR REPRESENTATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE INFORMATION (OR THE RESULTS TO BE OBTAINED BY THE USE THEREOF), AND TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW, EACH INFORMATION PROVIDER EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ALL IMPLIED WARRANTIES (INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF ORIGINALITY, ACCURACY, TIMELINESS, NON-INFRINGEMENT, COMPLETENESS, MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE) WITH RESPECT TO ANY OF THE INFORMATION.

Without limiting any of the foregoing and to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, in no event shall any Information Provider have any liability regarding any of the Information for any direct, indirect, special, punitive, consequential (including lost profits) or any other damages even if notified of the possibility of such damages. The foregoing shall not exclude or limit any liability that may not by applicable law be excluded or limited, including without limitation (as applicable), any liability for death or personal injury to the extent that such injury results from the negligence or willful default of itself, its servants, agents or sub-contractors.

Information containing any historical information, data or analysis should not be taken as an indication or guarantee of any future performance, analysis, forecast or prediction. Past performance does not guarantee future results.

The Information may include "Signals," defined as quantitative attributes or the product of methods or formulas that describe or are derived from calculations using historical data. Neither these Signals nor any description of historical data are intended to provide investment advice or a recommendation to make (or refrain from making) any investment decision or asset allocation and should not be relied upon as such. Signals are inherently backward-looking because of their use of historical data, and they are not intended to predict the future. The relevance, correlations and accuracy of Signals frequently will change materially.

The Information should not be relied on and is not a substitute for the skill, judgment and experience of the user, its management, employees, advisors and/or clients when making investment and other business decisions. All Information is impersonal and not tailored to the needs of any person, entity or group of persons.

None of the Information constitutes an offer to sell (or a solicitation of an offer to buy), any security, financial product or other investment vehicle or any trading strategy.

It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Exposure to an asset class or trading strategy or other category represented by an index is only available through third party investable instruments (if any) based on that index. MSCI does not issue, sponsor, endorse, market, offer, review or otherwise express any opinion regarding any fund, ETF, derivative or other security, investment, financial product or trading strategy that is based on, linked to or seeks to provide an investment return related to the performance of any MSCI index (collectively, "Index Linked Investments"). MSCI makes no assurance that any Index Linked Investments will accurately track index performance or provide positive investment returns. MSCI Inc. is not an investment adviser or fiduciary and MSCI makes no representation regarding the advisability of investing in any Index Linked Investments.

Index returns do not represent the results of actual trading of investable assets/securities. MSCI maintains and calculates indexes, but does not manage actual assets. The calculation of indexes and index returns may deviate from the stated methodology. Index returns do not reflect payment of any sales charges or fees an investor may pay to purchase the securities underlying the index or Index Linked Investments. The imposition of these fees and charges would cause the performance of an Index Linked Investment to be different than the MSCI index performance.

The Information may contain back tested data. Back-tested performance is not actual performance, but is hypothetical. There are frequently material differences between back tested performance results and actual results subsequently achieved by any investment strategy.

Constituents of MSCI equity indexes are listed companies, which are included in or excluded from the indexes according to the application of the relevant index methodologies. Accordingly, constituents in MSCI equity indexes may include MSCI Inc., clients of MSCI or suppliers to MSCI. Inclusion of a security within an MSCI index is not a recommendation by MSCI to buy, sell, or hold such security, nor is it considered to be investment advice.

Data and information produced by various affiliates of MSCI Inc., including MSCI ESG Research LLC and Barra LLC, may be used in calculating certain MSCI indexes. More information can be found in the relevant index methodologies on www.msci.com.

MSCI receives compensation in connection with licensing its indexes to third parties. MSCI Inc.'s revenue includes fees based on assets in Index Linked Investments. Information can be found in MSCI Inc.'s company filings on the Investor Relations section of msci.com.

MSCI ESG Research LLC is a Registered Investment Adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 and a subsidiary of MSCI Inc. Neither MSCI nor any of its products or services recommends, endorses, approves or otherwise expresses any opinion regarding any issuer, securities, financial products or instruments or trading strategies and MSCI's products or services are not a recommendation to make (or refrain from making) any kind of investment decision and may not be relied on as such, provided that applicable products or services from MSCI ESG Research may constitute investment advice. MSCI ESG Research materials, including materials utilized in any MSCI ESG Indexes or other products, have not been submitted to, nor received approval from, the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or any other regulatory body. MSCI ESG and climate ratings, research and data are produced by MSCI ESG Research LLC, a subsidiary of MSCI Inc. MSCI ESG Indexes, Analytics and Real Estate are products of MSCI Inc. that utilize information from MSCI ESG Research LLC. MSCI Indexes are administered by MSCI Limited (UK).

Please note that the issuers mentioned in MSCI ESG Research materials sometimes have commercial relationships with MSCI ESG Research and/or MSCI Inc. (collectively, "MSCI") and that these relationships create potential conflicts of interest. In some cases, the issuers or their affiliates purchase research or other products or services from one or more MSCI affiliates. In other cases, MSCI ESG Research rates financial products such as mutual funds or ETFs that are managed by MSCI's clients or their affiliates, or are based on MSCI Inc. Indexes. In addition, constituents in MSCI Inc. equity indexes include companies that subscribe to MSCI products or services. In some cases, MSCI clients pay fees based in whole or part on the assets they manage. MSCI ESG Research has taken a number of steps to mitigate potential conflicts of interest and safeguard the integrity and independence of its research and ratings. More information about these conflict mitigation measures is available in our Form ADV, available at <https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/summary/169222>.

Any use of or access to products, services or information of MSCI requires a license from MSCI. MSCI, Barra, RiskMetrics, IPD and other MSCI brands and product names are the trademarks, service marks, or registered trademarks of MSCI or its subsidiaries in the United States and other jurisdictions. The Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) was developed by and is the exclusive property of MSCI and S&P Global Market Intelligence. "Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS)" is a service mark of MSCI and S&P Global Market Intelligence.

MIFID2/MIFIR notice: MSCI ESG Research LLC does not distribute or act as an intermediary for financial instruments or structured deposits, nor does it deal on its own account, provide execution services for others or manage client accounts. No MSCI ESG Research product or service supports, promotes or is intended to support or promote any such activity. MSCI ESG Research is an independent provider of ESG data.

Privacy notice: For information about how MSCI collects and uses personal data, please refer to our Privacy Notice at <https://www.msci.com/privacy-pledge>.