



**BY ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Submission No. 18-301

February 12, 2018

Mr. Christopher J. Kirkpatrick  
Secretary of the Commission  
Office of the Secretariat  
Commodity Futures Trading Commission  
Three Lafayette Centre  
1155 21<sup>st</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20581

**RE: Certification of Dormant MSCI Emerging Markets Asia Index Futures Contract Submission Pursuant to Section 5c(c)(1) of the Act and Regulation 40.6**

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

Pursuant to Section 5c(c)(1) of the Commodity Exchange Act, as amended ("Act"), and Commission Regulation 40.6, ICE Futures U.S., Inc. ("IFUS" or "Exchange") hereby certifies that the MSCI Emerging Markets Asia Index Futures Contract ("Contract"), which has become dormant under Commission Regulation 40.1(b), continues to comply with the Commodity Exchange Act and the Commission's regulations thereunder and will remain listed by the Exchange.

The Contract is listed on IFUS pursuant to Rules 23.1 to 23.5, which govern trading of all MSCI Index futures contracts and Rule 23.A.018, which are attached hereto as Exhibit A. Please note that the terms and conditions of the Contract are not being changed. Furthermore, the contract is cleared by ICE Clear U.S., a derivatives clearing organization which clears all Exchange contracts other than Energy contracts; and the Exchange's Market Regulation staff performs the compliance and market surveillance function for the contract.

The Exchange certifies that the Contract remains in compliance with the Commodity Exchange Act and the Commission's regulations thereunder. The Exchange is not aware of any substantive opposing views with respect to the continued listing of the contract. ICE Futures US further certifies that a copy of this submission was posted on the Exchange's website concurrent with its filing with the Commission, which can be found at (<https://www.theice.com/futures-us/regulation#rule-filings>).

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact me at 212-748-4021 or at [jason.fusco@theice.com](mailto:jason.fusco@theice.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason V. Fusco". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jason V. Fusco  
Assistant General Counsel  
Market Regulation

Enc.

cc: Division of Market Oversight

## EXHIBIT A

# ICE Futures U.S.<sup>®</sup>, Inc.

## MSCI INDEX FUTURES AND OPTIONS

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# ICE Futures U.S.<sup>®</sup>, Inc.

## CHAPTER 23

### MSCI INDEX FUTURES AND OPTIONS

#### 23.1 Scope of Chapter

This chapter is limited in application to trading of MSCI Index Futures Contracts. The procedures for trading, clearing, settlement, and any other matters not specifically covered herein shall be governed by the general Rules of the Exchange.

Each MSCI Index referenced in this chapter is subject to change by MSCI, Inc. as set forth in the MSCI Global Investable Market Indices Methodology: *Index Construction Objectives, Guiding Principles and Methodology for the MSCI Global Investable Market Indices* as that document is amended, updated and replaced from time-to-time. Pursuant to the terms of the license granted by MSCI to the Exchange, under certain circumstances, the Exchanges may become responsible for maintaining, changing or amending the index upon which the Futures specified in this Chapter is valued.

The terms and conditions of the Futures Contracts specified in this Chapter are deemed to include any relevant governmental, regulatory or court decree or order as recognized by the Exchange in a Notice to Members.

#### 23.2 Months Traded

In the absence of any other provisions in the respective Sub-Chapter for a particular MSCI Index Futures Contract, trading in the MSCI Index Futures Contracts shall be conducted in March, June, September and December delivery months. The number of months open for trading at a given time shall be determined by the Exchange.

#### 23.3 Last Trading Day

In the absence of any other provisions in the respective Sub-Chapter for a particular MSCI Index Futures Contract, the last day of trading for each MSCI Index Futures Contract shall be the third Friday of the contract month.

#### 23.4 Cash Settlement Procedures

##### (a) Settlement

MSCI Index Futures Contracts open at the termination of trading shall be cash settled as set forth in paragraph (b) of this Rule using the Final Settlement Value as provided in the Sub-Chapter for the respective MSCI Index Futures Contract.

##### (b) Final Settlement Payment

Payment in final settlement of an MSCI Index Futures Contract will be made in accordance with the Clearing Organization Rules on the Business Day following the termination of trading by Clearing

Members with open positions at the time of termination of trading of the MSCI Index Futures Contract. The amount of the final settlement payment to be made or received will be calculated based on the final settlement value as a normal variation payment.

### **23.5 Notice Regarding MSCI**

The MSCI Index Futures are not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by MSCI Inc. ("MSCI"), any affiliate of MSCI or any other party involved in, or related to, making or compiling any Indexes. The MSCI Index Futures have not been passed on by MSCI, any of its affiliates or any other party involved in, or related to, making or compiling any Indexes as to their legality or suitability with respect to any person or entity. MSCI, its affiliates and any other party involved in, or related to, making or compiling the MSCI Indexes do not guarantee the originality, accuracy and/or completeness of the MSCI Indexes or any data included therein. Neither MSCI, any of its affiliates nor any other party involved in, or related to, making or compiling the MSCI Indexes makes any express or implied warranties, and expressly disclaims all warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose or use with respect to the related Futures Contract, the MSCI Index or any data included therein. Without limiting any of the foregoing, in no event shall MSCI, any of its affiliates or any other party involved in, or related to, making or compiling the MSCI Indexes have any liability for any direct, special, punitive, indirect, or consequential damages, claims, losses or expenses relating to any futures or options contracts or caused by any errors or delays in calculating or disseminating the MSCI Indexes. Neither MSCI, any of its affiliates nor any other party involved in, or related to, making or compiling the MSCI Indexes has any obligation to take the needs of the issuers of the Contracts, the owners of the MSCI Index Futures or the Exchange into consideration in determining, composing or calculating any MSCI Indexes. Neither MSCI its affiliates nor any other party involved in, or related to, making or compiling the MSCI Indexes is responsible for or have participated in the determination of the timing of, prices at, or quantities of the MSCI Index Futures to be issued or in the determination or calculation of the equation by which the MSCI Index Futures are redeemable for cash.

## **23.A.018 MSCI EMERGING MARKETS ASIA INDEX FUTURES**

### **Trading Schedule**

The hours of trading in MSCI EM Asia Index Futures shall be determined by the Exchange. On the last day of trading in an expiring future, the closing time for such future shall be 4:15 p.m. New York time.

### **Trading Unit**

The unit of trading shall be \$100.00 times the MSCI EM Asia Index.

### **Price Increments**

The minimum price fluctuation for the MSCI EM Asia Index Futures shall be 0.05 Index Points, which is \$5.00 per contract. Contracts shall not be made on any other price basis with the exception of certain Block Trades as may be specified by the Exchange, in which case the price fluctuation shall be .01 Index points, which is \$1.00 per contract.

### **Final Settlement Value**

The final settlement value for purposes of the contract's cash settlement shall be the MSCI EM Asia Index as calculated by MSCI rounded to the nearest 1/100<sup>th</sup> of an index point. This value shall be based on the closing prices of the stocks at their respective primary exchanges on the third Friday of the contract month. Closing prices shall be converted from local currency to U.S. Dollars based on the spot exchange rate provided by Reuters at 4:00 pm London time on the day of the final settlement price calculation. If a component stock in the index does not trade on the day scheduled for determination of the Final Settlement Price while the primary market for that stock is open for trading, the price of that stock shall be determined, for the purposes of calculating the Final Settlement Price, based on the most recent closing price of that stock. If one or more primary exchange(s) are not scheduled to be open for trading on the day of the final settlement calculation, the prices of those stocks shall be based on the most recent closing prices. All closing prices will be converted from local currency to U.S. Dollars based on the spot exchange rate provided by Reuters at 4:00 pm London time on the day of final settlement price calculation. In the event of an unscheduled close of one or more primary exchange(s) due to unforeseen circumstances, MSCI will use the most recent available prices for the purposes of calculating the Final Settlement Price. All prices will be converted from local currency to U.S. Dollars based on the spot exchange rate provided by Reuters at 4:00 pm London time on the day of final settlement price calculation.