

For immediate release

Press Contact:

Jodie Gray
+44 (0)20 7773 4803
jodie.gray@barclays.com

Mark Lane
+1 212 412 1413
mark.lane@barclays.com

BARCLAYS ANNOUNCES CHANGES TO ITS BENCHMARK FIXED INCOME INDICES

New York, NY, November 5, 2012 – Barclays, publisher of leading broad market bond benchmarks, announced today changes to its widely-used benchmark fixed income indices after concluding its annual index review and governance process in October. The governance process has resulted in a number of rule changes that will take effect as of March 31, 2013, as well as reaffirmations of existing rules that were reviewed and remain unchanged.

These decisions were made after carefully evaluating the evolving fixed income landscape and incorporating the perspectives of a diverse set of global investors who use Barclays indices as portfolio benchmarks and measures of broad fixed income market returns.

A summary of key rules changes/clarifications that will take effect as of March 31 2013 is as follows:

Emerging Markets Indices

- Flagship Barclays hard currency emerging markets (EM) benchmark bond indices will be rebranded as EM Aggregate benchmark bond indices to reflect their broad country and sector coverage of the EM investment universe, which includes a growing portion of EM corporate and EM government-related debt.
- All Barclays EM benchmark bond indices (hard currency, local currency, and inflation-linked) will use a single consistent list of countries classified as EM when determining index eligibility. Criteria for inclusion in this list include both World Bank income group classifications and International Monetary Fund country designations. In addition, the list will include countries that bond investors generally classify as EM: South Korea, Israel, Taiwan, and Czech Republic.
- Nigeria and Romania will be added to the flagship Barclays EM Local Currency Government Index.

High Yield Indices

- Barclays high yield (HY) corporate indices, which by rule exclude issuers with an EM country of risk, will also be impacted by the new EM definition. Issuers of USD, EUR, and GBP-denominated HY debt with a country of risk that is now on the EM country list will be excluded from the Barclays US High Yield and Pan-Euro High Yield indices.

Barclays moves, lends, invests and protects money for customers and clients worldwide. With over 300 years of history and expertise in banking, we operate in over 50 countries and employ over 140,000 people. We provide large corporate, government and institutional clients with a full spectrum of solutions to their strategic advisory, financing and risk management needs. Our clients also benefit from access to the breadth of expertise across Barclays. We're one of the largest financial services providers in the world, and are also engaged in retail banking, credit cards, corporate banking, and wealth and investment management. Barclays offers premier investment banking products and services to its clients through Barclays Bank PLC. For more information, visit www.barclays.com

For immediate release

Press Contact:

Jodie Gray
+44 (0)20 7773 4803
jodie.gray@barclays.com

Mark Lane
+1 212 412 1413
mark.lane@barclays.com

US ABS/US Aggregate Index

- Asset-backed securities (ABS) collateralized by auto lease loans, auto floorplan loans, and non-US collateral pools with cashflows denominated in USD will become eligible for inclusion in Barclays fixed and floating-rate US ABS indices, provided they meet all other index eligibility criteria.

Global Aggregate Index

- Loan Participation Notes (LPNs) will be added to Barclays Aggregate indices including the Global Aggregate and Pan-European Aggregate.
- New local currency fixed minimum issue sizes will be set for all local currency bond markets benchmarked by Barclays. This will include the Global Aggregate and EM Local Currency Government index families. Current local currency minimums that have been pegged to USD, EUR, or JPY will remain in effect until the new local minimums are applied.

Inflation-Linked Indices

- Index eligibility of new markets in the World Government Inflation-Linked Bond (WGILB) Index will be reviewed (1) on a quarterly basis for developed markets that have either initiated a new inflation-linked bond program or revived an inactive inflation-linked bond program; and (2) on an annual basis for countries classified as EM. Previously, WGILB Index inclusion was only reviewed annually on December 31. Countries must still meet existing minimum market size, credit quality, and investability criteria for this flagship index.
- Denmark and New Zealand inflation-linked government bond markets will become eligible for the WGILB and Global Inflation-Linked (Series-L) indices, once they meet the US\$4 billion minimum market size requirement.

Full details on these announced changes are available on Barclays Live.