

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STOXX ANNOUNCES RESULTS OF ANNUAL EMERGING AND DEVELOPED MARKETS CLASSIFICATION REVIEW

ZURICH (Apr. 16, 2015) - STOXX Limited, the market-moving provider of innovative, tradable and global index concepts, today announced the results of the annual **Emerging and Developed Markets Country Classification** review. All changes will become effective at market open on Sep. 21, 2015.

Morocco is no longer classified as an emerging market. The country was unclassified because it did not meet the market liquidity screening requirement. The average trade value of its stocks over the last three available years was below 10 billion US dollars.

No other changes were made to the **STOXX Emerging and Developed Markets Country Classification**. The classification of emerging and developed markets in the STOXX index universe remains unchanged. Currently, out of the 65 countries in the STOXX index universe, 25 are classified as developed markets, and 19 are classified as emerging markets. A full list of countries including their classification can be found under the dedicated country classification section of the STOXX website: http://www.stoxx.com/indices/country_classification.html.

The STOXX market classification model relies on a completely rules-based and transparent methodology, and is the first such concept to exclude any subjective decisions from the process. The five criteria for the classification of a country as a developed market include macroeconomic data, market cap, market liquidity, free currency convertibility on onshore and offshore markets, and restrictions on capital flows. The data source for the diverse criteria are highly renowned and independent global organizations (i.e. International Monetary Fund, World Bank, and PricewaterhouseCoopers).

For more information, please visit www.stoxx.com.

###

Media contacts:

Andrea Weidemann, andrea.weidemann@stoxx.com, Phone: +41 58 399 3568

Rajiv Sekhri, rajiv.sekhri@stoxx.com, Phone: +49 69 211 12977

Note to Editors:**About STOXX Limited**

STOXX Ltd. is a global index provider, currently calculating a global, comprehensive index family of over 7,000 strictly rules-based and transparent indices. Best known for the leading European equity indices EURO STOXX 50, STOXX Europe 50 and STOXX Europe 600, STOXX Ltd. maintains and calculates the STOXX Global index family which consists of total market, broad and blue-chip indices for the regions Americas, Europe, Asia/Pacific and sub-regions Latin America and BRIC (Brazil, Russia, India and China) as well as global markets.

To provide market participants with optimal transparency, STOXX indices are classified into three categories. Regular "STOXX" indices include all standard, theme and strategy indices that are part of STOXX's integrated index family and follow a strict rules-based methodology. The "iSTOXX" brand typically comprises less standardized index concepts that are not integrated in the STOXX Global index family, but are nevertheless strictly rules-based. While indices that are branded "STOXX" and "iSTOXX" are developed by STOXX for a broad range of market participants, the "STOXX Customized" brand covers indices that are specifically developed for clients and do not carry the STOXX brand in the index name.

STOXX indices are licensed to more than 500 companies around the world as underlyings for Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs), futures and options, structured products and passively managed investment funds. Three of the top ETFs in Europe and 30% of all assets under management are based on STOXX indices. STOXX Ltd. holds Europe's number one and the world's number three position in the derivatives segment.

In addition, STOXX Ltd. is the marketing agent for the indices of Deutsche Boerse AG and SIX, amongst them the DAX and the SMI indices. STOXX Ltd. is part of Deutsche Boerse AG and SIX. www.stoxx.com

STOXX and its owners and licensors do not make any warranties or representations, express or implied, with respect to the timeliness, sequence, accuracy, completeness, currentness, merchantability, quality or fitness for any particular purpose of its index data and exclude any liability in connection therewith. STOXX and its owners and licensors are not providing investment advice through the publication of indices or in connection therewith. In particular, the inclusion of a company in an index, its weighting, or the exclusion of a company from an index, does not in any way reflect an opinion of STOXX or its owners on the merits of that company. Financial instruments based on the STOXX®, DAX® or SMI® indices are in no way sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by STOXX or its owners.