

# FTSE Equity Markets Watch List and Transitional Indices

Addendum to FTSE Global Equity Index  
Series Ground Rules

v2.4



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## Section 1

# Introduction

## 1. Introduction

1.1 The FTSE Equity Country Classification scheme, classifies markets as either: developed, advanced emerging, secondary emerging or frontier. Markets are assessed against a set of technical and economic criteria with the results of the annual review published every September and an interim update in March.

Please refer to the following document for additional background information on the FTSE Equity Country Classification process: [FTSE Equity Country Classification Paper.pdf](#)

1.2 To provide added transparency and to enable investors to plan for potential equity country classification changes, FTSE operates a watch list of those markets that have been judged to have met, or are becoming close to meeting, the technical criteria required for promotion within the FTSE Equity Country Classification scheme. The Watch List also includes those markets that have been judged to have fallen below the requirements needed to maintain the markets' current classifications and are being considered for demotion.

1.3 FTSE announces any changes to the watch list (reclassifications, additions or deletions) in March (interim update) and in September (annual update).

1.4 The FTSE GEIS Watch List and Transitional Indices do not take account of ESG factors in their index design.

### 1.5 Watch list indices

1.5.1 Watch list indices are designed to provide investors with a forward-looking view of the FTSE Global Equity Index Series (GEIS) and the FTSE Frontier Index Series for those markets that are on the watch list but which do not have a confirmed reclassification date (see rule 2.0).

1.5.2 Watch list indices are discontinued when a watch list market is removed from the watch list.

### 1.6 Transitional indices

1.6.1 Transitional indices are created for confirmed market classification changes and are designed to provide investors with a forward-looking view of the FTSE GEIS and the FTSE Frontier Index Series up to implementation date (see rule 3.1).

1.6.2 Transitional indices will include a date in its name, which reflects when the reclassification will be completed.

1.6.3 Implementation of classification changes are ordinarily timed to coincide with one of the semi-annual reviews for FTSE GEIS or the annual review of the FTSE Frontier Index. For some markets, a classification change may be implemented in a number of tranches.

1.7 These rules are an addendum to the Ground Rules of the FTSE GEIS and the FTSE Frontier Index Series. Please refer to the FTSE Russell website ([www.lseg.com/en/ftse-russell/](http://www.lseg.com/en/ftse-russell/)).

### 1.8 FTSE Russell

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## Section 2

# Watch list markets and equity country classification changes

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## 2. Watch list markets and equity country classification changes

2.1 The following markets were assigned watch list market status at the annual FTSE Equity Country Classification update in [September 2023](#):

- Egypt – possible reclassification from secondary emerging to unclassified
- Pakistan – possible reclassification from secondary emerging to frontier; and
- Vietnam – possible reclassification from frontier to secondary emerging

2.2 The following markets were assigned watch list market status at the Interim FTSE Equity Country Classification update in [March 2023](#):

- Nigeria – possible reclassification from frontier to unclassified; and
- Vietnam – possible reclassification from frontier to secondary emerging.

FTSE Russell announced the reclassification of Nigeria from frontier to unclassified market status effective from September 2023.

## Section 3

# List of watch list and transitional indices calculated

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## 3. List of watch list indices and transitional indices calculated

### 3.1 Transitional indices

There are currently no transitional indices for the FTSE Global Equity Index Series or FTSE Frontier Index Series.<sup>1</sup>

### 3.2 Watch list indices

Watch list indices for Vietnam were available from July 2020 subject to the securities meeting the FTSE GEIS and FTSE Frontier eligibility thresholds. The Vietnam watch list indices will be reviewed on an annual basis based on year-end closing prices and implemented in conjunction with the FTSE GEIS March semi-annual review.

#### **Vietnam – possible reclassification from frontier to secondary emerging**

- FTSE Frontier ex Vietnam
- FTSE Global All Cap incl Vietnam
- FTSE Emerging All Cap incl Vietnam
- FTSE All-World incl Vietnam
- FTSE Emerging incl Vietnam

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<sup>1</sup> The full inclusion of Iceland to the FTSE Global Equity Index Series and FTSE Frontier Index Series was completed in conjunction with the March 2023 semi-annual review.

## Section 4

# Constituent management

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## 4. Constituents management

- 4.1 For markets on the watch list for possible reclassification to developed, advanced emerging, secondary emerging or between these classifications separate regional reviews will be conducted in accordance with the FTSE GEIS review process on an annual basis in September, incorporating the universe of eligible securities from the respective markets.
- 4.2 The FTSE Frontier Index review is conducted on an annual basis in September.
- 4.3 Changes to constituent companies**
- 4.3.1 Changes to constituent companies will be implemented in accordance the FTSE GEIS and FTSE Frontier Index Series Ground Rules.

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