

## **S&P DOW JONES INDICES SIGNS AGREEMENT TO DEVELOP A NEW ESG INDEX FOR MILA REGION**

***S&P Dow Jones Indices, IFC, RobecoSAM and MILA will work collaboratively to develop an index with international standards and propel the participation of the MILA capital markets in ESG investment strategies.***

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**NEW YORK, February 16, 2017** - S&P Dow Jones Indices (S&P DJI), International Finance Corporation (IFC), RobecoSAM and the Stock Exchanges of the Mercado Integrado Latinoamericano (MILA) announced today an agreement to work collaboratively in the development of a regional Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) index. The new benchmark is based on the renowned Dow Jones Sustainability Indices' methodology and tracks the performance of companies with the highest RobecoSAM's sustainability scores in the Pacific Alliance region, including Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru.

"S&P Dow Jones Indices has a wide range of indices from the traditional market capitalization weighted to the newer generation of smart beta ESG, carbon efficient and fossil-fuel free indices, globally. We are very excited to expand the ESG index family in the region", says Manuel Gonzalez, Director for Latin America – North Cone, at S&P DJI.

Based upon the "best in class" approach, developed by RobecoSAM, the investment specialist focused exclusively on Sustainability Investing, the largest publicly listed companies will be invited to participate in an industry specific survey so they can be assessed across three dimensions: environmental, social and governance (ESG), which will generate a score for each one of them. The invited universe can be found here:

<http://www.robecosam.com/en/sustainability-insights/about-sustainability/corporate-sustainability-assessment/invited-universe.jsp>.

"We are very much looking forward to working on this project with S&P Dow Jones Indices, IFC and the stock exchanges of the MILA region. Together we strive to raise awareness amongst companies in the MILA region about financially material ESG topics, to help listed companies in the region attract ESG-focused investors, and to provide investors with cutting-edge index products that span all relevant markets." says Rocco d'Urso, Senior Sustainability Index Sales Manager at RobecoSAM.

The International Finance Corporation (IFC) will ensure that the Index will continue to meet World Bank's Performance Standards on Environmental and Social Sustainability. "We already have a strong commitment with sustainability in all the sectors we invest, so this is a remarkable opportunity to introduce IFC's Environmental and Social Standards to a capital market instrument. The idea is promote "green instruments" for our investors that are valuable not only in their sustainability commitment, but also attractive in their economic profitability," said Carlos Numen, Investment Officer of IFC México.

According to Pedro Zorrilla, Member of MILA's Executive Committee, "this collaborative work is a great joint step for the Latin American Integrated Market (MILA) in order to encourage broader availability of information and good practices both locally and regionally. We hope

that in the short term the result of this project can help in all areas of market and business development, allowing investors to access more and better information for decision making.”

### **About S&P Dow Jones Indices**

S&P Dow Jones Indices is the largest global resource for essential index-based concepts, data and research, and home to iconic financial market indicators, such as the S&P 500® and the Dow Jones Industrial Average®. More assets are invested in products based on our indices than any other index provider in the world. With over 1,000,000 indices, S&P Dow Jones Indices defines the way investors measure and trade the markets.

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### **About RobecoSAM**

Founded in 1995, RobecoSAM is an investment specialist focused exclusively on Sustainability Investing. It offers asset management, indices, impact analysis and investment, sustainability assessments, and benchmarking services. Together with S&P Dow Jones Indices, RobecoSAM publishes the globally recognized Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (DJSI). Approximately 100 professionals work for RobecoSAM, which is headquartered in Zurich.

### **About IFC**

IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, is the largest global development institution focused on the private sector in emerging markets. Working with 2,000 businesses worldwide, we use our six decades of experience to create opportunity where it's needed most. In FY16, our long-term investments in developing countries rose to nearly \$19 billion, leveraging our capital, expertise and influence to help the private sector end extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity. For more information, visit [www.ifc.org](http://www.ifc.org).

### **About MILA**

The Latin American Integrated Market (MILA) is the first initiative of transnational market integration without merger or corporate integration, in which the stock exchanges of Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru, as well as their respective securities depositories are involved. It started in May 2011 with the aim of generating more and better exposure to the stock markets that comprise it, as well as increased product offerings and opportunities for local and foreign investors.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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