

# MEDIA RELEASE



International Organization of Securities Commissions  
Organisation internationale des commissions de valeurs  
Organizaç o Internacional das Comiss es de Valores  
Organizaci n Internacional de Comisiones de Valores

IOSCO/MR/07/2015

Madrid, 25 February 2015

## **IOSCO Reviews Implementation of Financial Benchmark Principles**

The International Organization of Securities Commission (IOSCO) today published the [\*Review of the Implementation of IOSCO's Principles for Financial Benchmarks\*](#).

The report sets out the findings of IOSCO's review of the implementation of its *Principles for Financial Benchmarks* (Principles) by a sample of administrators of financial benchmarks across a range of geographical areas and asset classes. It was prepared by a Review Team, constituting members of the IOSCO Board-level Task Force on Financial Market Benchmarks.

The review indicated that there has been a significant market reaction to the publication of the Principles, with widespread efforts being made to implement the Principles by the majority of the administrators surveyed. The responses received from administrators also show that the benchmarks industry is in a state of change, as seen from the reported levels of administrators continuing to work towards compliance with the Principles as well as examples of benchmarks being transitioned to new methodologies and administrators. The report notes that further steps may need to be taken by IOSCO in the future; however it is too early to determine what those steps should be.

The Chairman of the IOSCO Board-level Task Force and Chief Executive of the UK Financial Conduct Authority Martin Wheatley said: *"Benchmark administrators have taken significant steps to implement the principles across their business, however there is more to do to ensure standards are raised across the market. The principles play a vital role in this, and I welcome the public confirmations of compliance made by administrators to date."*

Calle Oquendo 12  
28006 Madrid  
ESPA A  
Tel.: + 34 91 417.55.49 Fax: + 34 91 555.93.68  
mail@oicv.iosco.org - www.iosco.org

# MEDIA RELEASE



International Organization of Securities Commissions  
Organisation internationale des commissions de valeurs  
Organização Internacional das Comissões de Valores  
Organización Internacional de Comisiones de Valores

The Principles were published in July 2013 with the aim of creating an overarching framework of principles for benchmarks used in financial markets, covering governance and accountability, as well as the quality and transparency of benchmark design and methodologies. In the 2013 report, IOSCO stated its intention to review within an 18-month period the extent to which the Principles have been implemented by obtaining the input of stakeholders, market authorities and, as appropriate, administrators.

The review considered information which had been published by the administrators as well as their responses to a questionnaire. This information was used to chart the extent to which the Principles have been implemented by administrators across different asset classes and geographies, allowing for comparisons based on these characteristics. The report provides an overview of the reported level of implementation of the Principles, including any stated application by administrators of the concept of proportionality. The review was intended to provide high level information about the extent of the voluntary market adoption of the Principles, with a view to understanding what administrators have done and what remains to be done, to implement the Principles.

## NOTES TO THE EDITORS

1. IOSCO is the leading international policy forum for securities regulators and is recognized as the global standard setter for securities regulation. The organization's membership regulates more than 95% of the world's securities markets in more than 115 jurisdictions and it continues to expand.
2. The IOSCO Board is the governing and standard-setting body of the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO). The Board is made up of 34 securities regulators. Mr Greg Medcraft, chairman of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission, is the chair of the IOSCO Board. The members of the IOSCO Board are the securities regulatory authorities of Australia, Belgium, Brazil, China, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, Ontario, Pakistan, Peru, Quebec, , Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Kingdom and the United States.

Calle Oquendo 12  
28006 Madrid  
ESPAÑA  
Tel.: + 34 91 417.55.49 Fax: + 34 91 555.93.68  
mail@oicv.iosco.org - www.iosco.org

# MEDIA RELEASE



International Organization of Securities Commissions  
Organisation internationale des commissions de valeurs  
Organização Internacional das Comissões de Valores  
Organización Internacional de Comisiones de Valores

3. The Growth and Emerging Markets Committee is the largest Committee within IOSCO, representing 75 per cent of the IOSCO membership. Mr. Ranjit Ajit Singh, Chairman, Securities Commission, Malaysia, and Vice Chair of the IOSCO Board, is the Chair of the GEM. The Committee endeavors to promote the development and greater efficiency of emerging securities and futures markets by establishing principles and minimum standards, providing training programs and technical assistance for members and facilitating the exchange of information and transfer of technology and expertise.
4. IOSCO aims through its permanent structures:
  - to cooperate in developing, implementing and promoting adherence to internationally recognized and consistent standards of regulation, oversight and enforcement in order to protect investors, maintain fair, efficient and transparent markets, and seek to address systemic risks;
  - to enhance investor protection and promote investor confidence in the integrity of securities markets, through strengthened information exchange and cooperation in enforcement against misconduct and in supervision of markets and market intermediaries; and
  - to exchange information at both global and regional levels on their respective experiences in order to assist the development of markets, strengthen market infrastructure and implement appropriate regulation.

## MEDIA ENQUIRIES

Carlta Vitzthum  
Outside office hours  
Email:  
Website:

Follow IOSCO on Twitter here

+ 34 91 787 0419  
+ 34 697 449 639  
carlta@iosco.org  
www.iosco.org