

# TERMINATION POLICY

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## 1 PURPOSE

In principle, an Index is not set up for a specific period of time but should be available for an indefinite period of time. However, there may be certain circumstances where a termination of an Index may be required.

This policy describes the procedure to be followed by Solactive when events occur that may require a termination of an Index.

## 2 SCOPE

This policy applies globally to all Indices administered by Solactive.

## 3 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Each Index has a predefined objective that describes the underlying market or economic reality the relevant Index intends to measure. If the market situation with respect to the Index changes to such an extent that the objective of the relevant Index can no longer be achieved, Solactive will nevertheless seek to maintain and continue the Index by means of a change to the methodology of such Index whenever and wherever it is feasible. Nevertheless, there might also be reasons for terminating the Index that are based on reasons independent of the index, including, but not limited to, economic reasons. Solactive will terminate an Index only in the event that the discontinuation of the relevant Index is absolutely necessary and unavoidable.

## 3 GENERAL REASONS FOR TERMINATION

There are several reasons that could make it necessary to terminate an Index, including, but not limited to, the following:

- the respective Data Provider does not provide data in a form, quality or frequency required for the purpose of determining or rebalancing the Index, or other required information, anymore;
- an insufficient number of clients using the Index and/or insufficient revenues linked to the Index;
- legal or regulatory changes;
- geo-political events;
- a significant change to the market infrastructure that may impact the use of the Index for financial instruments and the hedging of the exposure resulting from such use;
- factors such as methodology convergence or low usage;
- any other events that make the Index no longer representative of its intended scope.



## 4 PROCEDURE

Any department of Solactive (including the Oversight Committee) can identify the necessity to terminate an Index. In the event such necessity to terminate an Index has been identified, Solactive will perform the following steps:

- The department of Solactive that has identified the necessity to terminate an Index will inform the respective Operations Team.
- The Operations Team will then:
  - consider the suggestion to terminate the Index;
  - verify with the Legal Team whether the Index is a Licensed Index;
  - start a consultation process with the relevant stakeholder or subscribers in the case of a Licensed Index; and
  - propose (if the case may be) to the Oversight Committee the termination of the Index (providing all relevant information).
- The Oversight Committee will then take a decision regarding the termination of the respective Index and will (in the case the Oversight Committee has decided to terminate the Index) coordinate the termination process as follows:
  - In the case of a Licensed Index:
    - The Operations Team will inform the relevant stakeholder or subscribers about the termination; and
    - will terminate the Index with a notice period of at least 30 days in advance in order to provide sufficient time for adjusting any financial instrument linked to the Index (if required). However, this period may be shorter if Solactive is reliant on an external Data Provider who is no longer able to deliver the relevant data.
  - In the case the Index is not a Licensed Index, Solactive may terminate the Index with a shorter notice period.
  - Solactive will announce the termination of the Index on its website. In the case a consultation has been made, Solactive may (at its sole discretion) also make available a summary of the stakeholder comments.
  - The decision, including the reasons for the termination of the Index, will be documented, and the documentation will be retained in accordance with Solactive's Record Keeping Policy.



## 5 DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this document, the defined terms used herein shall have the following meaning:

'BMR' means Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016 on indices used as benchmarks in financial instruments and financial contracts or to measure the performance of investment funds.

'Data Provider' means either the provider of the relevant input data or any other third-party data provider.

'Index' (or 'Indices') refers to an index as defined in Article 3(1)(1) of the BMR.

'Legal Team' means the team within Solactive that is, among other things, responsible for the negotiation and record keeping of license agreements for the Indices.

'Licensed Index' is an Index that a financial product references and a respective license has been issued thereto for using the Index.

'Operations Team' means the team within Solactive that is responsible for the day-to-day maintenance of an Index, including determination and distribution of Index levels, as well as ordinary and extraordinary adjustments, for example, after the occurrence of corporate actions with regard to the constituents of an Index or in the course of the regular rebalancing of an Index.

'Oversight Committee' means a committee composed of staff from Solactive and its subsidiaries that is responsible for decisions regarding any amendments to the rules or any termination of the Index.

'Record Keeping Policy' means Solactive's policy governing the processes to meet the record keeping requirements under Article 8 of the BMR.

'Solactive' means Solactive AG and its subsidiaries.

# CONTACT

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