Guideline

Solactive Candriam Factors Sustainable Corporate Euro Bond Index

Version 1.5 dated October 22th, 2020

Contents

This document contains the underlying principles and regulations regarding the structure and operation of the Solactive Candriam Factors Sustainable Corporate Euro Bond Index. Solactive AG shall make every effort to implement the relevant regulations. Solactive AG does not offer any explicit or tacit guarantee or assurance, neither pertaining to the results from the use of the index nor the index value at any given point in time nor in any other respect. The Solactive Candriam Factors Sustainable Corporate Euro Bond Index is the sole property of Solactive AG. Solactive AG strives to the best of its ability to ensure the correctness of the calculation. There is no obligation for Solactive AG – irrespective of possible obligations to issuers – to advise third parties, including investors and/or financial intermediaries, of any errors in the index. The calculation and publication of the index by Solactive AG is not a recommendation for capital investment and does not contain any assurance or opinion of Solactive AG regarding a possible investment in a financial instrument based on this index.

Introduction

This document (the "**Guideline**") is to be used as a guideline with regard to the composition, calculation and management of the Solactive Candriam Factors Sustainable Corporate Euro Bond Index (the "**Index**"). Any changes made to the guideline are initiated by the Committee specified in section 1.6. The Index is owned, calculated, administered and published by Solactive AG ("**Solactive**") assuming the role as administrator (the "**Index Administrator**") under the Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 (the "**Benchmark Regulation**" or "**BMR**").

1 Index specifications

The Index is rules-based. The Index is engineered to exploit the return potential of EUR denominated corporate debt securities using a non-conventional weighting scheme. The universe of eligible companies is derived by applying the sustainable and responsible investing ("SRI") criteria developed by Candriam Belgium S.A. Only investment grade debt is considered.

The Index is a Total Return Index, i.e. coupon payments will be reinvested directly in the Index.

1.1 Name and ISIN

The Solactive Candriam Factors Sustainable Corporate Euro Bond Index is distributed under ISIN *DE000SLA3C16*; the WKN is *SLA3C1*. The Index is published in Reuters under the code *.SOLCACBE* and in Bloomberg under the code *SOLCACBE Index.*

1.2 Initial value

The Index will be calculated every Business Day starting *June 30th, 2017* (the "Live Date"). Before this date the index values are backfilled, with the index value based on 100 as at the close of trading on *December 31st, 2015* (the "Start Date").

1.3 Distribution

The Index is published on the website of the Index Administrator (www.solactive.com) and is, in addition, available via the price marketing services of Boerse Stuttgart GmbH and may be distributed to all affiliated vendors

1.4 Prices and calculation frequency

The Index is calculated based on the Evaluated Bid Price (see 4.2 Further Definitions) of the respective Index Components. The Index is calculated and distributed once every Business Day. Bond and index analytical values are calculated each Business Days using the Last Evaluated Price. New bonds are included in the Index at their Evaluated Ask Price.

Updated index values and other statistics will not be distributed. In the event that the data required for index calculation purposes is not available or that there are troubles regarding the price marketing of Solactive AG or Stuttgart Stock exchange the Index cannot be distributed.

1.5 Weighting

The weights of the Index Components are determined using a multi-level approach. The final weighting is derived by applying the weighting scheme first on the issuer (Credit parent level: see 4.2 Further Definitions) level and adjusting the resulting weights by issue specific criteria.

The Fundamental Weight is derived on the issuer. For each issuer, the fundamental weight is the average of four specific factor weights. The factors are:

- Average Sales from the previous five years
- Average Operating Cash Flow from the previous five years (If Average < 0 then we consider Average = 0)
- Average Earnings from the previous five years (If Average < 0 then we consider Average = 0)

- Last Book Value

The weight for each factor is the company's value divided by the sum of values for all Index Components. Each component's Fundamental Weight is the average of the 4 factor weights for each component. If a field is missing, the factor is simply ignored from the calculations. If Sales factor is missing, the issuer is removed from universe.

The weight of each factor is determined by putting a company's factor value relative to the sum of all factor values of a specific factor. Expressed as formula a fundamental weight is determined:

$$UFW_{j,i} = \frac{x_{j,i}}{\sum_{j=1}^{n} x_{j,i}} \; with \; i = 1,2,3,4$$

where

$UFW_{j,i}$ is the Unadjusted Fundamental Weight of factor i of company j
$x_{j,i}$ is the factor value i of company j
n is the total number of companies

The Unadjusted Fundamental Weight of each company is then the average of the four factors:

$$UFW_j = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{4} UFW_{j,i}}{4}$$

The Fundamental Weight of an issue is derived by dividing the Unadjusted Fundamental Weight by the number of eligible bonds. A cap of 0.5% (50 bps) is applied:

$$FW_j = MIN\left(\frac{UFW_j}{b_j}, 0.5\%\right)$$

where

UFW_j is the Unadjusted Fundamental Weight of company j
FW_j is the Fundamental Weight of all issues of company j
b_j is the number of eligible bonds of company j

Please note that whenever all sales figures of the previous five years are not available, the issuer is not eligible for the Index.

The Fundamental Weight is then adjusted by issue specific characteristics. For each issue four factors are determined:

- Size: Aggregate Amount outstanding of eligible bonds per issuer (Credit parent level: see 4.2 Further Definitions).
- Value: The percentage difference between the current Option Adjusted Spread (OAS) and the fitted OAS using the following cross-sectional regression model:

$$OAS_{l,t} = \beta_1 * TTM_{l,t} + \sum_{i=1}^{10} (\beta_i * R_{ti}) + \beta_3 * (OAS_{l,t-3M} - OAS_{l,t}) + \varepsilon$$

where

$OAS_{l,t}$ is the Option Adjusted Spread of issue l on the Selection Day t
$OAS_{l,t-3M}$ is the Option Adjusted Spread of issue l three months prior to the Selection Day t
TTM_l is the remaining Time to Maturity (in years) of issue l on the Selection Day t
R_{ti} is a dummy variable which takes the value of 1 if the issue belongs on the selection day to this rating class and 0 otherwise (There are 10 investment grade rating categories). The rating used is the average rating of Moody's and S&P Ratings. In the case the average is between two rating categories, the better rating is used.
α is the regression intercept
β_1, β_2, β_3 are the regression coefficients and
ε is the error term

If one of the necessary input parameters is not available, the specific factor is not being calculated for this bond. However, this does not mean the bond is not eligible for the Index anymore. (If the Rating is not available, the value factor is not being calculated).
The fitted OAS of each issue is calculated using the estimated coefficients (there is no constant to avoid multi-collinearity with binary variable):

$$\overline{OAS_{l,t}} = \widehat{\beta_1} * TTM_{l,t} + \sum_{i=1}^{10} (\beta_i * R_{ti}) + \widehat{\beta_3} * \ (OAS_{l,t-3M} - OAS_{l,t})$$

The Value Factor is then calculated as the difference of the actual OAS and the fitted OAS:

$$VAL_{l,t} = \left(\frac{\overline{OAS_{l,t}} - OAS_{l,t}}{\overline{OAS_{l,t}}} \right)$$

- Momentum: the six-month credit return of the security (versus the duration match Euro Interest Swap Rate). The calculation expressed as a formula is:

$$MOM_{l,t} = \left(1 + \left(- ED_{l,t} \ * \left(OAS_{l,t} - OAS_{l,t-6}\right) + OAS_{l,t-6} * \frac{180}{365}\right)\right)^{-1}$$

where

$MOM_{l,t}$ is the Momentum Factor of issue l on the Selection Day t (measured as the Credit Return + Spread Carry)
$ED_{l,t}$ is the Effective Duration of issue l on the Selection Day t
$OAS_{l,t}$ is the Option Adjusted Spread of issue l on the Selection Day t
$OAS_{l,t-6M}$ is the Option Adjusted Spread of issue l six months prior to the Selection Day t

If one of the necessary input parameters is not available, the specific factor is not being calculated for this bond. However, this does not mean the bond is not eligible for the Index anymore.

- Low Volatility: The volatility of each issue is approximated via:

$$VOL_{l,t} = ED_{l,t} * OAS_{l,t}$$

where

$VOL_{l,t}$ is the approximated volatility of issue l on Selection Day t
$ED_{l,t}$ is the Effective Duration of issue l on the Selection Day t
$OAS_{l,t}$ is the Option Adjusted Spread of issue l on the Selection Day t

Each issue is ranked on each factor. For each issue, an average of all factor percentile ranks is calculated. Based on this average all issues are sorted into quintiles. Issues whose average percentile ranks within the lowest 20% will be assigned to the first quintile. Issues whose average ranks within the next lowest 20% will be assigned to the second quintile and so on. Depending on the quintile an issue is assigned to, an adjustment to the fundamental weight is done:

Quintile	1	2	3	4	5
Adjustment	+10bps	+5bps	+/-0	-5bps	-10bps

The Final Weight of each issue is the sum of the Fundamental Weight and the Adjustment:

$$Final\ Weight_{l,t} = FW_j + Adjustment$$

Finally, the calculated weights are scaled so that the sum of them equals 1.

1.6 Decision-making bodies

A Committee composed of staff from Solactive AG is responsible for decisions regarding the composition of the Index, as well as any amendments to the rules (hereinafter referred to as the "**Committee"** or the "**Index Committee**"). The Committee will also determine the future composition of the Index if any Extraordinary Event (see chapter 2.3) occurs, as well as the implementation of any necessary adjustments.

Members of the Committee can recommend at any time changes to the composition of the Index or to the guideline and submit them to the Committee for approval. Any change of the guideline will be announced on the web page http://www.solactive.com.

1.7 Publication

All specifications and information relevant for calculating the index are made available on the http://www.solactive.com web page and sub-pages.

1.8 Historical data

Historical data will be maintained from *December 31st, 2015.*

1.9 Licencing

Licences to use the Index as the underlying value for derivative instruments are issued to stock exchanges, banks, financial services providers and investment houses by Solactive AG.

2 Composition of the Index

2.1 Selection of the Index Components

At the launch of the Index, all financial instruments which meet the requirements of the Selection Pool are eligible for inclusion in the Index. Instruments issued prior to the Selection Day and which meet the criteria of the Selection Pool as defined under 4.1 will be added on the quarterly Adjustment Day to the Selection Pool. Additionally, on the quarterly Selection Day, the Index Committee will evaluate whether all current Index Components still meet the requirements of the Selection Pool. Any Index Components that do not pass this screen will be removed from the Index on the next Adjustment day.

An updated list of eligible companies is posted on the website (http://indexiq.candriam.com) quarterly, approximately five days prior to each Adjustment Day of the Index. Once the list is publicly available, Solactive uses the information to complete the index creation process by applying the weighting methodology outlined in 1.5.

Extraordinary adjustments are possible as described under 2.3.

2.2 Ordinary adjustment

The composition of the Index is ordinarily adjusted four times a year on the last business day of March, June, September, and the second business day in January. The composition of the Index is reviewed on the Selection Day, which is the 2nd Friday in March, June, September and December. Necessary changes are announced.

Solactive AG shall publish any changes made to the Index composition on Business Day following the Selection Day and consequently with sufficient notice before the Adjustment Day.

2.3 Extraordinary adjustment

The Index Committee will decide about the future composition and the implementation of any necessary adjustments of the Index if an Extraordinary Event (early redemption, credit event etc.) regarding one or more index constituents occurs. See details under 3.3 Adjustments

The Index Committee will decide on the future composition of the Index as well as the Business Day which marks the starting of the new adjusted Index composition.

3 Calculation of the Index

3.1.1 Index formula

The value of the Index reflects the relative changes in bond values. Therefore, the composition and weighting is adjusted every quarter.

As a formula:

$$Totalreturn_{t,i} = \frac{Price_{t,i} + ACCInt_{t,i} + PaidCash_{t,i}}{Price_{t-1,i} + ACCInt_{t-1,i}} \cdot \frac{FX_{t,i}}{FX_{t-1,i}} - 1$$

$$Weighting_{t,i} = \frac{MarketValue_{t,i} \cdot Cap_{SD,i}}{\sum_{i=1}^{a} MarketValue_{t,i} \cdot Cap_{SD,i}} = \frac{(Price_{t,i} + ACCInt_{t,i}) * Amount_{SD,i} * Cap_{SD,i} \cdot FX_{t,i}}{\sum_{i=1}^{a}(Price_{t,i} + ACCInt_{t,i}) * Amount_{SD,i} * Cap_{SD,i} \cdot FX_{t,i}}$$

$$Index_t = Index_{t-1} * (1 + \sum_{i=1}^{a}(Totalreturn_{t,i} * weighting_{t-1,i})$$

Whereas:

$Totalreturn_{t,i}$	= Total return of the bond i on trading day t
$Index_t$	= Value of the index on trading day t
$Index_{t-1}$	= Value of the index on trading day t-1
$Price_{t,i}$	= Last Evaluated Price of the bond i on trading day t
$Price_{t-1,i}$	= Last Evaluated Price of the bond i on trading day t-1
$ACCInt_{t,i}$	= Accrued Interest of the bond i on trading day t (for avoidance of doubt the index takes into account a settlement convention t +2)
$ACCInt_{t-1,i}$	= Accrued Interest of the bond i on trading day t-1 (for avoidance of doubt the index takes into account a settlement convention t +2)
$Weighting_{t,i}$	= Weighting of the bond i on trading day t
$Weighting_{t,i}$	= Weighting of the bond i on trading day t-1
$Amount_{SD,i}$	= Amount Outstanding of bond i on the last Selection Day SD
$Cap_{SD,i}$	= Capping Factor which helps to adjust the weights as defined under 1.5
$FX_{t,i}$	= Foreign Exchange Rate of bond i on trading day t
$FX_{t,i}$	= Foreign Exchange Rate of bond i on trading day t-1
$PaidCash_{i,t}$	= a) Value of the coupon payment for bond i on trading day t b) If a bond i will be removed from the index, the resulting payment of the bond will be included in the paid cash component

3.2 Accuracy

The value of the Index will be rounded to two decimal places.

According to the terms of the bond, the Index Administrator will take the following conventions into account:
Act/Act
Act/360
Act/365
30/360
ISMA 30/360

The Index does not take taxes into account and assumes gross coupon payments.

Accrued interests are calculated with settlement convention t+2

3.3 Adjustments

Indices need to be adjusted for systematic changes in prices once these become effective. The Committee will decide from time to time if the Index needs to be adjusted.

The following corporate actions will result in changes or adjustments to an index as indicated below between Adjustment Days:

(a) Full Tender or Early Redemption: The bond proceeds will be reinvested into the Index on the effective date. For the avoidance of doubt a tender must be mandatory, the pure offer to tender a bond will not lead to an adaption of the Index.* On the effective date price and accrued interest are 0 and the proceeds (tender/redemption price + accrued interest/coupon) are considered as “Paid Cash” in the return formula (see 3.1.1). On the next calculation day, the bond is removed from the Index and weightings are calculated according to the formula in 3.1.1. The new higher weightings of the remaining constituents imply the direct reinvestment of the redeemed bond into all other Index Components.

(b) Flat Trading: A bond is flat trading if the bond issuer will not meet its coupon payment obligation which means that the buyer of a bond is not responsible for paying the interest that has accrued since the last payment. If a bond is defined to be “flat trading” between two Adjustment Days the respective accrued interests and coupons will be set to 0. The bond will not be removed until the next Adjustment Day.

(c) Defaulted Bonds: If the status of a bond changes to “In Default”, the bond will remain as part of the Index or portfolio at the last available evaluated price provided by the pricing source until the next regular Index Adjustment Day.

(d) Exchange Offers:

1) optional exchange offers are not treated in the Index;*
2) mandatory exchange offers: In case less than 90% of the amount outstanding is exchanged the exchange will not be considered in the Index.
3) mandatory exchange offers: In case more than 90% of the amount outstanding is exchanged the exchange will be considered in the Index calculation by exchanging the relevant bonds, so that the new bond will receive the weight of the old exchanged bond.

   The capping factor of the new bond is calculated based on the following formula:

$$CapFactor_{t,new} = \frac{(Price_{t,old} + ACCInt_{t,old}) * Amount_{SD,old} * Cap_{SD,old}}{(Price_{t,new} + ACCInt_{t,new}) * Amount_{t,new}}$$

(e) Fungible Bonds:

1) The parent bond and the sub-tranche are both index constituents: Both bonds are kept in the Index until the next Adjustment Day. On the next Adjustment Day, the new bond will be removed and the Amount Outstanding of the parent bond will be increased by the amount of the new bond issue.
2) The parent bond is an index constituent and the sub-tranche is not: On the next Adjustment Day, the Amount Outstanding of the parent bond will be increased by the amount of the sub-tranche.
3) The parent bond is not an index constituent but the sub-tranches: On the next Adjustment Day, the sub-tranche leaves the Index and the parent bond enters the Index including the Amount Outstanding added from the sub-tranche (assuming that it meets the requirements of the Selection Pool).

(f) Payment-in-Kind Bonds: These bonds pay interest in additional bonds rather than in cash. Assuming the additional bonds will be sold immediately and the proceeds will be reinvested in the Index, payments-in-kind are therefore considered as cash in the Paid Cash component in all Total Return calculations.

Note: Debt issuances of an existing bond will not be considered until the next Adjustment Day.

*For the avoidance of doubt, an optional tender or exchange offer may lead to an index adjustment after the end of the submission period. In case the tender or exchange has been successful for at least 90% of the Amount outstanding, the bond will be removed from the Index/exchanged into the relevant bond.

4. Definitions

4.1 index-specific definitions

The **“Selection Pool”** comprises bonds that fulfill the following conditions:

(a) The issuer (Credit parent level: see 4.2 Further Definitions) is part of the Candriam Investors Group SRI universe. The universe is publicly accessible via http://indexiq.candriam.com. A further explanation of the Candriam Investors Group SRI universe is provided in Section 4.2.
(b) Denominated in EUR
(c) Amount Outstanding of at least 500 m EUR
(d) Time to maturity of at least 18 months for new issues entering the index. The minimum time to maturity for bonds in the Index is 12 months.
(e) Bonds that switch from fixed to floating rate coupons qualify provided they are callable within the fixed rate period and have at least one year prior to the date the bond transitions from a fixed to a floating rate coupon structure.
(f) A minimum rating of BBB- by Standard & Poor’s or Baa3 by Moody’s Investors Service is required. For the avoidance of doubt if one of the rating agencies rates the bond as Investment Grade it is eligible for inclusion in the Index.
(g) Fixed Coupon Bonds, Zero Coupon Bonds, Payment-In-Kind Bonds and Step-Up Coupon Bonds are eligible for inclusion in the Index.
(h) Bearer Bonds are eligible for inclusion in the Index.
(i) For a bond to be included in the Index, a price must be available from a recognized bond price provider as determined by the Index Committee.
(j) Sinking Fund Bonds, Floating Rate Bonds, Convertible Bonds, Inflation-linked Bonds, Contingent Capital Securities, Covered Bonds, Preferred Securities, Securitized or Collateralized Bonds or Collateralized Debt Obligations (CDOs) are not eligible for inclusion in the Index.
(k) Callable perpetual securities qualify for inclusion in the Index provided they are at least one year from the next call date.
(l) Bonds sold by supranational entities are not eligible for inclusion.
(m) Bonds sold by entities that are 100%-owned by national governments or their departments, or that are guaranteed by them are excluded from the Index. Bonds sold by entities which carry out government-sponsored roles, particularly in the public sphere, are also excluded.
(n) Private placements are not eligible for inclusion in the Index.
(o) Per issuer, only 10 bonds are included in the Index. The issues are ranked in a descending order by amount outstanding, issue date, and Yield to Maturity.
(p) Only one bond per tranche with exactly the same parameters (coupon, maturity, etc.) will be selected for inclusion in the Index. If several tranches (with the same parameters) are available bonds that are issued domestically, and under Euro MTN program are preferred.

4.2 Further definitions

“Component Universe”
The list of Index Components is available free of charge on Candriam’s website located at http://indexiq.candriam.com.
For information, the **“Component Universe”** in respect of a Selection Day are companies that fulfill the following criteria:

- They are covered by the following ESG analysis based on Macro and Micro socially responsible criteria:

- Sector Specific criteria for the following Macro factors (Exposure to Global Sustainability Trends):
    - Climate Change-renewable energy producers are enjoying growing markets
    - Resource Depletion-as rational resource use becomes inevitable, companies offering efficient resource utilization technologies stand to benefit
    - Developing Economies-companies providing infrastructure services will benefit from growing and developing populations

        - Demographic Evolutions-as people grow older, the need for tailor made service and products will be in string demand
        - Health & Wellness-healthy products offered by companies have a beneficial effect on health
        - Interconnectivity-as people interact across borders, companies offering video-conferencing tools address a genuine need
    - Sector Specific criteria for the following Micro factors (Stakeholders Management):
        - Customers-after sales services impact customer loyalty
        - Employees-the quality of employee contracts, training and career management are all positive factors in attracting, developing and retaining talent
        - Environment-new environmental legislation may require a significant investment for some companies while others that already observe higher standards can focus on increasing market share
        - Suppliers-abuse of labor rights in the supply chain has a considerable impact on reputation and brand image of companies
        - Investors-the effective management of corporate governance issues is vital to maintain investor's confidence in a company
        - Society-in developing countries, integrating the expectations of the local population with the company's activities is a real asset

Companies that are not ranked "High Risk" based on their Combined Macro and Micro scores are then further reviewed to see if they violate the Controversial Activities criteria or the United Nations Global Compact as detailed below:

- Controversial Activities:
    - Armament: are involved in the production or sale of anti-personnel landmines, cluster bombs, depleted uranium, and/or chemical/nuclear/biological weapons, regardless of the revenues involved and/or generate more than 3% of their turnover from the production or the sale of conventional weapons and/or generate more than 5% of their sales/revenues from the production, manufacturing, trade, testing or maintenance of white phosphorous
    - Activities in oppressive regimes: large presence (Revenues > 1%) in highly oppressive regimes
    - Adult content: Revenues > 5%
    - Alcohol: Revenues > 10%
    - Animal Testing: Responsible policy of no legal requirement or breaches to legislation
    - Gambling: Revenues > 5%
    - Genetic modification: Revenues > 10%
    - Nuclear: Revenues > 30%
    - Tobacco: Revenues > 5%
    - Thermal Coal: Revenues > 10%
    - Unconventional Oil & Gas: Revenues > 10%
    - Conventional Oil & Gas: Revenues based on natural gas or renewable energy < 40%
    - Electricity Generation*: Carbon Intensity > 408 (GCO2/kWh)
    - If carbon emission intensity data is not available:
        - % power production based on coal >10%
        - % power production based on oil & gas > 30%
        - % power production based on nuclear sources > 30%

    - ***In 2021, the following new threshold will be applicable: Carbon intensity > 393 (gCO2/kWh)**

- United Nations Global Compact consists of 10 principles covering:
    - Human rights-businesses should:
        - Support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights; and
        - Make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses
    - Labor rights-businesses should:

        - Uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;
        - Eliminate all forms of forced and compulsory labor;
        - Abolish the child labor;
        - Eliminate discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.
    - Environment-businesses should:
        - Support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;
        - Undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and
        - Encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.
    - Corruption-businesses should:
        - Work against corruption in all its forms, including corruption and bribery.

Companies that are not excluded based on the preceding criteria form the basis of the Index (“Index Components”).

“Adjustment Day” is the last business day of March, June, September, and the second business day in January.

“Amount Outstanding” is the face value of the respective bond.

“Bearer Bonds” are unregistered debt securities.

“Benchmark Regulation” shall have the meaning as defined in Section “Introduction”.

“BMR” shall have the meaning as defined in Section “Introduction”.

“Committee” shall have the meaning as defined in Section 1.6.

“Index Committee” shall have the meaning as defined in Section 1.6.

A **“Eurobond”** is a bond denominated in a currency not native to the issuer's home country.

A **“Business Day**” in relation to the Index is each day Monday to Friday except common European banking holidays. Common European banking holidays are Good Friday, Easter Monday, Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year’s Day.

“Call” means that a bond with a callable feature will be redeemed before the actual maturity date of the bond. The callable feature allows the issuer of the bond to retain the privilege of redeeming the bond before the actual maturity date.

“Contingent Convertible Capital Securities” are bonds that will be converted into equity if a certain trigger event takes place or written down.

“Convertible Bonds” are bonds that can be converted into a predetermined amount of the company's equity at certain times during its life.

“Covered Bonds” are bonds backed by cash flows or mortgages or public sector loans.

A **“Credit Event”** is the suspension of debt service, insolvency or failure to pay on time.

“Credit Parent” refers to “FREF_ENTITY_CREDIT_PARENT” FactSet field. This code returns a credit parent to active entities that have issued corporate debt (e.g., bonds, notes, and loans).

“Early Redemption” includes every event that leads to a redemption of a bond before the actual maturity date.

“Evaluated Bid Price" is the last available evaluated bid price by the designated Pricing Provider.

“Ex-dividend” means that the next coupon is detached from the bond several days in advance of the coupon payment date.

“Exchange Offer” means that the holder of a bond is invited to exchange the existing bond to another debt security.

In particular, an **“Extraordinary Event”** is

- an early redemption of the bond
- a credit event

“Fixed Coupon Bonds” are bonds with a fixed coupon rate, as opposed to floating rate coupons.

A bond is **“Flat Trading”** if the bond issuer will not meet its coupon payment obligation which means that the buyer of a bond is not responsible for paying the interest that has accrued since the last payment.

“Floating Rate Bonds” are bonds with a variable or floating interest rate, i.e. coupons fluctuate in line with the underlying level of interest rates, as opposed to fixed-rate coupons.

A **“Fungible Bond”** is a new issue that has all the same specifications as an existing issue (bonds with the same parameters can be issued in different tranches). At a specific date, the tranches will be combined into one bond. After this date, the parent tranche will include the Amount Outstanding of all new tranches.

“Guideline” shall have the meaning as defined in Section “Introduction”.

A bond is “**In Default**” when the issuer is not able to fulfil its bond payment obligations anymore after the 30 days’ grace period.

“Index” shall have the meaning as defined in Section “Introduction”.

“Index Administrator” shall have the meaning as defined in Section “Introduction”.

“Index Components” are all bonds in the Selection Pool.

The **“Index Currency”** is EUR.

“Inflation-linked Bonds” are bonds whose principal is indexed to inflation.

“Investment Grade” are all ratings above or equal to BBB- by Standard & Poor’s or Baa3 by Moody’s Investors Service.

“Issuer” is the issuing entity of the respective bond.

"Last Evaluated Price" generally is (aside from the rules referred to in “Extraordinary Events”) the last available Evaluated Bid Price.

“Live Date” is June 30th, 2017.

“Paid Cash” is either the value of the coupon payments between Adjustment Days or the resulting payment when a bond is removed from the Index between Adjustment Days. On the next Adjustment Day “Paid Cash” will be reinvested in the index.

“Payment-In-Kind Bonds” are a type of bonds that pay interest in additional bonds rather than in cash.

“Preferred Securities” combine both debt and equity characteristics.

“Pricing Provider” is Intercontinental Exchange (ICE).

“Securitized Bonds” are bonds secured against specific assets or receivables (ABS), mortgages (MBS) or cash flows.

“Selection Day” is the 2nd Friday in March, June, September and December.

“Selection Pool” shall have the meaning as defined in Section 4.1.

"Sinking Fund Bonds" are bonds that are backed by a fund that sets aside money on a regular basis. A sinkable bond issuer is required to buy a certain amount of the bond back from the purchaser at various points throughout the life of the bond.

"Solactive" shall have the meaning as defined in Section "Introduction".

"Start Date" is December 31st, 2015.

"Step-Up Coupon Bonds" are bonds whose coupons increase while the bond is outstanding. The coupon amounts are determined at issuance.

"Tender Offer**" means that** a holder of a bond is invited to tender the bond for a specific price at a specific time before the actual maturity date.

A **"Total Return Index"** measures the performance of the index components by assuming that all distributions are reinvested into the Index, i.e. the Index does not only reflect pure price movements.

"Zero Coupon Bonds" do not pay interest but are issued at a discount.

5 Appendix

5.1 Contact data

Information regarding the Index concept

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Further information about the index can also be obtained via the following link: https://www.solactive.com/ or http://indexiq.candriam.com

5.2 Calculation of the Index – change in calculation method

The application by the Index Administrator of the method described in this document is final and binding. The Index Administrator shall apply the method described above for the composition and calculation of the index. However, it cannot be excluded that the market environment, supervisory, legal, financial or tax reasons may require changes to be made to this method. The Index Administrator may also make changes to the terms and conditions of the index and the method applied to calculate the index, which he deems to be necessary and desirable in order to prevent obvious or demonstrable error or to remedy, correct or supplement incorrect terms and conditions. The Index Administrator is not obliged to provide information on any such modifications or changes. The Index Administrator will make announcements regarding the amendment of the index guideline. Despite the modifications and changes the Index Administrator will take the appropriate steps to ensure a calculation method is applied that is consistent with the method described above.