



FTSE/JSE launches the FTSE/JSE Shariah Top 40 Index

JOHANNESBURG, Monday 21 July – Today the JSE in partnership with FTSE Group (“FTSE”), the global index provider, launched the FTSE/JSE Shariah Top 40 Index. The index will open up many opportunities for those interest in Shariah compliant investment, including the 850 000 strong South African Muslim community.

The FTSE/JSE Shariah Top 40 Index is a selection of Shariah compliant companies from the FTSE/JSE Shariah All-Share Index. The calculation of the index and the treatment of corporate actions are similar to the FTSE/JSE Top 40.

The FTSE/JSE Shariah Top 40 Index is suitable for the creation of financial products, such as index funds, warrants, certificates and Exchange Traded Funds. “Internationally the market for Islamic investment products is growing exponentially, at an estimated 15-20% per annum,” says Ana Forssman, Senior General Manager: Information Products Sales at the JSE. “This index gives Muslim investors access to the top performing listed companies in South Africa without compromising religious beliefs.”

“With approximately 1.5 billion Muslims worldwide, there is huge growth potential for investment vehicles with a faith-based mandate,” said Imogen Dillon Hatcher, Managing Director, EMEA - FTSE Group, “Shariah compliant investment is one of the fastest growing new areas of finance globally. The FTSE/JSE Shariah Top 40 index will provide institutional investors with an accurate Shariah benchmark as well as help providers create structured investment products tailored to the Islamic market. Today's launch demonstrates FTSE Group's commitment to providing innovative solutions to investors both in South Africa and worldwide.”

The constituents of the FTSE/JSE Shariah Top 40 Index are screened by Yasaar Research Inc, a well-respected authority on Shariah law. To qualify as a constituent of the index, companies undergo a detailed screening process, which filters out any organisations considered unacceptable or non-compliant according to Shariah-law, including businesses involved in conventional finance, alcohol, pork-related and non-halaal food, entertainment, tobacco and weapons. The remaining companies are then further screened according to Shariah compliant financial criteria. In order to remain in the index, the companies are reassessed by Yasaar quarterly.

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About JSE Limited

As South Africa’s only full service securities exchange, the JSE connects buyers and sellers in four different financial markets, namely equities, equity derivatives, agricultural derivatives and interest rate instruments. The JSE Ltd offers the investor a truly first world trading environment, with world class technology, surveillance and

settlement in an emerging market context. It is amongst the top 20 largest equities exchanges in terms of market capitalisation in the world.

For further information, please visit www.jse.co.za

About FTSE Group

FTSE Group is a world-leader in the creation and management of indexes. With offices in Beijing, London, Frankfurt, Hong Kong, Madrid, Paris, New York, San Francisco, Boston, Shanghai and Tokyo, FTSE Group services clients in 77 countries worldwide. It calculates and manages the FTSE Global Equity Index Series, which includes world-recognized indexes ranging from the FTSE All-World Index, the FTSE4Good series and the FTSEurofirst Index series, as well as domestic indexes such as the prestigious FTSE 100. The company has collaborative arrangements with the Athens, AMEX, Cyprus, Euronext, Johannesburg London, Madrid, NASDAQ and Taiwan exchanges, as well as Nomura Securities and Xinhua Finance of China. FTSE also has a collaborative agreement with Dow Jones Indexes to develop a single sector classification system for global investors.

FTSE indexes are used extensively by investors world-wide for investment analysis, performance measurement, asset allocation, portfolio hedging and for creating a wide range of index tracking funds. Independent committees of senior fund managers, derivatives experts, actuaries and other experienced practitioners review all changes to the indexes to ensure that they are made objectively and without bias. Real-time FTSE indexes are calculated on systems managed by Reuters. Prices and FX rates used are supplied by Reuters.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Roz Thomas, Victoria Williams
Corporate Communications Consultants (Pty) Ltd
Tel: (011) 783 8926
Fax: (011) 783 7608
Email: rozt@corpcom.co.za

ON BEHALF OF:

Ana Forssman
Senior General Manager: Information Products Sales
JSE Ltd
Tel: (011) 520 7000

For FTSE Group, Sabrina Bhangoo/ Mittal Dave/ Arnaud Humblot

+44 207 866 1821 media@ftse.com

For further details on the Shariah screening methodology and Yasaar, please refer to FTSE Shariah Global Equity Index Series Ground Rules available on www.ftse.com.