



## PRESS RELEASE

### **CASABLANCA STOCK EXCHANGE AND VIGEO EIRIS SET UP AN ESG BENCHMARK INDEX AND CELEBRATE THE 2018 ESG TOP PERFORMERS**

- Casablanca ESG 10 includes the 10 listed stocks with the best ESG ratings from Vigeo Eiris.
- Casablanca ESG 10 will contribute to the development of Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) and promote the adoption of ESG best practices.
- A Launching meeting the commitments made by the Casablanca Stock Exchange during the COP 22 side event, in the framework of "the roadmap of the Moroccan financial sector" and "Marrakech Pledge".

Casablanca September 27, 2018

Further to a joint collaboration between Casablanca Stock Exchange and the independent international research and services agency ESG Vigeo Eiris, the two parties have set up "Casablanca ESG 10", an environmental, social and governance benchmark index.

*The purpose behind "The establishment of "Casablanca ESG 10" is to attract a new category of SRI investors by providing them with a reference tool that meets their needs, to shed light on Casablanca financial center on an the international scale, while promoting the development of ESG best practices among publicly-traded companies,"* said Karim Hajji, CEO of the Casablanca Stock Exchange.

In this way, "Casablanca ESG 10" is composed of 10 securities listed in continue on the Casablanca Stock Exchange: Attijariwafa Bank, BCP, BMCE Bank, BMCI, Cosumar, Ittissalat Al-Maghrib, LafargeHolcim Morocco, Lydec, Managem and Wafa Assurance. This composition is reviewed annually according to the ratings given by Vigeo Eiris.

The companies in the ESG 10 index were evaluated and ranked on the basis of their compliance with the 38 criteria and more than 330 indicators of environmental, social and governance responsibility applied by Vigeo Eiris. Are taken into account in this



assessment, the relevance of these companies' commitments, their management system efficiency, as well as their risk management and performance improvement capacity.

This methodology allows to earmark the listed companies most committed to the respect of the universal standards (in particular with respect to human rights, decent work, environmental protection and governance, ...); to encourage companies to meet these standards and to foster the development of a new category of investors interested in SRI.

In addition, the implementation of "Casablanca ESG 10" addresses the growing importance of SRI asset management worldwide. In fact, SRI comes to add to the standard financial criteria, without abandoning the search for return, environmental, social and good governance selection criteria. In this regard, Mr. Fouad Benseddik, Vigeo Eiris Head of Methods and Institutional Affairs, said: *"Besides, Capital providers who are usually keen on mainstream financial rating of firms' creditworthiness, are today becoming more risk-averse, focusing on risk sustainability that arises from the companies' ability to materially carry out their social and environmental responsibilities, business ethics, responsible purchasing, sustainable procurement, or of their governance and control bodies independence. With this new index, the Casablanca stock exchange is sending an unequivocal signal of progress to the investors "*.

The establishment of "Casablanca ESG 10" was completed in connection with the work of an index scientific committee set up by the Casablanca Stock Exchange to protect and ensure both the market and the investors' interest. This committee is made up of representatives of the Moroccan Capital Market Authority (AMMC), the Association of Moroccan Investment Management Companies and Funds (ASFIM), the Moroccan Federation of Insurance and Reinsurance Companies (FMSAR), the Moroccan Association of Actuaries and independent experts (financial market professionals, economists, and academic experts in statistics and finance).

"Casablanca ESG 10" launching event was the opportunity to celebrate the the 2018 top Corporate Social Responsibility performers, companies listed on the Casablanca Stock Exchange and / or issuers of bonds to which Vigeo Eiris awards the best ratings in terms of commitment and risk management of social responsibility.



### **About the Casablanca Stock Exchange**

The Casablanca Stock Exchange was established as long ago as 1929. It operates under the authority of the Ministry of Economy and Finance within the framework of specifications. Its mission is to continuously enrich the offer of products and services, to develop and deploy a global strategy common to the different components of the stock market, to develop the infrastructure, to contribute to its development and to manage consecutive entities of the infrastructure under the Holding.

For the Casablanca Stock Exchange quality of its services is an integral part of its way of its working method. The Casablanca Stock Exchange has been ISO 9001 certified for several years. Providing optimal security for its information systems is also a priority and is ISO 27001 certified.

The Casablanca Stock Exchange ranks among the leading markets in Africa. At the end of 2017, it was second, in terms of capitalization with 67 billion USD and 3<sup>rd</sup> in terms of volume with 4 billion USD.

The Casablanca Stock Exchange has integrated Corporate Social Responsibility among the strategic axes of its development plan. In this capacity, it conducts numerous financial education programs, sponsorship and educational support activities. Since 2013, the Casablanca Stock Exchange holds the Corporate Social Responsibility label awarded by the General Confederation of Moroccan Companies (CGEM).

### **About Virgo Eiris**

Vigeo Eiris is an independent international ESG research and services agency (Environment, Social and Governance) for investors and private and public organizations. The agency is also developing a global rating of the carbon footprint of investment portfolios and the contribution of emitters to energy transition and climate change adaptation. It conducts a risk review and assesses the level of integration of sustainability factors into the organization's strategy and operations.

Vigeo Eiris offers a wide range of services:

- Investors: decision support adapted to all ethical and responsible investment approaches (ratings, databases, sector analyzes, portfolio audits, structured products, indexes ...)
- Listed and non-listed private and public companies and organizations, support for the integration of ESG criteria in managerial functions and strategic operations (sustainable bonds, corporate rating, CSR audits and labels ...).

Vigeo Eiris' methodology and research services are in line with the most advanced quality standards.

Buoyed by a multidisciplinary team of over 240 experts from 28 nationalities, the agency has offices in Paris, London, Boston, Brussels, Casablanca, Hong Kong, Milan, Montreal, Rabat, Santiago and Stockholm.

For more information: [www.vigeo-eiris.com](http://www.vigeo-eiris.com)

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## FACT SHEET

### **SPECIFICATION AND COMPOSITION OF « CASABLANCA ESG 10 »**

"Casablanca ESG 10" is a thematic index that calculates the stock price performance of socially responsible companies, listed on the Casablanca Stock Exchange.

It is based on the scores obtained by these companies on the basis of environmental, social and good governance criteria developed by Vigeo Eiris.

Each criterion is the subject of a set of scores relating to the relevance of the company's commitments, their visibility, their comprehensiveness, their porting, the processes and means dedicated to them, the audit and control arrangements, reporting, quantitative aggregates results, dialogue with external stakeholders and the ability to update objectives and report to shareholders and external stakeholders.

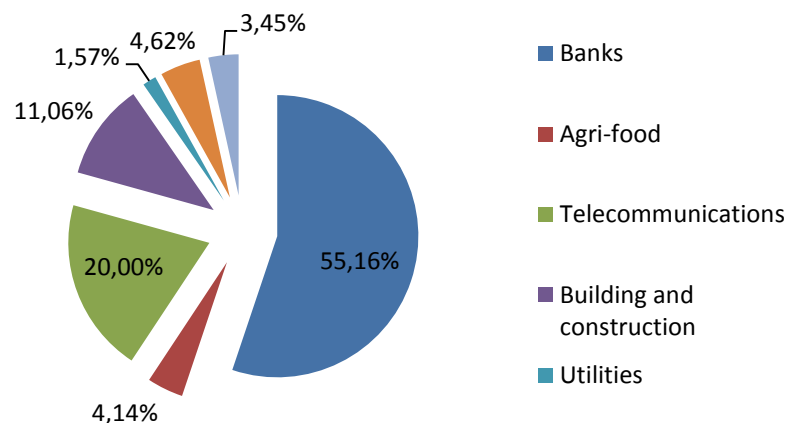
"Casablanca ESG 10" will be published in real time.

#### **Composition**

"Casablanca ESG 10" consists of 10 securities listed: Attijariwafa Bank, BCP, BMCE Bank, BMCI, Cosumar, Ittissalat Al-Maghrib, LafargeHolcim Morocco, Lydec, Managem and Wafa Assurance.

These values represent 68% of the total capitalization of the MASI.

#### **Sectoral Breakdown**





## **Technical Specifications**

Launch date	: 27/09/2018
Reference date	: 29/12/2017
Base value	: 1 000
Fréquency of calculation and dissemination	: every transaction
Currency	: MAD
Ticker	: ESGI
Revision date	: September