S&P Dow Jones Indices Launches ESG Dividend Aristocrats Index Series

LONDON, April 26, 2021 /PRNewswire/ -- S&P Dow Jones Indices ("S&P DJI"), the world's leading index provider, today announced the launch of sustainable versions of its popular and widely followed **Dividend Aristocrats** family of indices representing multiple geographies.

S&P DJI is introducing five new <u>Dividend Aristocrats Indices</u> that incorporate environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria. The indices included in the launch are:

- S&P Developed ESG Dividend Aristocrats Index
- S&P ESG High Yield Dividend Aristocrats Index
- S&P Global ESG Dividend Aristocrats Index
- S&P Global ESG Dividend Aristocrats Quality Income Index
- S&P Euro ESG High Yield Dividend Aristocrats Index

"Dividend payments are often viewed as an important barometer of companies' financial health and outlooks. Market participants closely monitor companies' long-term dividend payment track records as indicators of corporate maturity and balance sheet strength. Investors also often utilize dividend-based strategies to help manage risks and returns especially in bearish and volatile market conditions," said Aye Soe, Global Head of Product Management at S&P Dow Jones Indices.

Each S&P ESG Dividend Aristocrats Index measures the dividend yield-weighted performance of companies from its underlying parent index that meet specific ESG criteria and have followed a managed-dividends policy for a specified number of years.

"S&P Dow Jones Indices is proud to offer ESG versions of many of our most well-known and respected benchmarks such as our Dividend Aristocrats and flagship U.S. equities index family. The S&P ESG Dividend Aristocrats Indices include a layer of sustainability screens, reflecting the market's growing recognition of the financial materiality and impact of ESG issues on corporate balance sheets," **said Reid Steadman**, **Global Head of ESG Indices at S&P Dow Jones Indices**.

To determine constituent eligibility, the S&P ESG Dividend Aristocrats Indices utilize S&P Global's ESG scores. The indices apply additional screens and exclude companies that are involved in specific business activities, including those that are not aligned with the principles of United Nations' Global Compact, and those that are involved in ESG controversies.

The methodology on the S&P Developed ESG Dividend Aristocrats Index is available at www.spdji.com.

ABOUT S&P DOW JONES INDICES

S&P Dow Jones Indices is the largest global resource for essential index-based concepts, data and research, and home to iconic financial market indicators, such as the S&P 500® and the Dow Jones Industrial Average®. More assets are invested in products based on our indices than products based on indices from any other provider in the world. Since Charles Dow invented the first index in 1884, S&P DJI has been innovating and developing indices across the spectrum of asset classes helping to define the way investors measure and trade the markets.

S&P Dow Jones Indices is a division of S&P Global (NYSE: SPGI), which provides essential intelligence for individuals, companies, and governments to make decisions with confidence. For more information, visit: https://www.spglobal.com/spdji/en/.

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For further information: April Kabahar, Global Head of Communications, (+1) 917 796 3121, april.kabahar@spglobal.com, or Raymond McConville, Americas Communications, (+1) 212 438 1678, raymond.mcconville@spglobal.com, or Asti Michou, EMEA Communications, (+44) 7970 887 863,

asti.michou@spglobal.com, or Nadja Jiang, APAC Communications, (+852) 2841 1017, nadja.jiang@spglobal.com

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