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| 04 April 2017 |

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| Reply form for the Consultation Paper on  Update of the guidelines on the application of the endorsement regime under  Article 4(3) of the Credit Rating Agencies Regulation |
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| Date: 04 April 2017 |

Responding to this paper

The European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) invites responses to the specific questions listed in Consultation Paper on update of the guidelines on the application of the endorsement regime under Article 4(3) of the Credit Rating Agencies Regulation (CRA), published on the ESMA website.

*Instructions*

Please note that, in order to facilitate the analysis of the large number of responses expected, you are requested to use this file to send your response to ESMA so as to allow us to process it properly. Therefore, ESMA will only be able to consider responses which follow the instructions described below:

* use this form and send your responses in Word format (pdf documents will not be considered except for annexes);
* do not remove the tags of type <ESMA\_QUESTION\_CRA\_1> - i.e. the response to one question has to be framed by the 2 tags corresponding to the question; and
* if you do not have a response to a question, do not delete it and leave the text “TYPE YOUR TEXT HERE” between the tags.

Responses are most helpful:

* if they respond to the question stated;
* contain a clear rationale, including on any related costs and benefits; and
* describe any alternatives that ESMA should consider

**Naming protocol**

In order to facilitate the handling of stakeholders responses please save your document using the following format:

ESMA\_CRA\_NAMEOFCOMPANY\_NAMEOFDOCUMENT.

E.g. if the respondent were XXXX, the name of the reply form would be:

ESMA\_ CRA \_XXXX\_REPLYFORM or

ESMA\_ CRA \_XXXX\_ANNEX1

***Deadline***

Responses must reach us by **03 July 2017.**

All contributions should be submitted online at [www.esma.europa.eu](http://www.esma.europa.eu) under the heading ‘Your input/Consultations’.

***Publication of responses***

All contributions received will be published following the end of the consultation period, unless otherwise requested. **Please clearly indicate by ticking the appropriate checkbox in the website submission form if you do not wish your contribution to be publicly disclosed. A standard confidentiality statement in an email message will not be treated as a request for non-disclosure.** Note also that a confidential response may be requested from us in accordance with ESMA’s rules on access to documents. We may consult you if we receive such a request. Any decision we make is reviewable by ESMA’s Board of Appeal and the European Ombudsman.

***Data protection***

Information on data protection can be found at [www.esma.europa.eu](http://www.esma.europa.eu) under the headings ‘Legal notice’ and ‘Data protection’.

# General information about respondent

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| Name of the company / organisation | Click here to enter text. |
| Activity | Choose an item. |
| Are you representing an association? |  |
| Country/Region | Choose an item. |

# Introduction

Please make your introductory comments below, if any:

<ESMA\_COMMENT\_CRA\_1>

TYPE YOUR TEXT HERE

<ESMA\_COMMENT\_CRA\_1>

1. Please indicate what you believe will be the impact of ESMA’s change in approach, if any, on the groups of CRAs currently benefiting from the endorsement regime? Please explain your reasoning.

<ESMA\_QUESTION\_CRA\_1>

TYPE YOUR TEXT HERE

<ESMA\_QUESTION\_CRA\_1>

1. Please indicate whether you consider the measures which the endorsing CRA should have in place to monitor the conduct of the third-country CRA will adequately ensure the quality and independence of endorsed credit ratings?

<ESMA\_QUESTION\_CRA\_2>

TYPE YOUR TEXT HERE

<ESMA\_QUESTION\_CRA\_2>

1. Do you agree with ESMA’s understanding of points (c) and (d) of Article 4(3) of the CRA Regulation?

<ESMA\_QUESTION\_CRA\_3>

TYPE YOUR TEXT HERE

<ESMA\_QUESTION\_CRA\_3>

1. In your view, are there other reasons which could be considered “objective” within the meaning of Article 4(3)(e)? If so please indicate which providing reasons.

<ESMA\_QUESTION\_CRA\_4>

TYPE YOUR TEXT HERE

<ESMA\_QUESTION\_CRA\_4>

1. Do you agree that the endorsing CRA should comply with the general requirements as listed in this section?

<ESMA\_QUESTION\_CRA\_5>

TYPE YOUR TEXT HERE

<ESMA\_QUESTION\_CRA\_5>