EMTA-ISDA Notice on Enactment of New Brazilian Holiday

On December 21, 2023, the President of Brazil signed into law a new holiday in Brazil (National Day of Zumbi and Black Awareness) and this law was published in the Official Gazette of the Union. The new holiday will be recognized on **November 20 of each year, commencing in 2024**.

Consequently, this day is not expected to be a good **Brazil Business Day** as defined in the 2021 **ISDA Interest Rate Derivatives Definitions** or in the **Recommended EMTA-ISDA Market Practice for BRL CDI Non-Deliverable Interest Rate Swap Transactions amended March 13, 2009**.

Anticipating the enactment of this law, on December 7, 2023, B3, the Brazilian Exchange, published a set of procedures for the implementation of the law. Based on the date of enactment of the new law, B3’s procedures indicate that, as of December 26, 2023¹, and going forward, the new holiday will be recognized and incorporated into the B3 calendars used for its various financial products.

For purposes of market coordination on the inclusion of the new holiday into financial calendars for various BRL-linked swaps and currency derivatives, EMTA and ISDA have been in touch with representatives of their respective members as well as MarkitWire and clearing houses CME and SwapClear/LCH.

Based on conversations with these market infrastructure providers, we understand that it is the intent of these providers to align, as much as possible, their inclusion of the new holiday with the B3 procedures. Each of these providers is actively working to adjust their systems effective December 26, 2023, and is available to address with its users and members any questions regarding the steps it is taking to this end. Please contact MarkitServ Client Services at MarkitWire (support@markitserv.com), Jim Roper at CME (jim.roper@cmegroup.com) and Milton Brown (milton.brown@lseg.com) at SwapClear for questions.

EMTA and ISDA Members are encouraged to consider aligning their internal calendars with the B3 procedures effective December 26, 2023, to minimize holiday mismatch issues for new transactions among industry participants. In addition, EMTA and ISDA strongly encourage market participants to review the confirmations of their affected BRL derivatives transactions and discuss with their counterparties any relevant consequences of the calendar change. For cleared transactions and transactions executed on electronic confirmation platforms, market participants should refer to the contractual terms of the applicable clearing house or confirmation platform.

This note will be updated from time to time as more information becomes available. For more information please contact EMTA (lpjacobs@emta.org) and ISDA (jmartin@isda.org).