

## Information Circular: Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. 100% Principal Protected Global Currency Basket Notes

To: Head Traders, Technical Contacts, Compliance Officers, Heads of ETF Trading, Structured Products Traders

From: BX Listing Qualifications Department

DATE: January 15, 2009

## Index-Linked Notes

Symbol CUSIP Number

Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. 100% Principal Protected GBO 59022W562 Global Currency Basket Notes.

## Information on the Notes

Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. (the "Issuer") has issued 100% Principal Protected Global Currency Basket Notes (the "Notes"). The Notes are designed for investors who anticipate that the value of the Global Currency Basket (the "Basket") will increase from the pricing date to a date shortly before the maturity date. The Notes were priced at \$10 each and mature on February 9, 2009. The Notes are 100% principal protected.

As more fully set forth in the Prospectus Supplement, each \$10 principal amount of the Notes will be deemed a "Unit" for purposes of trading and transfer. There will be no payments or redemptions prior to the maturity date.

At maturity, investors will receive:

(1) If the Ending Value is less than or equal to the Starting Value:

\$10; or

(2) If the Ending Basket Value is greater than the Starting Basket Value:

\$10 + Supplemental Redemption Amount

The Supplemental Redemption Amount equals:

\$10 x [Participation Rate x ((Ending Value – Starting Value)/Starting Value))]

The Participation Rate is 163.1%

The Starting Value is 100. The "Ending Value" will equal the value of the Basket as determined by the Calculation Agent on the Valuation Date, using the Exchange Rates on that date. The "Valuation Date" will be the seventh scheduled Business Day before the maturity date of the Notes. Investors should refer to the prospectus for the Notes for more information on the calculation.

Merrill Lynch Capital Services, Inc. will serve as the Calculation Agent.

The Basket is designed to allow investors to participate in exchange rate movements of the currencies included in the Basket, as reflected by changes in the United States dollar value of the Basket, over the term of the Notes. The currencies that compose the Basket are the Korean won, the Russian ruble, the Singapore dollar, the Chinese renminbi (yuan) and the United States dollar. Each Basket Component is weighted as set forth in the table below. Those currencies with positive weightings in the Basket can be viewed as long positions in the Korean won, Russian ruble, Singapore dollar and Chinese renminbi (yuan) (collectively the "Long Basket Components"). The Long Basket Components were initially weighted equally. The currency with a negative weighting in the Basket can be viewed as a short position in the United States dollar (the "Short Basket Components"), which would require the future purchase of the Short Basket Component to repay the short position.

It is expected that the market value of the Notes will depend substantially on the value of the Global Currency Basket and can be affected by a number of other interrelated factors including, among other things; the general level of interest rates, the volatility of the Basket, the time remaining to maturity, and the credit ratings of the Issuer.

The value of any currency, including the Basket Components, may be affected by complex political and economic factors. The exchange rate of each Basket Component is at any moment a result of the supply and demand for that currency relative to other currencies, and changes in the exchange rate result over time from the interaction of many factors directly or indirectly affecting economic and political conditions in the originating country of each Basket Component, including economic and political developments in other countries. Of particular importance are the relative rates of inflation, interest rate levels, balance of payments and extent of governmental surpluses or deficits in those countries, all of which are in turn sensitive to the monetary, fiscal and trade policies pursued by the governments of those countries, and other countries important to international trade and finance.

The Trustee for the securities is The Bank of New York.

Trading in the Notes on BX is on a UTP basis and is subject to BX equity trading rules. The Notes will trade from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Additional risks may exist with respect to trading the Notes during BX's Pre-Market and Post-Market sessions, when the Index value may not be disseminated.

Trading of the Notes on BX is subject to the provisions of BX Rule 2310. Members recommending transactions in the Notes to customers should make a determination that the recommendation is suitable for the customer. In addition, members must possess sufficient information to satisfy the "know your customer" obligation that is embedded in the BX Conduct Rules.

Members also should review <u>NASD Notice to Members 03-71</u> for guidance on trading these products. The Notice reminds members of their obligations to: (1) conduct adequate due diligence to understand the features of the product; (2) perform a reasonable-basis suitability analysis; (3) perform customer-specific suitability analysis in connection with any recommended transactions; (4) provide a balanced disclosure of both the risks and rewards associated with the particular product, especially when selling to retail investors; (5) implement appropriate internal controls; and (6) train registered persons regarding the features, risk and suitability of these products.

## This Information Circular is not a statutory prospectus. BX members should consult the registration statement or prospectus for the Notes for additional information.

Inquiries regarding this Information Circular should be directed to:

- Will Slattery, BX Listing Qualifications, at 301.978.8088BX Market Sales at 800.846.0477