

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BEFORE THE
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940
Release No. 28694 / April 14, 2009

In the Matter of :
:
Massachusetts Financial Services Company :
MFS Series Trust I :
MFS Series Trust III :
MFS Series Trust IV :
MFS Series Trust V :
MFS Series Trust IX :
MFS Series Trust X :
MFS Series Trust XI :
MFS Series Trust XII :
MFS Series Trust XIII :
MFS Fund Distributors, Inc. :
500 Boylston Street :
Boston, MA 02116 :
:
(812-13519) :
:

ORDER UNDER SECTION 12(d)(1)(J) OF THE INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940 GRANTING AN EXEMPTION FROM SECTIONS 12(d)(1)(A) AND (B) OF THE ACT, UNDER SECTIONS 6(c) AND 17(b) OF THE ACT GRANTING AN EXEMPTION FROM SECTION 17(a) OF THE ACT, AND UNDER SECTION 6(c) OF THE ACT FOR AN EXEMPTION FROM RULE 12d1-2(a) UNDER THE ACT

Massachusetts Financial Services Company, MFS Series Trust I, MFS Series Trust III, MFS Series Trust IV, MFS Series Trust V, MFS Series Trust IX, MFS Series Trust X, MFS Series Trust XI, MFS Series Trust XII, MFS Series Trust XIII, and MFS Fund Distributors, Inc. filed an application on April 17, 2008, and amendments to the application on November 26, 2008, and March 19, 2009, requesting an order under section 12(d)(1)(J) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “Act”) granting an exemption from sections 12(d)(1)(A) and (B) of the Act, under sections 6(c) and 17(b) of the Act granting an exemption from sections 17(a)(1) and (2) of the Act, and under section 6(c) of the Act for an exemption from rule 12d1-2(a) under the Act. The order would (a) permit certain management investment companies registered under the Act to acquire shares of certain open end management investment companies registered under the Act that are outside of the same group of investment companies as the acquiring investment companies, and (b) permit funds of funds relying on rule 12d1-2 under the Act to invest in certain financial instruments.

On March 17, 2009, a notice of the filing of the application was issued (Investment Company Act Release No. 28649). The notice gave interested persons an opportunity to request a hearing and stated that an order granting the application would be issued unless a hearing was ordered. No request for a hearing has been filed, and the Commission has not ordered a hearing.

The matter has been considered and it is found, on the basis of the information set forth in the application, as amended, that granting the requested exemption is appropriate in and consistent with the public interest and consistent with the protection of investors and the purposes fairly intended by the policy and provisions of the Act.

It is also found that the terms of the proposed transactions are reasonable and fair and do not involve overreaching, and the proposed transactions are consistent with the policies of each registered investment company concerned and with the general purposes of the Act.

Accordingly,

IT IS ORDERED, that the relief requested under section 12(d)(1)(J) of the Act from sections 12(d)(1)(A) and (B) of the Act, under sections 6(c) and 17(b) of the Act from sections 17(a)(1) and (2) of the Act, and under section 6(c) of the Act for an exemption from rule 12d1-2(a) under the Act by Massachusetts Financial Services Company, MFS Series Trust I, MFS Series Trust III, MFS Series Trust IV, MFS Series Trust V, MFS Series Trust IX, MFS Series Trust X, MFS Series Trust XI, MFS Series Trust XII, MFS Series Trust XIII, and MFS Fund Distributors, Inc. (File No. 812-13519) is granted, effective immediately, subject to the conditions contained in the application, as amended.

For the Commission, by the Division of Investment Management, under delegated authority.

Florence E. Harmon
Deputy Secretary