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Asia Market Structure and Policy Monitor

February 20, 2026

Contents

Regional Index Performance

Index	Price	WTD	1-Month Return	1-Year Return
Hang Seng Index	26,706	**0.52%**	**-0.52%**	**16.23%**
HSCEI	9,070	**0.42%**	**-1.63%**	**7.02%**
CSI 300	4,660	0.00%	**-1.51%**	**19.11%**
Nikkei 225	57,468	**0.92%**	**6.55%**	**46.34%**
KOSPI	5,677	**3.09%**	**17.28%**	**116.13%**
TAIEX	33,606	0.00%	**6.99%**	**42.00%**
SENSEX	82,498	**-0.16%**	**-1.28%**	**8.60%**
NIFTY 50	25,454	**-0.07%**	**-0.93%**	**10.93%**
IDX Composite	8,274	**0.75%**	**-8.83%**	**20.38%**
S&P/ASX 200	9,086	**1.89%**	**2.05%**	**7.14%**

Market Data retrieved at February 20, 2026 at 7:19 AM HKT.

Executive Summary

Taiwan's overtaking of China as the top weight in MSCI EM for the first time since 2007 — driven by AI-related flows into semiconductor names — was the headline index development of recent weeks, with direct passive rebalancing consequences for allocation managers benchmarked to the index. At the exchange-level, Korea saw extended trading hours confirmed for June 29, accelerated KOSDAQ delisting enforcement, STO platform licensing awarded to the KRX and Nextrade consortia, and a first-ever exchange AI acquisition — while FSC approval in principle for single-stock leveraged ETFs adds a new retail product dimension. Singapore's Budget 2026 deployed a S$6.5 billion EQDP expansion alongside a board lot reduction consultation, the most substantive simultaneous intervention in SGX liquidity and microstructure in recent years.

Index pressure drove the most consequential regulatory response of the period: Indonesia's JCI suffered an $80+ billion drawdown in late January after MSCI and FTSE Russell simultaneously froze rebalancing activity over investability failures, forcing a sweeping reform package spanning free float enforcement, UBO disclosure, anti-manipulation enforcement at record scale, and IDX demutualization now at draft regulation stage. Vietnam's broker routing circular of February 3 addresses a different dimension of the same index access dynamic — removing the single most persistent structural barrier to institutional foreign ownership and materially advancing its FTSE Russell Emerging Market reclassification case. In the digital assets space, a sharp regulatory contrast was seen in China's eight-agency prohibition on stablecoins and RWA tokenisation set against concurrent framework expansions for crypto products across Hong Kong, Malaysia, Korea, and Southeast Asia.

Equity Market Structure

- **MSCI Index Rebalancing: Taiwan Overtakes China in EM Weight; China Tech Gains Targeted** — Taiwan's weighting in the MSCI EM Index reached 21.06% at end-January, surpassing China (20.93%) for the first time since July 2007, driven by AI-related flows into TSMC, Foxconn, and MediaTek. In a separate February rebalancing effective February 26, MSCI increased Taiwan's weight in the MSCI ACWI by 0.01 percentage point while simultaneously tilting the China country portfolio toward technology names, reflecting a sectoral composition shift rather than an overall China weight increase. For passive funds tracking MSCI EM, Taiwan's ascent to top weight triggers automatic inflow adjustments into Taiwanese equities, with direct implications for allocation managers benchmarked to the index.

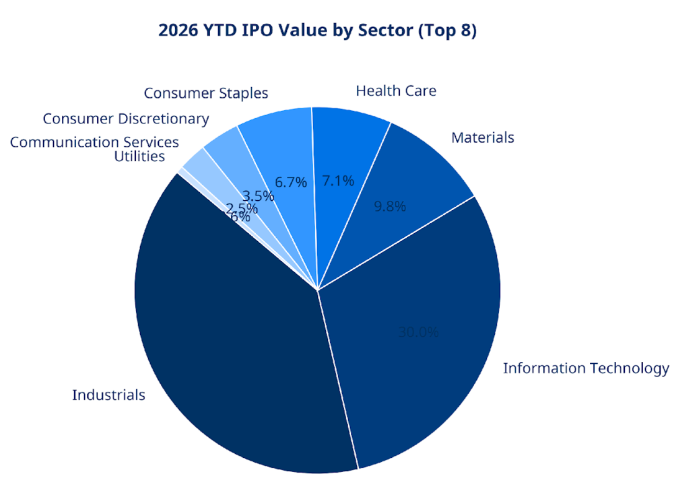
- **Indonesia: Index Pressure Triggers Structural Reform Commitments —** Indonesia's market integrity crisis deepened materially over the past month as both MSCI and FTSE Russell paused index rebalancing activity, citing fundamental investability concerns stemming from tightly-held free floats and suspected price coordination — a freeze that contributed to an $80+ billion drawdown on the JCI in late January. IDX subsequently committed, after a "constructive" MSCI engagement on February 11, to publish a shareholder ownership list identifying stakes above 1% (down from the current 5% disclosure threshold). OJK, IDX, and KSEI followed with additional reform measures including enforcement of the phased 15% minimum free float requirement under Listing Rule 1-A — where the greatest compliance risk is concentrated in a small number of large-cap names — alongside broader data transparency mandates. S&P's decision to proceed with its March 2026 rebalancing review despite the MSCI/FTSE pause adds a further dimension of index divergence that market participants will need to track closely.

- **Singapore: Coordinated Liquidity Measures Move from Consultation to Implementation —** The Singapore government's Budget 2026 expanded the EQDP by S$1.5 billion to a total of S$6.5 billion, a 30% top-up deployed via MAS with a mandate explicitly extended to deepen coverage of mid-cap and smaller-cap names beyond the STI core — the next tranche of manager appointments is expected around mid-2026. Concurrently, SGX RegCo closed its public consultation (February 13) on a proposal to reduce standard board lot sizes from 100 units to 10 units for stocks priced above S$10, and to 1 unit for stocks above S$100, a structural change designed to lower the minimum investment threshold for higher-priced names and broaden retail participation. Together, these measures represent the most substantive simultaneous intervention in SGX market microstructure and institutional liquidity provision in recent years.

- **Korea: Market Infrastructure Modernisation Advances on Two Fronts —** KRX confirmed June 29 as the launch date for pre-market (07:00–08:00) and after-hours (16:00–20:00) trading sessions, extending total daily trading to 11.5 hours from the current 6.5 hours and directly competing with ATS Nextrade's pre-market window, which opens one hour later. The timing is explicitly positioned to pre-empt Nextrade's session and capture commuting-hour order flow, with block and basket trading hours adjusted accordingly. Separately, a buy-side sidecar was triggered on Kosdaq on February 19 — the first buy-side activation in recent memory — after the Kosdaq 150 futures surged 6.31% and the spot index rose 6.27% simultaneously, briefly suspending program buy orders for five minutes and illustrating the continued sensitivity of Korean small-cap markets to rapid institutional accumulation.

Equity Primary Markets

While 2025 was a year of cautious recovery, the first seven weeks of 2026 suggest a significant shift in momentum. As of mid-February, we have already seen 70 IPOs across the region, raising a total of $8.33 billion. To put this in perspective, during the same period in 2025, the region saw only 7 deals totaling $1.19 billion. The average deal size has also seen a healthy bump compared to the 2025 full-year average, rising from ~$90M to nearly $119M, indicating that larger, more established players are finally testing the waters.



- **Korea: KOSDAQ Listing Quality Reforms Target Both Entry and Exit —** KRX announced its 2026 plan to accelerate the removal of insolvent KOSDAQ-listed firms on February 19, establishing a dedicated Delisting Intensive Management Task Force through June 2027 and shortening the maximum improvement period from 18 months to 12 months. KRX is also tightening the triggers for substantive review: the capital impairment threshold shifts to a semiannual basis (from annual), and cumulative penalty points for disclosure inaccuracies are reduced from 15 to 10, allowing earlier intervention. On the new issuance side, more than 10 companies are in subscription or pre-listing stages for KOSDAQ and KOSPI this month, with the FSC framing the parallel tightening of exit standards as integral to restoring investor confidence in the new issue market.

- **SGX: Dual-Track Pipeline Strategy Targets China Tech and ASEAN Issuers —** SGX's head of global sales and origination confirmed this month that the bourse is actively courting China and ASEAN companies to list, with the mid-year launch of the SGX-Nasdaq dual-listing framework positioned as the primary demand catalyst for higher-growth technology names that would not otherwise consider Singapore as a standalone venue. SGX reported record first-half profits in February, but first-half revenue missed analyst estimates, sustaining pressure on the exchange to convert pipeline momentum into completed transactions. The dual-listing mechanism is structural in nature — Singapore has consistently seen delistings outpace listings for over a decade, and the Nasdaq linkage represents the most concrete product response to that trend to date.

- **Indonesia: IPO Listing Standards Overhauled Under Market Credibility Pressure —** IDX revised its Regulation I-A this month, imposing a tiered minimum free-float structure for new listings: 25% for companies below Rp5 trillion in market cap, 20% for the Rp5–50 trillion band, and 15% for companies above Rp50 trillion — a direct response to the investability concerns flagged by MSCI in late January. The rule also sets new absolute distribution floors: 300 million shares in free float and a minimum of 10,000 SID holders for Main Board eligibility, and 150 million shares with 5,000 holders for the Development Board. The IDX's acting chief simultaneously signalled ambitions to expand the sovereign issuer base, calling on more state-owned enterprises to seek public listings as part of broader market deepening.

Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs)

The Asian ETF market has seen an explosive start to 2026, with issuance levels far outstripping the early-year activity of 2025. As of mid-February, we have already witnessed 93 new ETF launches across the region. The launch activity is heavily concentrated in Mainland China, with the Shanghai Stock Exchange (SSE, 28 launches) and Shenzhen Stock Exchange (SZSE, 21 launches) leading the region.

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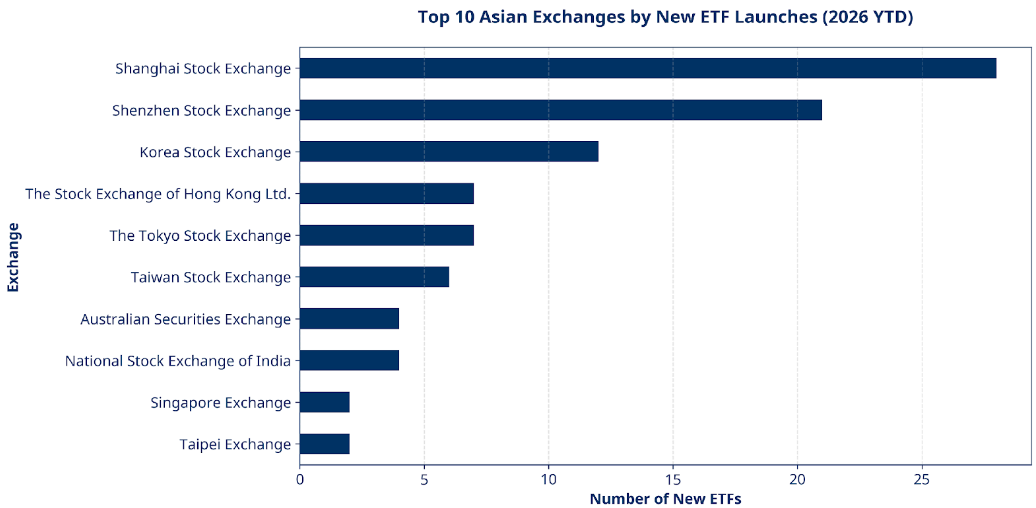

- **China: ETF Connect Adds 98 Funds in Largest Single Expansion; Stock Connect March Rebalancing Targets 40+ Additions —** The ETF Connect northbound universe expanded to 364 eligible products on January 19, adding 98 net new funds across 29 managers — the largest single expansion since the program launched in 2022 — with new inclusions concentrated in technology themes (CSI semiconductor, cloud/big data), gold industry, and non-ferrous metals, extending offshore access to sectors previously underrepresented in the tradeable universe. Separately, institutions expect the March 2026 Stock Connect regular rebalancing to add over 40 individual A-shares based on market cap and liquidity screens, with onshore-listed AI model company XunCe among names flagged for inclusion based on post-IPO eligibility criteria. Together, the two expansions extend the investable universe available to offshore investors without requiring any change to onshore trading infrastructure or quota allocations.

- **SGX: Record ETF AUM and Turnover in January; SZSE Link Delivers First China A500 Listing —** SGX reported record ETF AUM of S$19.1 billion (+43% year-on-year) and record ETF SDAV of S$65 million in January, driven by sustained inflows into gold, STI, and REIT products. The CSOP CSAM CSI A500 Index ETF listed under the SZSE-SGX ETF link in January, the first product to use the Shenzhen-Singapore cross-listing corridor for a broad-market A-share benchmark — extending retail and institutional access to the A500 universe without requiring a direct China brokerage account. Lion Global Investors separately listed Singapore's first active bond ETF on SGX in early February, a structure previously unavailable on the exchange.

- **Hong Kong: Gold ETF Launches with First Physical Redemption and Tokenized Share Class —** The Hang Seng Gold ETF (3170.HK) listed on HKEX on January 29, marking two firsts for the Hong Kong market: physical gold redemption (all bullion held in local vaults via HSBC/Brink's custody) and a parallel tokenized share class issued on Ethereum, with HSBC acting as tokenization agent. The tokenized units are non-listed and available only through eligible distributors with no secondary market — a regulated custody-on-chain structure rather than a fully tradeable digital security. E Fund

HK separately listed a global gold miners ETF on HKEX in February, adding a second gold-related product to the exchange within two weeks, with both launches coinciding with gold's sustained run above $5,000/oz.

- **Japan: BOJ ETF Divestiture Draws Parliamentary Scrutiny as Portfolio Reaches ¥95 Trillion —** The BOJ's gradual ETF sell-down, which began in early 2026 following the September 2025 policy board decision, has drawn active political attention: the ¥95 trillion ($615 billion) market-value portfolio has been proposed by at least one parliamentary faction as a potential fiscal funding source — a framing the BOJ has not endorsed. The divestiture is structured to avoid market disruption, with sales spread across decades and volume limits calibrated to daily liquidity; however, the parliamentary debate introduces a non-trivial tail risk of politically accelerated disposal timelines that would materially alter ETF supply dynamics in Japan-listed equities.

- **India: SEBI Proposes Structural Overhaul of ETF Price Band Mechanics —** SEBI published a consultation paper on February 13 proposing to replace the existing uniform ±20% price band (based on T-2 NAV) with an asset-class-differentiated dynamic framework: equity and debt index ETFs would receive an initial ±10% band, flexed to ±20% under defined conditions, while gold and silver ETFs would start at ±6%, expandable to ±20%. The structural anchor of the proposal is a shift in the base price reference from T-2 closing NAV to T-1 day data — specifically, the T-1 closing price, the average iNAV of the last 30 minutes on T-1, or the T-1 closing NAV — directly addressing the one-day lag that caused band misalignment during the February 1 bullion ETF spike. NSE pre-empted the consultation by unilaterally switching to T-1 NAV for bullion ETF price band calculation on February 1; SEBI's paper now formalises this as a market-wide standard subject to public comment through mid-March, meaning no operational change for APs until a final circular is issued.

- **Korea: Single-Stock 2x Leveraged ETFs Approved in Principle; Pipeline Targets H1 Launch —** The FSC announced approval in principle for single-stock leveraged ETFs in late January, with public comment on Capital Markets Act enforcement decree amendments closing February 11 and exchange-level rule revisions to follow. The leverage cap is fixed at 2x — stopping short of the 3x products that have drawn Korean retail flows into U.S.-listed overseas ETFs — and the first eligible candidates are expected to be Samsung Electronics and SK Hynix, given existing single-stock liquidity depth. The FSC simultaneously announced plans to enable active ETFs without mandatory index-tracking requirements and dividend-focused product structures, broadening the product reform agenda beyond the single-stock approval. Korea's total ETF AUM reached a record KRW 210 trillion (approximately $148 billion) in February, with retail inflows into triple-leveraged U.S. index ETFs constituting the fastest-growing segment.

Derivatives

- **India: BSE Receives SEBI Approval for Focused Midcap Index Derivatives —** BSE received SEBI approval to launch cash-settled monthly futures and options on the BSE Focused Midcap Index, a concentrated 20-stock benchmark weighted by free-float market cap within the midcap segment. The approval expands BSE's index derivatives suite from two contracts (Sensex, Bankex) to three — still considerably narrower than NSE's five-index offering — and the launch is explicitly conditional on operational readiness and the issuance of exchange circulars, with no launch date confirmed. The contract structure — monthly expiry on the last Thursday — aligns with SEBI's recent consolidation of derivatives expiry cycles away from weekly structures.

- **Thailand: Cabinet Approval Clears Path for Digital Asset and Carbon Credit Derivatives —** Thailand's Cabinet accepted the Ministry of Finance's proposal on February 10 to amend the Derivatives Act B.E. 2546, formally expanding the permissible range of underlying assets to include digital assets and carbon credits — neither of which was previously eligible under the existing statutory framework. For digital assets, the amendment enables cryptocurrencies to serve as reference instruments for cash-settled derivatives; contract specifications will be determined in coordination between the SEC and TFEX, with licensing and supervisory standards for the exchange and clearing house also under review to ensure adequacy for these underlying types. The carbon credit treatment is structurally distinct: credits are reclassified from "reference variable" to "reference commodity," enabling physically delivered futures contracts — not just cash settlement — through the derivatives exchange, aligned with the draft Climate Change Act. Actual product launch at TFEX remains subject to further rulemaking and contract specification work; the Cabinet action is a framework-level approval, not a green light for immediate listing.

- **China: SHFE Tightens Metal Futures Controls Amid Silver and Tin Surge —** The Shanghai Futures Exchange imposed two rounds of parameter tightening in late January: expanding daily price limits for copper and aluminum to 9%, raising speculative margin requirements to 11%, and reducing intraday opening position limits for silver futures to 800 lots and tin to 200 lots — with 16 clients barred for one month for disclosure violations during the silver spike. The tightening followed silver's breach of $100/oz on Comex and an associated runup in SHFE-listed silver, with the exchange acting within days to restrain speculative accumulation that regulators attributed to onshore momentum trading rather than supply fundamentals.

FICC (Fixed Income, Currencies & Commodities)

- **India: RBI Proposes Comprehensive Overhaul of Forex Market Access and Hedging Scope —** The RBI published draft directions on February 16 that would, if finalised, allow authorised dealer banks to transact with clients and counterparties beyond domestic market hours — effectively enabling 24-hour rupee FX activity across OTC, domestic exchange, IFSC platforms, and approved offshore electronic venues. The draft also materially expands hedging scope: banks may offer a broader suite of currency and interest rate derivatives to corporate clients, enter NDDCs with other authorised dealers onshore, and hedge rupee exposure through offshore counterparties subject to defined safeguards. A parallel reporting obligation requires disclosure of notional value, counterparty name, maturity, and currency for offshore transactions — adding surveillance coverage as a condition of the liberalisation. The framework is at public consultation stage; no operational changes apply until final directions are issued.

- **China: Regulatory Guidance Directs Commercial Banks to Reduce UST Holdings —** Chinese financial regulators advised commercial banks on February 9 to limit new purchases of U.S. Treasuries and instructed institutions with high existing exposure to pare down positions, citing concentration risk and market volatility. The directive is advisory and does not apply to China's sovereign UST reserves, which remain unaffected. The guidance was issued before the Xi-Trump call and was framed explicitly as a risk management measure rather than a geopolitical signal.

- **Hong Kong: Gold Clearing Infrastructure Formalised with Shanghai Gold Exchange —** HKEX and the Financial Services and Treasury Bureau signed an agreement with the Shanghai Gold Exchange at the Asian Financial Forum on January 26–27 to establish the Hong Kong Precious Metals Central Clearing System — a new state-owned clearing entity in which the Shanghai Gold Exchange holds a vice-chairman governance role. Trial operations for the clearing platform are targeted for 2026, with the airport precious metals depository committed to expanding storage capacity to over 2,000 metric tons within three years.

- **Carbon Markets: Vietnam Decree Establishes Domestic Exchange Framework; HKEX Signs Cross-Border MOU with Brazil's B3 —** Vietnam's government issued Decree 29/2026/NĐ-CP on January 19, creating the first comprehensive legal and operational framework for a domestic carbon exchange — covering registration, custody, trading, and settlement of GHG emission quotas and carbon credits, with a pilot phase scheduled from late 2026 through 2028 and full implementation in 2029. HKEX separately signed an MOU with Brazil's B3 on January 27, covering carbon market development, ESG product identification, and commodity cooperation across Asia and South America, with equity cross-listing exploration also within scope — extending HKEX's Core Climate platform into a second cross-continental partnership. NSE received SEBI approval on February 16 to develop Indian Natural Gas monthly futures, structured with 12 rolling monthly contracts at any time and developed in collaboration with the Indian Gas Exchange; contract specifications and launch date remain pending.

Digital Assets

- **China: Eight Agencies Issue Joint Notice Prohibiting RMB Stablecoins and RWA Tokenization —** Notice Yinfa No. 42, issued jointly by the PBOC, CSRC, Ministry of Public Security, SAFE, and four other agencies on February 6, explicitly and for the first time bans the issuance of yuan-pegged stablecoins by domestic or foreign entities under Chinese jurisdiction without prior regulatory approval, and prohibits the tokenization of stocks, bonds, or real estate without authorisation — closing a gap that had previously allowed RWA tokenization to operate in a grey zone. The notice takes effect immediately and replaces the 2021 predecessor regulation. The Mainland prohibition creates a direct regulatory divergence with Hong Kong, where the SFC is proceeding with stablecoin issuer licensing and the RWA tokenization market remains explicitly encouraged under the Financial Secretary's 2025 policy address.

- **Hong Kong: SFC Approves Crypto Margin Financing and Perpetual Contract Framework —** The SFC published two frameworks on February 11 expanding the product scope of licensed virtual asset intermediaries: licensed brokers may now extend margin financing to securities clients using BTC and ETH as approved collateral (subject to concentration limits, haircuts, and governance requirements aligned with the existing securities margin framework), and licensed trading platforms may offer perpetual contracts to professional investors under a principles-based model requiring transparent disclosures and internal risk controls. Affiliated entities of licensed platforms are simultaneously permitted to provide market-making services, subject to conflict-of-interest governance and surveillance systems — a structural change that directly addresses the liquidity depth constraint that has limited institutional engagement on local platforms. All three measures are approved frameworks effective upon circular issuance, not subject to further public consultation.

- **Korea: FSC Grants Preliminary STO Platform Approval to KRX and Nextrade Consortia —** The FSC issued preliminary approval on February 13 for two OTC fractional investment trading platforms: the KDX consortium (led by KRX, score 725) and the NXT consortium (led by Nextrade, score 750), both authorised initially for trust beneficiary securities — not the full token securities format, which awaits finalisation of the separate Token Securities Act framework. Lucentblock, the startup that pioneered sandbox-stage fractional investment and attracted 500,000 customers, was eliminated on capital adequacy and governance grounds. NXT's approval is conditional: if the Korea Fair Trade Commission opens a formal investigation into the technology misappropriation allegation, NXT's final licence review can be paused. Separately, Nextrade announced plans to extend its platform to fractional investment products by Q4 2026.

- **Malaysia: BNM Launches Three Supervised Pilots for Ringgit Stablecoin and Tokenised Deposits —** Under BNM's Digital Asset Innovation Hub, three parallel pilots commenced in February: Standard Chartered Malaysia and Capital A will trial a ringgit stablecoin for B2B settlement (focused on aviation and trade); Maybank will test tokenised deposits for domestic payments; and CIMB will pilot tokenised deposits for cross-border payments with explicit Shariah-compatibility requirements. CIMB separately received BNM approval to test tokenisation of its own sukuk issuances within the same supervised framework — a use case that could reduce settlement friction in Malaysia's deep Islamic capital markets.

- **Southeast Asia: Vietnam and Thailand Advance Regulatory Frameworks for Crypto Exchanges and Tokenised Funds —** Vietnam's Ministry of Finance issued Decision No. 96/QĐ-BTC on January 20, launching the country's first licensing pilot for crypto exchanges under the State Securities Commission; applicants must be local entities with minimum paid-up capital of VND 10 trillion and achieve Level 4 national cybersecurity certification, with several brokers and banks already in the application queue. Thailand's SEC closed public consultation on February 11 on proposed amendments that would formally define tokenised mutual funds as a distinct regulated product class and exempt them from the legacy T+1 batch processing requirement — enabling instantaneous issuance and redemption via blockchain; final rules are targeted for late Q2 2026. Japan's FSA published a draft cybersecurity self-assessment framework for crypto exchanges on February 10, with public comment open until March 11 and mandatory implementation expected from April 1, 2026.

Policy and Regulation

- **China: CSRC Restores 100% Margin Financing Ratio Across All Three Exchanges —** SSE, SZSE, and BSE simultaneously raised the minimum margin ratio for new securities financing contracts from 80% to 100% on January 14, with CSRC approval, directly reversing the August 2023 stimulus-era reduction that had fuelled a sustained increase in financing balances and trading turnover. The adjustment applies exclusively to newly opened margin contracts; existing positions and their rollovers are grandfathered, limiting forced deleveraging risk. The exchanges characterised the measure as a counter-cyclical adjustment triggered by "notably more active" margin trading and ample market liquidity — consistent with the CSRC's stated framework for pre-emptive leverage moderation ahead of potential dislocations rather than as a response to one.

- **India: RBI and SEBI Issue Parallel Operational Directives Affecting Algorithmic and Broker Activity —** SEBI's February 4 circular revising the OTR framework exempts equity option orders placed within ±40 bps of LTP (or ±Rs 20, whichever is higher) from high-OTR penalties, and excludes algorithmic orders placed by Designated Market Makers for market-making from OTR computation — both changes responsive to stakeholder feedback that the prior framework penalised legitimate liquidity provision and option pricing behaviour. The revised OTR framework takes effect April 6, 2026, concurrent with the RBI's broker funding deadline, making Q1 2026 an operationally significant transition period for Indian intermediaries managing both credit facilities and algorithmic compliance obligations simultaneously.

- **India: RBI Issues Final Directive Mandating 100% Collateral Backing for Broker Financing, Effective April 1 —** The RBI's final Commercial Banks – Credit Facilities Amendment Directions, issued February 13, require banks to hold collateral equal to 100% of the loan amount on all credit facilities extended to capital market intermediaries — up from the prior framework, which allowed lower cover ratios. Bank guarantees issued to exchanges and clearing corporations must now have a minimum 50% collateral backing, of which at least 25% must be cash; banks are explicitly prohibited from funding broker proprietary trading positions, with a defined carve-out for market-making activity and short-duration debt warehousing. The April 1, 2026 effective date gives brokers and their lending banks approximately six weeks to restructure existing credit facilities — a compressed transition window given the structural nature of the changes to collateral composition and prohibited use cases.

- **Korea: Short-Selling Enforcement Reaches New Scale —** The FSS levied KRW 39.7 billion in fines on six firms — one domestic asset manager and five foreign financial institutions — for illegal short selling, the largest single enforcement action since short selling resumed in March 2025 and the first case to publicly disclose the identities of sanctioned firms. KRX concurrently eased corporate value disclosure rules, reducing mandatory reporting burden for companies already publishing investor relations documentation, as part of the Value-Up Programme's Phase 2 rollout.

- **Indonesia: OJK Announces 8-Point Reform Package; IDX Demutualization Enters Draft Regulation Stage —** OJK published an eight-point capital market action plan on February 1 covering free float enforcement, shareholder transparency, UBO disclosure, KSEI data publication, and strengthened manipulation enforcement — the most comprehensive formal reform package issued since the JCI's Rp1.2 trillion drawdown triggered leadership reshuffles at both OJK and IDX. OJK confirmed fines of Rp542.49 billion imposed on 3,418 parties for market violations, including 32 active stock manipulation cases referred for enforcement — a materially higher sanction volume than prior reporting periods. IDX demutualization, mandated under the capital market law, has progressed to draft government regulation (RPP) stage under the Ministry of Finance; once the RPP is enacted, OJK must issue implementing regulations (POJK) before operational demutualization can proceed — placing an end-state timeline still at 1–2 years out.

- **Vietnam and Southeast Asia: Corporate Governance Codes and Leverage Frameworks Formalised —** Vietnam's State Securities Commission published a new Corporate Governance Code in February setting baseline standards for board independence, audit committees, related-party transaction disclosure, and shareholder rights — the first comprehensive update since 2012 and a prerequisite for FTSE Russell reclassification eligibility from Frontier to Emerging Market status. China's Beijing Stock Exchange published a structural position paper in February articulating a deliberate policy-over-liquidity posture — explicitly prioritising innovation sector quality over secondary market trading volume, with targeted sector concentration in tech, advanced manufacturing, and green energy, and no near-term plans to liberalise the retail investor eligibility requirements that constrain BSE tradeable float.