Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. (the “Issuer”) has issued STEP Income Securities (“STEPS”) linked to the common stock of Monsanto Co. (“Monsanto”). The STEPS were priced at $10 each and mature on August 17, 2009.

The STEPS are senior, unsecured debt securities of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. that are designed for investors who seek quarterly interest payments and want the opportunity to receive an additional payment at maturity if the Ending Value of Monsanto stock on the August 10, 2009 Valuation Date is at or above the Step Level (135.63). If the Ending Value of Monsanto stock on the Valuation Date is below the Step Level (135.63), the amount investors receive on the Maturity Date will not be greater than the $10 original public offering price per unit and will be based on the direction of and percentage change in the level of Monsanto stock from the Starting Value (120.85), to the Ending Value, as determined on the Valuation Date.

Investors must be willing to accept a payment of principal that may be less, and potentially significantly less, than the $10 original public offering price. Investors should also be willing to accept that no Step Payment will be payable on the Maturity Date if the closing level of Monsanto stock is below the Step Level (135.63) and be willing to lose a portion of their principal if the Ending Value is below the Threshold Level (108.77).

At maturity, investors will receive interest on the STEPS at a rate of 12.23% per year, payable quarterly in arrears computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months. In addition to any interest due and payable, investors will be entitled to receive the Redemption Amount, a payment per unit calculated as follows:

- If Ending Value is greater than or equal to Step Level (135.63):
  
  $10 + Step Payment

- If Ending Value is greater than or equal to Threshold Value (108.77) but less than Step Level (135.63):
If Ending Value is less than Threshold Value (108.77):

\[ \text{Ending Value} \times \left( \frac{\text{Ending Value} - \text{Threshold Value}}{\text{Starting Value}} \right) \times 100\% \]

Since all payments which may be due to holders of STEPS are the sole responsibility of the Issuer, it is the credit of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. which stands behind the STEPS.

It is expected that the market value of the STEPS will depend substantially on the value of Monsanto and may be affected by a number of other interrelated factors including, among other things: the general level of interest rates, the volatility of Monsanto stock, the time remaining to maturity, the dividend yield of Monsanto stock, and the credit ratings of the Issuer.

Investors should note that Monsanto is not involved in the subject offering and has no obligation with respect to these securities whatsoever, including any obligations with respect to the principal amount to be paid at maturity, or to take the needs of the Issuer or holders of STEPS into consideration. Any dividends or distributions to the underlying common stock will not be paid to holders of STEPS.

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

Trading in the shares on ISE is on a UTP basis and is subject to ISE equity trading rules. The shares will trade from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Equity Electronic Access Members (“Equity EAMs”) trading the shares during the Pre-Market Session are exposed to the risk of the lack of the calculation or dissemination of underlying index value or intraday indicative value (“IIV”). For certain derivative securities products, an updated underlying index value or IIV may not be calculated or publicly disseminated in the Pre-Market hours. Since the underlying index value and IIV are not calculated or widely disseminated during Pre-Market hours, an investor who is unable to calculate implied values for certain derivative securities products during Pre-Market hours may be at a disadvantage to market professionals.

Equity EAMs also should review NASD Notice to Members 03-71 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 Regulatory Information Circular is not a statutory Prospectus. Equity EAMs should consult the Trust’s Registration Statement, SAI, Prospectus and the Fund’s website for relevant information.
Appendix A
Exchange-Traded Fund Symbol CUSIP Number

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Ticker</th>
<th>Fund Name</th>
<th>CUSIP Number</th>
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<tr>
<td>MZJ</td>
<td>Merrill Lynch &amp; Co., Inc. STEP Income Securities Linked to the Common Stock of Monsanto Co.</td>
<td>59023V647</td>
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