Filed Pursuant to Rule 433
Registration No. 333-180289
January 27, 2015
FREE WRITING PROSPECTUS
(To Prospectus dated March 22, 2012,
Prospectus Supplement dated March 22, 2012,
and Equity Index Underlying Supplement dated March 22, 2012)

HSBC

Structured Investments

HSBC USA Inc.
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Notes Linked to the KBW Bank Index due April 30, 2015
(the "Notes")

General

- Terms used in this free writing prospectus are described or defined herein and in the accompanying Equity Index Underlying Supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus. The Notes will have the terms described herein and in the accompanying Equity Index Underlying Supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus. **The Notes do not guarantee any return of principal, and you may lose some or all of your initial investment. The Notes will not bear interest.**
- This free writing prospectus relates to a single note offering. The purchaser of a Note will acquire a security linked to the Reference Asset described below.
- Although the offering relates to a Reference Asset, you should not construe that fact as a recommendation as to the merits of acquiring an investment linked to the Reference Asset or any component security included in the Reference Asset or as to the suitability of an investment in the Notes.
- Senior unsecured debt obligations of HSBC USA Inc. maturing April 30, 2015.
- Minimum denominations of $10,000 and integral multiples of $1,000 in excess thereof.
- **If the terms of the Notes set forth below are inconsistent with those described in the accompanying Equity Index Underlying Supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus, the terms set forth below will supersede.**
- Any payment on the Notes is subject to the Issuer's credit risk.

Key Terms

Issuer:	HSBC USA Inc.
Reference Asset:	The KBW Bank Index ("BKX")
Principal Amount:	$1,000 per Note
Trade Date:	January 27, 2015
Pricing Date:	January 27, 2015
Original Issue Date:	January 30, 2015
Final Valuation Date:	April 27, 2015, subject to adjustment as described in "Additional Terms of the Notes—Valuation Dates" in the accompanying Equity Index Underlying Supplement.
Maturity Date:	3 business days after the Final Valuation Date and is expected to be April 30, 2015. The Maturity Date is subject to adjustment as described in "Additional Terms of the Notes—Coupon Payment Dates, Call Payment Dates and Maturity Date" in the accompanying Equity Index Underlying Supplement.
Payment at Maturity:	For each Note, the Cash Settlement Value
Cash Settlement Value:	For each Note, you will receive a cash payment on the Maturity Date that is based on the Reference Return (as described below) and calculated as follows: 1,000 × (1 + Reference Return) × Adjustment Factor *If the level of the Reference Asset decreases by more than 0.29%, you will lose a portion of your principal amount, which could be significant.*
Adjustment Factor:	100.29%
Reference Return:	The quotient, expressed as a percentage, calculated as follows: $\frac{\text{Final Level} - \text{Initial Level}}{\text{Initial Level}}$
Initial Level:	The Official Closing Level of the Reference Asset on the Pricing Date.
Final Level:	The Official Closing Level of the Reference Asset determined by the Calculation Agent on the Final Valuation Date.
Official Closing Level:	The Official Closing Level of the Reference Asset on any scheduled trading day as determined by the Calculation Agent based upon the level displayed on Bloomberg Professional® service page "BKX <INDEX>" or any successor page on the Bloomberg Professional® service or any successor service, as applicable.
Estimated Initial Value:	The Estimated Initial Value of the Notes will be less than the price you pay to purchase the Notes. The Estimated Initial Value does not represent a minimum price at which we or any of our affiliates would be willing to purchase your Notes in the secondary market, if any, at any time. The Estimated Initial Value will be calculated on the Pricing Date and will be set forth in the pricing supplement to which this free writing prospectus relates. See "Selected Risk Considerations — The Estimated Initial Value of the Notes, which will be determined by us on the Pricing Date, will be less than the price to public and may differ from the market value of the Notes in the secondary market, if any."
Calculation Agent:	HSBC USA Inc. or one of its affiliates
CUSIP/ISIN:	40433BYL6/US40433BYL60
Form of the Notes:	Book-Entry
Listing:	The Notes will not be listed on any U.S. securities exchange or quotation system.

Investment in the Notes involves certain risks. You should refer to "Selected Risk Considerations" beginning on page 5 of this document and "Risk Factors" beginning on page S-1 of the Equity Index Underlying Supplement and page S-3 of the prospectus supplement.

Neither the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the Notes or determined that this free writing prospectus, or the accompanying Equity Index Underlying Supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus, is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. or another of its affiliates or agents may use the pricing supplement to which this free writing prospectus relates in market-making transactions in any Notes after their initial sale. **Unless we or our agent informs you otherwise in the confirmation of sale, the pricing supplement to which this free writing prospectus relates is being used in a market-making transaction.** HSBC Securities (USA) Inc., an affiliate of ours, will purchase the Notes from us for resale to the note investors. See "Supplemental Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)" on the last page of this free writing prospectus.

The Estimated Initial Value of the Notes on the Pricing Date is expected to be $997.50 per Note, which is less than the price to public. The market value of the Notes at any time will reflect many factors and cannot be predicted with accuracy. See "Estimated Initial Value" above and "Selected Risk Considerations" beginning on page 5 of this document for additional information.

	Price to Public	Fees and Commissions(1)	Proceeds to Issuer
Per Note	$1,000	$0	$1,000
Total	$	$	$

(1) Neither HSBC USA Inc. nor any of our affiliates will pay any underwriting discounts in connection with the distribution of the Notes to other registered broker-dealers. See "Supplemental Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)" on the last page of this free writing prospectus.

The Notes:

Are Not FDIC Insured	Are Not Bank Guaranteed	May Lose Value

January [●], 2015

Additional Terms Specific to the Notes

This free writing prospectus relates to a single note offering linked to the Reference Asset. The purchaser of a Note will acquire a senior unsecured debt security linked to the Reference Asset. We reserve the right to withdraw, cancel or modify this offering and to reject orders in whole or in part. Although the Note offering relates only to the Reference Asset, you should not construe that fact as a recommendation as to the merits of acquiring an investment linked to the Reference Asset or any securities comprising the Reference Asset or as to the suitability of an investment in the Notes.

You should read this document together with the prospectus dated March 22, 2012, the prospectus supplement dated March 22, 2012 and the Equity Index Underlying Supplement dated March 22, 2012. If the terms of the Notes offered hereby are inconsistent with those described in the accompanying Equity Index Underlying Supplement, prospectus supplement or prospectus, the terms described in this free writing prospectus shall control. You should carefully consider, among other things, the matters set forth in "Selected Risk Considerations" beginning on page 5 of this free writing prospectus and "Risk Factors" beginning on page S-1 of the accompanying Equity Index Underlying Supplement and page S-3 of the prospectus supplement, as the Notes involve risks not associated with conventional debt securities. We urge you to consult your investment, legal, tax, accounting and other advisors before you invest in the Notes. As used herein, references to the "Issuer", "HSBC", "we", "us" and "our" are to HSBC USA Inc.

HSBC has filed a registration statement (including a prospectus, a prospectus supplement and the Equity Index Underlying Supplement) with the SEC for the offering to which this free writing prospectus relates. Before you invest, you should read the prospectus, prospectus supplement and Equity Index Underlying Supplement in that registration statement and other documents HSBC has filed with the SEC for more complete information about HSBC and this offering. You may get these documents for free by visiting EDGAR on the SEC's web site at www.sec.gov. Alternatively, HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. or any dealer participating in this offering will arrange to send you the prospectus, prospectus supplement and Equity Index Underlying Supplement if you request them by calling toll-free 1 866 811 8049.

You may also obtain:

- The Equity Index Underlying Supplement at:
  http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/83246/000114420412016693/v306691_424b2.htm
- The prospectus supplement at:
  http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/83246/000104746912003151/a2208335z424b2.htm
- The prospectus at:
  http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/83246/000104746912003148/a2208395z424b2.htm

We are using this free writing prospectus to solicit from you an offer to purchase the Notes. You may revoke your offer to purchase the Notes at any time prior to the time at which we accept your offer by notifying HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. We reserve the right to change the terms of, or reject any offer to purchase, the Notes prior to their issuance. The Trade Date, the Pricing Date and the other terms of the Notes are subject to change, and will be set forth in the final pricing supplement relating to the Notes. In the event of any material changes to the terms of the Notes, we will notify you.

Summary

The three charts below provide a summary of the Notes, including Note characteristics and risk considerations as well as a table reflecting hypothetical returns at maturity. These charts should be reviewed together with the disclosure regarding the Notes contained in this free writing prospectus as well as in the accompanying Equity Index Underlying Supplement, prospectus and prospectus supplement.

The following charts illustrate the hypothetical total return at maturity on the Notes. The "total return" as used in this free writing prospectus is the number, expressed as a percentage, that results from comparing the Payment at Maturity per $1,000 Principal Amount to $1,000. The hypothetical total returns set forth below reflect the Adjustment Factor of 100.29% and assume an Initial Level of 100.00. The hypothetical total returns set forth below are for illustrative purposes only and may not be the actual total returns applicable to a purchaser of the Notes. The numbers appearing in the following table and examples have been rounded for ease of analysis.

Note Characteristics

Reference Asset:	KBW Bank Index ("BKX")
Currency:	USD
Final Valuation Date:	April 24, 2015 (expected)
Adjustment Factor:	100.29%
Potential Gain:	1,000 × (1 + Reference Return) × Adjustment Factor
Maximum Potential Loss:	100%
Maturity:	Approximately three months
Settlement:	Cash

- **Appreciation Potential:**
  The Notes provide the opportunity to participate in 100.29% of the appreciation of the Reference Asset at maturity. You will receive a payment reflecting the performance of the Reference Asset and the Adjustment Factor.
- **No Guaranteed Return of Principal:**
  Some or all of the principal at risk if the level of the Reference Asset decreases by more than 0.29%.

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Summary Selected Risk Considerations (see page 5)

We urge you to read "Selected Risk Considerations" herein and "Risk Factors" beginning on page S-1 of the Equity Index Underlying Supplement and page S-3 of the prospectus supplement. Investing in the Notes is not equivalent to investing directly in the Reference Asset. You should understand the risks of investing in the Notes and should reach an investment decision only after careful consideration, with your advisors, of the suitability of the Notes in light of your particular financial circumstances and the information set forth in this free writing prospectus and the accompanying Equity Index Underlying Supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus.

- Your investment in the Notes may result in a loss if the level of the Reference Asset decreases.
- The amount payable on the notes is not linked to the level of the Reference Asset at any time other than on the final valuation date.
- The Notes are subject to the credit risk of HSBC USA Inc.
- Suitability of the Notes for investment.
- The Estimated Initial Value of the Notes, which will be determined by us on the Pricing Date, will be less than the price to public and may differ from the market value of the Notes in the secondary market, if any.
- The price of your Notes in the secondary market, if any, immediately after the Pricing Date will be less than the price to public.
- If HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. were to repurchase your Notes immediately after the Original Issue Date, the price you receive may be higher than the Estimated Initial Value of the Notes.
- No interest or dividend payments or voting rights.
- Potentially inconsistent research, opinions or recommendations by HSBC.
- Concentration of investment in a particular sector.
- Risks associated with the financial sector.
- The Notes lack liquidity.
- Potential conflicts.
- The Notes are not insured or guaranteed by any governmental agency of the United States or any other jurisdiction.
- Historical performance of the Reference Asset should not be taken as an indication of its future performance during the term of the Notes.
- Market disruptions may adversely affect your return.
- Many economic and market factors will impact the value of the Notes.

Hypothetical Final Level	Hypothetical Reference Returns	Hypothetical Total Return
200.00	100.00%	100.580%
190.00	90.00%	90.551%
180.00	80.00%	80.522%
170.00	70.00%	70.493%
160.00	60.00%	60.464%
150.00	50.00%	50.435%
140.00	40.00%	40.406%
130.00	30.00%	30.377%
120.00	20.00%	20.348%
110.00	10.00%	10.319%
105.00	5.00%	5.305%
101.00	1.00%	1.293%
100.00	0.00%	0.290%
99.71	-0.29%	-0.000%
99.00	-1.00%	-0.713%
95.00	-5.00%	-4.724%
90.00	-10.00%	-9.739%
80.00	-20.00%	-19.768%
70.00	-30.00%	-29.797%
60.00	-40.00%	-39.826%
50.00	-50.00%	-49.855%
40.00	-60.00%	-59.884%
30.00	-70.00%	-69.913%
20.00	-80.00%	-79.942%
10.00	-90.00%	-89.971%
0.00	-100.00%	-100.000%

* The table above assumes an Initial Level of 100.00; the actual Initial Level will be set on the pricing date.

Selected Purchase Considerations

- **APPRECIATION POTENTIAL —** The Notes provide the opportunity to participate in the appreciation of the Reference Asset at maturity and to receive enhanced returns based on the Adjustment Factor of 100.29%. Because the Notes are our senior unsecured debt obligations, payment of any amount at maturity is subject to our ability to pay our obligations as they become due.

- **THE NOTES DO NOT GUARANTEE THE RETURN OF YOUR PRINCIPAL** — If the Final Level decreases by more than 0.29%, you will lose all or a portion of the principal amount of your Notes.

- **TAX TREATMENT** — There is no direct legal authority as to the proper tax treatment of the Notes, and therefore significant aspects of the tax treatment of the Notes are uncertain as to both the timing and character of any inclusion in income in respect of the Notes. Under one approach, the Notes should be treated as pre-paid executory contracts with respect to the Reference Asset. We intend to treat the Notes consistent with this approach. Pursuant to the terms of the Notes, you agree to treat the Notes under this approach for all U.S. federal income tax purposes. Subject to the limitations described therein, and based on certain factual representations received from us, in the opinion of our special U.S. tax counsel, Morrison & Foerster LLP, it is reasonable to treat the Notes as pre-paid executory contracts with respect to the Reference Asset. Pursuant to this approach, we do not intend to report any income or gain with respect to the Notes prior to their maturity or an earlier sale or exchange and we generally intend to treat any gain or loss upon maturity or an earlier sale or exchange as short-term capital gain or loss.

  We will not attempt to ascertain whether any of the entities whose stock is included in, or owned by, the Reference Asset, as the case may be, would be treated as a passive foreign investment company ("PFIC") or United States real property holding corporation ("USRPHC"), both as defined for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If one or more of the entities whose stock is included in, or owned by, the Reference Asset, as the case may be, were so treated, certain adverse U.S. federal income tax consequences might apply. You should refer to information filed with the SEC and other authorities by the entities whose stock is included in, or owned by, the Reference Asset, as the case may be, and consult your tax advisor regarding the possible consequences to you if one or more of the entities whose stock is included in, or owned by, the Reference Asset, as the case may be, is or becomes a PFIC or a USRPHC.

  Withholding and reporting requirements under the legislation enacted on March 18, 2010 (as discussed beginning on page S-48 of the prospectus supplement) generally apply to payments made after June 30, 2014. Additionally, withholding due to any payment being treated as a "dividend equivalent" (as discussed beginning on page S-47 of the prospectus supplement) will begin no earlier than January 1, 2016. However, the U.S. Treasury Department and Internal Revenue Service have announced that they intend to limit this withholding to equity-linked instruments issued on or after the date that is 90 days after the date of publication in the U.S. Federal Register of final regulations addressing dividend equivalent withholding. Holders are urged to consult with their own tax advisors regarding the possible implications of this legislation on their investment in the Notes.

  For a further discussion of the U.S. federal income tax consequences related to the Notes, see the section "U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations" in the accompanying prospectus supplement.

Selected Risk Considerations

An investment in the Notes involves significant risks. Investing in the Notes is not equivalent to investing directly in any of the component securities of the Reference Asset. These risks are explained in more detail in the "Risk Factors" sections of the accompanying Equity Index Underlying Supplement and prospectus supplement.

- **YOUR INVESTMENT IN THE NOTES MAY RESULT IN A LOSS** — The Notes do not guarantee any return of principal. The return on the Notes at maturity is linked to the performance of the Reference Asset and will depend on whether, and the extent to which, the Reference Return is positive or negative. In order for you to receive a payment at maturity that is not less than the principal amount, the Final Level must not decrease from the Initial Level by more than 0.29%. You may lose all or a significant portion of the principal amount.

- **THE AMOUNT PAYABLE ON THE NOTES IS NOT LINKED TO THE LEVEL OF THE REFERENCE ASSET AT ANY TIME OTHER THAN ON THE FINAL VALUATION DATE** — The Final Level will be based on the Official Closing Level of the Reference Asset on the Final Valuation Date, subject to postponement for non-trading days and certain market disruption events. Even if the level of the Reference Asset appreciates during the term of the Notes prior to the Final Valuation Date but then decreases on the Final Valuation Date to a level that is less than the Initial Level, the Payment at Maturity may be less, and may be significantly less, than it would have been had the Payment at Maturity been linked to the level of the Reference Asset prior to such decrease. Although the actual level of the Reference Asset on the Maturity Date or at other times during the term of the Notes may be higher than the Final Level, the Payment at Maturity will be based solely on the Official Closing Level of the Reference Asset on the Final Valuation Date.

- **THE NOTES ARE SUBJECT TO THE CREDIT RISK OF HSBC USA INC.** — The Notes are senior unsecured debt obligations of the Issuer, HSBC, and are not, either directly or indirectly, an obligation of any third party. As further described in the accompanying prospectus supplement and prospectus, the Notes will rank on par with all of the other unsecured and unsubordinated debt obligations of HSBC, except such obligations as may be preferred by operation of law. Any payment to be made on the Notes, including any return of principal at maturity, depends on the ability of HSBC to satisfy its obligations as they come due. As a result, the actual and perceived creditworthiness of HSBC may affect the market value of the Notes and, in the event HSBC were to default on its obligations, you may not receive the amounts owed to you under the terms of the Notes.

- **SUITABILITY OF THE NOTES FOR INVESTMENT** — You should only reach a decision to invest in the Notes after carefully considering, with your advisors, the suitability of the Notes in light of your investment objectives and the information set out in this free writing prospectus. Neither HSBC nor any dealer participating in the offering makes any recommendation as to the suitability of the Notes for investment.

- **THE ESTIMATED INITIAL VALUE OF THE NOTES, WHICH WILL BE DETERMINED BY US ON THE PRICING DATE, WILL BE LESS THAN THE PRICE TO PUBLIC AND MAY DIFFER FROM THE MARKET VALUE OF THE NOTES IN THE SECONDARY MARKET, IF ANY** — The Estimated Initial Value of the Notes will be calculated by us on the Pricing Date and will be less than the price to public. The Estimated Initial Value will reflect our internal funding rate, which is the borrowing rate we use to issue market-linked securities, as well as the mid-market value of the embedded derivatives in the Notes. This internal funding rate is typically lower than the rate we would use when we issue conventional fixed or floating rate debt securities. As a result of the difference between our internal funding rate and the rate we would use when we issue conventional fixed or floating rate debt securities, the Estimated Initial Value of the Notes may be lower if it were based on the levels at which our fixed or floating rate debt securities trade in the secondary market. In addition, if we were to use the rate we use for our conventional fixed or floating rate debt issuances, we would expect the economic terms of the Notes to be more favorable to you. We will determine the value of the embedded derivatives in the Notes by reference to our or our affiliates' internal pricing models. These pricing models consider certain assumptions and variables, which can include volatility and interest rates. Different pricing models and assumptions could provide valuations for the Notes that are different from our Estimated Initial Value. These pricing models rely in part on certain forecasts about future events, which may prove to be incorrect. The Estimated Initial Value does not represent a minimum price at which we or any of our affiliates would be willing to purchase your Notes in the secondary market (if any exists) at any time.

- **THE PRICE OF YOUR NOTES IN THE SECONDARY MARKET, IF ANY, IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE PRICING DATE WILL BE LESS THAN THE PRICE TO PUBLIC** — The price to public takes into account certain costs. These costs will include our affiliates' projected hedging profits (which may or may not be realized) for assuming risks inherent in hedging our obligations under the Notes and the costs associated with structuring and hedging our obligations under the Notes. These costs will be used or retained by us or one of our affiliates. If you were to sell your Notes in the secondary market, if any, the price you would receive for your Notes may be less than the price you paid for them because secondary market prices will not take into account these costs. The price of your Notes in the secondary market, if any, at any time after issuance will vary based on many factors, including the level of the Reference Asset and changes in market conditions, and cannot be predicted with accuracy. The Notes are not

designed to be short-term trading instruments, and you should, therefore, be able and willing to hold the Notes to maturity. Any sale of the Notes prior to maturity could result in a loss to you.

- **IF HSBC SECURITIES (USA) INC. WERE TO REPURCHASE YOUR NOTES IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE ORIGINAL ISSUE DATE, THE PRICE YOU RECEIVE MAY BE HIGHER THAN THE ESTIMATED INITIAL VALUE OF THE NOTES** — Assuming that all relevant factors remain constant after the Original Issue Date, the price at which HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. may initially buy or sell the Notes in the secondary market, if any, and the value that we may initially use for customer account statements, if we provide any customer account statements at all, may exceed the Estimated Initial Value on the Pricing Date for a temporary period expected to be approximately three months after the Original Issue Date. This temporary price difference may exist because, in our discretion, we may elect to effectively reimburse to investors a portion of the estimated cost of hedging our obligations under the Notes and other costs in connection with the Notes that we will no longer expect to incur over the term of the Notes. We will make such discretionary election and determine this temporary reimbursement period on the basis of a number of factors, including the tenor of the securities and any agreement we may have with the distributors of the Notes. The amount of our estimated costs which we effectively reimburse to investors in this way may not be allocated ratably throughout the reimbursement period, and we may discontinue such reimbursement at any time or revise the duration of the reimbursement period after the Original Issue Date of the Notes based on changes in market conditions and other factors that cannot be predicted.

- **NO INTEREST OR DIVIDEND PAYMENTS OR VOTING RIGHTS** — As a holder of the Notes, you will not receive interest payments, and you will not have voting rights or rights to receive cash dividends or other distributions or other rights that holders of securities composing the Reference Asset would have.

- **POTENTIALLY INCONSISTENT RESEARCH, OPINIONS OR RECOMMENDATIONS BY HSBC** — HSBC or its affiliates may publish research, express opinions or provide recommendations that are inconsistent with investing in or holding the Notes and which may be revised at any time. Any such research, opinions or recommendations could affect the level of the Reference Asset, and therefore, the market value of the Notes.

- **CONCENTRATION OF INVESTMENT IN A PARTICULAR SECTOR** — The equity securities comprising the Reference Asset are issued by companies that do business as banks or thrifts. Consequently, the value of the Notes may be subject to greater volatility and be more adversely affected by a single economic, environmental, political or regulatory occurrence affecting such industries than an investment linked to a more broadly diversified group of issuers.

- **RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE FINANCIAL SECTOR** — The Reference Asset is comprised of financial services companies, which are subject to extensive governmental regulation which may limit both the amounts and types of loans and other financial commitments they can make, and the interest rates and fees they can charge. Profitability is largely dependent on the availability and cost of capital funds, and can fluctuate significantly when interest rates change or due to increased competition. In addition, the recent deterioration of the credit markets generally has caused an adverse impact in a broad range of markets, including U.S. and international credit and interbank money markets generally, thereby affecting a wide range of financial institutions and markets. Recent events in the financial sector have resulted, and may continue to result, in an unusually high degree of volatility in the financial markets, both domestic and foreign, and caused certain financial services companies to incur large losses. Numerous financial services companies have experienced substantial declines in the valuations of their assets, taken action to raise capital (such as the issuance of debt or equity securities), or even ceased operations. These actions have caused the securities of many financial services companies to experience a dramatic decline in value. Credit losses resulting from financial difficulties of borrowers and financial losses associated with investment activities can negatively impact the sector.

- **THE NOTES LACK LIQUIDITY** — The Notes will not be listed on any securities exchange. HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. may offer to purchase the Notes in the secondary market. However, it is not required to do so and may cease making such offers at any time if at all. Because other dealers are not likely to make a secondary market for the Notes, the price at which you may be able to trade your Notes is likely to depend on the price, if any, at which HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. is willing to buy the Notes. Even if there is a secondary market, it may not provide enough liquidity to allow you to trade or sell the Notes easily.

- **POTENTIAL CONFLICTS** — HSBC and its affiliates play a variety of roles in connection with the issuance of the Notes, including acting as Calculation Agent and hedging its obligations under the Notes. In performing these duties, the economic interests of the Calculation Agent and other affiliates of HSBC are potentially adverse to your interests as an investor in the Notes. HSBC and the Calculation Agent are under no obligation to consider your interests as a holder of the Notes in taking any corporate actions or other actions that might affect the level of the Reference Asset and the value of the Notes.

- **THE NOTES ARE NOT INSURED OR GUARANTEED BY ANY GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY OF THE UNITED STATES OR ANY OTHER JURISDICTION** — The Notes are not deposit liabilities or other obligations of a bank and are not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency or program of the United States or any other jurisdiction. An investment in the Notes is subject to the credit risk of HSBC, and in the event that HSBC is unable to pay its obligations as they become due, you may not receive the full Payment at Maturity of the Notes.

- **HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE OF THE REFERENCE ASSET SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN AS AN INDICATION OF ITS FUTURE PERFORMANCE DURING THE TERM OF THE NOTES** — It is impossible to predict whether the level of the Reference Asset will rise or fall. The Reference Asset will be influenced by complex and interrelated political, economic, financial and other factors.

- **MARKET DISRUPTIONS MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT YOUR RETURN** — The Calculation Agent may, in its sole discretion, determine that the markets have been affected in a manner that prevents it from determining the Reference Asset in the manner described herein, and calculating the amount that we are required to pay you upon maturity, or from properly hedging its obligations under the Notes. These events may include disruptions or suspensions of trading in the markets as a whole. If the Calculation Agent, in its sole discretion, determines that any of these events prevents us or any of our affiliates from properly hedging our obligations under the Notes or prevents the Calculation Agent from determining the Reference Return or Payment at Maturity in the ordinary manner, the Calculation Agent will determine the Reference Return or Payment at Maturity in good faith and in a commercially reasonable manner, and it is possible that the Final Valuation Date and the Maturity Date will be postponed, which may adversely affect the return on your Notes.

- **MANY ECONOMIC AND MARKET FACTORS WILL IMPACT THE VALUE OF THE NOTES** — In addition to the level of the Reference Asset on any day, the value of the Notes will be affected by a number of economic and market factors that may either offset or magnify each other, including:
    - the expected volatility of the Reference Asset;
    - the time to maturity of the Notes;
    - the dividend rate on the equity securities underlying the Reference Asset;
    - interest and yield rates in the market generally;
    - a variety of economic, financial, political, regulatory or judicial events that affect the Reference Asset or the stock markets generally; and
    - our creditworthiness, including actual or anticipated downgrades in our credit ratings.

What Is the Total Return on the Notes at Maturity Assuming a Range of Performances for the Reference Asset?

The following table illustrates the hypothetical total return at maturity on the Notes. The "total return" as used in this free writing prospectus is the number, expressed as a percentage, that results from comparing the Payment at Maturity per $1,000 Principal Amount to $1,000. The hypothetical total returns set forth below reflect the Adjustment Factor of 100.29% and assume an Initial Level of 100.00. The actual Initial Level will be determined on the Pricing Date. The hypothetical total returns set forth below are for illustrative purposes only and may not be the actual total returns applicable to a purchaser of the Notes. The numbers appearing in the following table and examples have been rounded for ease of analysis.

Hypothetical Final Level	Hypothetical Return	Hypothetical Total Return
200.00	100.00%	100.580%
190.00	90.00%	90.551%
180.00	80.00%	80.522%
170.00	70.00%	70.493%
160.00	60.00%	60.464%
150.00	50.00%	50.435%
140.00	40.00%	40.406%
130.00	30.00%	30.377%
120.00	20.00%	20.348%
110.00	10.00%	10.319%
105.00	5.00%	5.305%
101.00	1.00%	1.293%
100.00	0.00%	0.290%
99.71	-0.29%	0.000%
99.00	-1.00%	-0.713%
95.00	-5.00%	-4.724%
90.00	-10.00%	-9.739%
80.00	-20.00%	-19.768%
70.00	-30.00%	-29.797%
60.00	-40.00%	-39.826%
50.00	-50.00%	-49.855%
40.00	-60.00%	-59.884%
30.00	-70.00%	-69.913%
20.00	-80.00%	-79.942%
10.00	-90.00%	-89.971%
0.00	-100.00%	-100.000%

Hypothetical Examples of Amounts Payable at Maturity
The following examples illustrate how the total returns set forth in the table above are calculated.

Example 1: The level of the Reference Asset increases from the Initial Level of 100.00 to a hypothetical Final Level of 105.00. Because the hypothetical Final Level of 105.00 is greater than the Initial Level of 100.00, the investor receives a Payment at Maturity of $1,053.05 per $1,000 Principal Amount of Notes, calculated as follows:

$$\$1,000 \times (1 + 5.00\%) \times 100.29\% = \$1,053.05$$

Example 2: The level of the Reference Asset decreases from the Initial Level of 100.00 to a hypothetical Final Level of 99.71. Because the hypothetical Final Level of 99.71 is less than the Initial Level of 100.00, but not by more than 0.29%, the investor receives a Payment at Maturity of $1,000.00 per $1,000 Principal Amount of Notes, calculated as follows:

$$\$1,000 \times (1 + -0.29\%) \times 100.29\% = \$1,000.00$$

Example 3: The level of the Reference Asset decreases from the Initial Level of 100.00 to a hypothetical Final Level of 90.00. Because the hypothetical Final Level of 90.00 is less than the Initial Level of 100.00 by more than 0.29%, the investor receives a Payment at Maturity of $902.61 per $1,000 Principal Amount of Notes, calculated as follows:

$$\$1,000 \times (1 + -10.00\%) \times 100.29\% = \$902.61$$

Description of the Reference Asset

This free writing prospectus is not an offer to sell and it is not an offer to buy any of the securities comprising the Reference Asset. All disclosures contained in this free writing prospectus regarding the Reference Asset, including its make-up, performance, method of calculation and changes in its components, where applicable, are derived from publicly available information. Neither HSBC nor any of its affiliates has made any independent investigation as to the information about the Reference Asset that is contained in this free writing prospectus. You should make your own investigation into the Reference Asset.

The Reference Asset is a float adjusted modified-market capitalization-weighted index that seeks to reflect the performance of publicly traded companies in the U.S. that do business as banks or thrifts. The Reference Asset is currently comprised of common stocks of national money centers and leading regional banks or thrifts listed on an U.S. national securities exchange. Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc. ("KBW") is the sponsor of the Reference Asset.

Component Eligibility and Inclusion

KBW develops and maintains indexes that seek to replicate certain market, industry, and geographic segments. In doing so, KBW selects publicly traded companies, or other publicly visible and quantifiable variables, that it deems appropriate for the purpose of constituting a certain segment.

For indexes comprised of publicly-traded companies, such as the Reference Asset, index constituents are chosen on the basis of relevance to the relevant market sector and, after certain trading criteria, including, but not limited to:

- stock price and stock price volatility;
- stock price correlation to index price;
- average daily trading volume;
- optionability of stock;
- market capitalization;
- listed exchange; and
- perceived viability of the company.

These metrics are necessary to ensure that the chosen constituents not only reflect the intended market segment, but are also tradable – that is, they provide sufficient liquidity that market participants will be able to effect basket trades for purposes of hedging and other transactions. Specific quantitative criteria will be followed for these criteria. KBW product development and corporate research staff consider these criteria to ensure that the constituents are both representative and tradable.

Periodic Component Adjustments

If there is a change in the nature of any component stock (e.g., delisting, merger, acquisition, change of principal business, or otherwise) in the Reference Asset that will change the overall market character of the Reference Asset, KBW will take appropriate steps to remove the stock or replace it with another stock which would best represent the intended market character of the Reference Asset.

Companies that are the target of a merger or acquisition that will change the market character of the Reference Asset will be removed or replaced as close as practicable to the effective date of the transaction. Companies that have filed for bankruptcy will be removed or replaced as soon as practicable after such filing has occurred. Corporate restructuring will be analyzed on a case-by-case basis to determine the appropriate action to be taken.

KBW reserves the authority to add one or more index-eligible stocks on a quarterly basis, or alternatively to remove any component stock on a quarterly basis if KBW believes such stock no longer provides adequate representation of the applicable sector or no longer maintains the character of the Reference Asset. In the case of a stock removal, KBW may choose to replace such stock with an index-eligible stock at any time, but is not required to do so. At no time will the Reference Asset membership drop below 16 members.

Quarterly Rebalancing

Based on the yields or market capitalizations as of the close on the third Friday of the last month in each calendar quarter, the Reference Asset is rebalanced according to the following rules:

- if any of the top four or five companies' index weightings have increased beyond 10%, their weighting will be reduced to a maximum of 8% in the quarterly rebalancing;
- if any of the remaining companies' weightings have increased beyond 5%, their weightings will be reduced to a maximum of 4% in the rebalancing;
- if any of the top four or five companies' weightings have dropped below 6%, their weightings will be increased to the lesser of either their float adjusted capitalization weight or 8% in the rebalancing; and
- any excess weighting available will be equally distributed to the smaller companies and any weighting needed to increase weighting in the larger companies will be taken from the smaller companies in the same manner as in

the initial allocation at the time of the rebalancing.

Under the methodology employed, on a quarterly basis, KBW's index committee will evaluate the components' current percentage weights (after taking into account such scheduled weight adjustments due to dividend increases/decreases, stock dividends, stock repurchases, secondary offerings or other corporate actions, mergers and index composition changes). This quarterly examination will result in an index rebalancing if either one or both of the following two weight distribution requirements are not met:

(1) the current weight of the single largest index security must be less than 10%; and

(2) the "collective weight" of those index securities whose individual current weights are in excess of 5%, when added together, must be less than or equal to 40%.

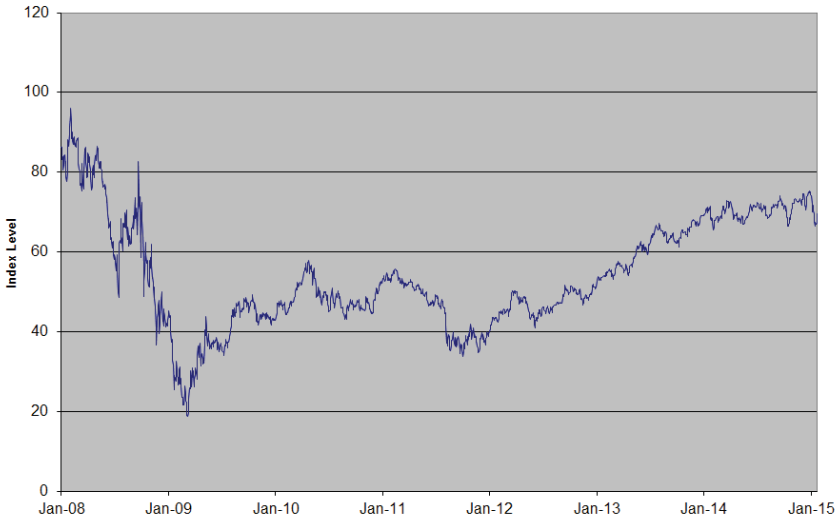
If either one or both of these weight distribution requirements are not met upon quarterly review or if a special rebalancing is required, a weight rebalancing will be performed. First, relating to weight distribution requirement (1) above, if the current weight of the single largest Reference Asset security exceeds 10%, then the weights of all stocks above 10% will be set to 8%. Second, relating to weight distribution requirement (2) above, for those index securities whose individual current weights or adjusted weights in accordance with the preceding step are in excess of 5%, if their "collective weight" exceeds 40%, then the weights of all stocks will be scaled down by just enough for the "collective weight," so adjusted, to be set to 40%. The aggregate weight reduction among the securities resulting from either or both of the above rescalings is redistributed to the remaining securities in the Reference Asset.

Additional iterations will be performed until the accumulated increase in weight among the remaining securities exactly equals the aggregate weight reduction among the securities from rebalancing in accordance with weight distribution requirement (1) and/or weight distribution requirement (2). Then, to complete the rebalancing procedure, once the final percent weights of each index security are set, the index share weights will be determined anew based upon the last sale prices and aggregate modified market capitalization of the Reference Asset at the close of trading on the Thursday in the week immediately preceding the week of the third Friday in March, June, September and December. Changes to the index share weights will be made effective after the close of trading on the third Friday in March, June, September, and December. Ordinarily, new rebalanced weights will be determined by applying the above procedures to the current index share weights.

Historical Performance of Reference Asset

The following graph sets forth the historical performance of the Reference Asset based on the daily historical closing levels from January 2, 2008 through January 23, 2015. The closing level for the Reference Asset on January 23, 2015 was 68.66. We obtained the closing levels below from the Bloomberg Professional® service. We have not independently verified the accuracy or completeness of the information obtained from the Bloomberg Professional® service.

The historical levels of the Reference Asset should not be taken as an indication of future performance, and no assurance can be given as to the Official Closing Level on the Final Valuation Date. We cannot give you assurance that the performance of the Reference Asset will result in the return of any of your initial investment.



License Agreement

KBW Bank Index (Ticker: BKX) is a service mark of Keefe Bruyette & Woods, Inc. and is expected to be licensed for use for certain purposes by HSBC. Such use is not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by Keefe Bruyette & Woods Inc., and Keefe Bruyette & Woods Inc. makes no representation regarding the advisability of investing in the Notes.

Additional Terms of the Notes

Business Day

A “business day” means any day, other than a Saturday or Sunday, that is neither a legal holiday nor a day on which banking institutions are authorized or required by law or regulation to close in the City of New York.

Payment When Offices or Settlement Systems Are Closed

If any payment is due on the Notes on a day that would otherwise be a “business day” but is a day on which the office of a paying agent or a settlement system is closed, we will make the payment on the next business day when that paying agent or system is open. Any such payment will be deemed to have been made on the original due date, and no additional payment will be made on account of the delay.

Events of Default and Acceleration

If the Notes have become immediately due and payable following an Event of Default (as defined in the accompanying prospectus) with respect to the Notes, the Calculation Agent will determine the accelerated Payment at Maturity due and payable in the same general manner as described in “Key Terms” in this free writing prospectus. In that case, the date of acceleration will be used as the Final Valuation Date for purposes of determining the accelerated Reference Return (including the Final Level). The accelerated Maturity Date will be the third business day following the accelerated Final Valuation Date.

If the Notes have become immediately due and payable following an event of default, you will not be entitled to any additional payments with respect to the Notes. For more information, see “Description of Debt Securities — Senior Debt Securities — Events of Default” in the accompanying prospectus.

Supplemental Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)

Pursuant to the terms of a distribution agreement, HSBC Securities (USA) Inc., an affiliate of HSBC, will purchase the Notes from HSBC at the price indicated on the cover of the pricing supplement, the document that will be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2) containing the final pricing terms of the Notes. Neither HSBC USA Inc. nor any of its affiliates will pay any underwriting discounts.

In addition, HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. or another of its affiliates or agents may use the pricing supplement to which this free writing prospectus relates in market-making transactions after the initial sale of the Notes. However, it is under no obligation to make a market in the Notes and may discontinue any market-making activities at any time without notice.

See “Supplemental Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)” on page S-49 in the prospectus supplement.