

HSBC USA Inc.

Buffered Accelerated Market Participation Securities Linked to the SPDR® S&P® Regional Banking ETF

- ▶ **Buffered Accelerated Market Participation Securities linked to the SPDR® S&P® Regional Banking ETF**
- ▶ **Maturity of approximately 4 years**
- ▶ **The SPDR® S&P® Regional Banking ETF tracks the S&P® Regional Banks Select Industry Index**
- ▶ **1.25x exposure to any positive return of the reference asset, subject to a maximum return of at least 45.00% (to be determined on the pricing date)**
- ▶ **Protection from the first 10% of any losses of the reference asset**
- ▶ **All payments on the securities are subject to the credit risk of HSBC USA Inc.**

The Buffered Accelerated Market Participation Securities (each a "security" and collectively the "securities") offered hereunder will not be listed on any U.S. securities exchange or automated quotation system. The securities will not bear interest.

Neither the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the securities or passed upon the accuracy or the adequacy of this document, the accompanying prospectus, prospectus supplement or ETF Underlying Supplement. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense. We have appointed HSBC Securities (USA) Inc., an affiliate of ours, as the agent for the sale of the securities. HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. will purchase the securities from us for distribution to other registered broker-dealers or will offer the securities directly to investors. 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 in any securities 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. See "Supplemental Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)" on page FWP-15 of this free writing prospectus.

Investment in the securities involves certain risks. You should refer to "Risk Factors" beginning on page FWP-7 of this document, page S-1 of the accompanying prospectus supplement, and page S-1 of the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement

The Estimated Initial Value of the securities on the Pricing Date is expected to be \$930.00 per security, which will be less than the price to public. The market value of the securities at any time will reflect many factors and cannot be predicted with accuracy. See "Estimated Initial Value" on page FWP-4 and "Risk Factors" beginning on page FWP-7 of this document for additional information.

| | Price to Public | Underwriting Discount ¹ | Proceeds to Issuer |
|--------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Per security | \$1,000 | | |
| Total | | | |

¹ HSBC USA Inc. or one of our affiliates may pay varying underwriting discounts of up to 4.50% per \$1,000 Principal Amount in connection with the distribution of the securities to other registered broker-dealers. See "Supplemental Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)" on page FWP-15 of this free writing prospectus.

The Securities:

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Are Not FDIC Insured | Are Not Bank Guaranteed | May Lose Value |
|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------|

Buffered Accelerated Market Participation Securities Linked to the SPDR® S&P® Regional Banking ETF

Indicative Terms*

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Principal Amount | \$1,000 per security |
| Term | Approximately 4 years |
| Reference Asset | SPDR® S&P® Regional Banking ETF (Ticker: KRE) |
| Upside Participation Rate | 125% (1.25x) exposure to any positive Reference Return (to be determined on the Pricing Date) |
| Buffer Price | -10% |
| Reference Return | $\frac{\text{Final Price} - \text{Initial Price}}{\text{Initial Price}}$ |
| Payment at Maturity per Security | <p>If the underlying Reference Return is greater than zero, you will receive the lesser of:</p> <p>a) $\\$1,000 + (\\$1,000 \times \text{Reference Return} \times \text{Upside Participation Rate})$; and</p> <p>b) $\\$1,000 + (\\$1,000 \times \text{Maximum Cap})$.</p> |
| | <p>If the Reference Return is less than or equal to zero but greater than or equal to the Buffer Price:</p> <p>\$1,000 (zero return).</p> |
| | <p>If the Reference Return is less than the Buffer Price:</p> <p>$\\$1,000 + [\\$1,000 \times (\text{Reference Return} + 10\%)]$.</p> <p>For example, if the Reference Return is -30%, you will suffer a -20% loss and receive 80% of the Principal Amount, subject to the credit risk of HSBC. If the Reference Return is less than the Buffer Price, you will lose up to 90% of your investment.</p> |
| Maximum Cap | At least 45.00%, to be determined on the Pricing Date. |
| Initial Price | See page FWP-4 |
| Final Price | See page FWP-4 |
| Pricing Date | July 29, 2015 |
| Trade Date | July 29, 2015 |
| Original Issue Date | July 31, 2015 |
| Final Valuation Date† | July 26, 2019 |
| Maturity Date† | July 31, 2019 |
| CUSIP/ISIN | 40433B5T1 / US40433B5T14 |

* As more fully described on page FWP-4.

†Subject to adjustment as described under "Additional Terms of the Notes" in the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement.

The Securities

The securities are designed for investors who believe that the Reference Asset will appreciate over the term of the securities, the securities provide an opportunity for enhanced returns (subject to a Maximum Cap). If the Reference Return is below the Buffer Price, then the securities are subject to a 1:1 exposure to any potential decline of the Reference Asset beyond the Buffer Level -10%.

If the Reference Asset appreciates over the term of the securities, you will realize 125% (1.25x) of the Reference Asset appreciation, subject to the Maximum Cap. If the Reference Asset declines, you will lose 1% of your investment for every 1% decline in the Reference Asset beyond the 10% Buffer Price.

The offering period for the securities is through **July 29, 2015**



Payoff Example

The table at right shows the hypothetical payout profile of an investment in the securities reflecting the 125% (1.25x) Upside Participation Rate and the Buffer Price of -10%, and assuming a 45.00% Maximum Cap (the actual Maximum Cap will be determined on the Pricing Date and will be at least 45.00%).

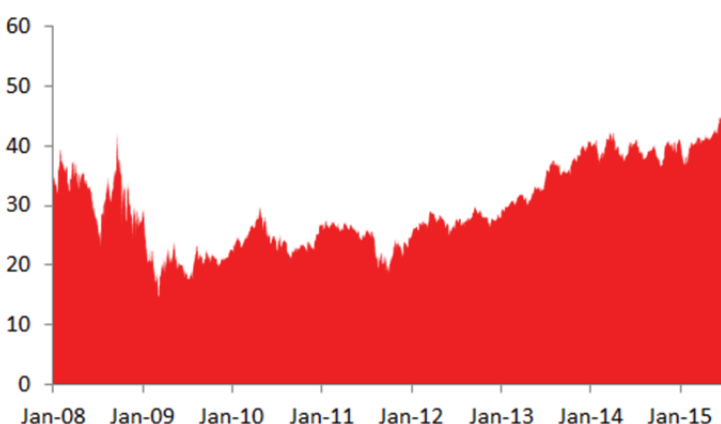
| Reference Return | Participation in Reference Return | Securities Return |
|------------------|---|-------------------|
| 50% 36% | 1.25x upside exposure, subject to Maximum Cap | 45% 45% |
| 30% 5% | 1.25x upside exposure | 37.50% 6.25% |
| 0% -5% | Buffer Price of -10% | 0% 0% |
| -10% -30% | 1x Loss Beyond Buffer | 0% -20% |

Information about the Reference Asset

The SPDR® S&P® Regional Banking ETF (the

The KRE seeks investment results that generally correspond (before fees and expenses) to the price and yield of the S&P® Regional Banks Select Industry Index (the "Underlying Index").

The Underlying Index is a modified equal-weighted index that seeks to reflect the performance of publicly traded companies that do business as regional banks or thrifts. The index is currently comprised of common stocks of leading regional banks or thrifts listed in the U.S.



The above graph sets forth the historical performance of the KRE based on the daily historical closing prices from January 2, 2008 to July 27, 2015, as reported on the Bloomberg Professional® service. For further information on the Reference Asset, please see "The SPDR® S&P® Regional Banking ETF" on page FWP-12. We have derived all disclosure regarding the Reference Asset from publicly available information. Neither HSBC USA Inc. nor any of its affiliates have undertaken any independent review of, or made any due diligence inquiry with respect to, the publicly available information about the Reference Asset.

HSBC USA Inc.

Buffered Accelerated Market Participation Securities



Linked to the SPDR® S&P® Regional Banking ETF

The offering of securities will have the terms described in this free writing prospectus and the accompanying prospectus, prospectus supplement and ETF Underlying Supplement. If the terms of the securities offered hereby are inconsistent with those described in the accompanying prospectus, prospectus supplement or ETF Underlying Supplement, the terms described in this free writing prospectus shall control. **You should be willing to forgo interest and dividend payments during the term of the securities and, if the Reference Return is less than the Buffer Price, lose up to 90% of your principal.**

This free writing prospectus relates to an offering of securities linked to the performance of the SPDR® S&P® Regional Banking ETF (the "Reference Asset"). The purchaser of a security will acquire a senior unsecured debt security of HSBC USA Inc. linked to the Reference Asset as described below. The following key terms relate to the offering of securities:

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Issuer: | HSBC USA Inc. |
| Principal Amount: | \$1,000 per security |
| Reference Asset: | The SPDR® S&P® Regional Banking ETF (Ticker: KRE) |
| Trade Date: | July 29, 2015 |
| Pricing Date: | July 29, 2015 |
| Original Issue Date: | July 31, 2015 |
| Final Valuation Date: | July 26, 2019. The Final Valuation Date is subject to adjustment as described under "Additional Terms of the Notes—Valuation Dates" in the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement. |
| Maturity Date: | 3 business days after the Final Valuation Date, which is expected to be July 31, 2019. The Maturity Date is subject to adjustment as described under "Additional Terms of the Notes—Coupon Payment Dates, Call Payment Dates and Maturity Date" in the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement. |
| Upside Participation Rate: | At least 125% (1.25x) (to be determined on the Pricing Date) |
| Payment at Maturity: | On the Maturity Date, for each security, we will pay you the Final Settlement Value. |
| Reference Return: | The quotient, expressed as a percentage, calculated as follows: $\frac{\text{Final Price} - \text{Initial Price}}{\text{Initial Price}}$ |
| Final Settlement Value: | <p>If the Reference Return is greater than zero, you will receive a cash payment on the Maturity Date, per \$1,000 Principal equal to the lesser of:</p> <p>(a) \$1,000 + (\$1,000 × Reference Return × Upside Participation Rate); and</p> <p>(b) \$1,000 + (\$1,000 × Maximum Cap*).</p> <p>* To be determined on the Pricing Date and will be at least 45.00%.</p> <p>If the Reference Return is less than or equal to zero but greater than or equal to the Buffer Price, you will receive \$1,000 per \$1,000 Principal Amount (zero return).</p> <p>If the Reference Return is less than the Buffer Price, you will receive a cash payment on the Maturity Date, per \$1,000 Principal Amount, calculated as follows:</p> <p>\$1,000 + [\$1,000 × (Reference Return + 10%)].</p> <p>Under these circumstances, you will lose 1% of the Principal Amount of your securities for each percentage point that the Reference Return is below the Buffer Price. For example, if the Reference Return is -30%, you will suffer a -20% loss and receive 80% of the Principal Amount, subject to the credit risk of HSBC. If the Reference Return is less than the Buffer Price, you will lose up to 90% of your investment.</p> |
| Buffer Price: | -10% |
| Initial Price: | The Official Closing Price of the Reference Asset on the Pricing Date. |
| Final Price: | The Official Closing Price of the Reference Asset on the Final Valuation Date. |
| Official Closing Price: | The closing price of the Reference Asset on any scheduled trading day as determined by the Calculation Agent based upon the price displayed on the Bloomberg Professional® service page "KRE UP <EQUITY>", or on any successor page on the Bloomberg Professional® service or any successor service, as applicable, adjusted by the Calculation Agent as described under "Additional Note Terms — Antidilution and Reorganization Adjustments" in the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement. |
| Form of Securities: | Book-Entry |
| Listing: | The securities will not be listed on any U.S. securities exchange or quotation system. |
| Estimated Initial Value: | The Estimated Initial Value of the securities will be less than the price you pay to purchase the securities. The Estimated Initial Value does not represent a minimum price at which we or any of our affiliates would be willing to purchase your securities in the secondary market, if any, at any time. The Estimated Initial Value will be calculated on the Pricing Date. See "Risk Factors — The Estimated Initial Value of the securities, 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 securities in the secondary market, if any." |
| CUSIP/ISIN: | 40433B5T1 / US40433B5T14 |

The Trade Date, the Pricing Date and the other dates set forth above are subject to change, and will be set forth in the final pricing supplement relating to the securities.

GENERAL

This free writing prospectus relates to an offering of securities linked to the Reference Asset. The purchaser of a security will acquire a senior unsecured debt security of HSBC USA Inc. We reserve the right to withdraw, cancel or modify this offering and to reject orders in whole or in part. Although the offering of securities relates 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 component security included in the Reference Asset or as to the suitability of an investment in the securities.

You should read this document together with the prospectus dated March 5, 2015, the prospectus supplement dated March 5, 2015 and the ETF Underlying Supplement dated March 5, 2015. If the terms of the securities offered hereby are inconsistent with those described in the accompanying prospectus, prospectus supplement or ETF Underlying Supplement, the terms described in this free writing prospectus shall control. You should carefully consider, among other things, the matters set forth in "Risk Factors" beginning on page FWP-7 of this free writing prospectus, page S-1 of the prospectus supplement and page S-1 of the ETF Underlying Supplement, as the securities 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 securities. 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, prospectus supplement and ETF 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 ETF 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 ETF Underlying Supplement if you request them by calling toll-free 1-866-811-8049.

You may also obtain:

- ▶ The ETF Underlying Supplement at: http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/83246/000114420415014329/v403640_424b2.htm
- ▶ The prospectus supplement at: http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/83246/000114420415014311/v403645_424b2.htm
- ▶ The prospectus at: <http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/83246/000119312515078931/d884345d424b3.htm>

We are using this free writing prospectus to solicit from you an offer to purchase the securities. You may revoke your offer to purchase the securities 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 securities prior to their issuance. In the event of any material changes to the terms of the securities, we will notify you.

PAYMENT AT MATURITY

On the Maturity Date, for each security you hold, we will pay you the Final Settlement Value, which is an amount in cash, as described below:

If the Reference Return is greater than zero, you will receive a cash payment on the Maturity Date, per \$1,000 Principal Amount, equal to the lesser of:

- (a) $\$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times \text{Reference Return} \times \text{Upside Participation Rate})$; and
- (b) $\$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times \text{Maximum Cap}^*)$.

* To be determined on the Pricing Date and will be at least 45.00%.

If the Reference Return is less than or equal to zero but greater than or equal to the Buffer Price, you will receive \$1,000 per \$1,000 Principal Amount (zero return).

If the Reference Return is less than the Buffer Price, you will receive a cash payment on the Maturity Date, per \$1,000 Principal Amount, calculated as follows:

$$\$1,000 + [\$1,000 \times (\text{Reference Return} + 10\%)].$$

Under these circumstances, you will lose 1% of the Principal Amount of your securities for each percentage point that the Reference Return is below the Buffer Price. For example, if the Reference Return is -30%, you will suffer a -20% loss and receive 80% of the Principal Amount, subject to the credit risk of HSBC. **You should be aware that if the Reference Return is less than the Buffer Price, you will lose up to 90% of your investment.**

Interest

The securities will not pay interest.

Calculation Agent

We or one of our affiliates will act as calculation agent with respect to the securities.

Reference Issuer

PDR Services, LLC, is the reference issuer.

INVESTOR SUITABILITY

The securities may be suitable for you if:

- ▶ You seek an investment with an enhanced return linked to the potential positive performance of the Reference Asset and you believe the price of the Reference Asset will increase over the term of the securities.
- ▶ You are willing to invest in the securities based on the Maximum Cap of at least 45.00% (to be determined of the Pricing Date), which may limit your return at maturity. The actual Maximum Cap will be determined on the Pricing Date.
- ▶ You are willing to make an investment that is exposed to the negative Reference Return on a 1-to-1 basis for each percentage point that the Reference Return is less than the Buffer Price of -10%.
- ▶ You are willing to forgo dividends or other distributions paid to holders of the Reference Asset or on the stocks held by the Reference Asset.
- ▶ You are willing to accept the risk and return profile of the securities versus a conventional debt security with a comparable maturity issued by HSBC or another issuer with a similar credit rating.
- ▶ You do not seek current income from your investment.
- ▶ You do not seek an investment for which there is an active secondary market.
- ▶ You are willing to hold the securities to maturity.
- ▶ You are comfortable with the creditworthiness of HSBC, as Issuer of the securities.

The securities may not be suitable for you if:

- ▶ You believe the Reference Return will be negative or that the Reference Return will not be sufficiently positive to provide you with your desired return.
- ▶ You are unwilling to invest in the securities based on the Maximum Cap of at least 45.00% (to be determined of the Pricing Date), which may limit your return at maturity. The actual Maximum Cap will be determined on the Pricing Date.
- ▶ You are unwilling to make an investment that is exposed to the negative Reference Return on a 1-to-1 basis for each percentage point that the Reference Return is below the Buffer Price of -10%.
- ▶ You seek an investment that provides full return of principal.
- ▶ You prefer the lower risk, and therefore accept the potentially lower returns, of conventional debt securities with comparable maturities issued by HSBC or another issuer with a similar credit rating.
- ▶ You prefer to receive the dividends or other distributions paid to holders of the Reference Asset or on the stocks held by the Reference Asset.
- ▶ You seek current income from your investment.
- ▶ You seek an investment for which there will be an active secondary market.
- ▶ You are unable or unwilling to hold the securities to maturity.
- ▶ You are not willing or are unable to assume the credit risk associated with HSBC, as Issuer of the securities.

RISK FACTORS

We urge you to read the section “Risk Factors” beginning on page S-1 in the accompanying prospectus supplement and on page S-1 of the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement. Investing in the securities is not equivalent to investing directly in the Reference Asset or any of the stocks comprising the Underlying Index. You should understand the risks of investing in the securities and should reach an investment decision only after careful consideration, with your advisors, of the suitability of the securities in light of your particular financial circumstances and the information set forth in this free writing prospectus and the accompanying, prospectus, prospectus supplement and ETF Underlying Supplement.

In addition to the risks discussed below, you should review “Risk Factors” in the accompanying prospectus supplement and ETF Underlying Supplement including the explanation of risks relating to the securities described in the following sections:

- ▶ “— Risks Relating to All Note Issuances” in the prospectus supplement; and
- ▶ “— General Risks Related to Index Funds” in the ETF Underlying Supplement

You will be subject to significant risks not associated with conventional fixed-rate or floating-rate debt securities.

Your investment in the securities may result in a loss.

You will be exposed to the decline in the Final Price from the Initial Price beyond the Buffer Price of -10%. Accordingly, if the Reference Return is less than -10%, your Payment at Maturity will be less than the Principal Amount of your securities. You will lose up to 90% of your investment at maturity if the Reference Return is less than the Buffer Price.

The appreciation on the securities is limited by the Maximum Cap.

You will not participate in any appreciation in the level of the Reference Asset beyond the Maximum Cap of at least 45.00% (to be determined on the Pricing Date). You will not receive a return on the securities greater than the Maximum Cap.

The amount payable on the securities is not linked to the price of the Reference Asset at any time other than on the Final Valuation Date.

The Final Price will be based on the Official Closing Price of the Reference Asset on the Final Valuation Date, subject to postponement for non-trading days and certain market disruption events. Even if the price of the Reference Asset appreciates during the term of the securities other than on the Final Valuation Date but then decreases on the Final Valuation Date to a price that is less than the Initial Price, 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 price of the Reference Asset prior to such decrease. Although the actual price of the Reference Asset on the Maturity Date or at other times during the term of the securities may be higher than the Final Price, the Payment at Maturity will be based solely on the Official Closing Price of the Reference Asset on the Final Valuation Date.

Credit risk of HSBC USA Inc.

The securities 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 securities 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 securities, 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 securities 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 securities.

The securities will not bear interest.

As a holder of the securities, you will not receive interest payments.

The Reference Asset and the Underlying Index have limited actual historical information.

The Reference Asset was previously linked to the KBW Regional Banking Index prior to being linked to the Underlying Index, which was created in September 2011. Because both the Reference Asset and the Underlying Index are of recent origin and limited actual historical performance data exists with respect to them, your investment in the securities may involve a greater risk than investing in securities linked to an ETF with a more established record of performance. **Past performance of the Reference Asset and Underlying Index are not indicative of future results.**

Owning the securities is not the same as owning the Reference Asset or the stocks included in the Underlying Index.

The return on your securities may not reflect the return you would realize if you actually owned the Reference Asset or stocks included in the Underlying Index. As a holder of the securities, you will not have voting rights or rights to receive dividends or other distributions or other rights that holders of the Reference Asset or the stocks included in the Underlying Index would have.

Changes that affect the Reference Asset or the Underlying Index may affect the price of the Reference Asset and the market value of the securities and the amount you will receive at maturity.

The policies of the reference issuer or S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the "Index Sponsor"), the index sponsor of the Underlying Index, concerning additions, deletions and substitutions of the constituents comprising the Reference Asset or the Underlying Index, as applicable, and the manner in which the reference issuer or the Index Sponsor takes account of certain changes affecting those constituents included in the Reference Asset or the Underlying Index may affect the price of the Reference Asset. The policies of the reference issuer or the Index Sponsor with respect to the calculation of the Reference Asset or the Underlying Index, as applicable, could also affect the price of the Reference Asset. The reference issuer or the Index Sponsor may discontinue or suspend calculation or dissemination of the Reference Asset or the Underlying Index, as applicable. Any such actions could affect the price of the Reference Asset and the value of the securities.

The securities are not insured or guaranteed by any governmental agency of the United States or any other jurisdiction.

The securities 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 securities 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 securities.

The Estimated Initial Value of the securities, 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 securities in the secondary market, if any.

The Estimated Initial Value of the securities 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 pay to issue market-linked securities, as well as the mid-market value of the embedded derivatives in the securities. 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 securities 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 securities to be more favorable to you. We will determine the value of the embedded derivatives in the securities 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 securities 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 securities in the secondary market (if any exists) at any time.

The price of your securities 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, which will be used or retained by us or one of our affiliates, include the underwriting discount, our affiliates' projected hedging profits (which may or may not be realized) for assuming risks inherent in hedging our obligations under the securities and the costs associated with structuring and hedging our obligations under the securities. If you were to sell your securities in the secondary market, if any, the price you would receive for your securities 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 securities in the secondary market, if any, at any time after issuance will vary based on many factors, including the price of the Reference Asset and changes in market conditions, and cannot be predicted with accuracy. The securities are not designed to be short-term trading instruments, and you should, therefore, be able and willing to hold the securities to maturity. Any sale of the securities prior to maturity could result in a loss to you.

If we were to repurchase your securities immediately after the Original Issue Date, the price you receive may be higher than the Estimated Initial Value of the securities.

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 securities 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 9 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 securities and other costs in connection with the securities that we will no longer expect to incur over the term of the securities. 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 securities. 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 securities based on changes in market conditions and other factors that cannot be predicted.

The securities lack liquidity.

The securities will not be listed on any securities exchange. HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. is not required to offer to purchase the securities in the secondary market, if any exists. Even if there is a secondary market, it may not provide enough liquidity to allow you to trade or sell the securities easily. Because other dealers are not likely to make a secondary market for the securities, the price at which you may be able to trade your securities is likely to depend on the price, if any, at which HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. is willing to buy the securities.

Potential conflicts of interest may exist.

HSBC and its affiliates play a variety of roles in connection with the issuance of the securities, including acting as calculation agent and hedging our obligations under the securities. In performing these duties, the economic interests of the calculation agent and other affiliates of ours are potentially adverse to your interests as an investor in the securities. We will not have any obligation to consider your interests as a holder of the securities in taking any action that might affect the value of your securities.

The stocks included in the Reference Asset are concentrated in one sector.

All of the stocks included in the Reference Asset are issued by companies in the financial services sector, and more specifically, the regional banking sector. As a result, the stocks that will determine the performance of the securities are concentrated in one sector. Although an investment in the securities will not give holders any ownership or other direct interests in the stocks underlying the Reference Asset, the return on an investment in the securities will be subject to certain risks associated with a direct equity investment in companies in the regional banking sector, including those discussed below. In addition, profitability of these companies is largely dependent on the availability and cost of capital funds, and can fluctuate significantly when interest rates change. Credit losses resulting from financial difficulties of borrowers can negatively impact the sector. Bank may also be subject to severe price competition. The regional banking industry is highly competitive and failure to maintain or increase market share may result in lost market share. Accordingly, by investing in the securities, you will not benefit from the diversification which could result from an investment linked to companies that operate in multiple sectors.

Economic conditions have adversely impacted the stock prices of many companies in the financial services sector, and may do so during the term of the securities.

In recent years, economic conditions in the U.S. have resulted, and may continue to result, in significant losses among many companies that operate in the financial services sector. These conditions have also resulted, and may continue to result, in a high degree of volatility in the stock prices of financial instit

utions, and substantial fluctuations in the profitability of these companies. Numerous financial services companies have experienced substantial decreases in the value of their assets, taken action to raise capital (including the issuance of debt or equity securities), or even ceased operations. Further, companies in the financial services sector have been subject to unprecedented government actions and regulation, which may limit the scope of their operations, the types of loans and other financial commitments they can make, the interest rates and fees they can charge, the prices they can charge and the amount of capital they must maintain, and, in turn, result in a decrease in value of these companies. Any of these factors may have an adverse impact on the price of the Reference Asset. As a result, the price of the Reference Asset may be adversely affected by economic, political, or regulatory events affecting the financial services sector or one of the sub-sectors of the financial services sector. This in turn could adversely impact the market value of the securities and decrease the amount payable at maturity.

Uncertain tax treatment.

For a discussion of the U.S. federal income tax consequences of your investment in a security, please see the discussion under "U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations" herein and the discussion under "U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations" in the accompanying prospectus supplement.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES

The following table and examples are provided for illustrative purposes only and are hypothetical. They do not purport to be representative of every possible scenario concerning increases or decreases in the price of the Reference Asset relative to its Initial Price. We cannot predict the actual Final Price. The assumptions we have made in connection with the illustrations set forth below may not reflect actual events, and the hypothetical Initial Price used in the table and examples below is not expected to be the actual Initial Price. You should not take this illustration or these examples as an indication or assurance of the expected performance of the Reference Asset or the return on your securities. The Final Settlement Value may be less than the amount that you would have received from a conventional debt security with the same stated maturity, including such a security issued by HSBC. The numbers appearing in the table below and following examples have been rounded for ease of analysis.

The table below illustrates the Payment at Maturity on a \$1,000 investment in the securities for a hypothetical range of Reference Returns from -100% to +100%. The following results are based solely on the assumptions outlined below. The "Hypothetical Return on the Securities" as used below is the number, expressed as a percentage, that results from comparing the Final Settlement Value per \$1,000 Principal Amount to \$1,000. The potential returns described here assume that your securities are held to maturity. You should consider carefully whether the securities are suitable to your investment goals. The following table and examples assume the following:

- ▶ Principal Amount: \$1,000
- ▶ Hypothetical Initial Price: \$40.00
- ▶ Upside Participation Rate: 125%
- ▶ Hypothetical Maximum Cap: 45.00%
- ▶ Buffer Price: -10%

The actual Initial Price and Maximum Cap will be determined on the Pricing Date.

| Hypothetical Final Price | Hypothetical Reference Return | Hypothetical Final Settlement Value | Hypothetical Return on the Securities |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 80.00 | 100.00% | \$1,450.00 | 45.00% |
| 72.00 | 80.00% | \$1,450.00 | 45.00% |
| 64.00 | 60.00% | \$1,450.00 | 45.00% |
| 56.00 | 40.00% | \$1,450.00 | 45.00% |
| 54.40 | 36.00% | \$1,450.00 | 45.00% |
| 52.00 | 30.00% | \$1,375.00 | 37.50% |
| 48.00 | 20.00% | \$1,250.00 | 25.00% |
| 44.00 | 10.00% | \$1,125.00 | 12.50% |
| 42.00 | 5.00% | \$1,062.50 | 6.25% |
| 40.80 | 2.00% | \$1,025.00 | 2.50% |
| 40.40 | 1.00% | \$1,012.50 | 1.25% |
| 40.00 | 0.00% | \$1,000.00 | 0.00% |
| 39.60 | -1.00% | \$1,000.00 | 0.00% |
| 39.20 | -2.00% | \$1,000.00 | 0.00% |
| 38.00 | -5.00% | \$1,000.00 | 0.00% |
| 36.00 | -10.00% | \$1,000.00 | 0.00% |
| 34.00 | -15.00% | \$950.00 | -5.00% |
| 32.00 | -20.00% | \$900.00 | -10.00% |
| 28.00 | -30.00% | \$800.00 | -20.00% |
| 24.00 | -40.00% | \$700.00 | -30.00% |
| 16.00 | -60.00% | \$500.00 | -50.00% |
| 8.00 | -80.00% | \$300.00 | -70.00% |
| 0.00 | -100.00% | \$100.00 | -90.00% |

The following examples indicate how the Final Settlement Value would be calculated with respect to a hypothetical \$1,000 investment in the securities.

Example 1: The price of the Reference Asset increases from the Initial Price of 40.00 to a Final Price of 48.00.

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| | |
| Reference Return: | 20.00% |
| Final Settlement Value: | \$1,250.00 |

Because the Reference Return is positive, and the Reference Return multiplied by the Upside Participation Rate is less than the hypothetical Maximum Cap, the Final Settlement Value would be 25.00% per \$1,000 Principal Amount, calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times \text{Reference Return} \times \text{Upside Participation Rate}) \\
 &= \$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times 20.00 \times 125.00\%) \\
 &= 25.00\%
 \end{aligned}$$

Example 1 shows that you will receive the return of your principal investment plus a return equal to the Reference Return multiplied by the hypothetical Upside Participation Rate when the Reference Asset appreciates.

Example 2: The price of the Reference Asset increases from the Initial Price of 40.00 to a Final Price of 56.00.

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| | |
| Reference Return: | 40.00% |
| Final Settlement Value: | \$1,450.00 |

Because the Reference Return is positive, and the Reference Return multiplied by the Upside Participation Rate is greater than the hypothetical Maximum Cap, the Final Settlement Value would be \$1,450.00 per \$1,000 Principal Amount, calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times \text{Maximum Cap}) \\
 &= \$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times 45.00\%) \\
 &= \$1,450.00
 \end{aligned}$$

Example 2 shows that you will receive the return of your principal investment plus a return equal to the Maximum Cap when the Reference Return is positive and such Reference Return multiplied by the Upside Participation Rate exceeds the Maximum Cap.

Example 3: The price of the Reference Asset decreases from the Initial Price of 40.00 to a Final Price of 38.00.

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| | |
| Reference Return: | -5.00% |
| Final Settlement Value: | \$1,000.00 |

Because the Reference Return is less than zero but greater than the Buffer Price of -10%, the Final Settlement Value would be \$1,000.00 per \$1,000 Principal Amount (a zero return).

Example 4: The price of the Reference Asset decreases from the Initial Price of 40.00 to a Final Price of 28.00

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| | |
| Reference Return: | -30.00% |
| Final Settlement Value: | 800.00 |

Because the Reference Return is less than the Buffer Price of -10%, the Final Settlement Value would be \$800.00 per \$1,000 Principal Amount, calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \$1,000 + [\$1,000 \times (\text{Reference Return} + 10\%)] \\
 &= \$1,000 + [\$1,000 \times (-30.00 + 10\%)] \\
 &= \$800.00\%
 \end{aligned}$$

Example 4 shows that you are exposed on a 1-to-1 basis to declines in the price of the Reference Asset beyond the Buffer Price of -10%. YOU WILL LOSE UP TO 90% OF THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF YOUR SECURITIES.

THE SPDR® S&P® REGIONAL BANKING ETF (“KRE”)

Description of the Reference Asset

State Street Bank and Trust Company (“SSBTC”) act as trustee of the KRE, and PDR Services, LLC (wholly owned by NYSE Euronext) acts as sponsor of the KRE. The KRE is a unit investment trust that issues securities called “Standard & Poor’s Depositary Receipts” or “SPDRs.” The KRE is an exchange-traded fund that trades on the NYSE Arca, Inc. under the ticker symbol “KRE.” The KRE is an investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended. SPDRs represent an undivided ownership interest in a portfolio of all, or substantially all, of the common stocks of the S&P® Regional Banks Select Industry Index, which is the underlying index for KRE (the “Underlying Index”). Information provided to or filed with the SEC by the KRE pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, can be located by reference to SEC file numbers 033-46080 and 811-06125, respectively, through the SEC’s website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

Investment Objective and Strategy

In seeking to track the performance of the Underlying Index, the KRE employs a sampling strategy, which means that the KRE is not required to purchase all of the securities represented in the Underlying Index. Instead, the KRE may purchase a subset of the securities in the Underlying Index in an effort to hold a portfolio of securities with generally the same risk and return characteristics of the Underlying Index. The quantity of holdings in the KRE will be based on a number of factors, including asset size of the KRE. Based on its analysis of these factors, SSgA Funds Management, Inc. (“SSgA FM” or the “Adviser”), the investment adviser to the KRE, may invest the KRE’s assets in a subset of securities in the Underlying Index or may invest the KRE’s assets in substantially all of the securities represented in the Underlying Index in approximately the same proportions as the Underlying Index. Under normal market conditions, the KRE generally invests substantially all, but at least 80%, of its total assets in the securities comprising the Underlying Index. The KRE will provide shareholders with at least 60 days’ notice prior to any material change in this 80% investment policy. In addition, the KRE may invest in equity securities that are not included in the Underlying Index, cash and cash equivalents or money market instruments, such as repurchase agreements and money market funds (including money market funds advised by the Adviser).

The Underlying Index

We have derived all information relating to the Underlying Index, including, without limitation, its make-up, performance, method of calculation and changes in its components, from publicly available sources. That information reflects the policies of and is subject to change by, S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index sponsor”). The Index sponsor, which licenses the copyright and all other rights to the Underlying Index, has no obligation to continue to publish, and may discontinue publication of, the Underlying Index at any time.

General

The Underlying Index is designed to measure the performance of the regional banks sub-industry portion of the S&P Total Market Index (“S&P TMI”), an index that measures the performance of the U.S. equity market. The S&P TMI includes all U.S. common equities listed on the NYSE (including NYSE Arca), the NYSE MKT, the NASDAQ Global Select Market, the NASDAQ Select Market and the NASDAQ Capital Market. Each of the component stocks in the Underlying Index is a constituent company within the regional banks sub-industry portion of the S&P TMI.

The Underlying Index was launched in September 2011. As of June 30, 2015, it included 92 index components, with an average market capitalization of approximately \$4.95 billion.

To be eligible for inclusion in the Underlying Index, companies must be in the S&P TMI, and must be included in the relevant Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) sub-industry. The GICS was developed to establish a global standard for categorizing companies into sectors and industries. In addition, companies must satisfy one of the two following combined size and liquidity criteria:

1. float-adjusted market capitalization above US\$500 million and float-adjusted liquidity ratio above 90%; or
2. float-adjusted market capitalization above US\$400 million and float-adjusted liquidity ratio above 150%.

All U.S. companies satisfying these requirements are included in the Underlying Index. The total number of companies in the Underlying Index should be at least 35. If there are fewer than 35 companies, companies from a supplementary list of highly correlated sub-industries that meet the market capitalization and liquidity thresholds above are included in order of their float-adjusted market capitalization to reach 35 constituents. Minimum market capitalization requirements may be relaxed to ensure there are at least 22 companies in the Underlying Index as of each rebalancing effective date.

Eligibility factors include:

Market Capitalization: Float-adjusted market capitalization should be at least US\$400 million for inclusion in the Underlying Index. Existing index components must have a float-adjusted market capitalization of US\$300 million to remain in the Underlying Index at each rebalancing.

Liquidity: The liquidity measurement used is a liquidity ratio, defined as dollar value traded over the previous 12-months divided by the float-adjusted market capitalization as of the Underlying Index rebalancing reference date. Constituents having a float-adjusted market capitalization above US\$500 million must have a liquidity ratio greater than 90% to be eligible for addition to the Underlying Index. Constituents having a float-adjusted market capitalization between US\$400 and US\$500 million must have a liquidity ratio greater than 150% to be eligible for addition to the Underlying Index. Existing Underlying Index constituents must have a liquidity ratio greater than 50% to remain in the Underlying Index at the quarterly rebalancing. The length of time to evaluate liquidity is reduced to the available trading period for IPOs or spin-offs that do not have 12 months of trading history.

Domicile: U.S. companies only.

Takeover Restrictions: At the discretion of the Index sponsor, constituents with shareholder ownership restrictions defined in company organizational documents may be deemed ineligible for inclusion in the Underlying Index. Ownership restrictions preventing entities from replicating the index weight of a company may be excluded from the eligible universe or removed from the Underlying Index.

Turnover: At times a company may appear to temporarily violate one or more of the addition criteria. However, the addition criteria are for addition to the Underlying Index, not for continued membership. As a result, an index constituent that appears to violate the criteria for addition to the Underlying Index will not be deleted unless ongoing conditions warrant a change in the composition of the Underlying Index.

Computation of the Underlying Index

The Underlying Index is equally-weighted, with adjustments to constituent weights to ensure concentration and liquidity requirements, and calculated by the divisor methodology used in all of the Index sponsor's equity indices.

The initial divisor is set to have a base index value of 1,000 on June 20, 2003. The index value is calculated as the index market value divided by the index divisor:

$$\text{Index Value} = \text{Index Market Value} / \text{Divisor}$$

In order to maintain index series continuity, the divisor is also adjusted at each rebalancing.

$$(\text{Index Value}) \text{ before rebalancing} = (\text{Index Value}) \text{ after rebalancing}$$

Therefore,

$$(\text{Divisor}) \text{ after rebalancing} = (\text{Index Market Value}) \text{ after rebalancing} / (\text{Index Value}) \text{ before rebalancing}$$

At each quarterly rebalancing, the constituents underlying the Underlying Index are initially equally-weighted using closing prices as of the second Friday of the last month of the quarter as the reference price. Adjustments are then made to ensure that there are no constituents whose weight in the Underlying Index is more than can be traded in a single day for a US\$ 500 million portfolio.

The Index sponsor calculates a maximum basket liquidity weight for each constituent in the Underlying Index using the ratio of its three-month average daily value traded to US\$500 million. Each constituent's weight in the Underlying Index is then compared to its maximum basket liquidity weight and is set to the lesser of its maximum basket liquidity weight or its initial equal weight. All excess weight is redistributed across the Underlying Index to the uncapped component stocks.

If necessary, a final adjustment is made to ensure that no constituent in the Underlying Index has a weight greater than 4.5%. This step of the iterative weighting process may force the weight of those stocks limited to their maximum basket liquidity weight to exceed that weight. In such cases, the Index sponsor will make no further adjustments. If the Underlying Index contains exactly 22 companies as of the rebalancing effective date, the Underlying Index will be equally weighted without basket liquidity constraints.

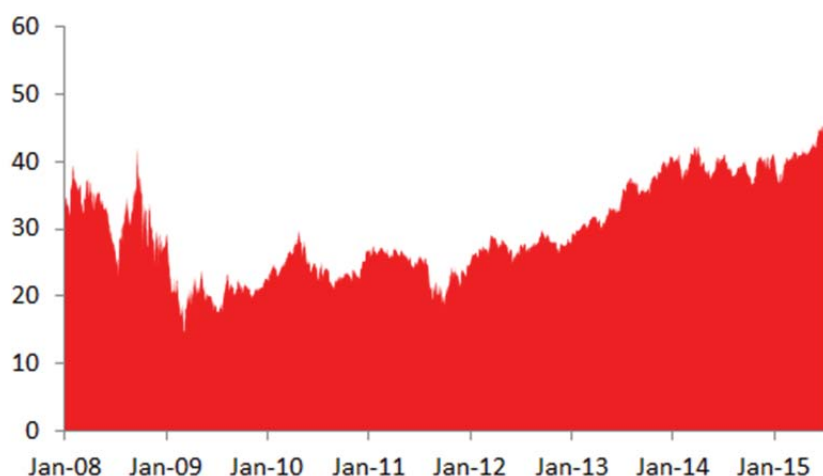
Maintenance of the Underlying Index

Maintenance of the Underlying Index will follow that of the S&P TMI. The membership of the Underlying Index is reviewed quarterly. Rebalancing occurs after the closing on the third Friday of the quarter ending month. The reference date for additions and deletions is after the closing of the last trading date of the previous month. Closing prices as of the second Friday of the last month of the quarter are used for setting Underlying Index weights. However, a company will be deleted from the Underlying Index if the S&P TMI drops the constituent. Unless a constituent deletion causes the number of companies in the Underlying Index to fall below 22, no addition will be made to the Underlying Index until the next rebalancing. At that time, the entire Underlying Index will be rebalanced based on all eligibility criteria, including the minimum number of companies. If a constituent deletion causes the number of companies in the Underlying Index to fall below 22, an addition is made assuming the weight of the dropped stock. When a stock is removed from the Underlying Index at a price of \$0.00, the stock's replacement will be added to the Underlying Index at the weight using the previous day's closing value, or the most immediate prior business day that the deleted stock was not valued at \$0.00. In case of GICS changes, where a company does not belong to the regional banks sub-industry after the classification change, it is removed from the Underlying Index at the next rebalancing.

The treatment of corporate actions is the same as in the S&P TMI. In case of a spin-off, generally both the parent company and spin-off companies will remain in the Underlying Index until the next rebalancing, regardless of whether they conform to the theme of the Underlying Index. When there is no market-determined price available for the spin-off company, the spin-off company is added to the Underlying Index at zero price at the close of the day before the ex-date. In the case of a rights offering, the price is adjusted to the price of the parent company minus (the price of the rights subscription/rights ratio). The Underlying Index shares change so that the company's weight remains the same as its weight before the spin-off. In case of stock dividend, stock split or reverse stock split, the Underlying Index shares are multiplied by and price is divided by the split factor. Share issuance, share repurchase, equity offering or warrant conversion will not cause an Underlying Index adjustment. When special dividends are paid, the price of the stock making the special dividend payment is reduced by the per share special dividend amount after the close of trading on the day before the dividend ex-date.

Historical Performance of the Reference Asset

The following graph sets forth the historical performance of the Reference Asset based on the daily historical closing prices from January 2, 2008 to July 27, 2015, as reported on the Bloomberg Professional[®] service. We have not undertaken any independent review of, or made any due diligence inquiry with respect to, the information obtained from the Bloomberg Professional[®] service. The historical prices of the Reference Asset should not be taken as an indication of future performance.



| <u>Quarter Begin</u> | <u>Quarter End</u> | <u>(Intraday) Quarterly High</u> | <u>(Intraday) Quarterly Low</u> | <u>Quarterly Close</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1/2/2008 | 3/31/2008 | 40.00 | 30.26 | 35.15 |
| 4/1/2008 | 6/30/2008 | 37.38 | 26.50 | 26.63 |
| 7/1/2008 | 9/30/2008 | 60.23 | 21.71 | 36.10 |
| 10/1/2008 | 12/31/2008 | 38.48 | 22.90 | 29.16 |
| 1/2/2009 | 3/31/2009 | 29.33 | 14.44 | 19.22 |
| 4/1/2009 | 6/30/2009 | 23.95 | 17.70 | 18.33 |
| 7/1/2009 | 9/30/2009 | 23.78 | 17.24 | 21.32 |
| 10/1/2009 | 12/31/2009 | 22.75 | 19.45 | 22.25 |
| 1/4/2010 | 3/31/2010 | 27.32 | 22.01 | 26.22 |
| 4/1/2010 | 6/30/2010 | 29.78 | 22.92 | 23.09 |
| 7/1/2010 | 9/30/2010 | 25.18 | 20.85 | 22.91 |
| 10/1/2010 | 12/31/2010 | 27.01 | 21.77 | 26.45 |
| 1/3/2011 | 3/31/2011 | 27.54 | 25.30 | 26.60 |
| 4/1/2011 | 6/30/2011 | 27.44 | 23.84 | 25.45 |
| 7/1/2011 | 9/30/2011 | 26.25 | 18.60 | 19.31 |
| 10/3/2011 | 12/30/2011 | 24.90 | 18.31 | 24.41 |
| 1/3/2012 | 3/30/2012 | 29.35 | 24.62 | 28.47 |
| 4/2/2012 | 6/29/2012 | 28.75 | 24.80 | 27.38 |
| 7/2/2012 | 9/28/2012 | 30.07 | 26.23 | 28.64 |
| 10/1/2012 | 12/31/2012 | 29.48 | 26.07 | 27.97 |
| 1/2/2013 | 3/28/2013 | 31.93 | 28.51 | 31.80 |
| 4/1/2013 | 6/28/2013 | 34.08 | 29.73 | 33.88 |
| 7/1/2013 | 9/30/2013 | 37.71 | 34.06 | 35.65 |
| 10/1/2013 | 12/31/2013 | 40.99 | 35.02 | 40.61 |
| 1/1/2014 | 3/31/2014 | 42.78 | 36.83 | 41.38 |
| 4/1/2014 | 6/30/2014 | 42.47 | 36.60 | 40.32 |
| 7/1/2014 | 9/30/2014 | 41.29 | 37.42 | 37.86 |
| 10/1/2014 | 12/31/2014 | 41.43 | 35.20 | 40.70 |
| 1/1/2015 | 3/31/2015* | 41.82 | 36.36 | 40.83 |
| 4/1/2015 | 6/30/2015 | 45.61 | 40.20 | 44.16 |
| 7/1/2015 | 7/27/2015** | 45.29 | 42.74 | 43.44 |

** This free writing prospectus includes, for the third calendar quarter of 2015, data for the period from July 1, 2015 through July 27, 2015. Accordingly, the "Quarterly High," "Quarterly Low" and "Quarterly Close" data indicated are for this shortened period only and do not reflect complete data for the second calendar quarter of 2015.

EVENTS OF DEFAULT AND ACCELERATION

If the securities have become immediately due and payable following an Event of Default (as defined in the accompanying prospectus) with respect to the securities, the calculation agent will determine the accelerated payment due and payable at maturity in the same general manner as described in "Payment at Maturity" in this free writing prospectus. In that case, the scheduled trading day immediately preceding the date of acceleration will be used as the Final Valuation Date for purposes of determining the Reference Return, and the accelerated maturity date will be three business days after the accelerated Final Valuation Date. If a Market Disruption Event exists with respect to the Reference Asset on that scheduled trading day, then the accelerated Final Valuation Date for the Reference Asset will be postponed for up to five scheduled trading days (in the same manner used for postponing the originally scheduled Final Valuation Date). The accelerated maturity date will also be postponed by an equal number of business days.

If the securities have become immediately due and payable following an Event of Default, you will not be entitled to any additional payments with respect to the securities. 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)

We have appointed HSBC Securities (USA) Inc., an affiliate of HSBC, as the agent for the sale of the securities. Pursuant to the terms of a distribution agreement, HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. will purchase the securities from HSBC at the price to public less the underwriting discount set forth on the cover page of the pricing supplement to which this free writing prospectus relates, for distribution to other registered broker-dealers, or will offer the securities directly to investors. HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. proposes to offer the securities at the price to public set forth on the cover page of this free writing prospectus. HSBC USA Inc. or one of our affiliates may pay varying underwriting discounts of up to 4.50% per \$1,000 Principal Amount in connection with the distribution of the securities to other registered broker-dealers.

An affiliate of HSBC has paid or may pay in the future an amount to broker-dealers in connection with the costs of the continuing implementation of systems to support the securities.

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 securities, but is under no obligation to make a market in the securities and may discontinue any market-making activities at any time without notice.

See "Supplemental Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)" on page S-59 in the prospectus supplement.

U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

There is no direct legal authority as to the proper tax treatment of the securities, and therefore significant aspects of the tax treatment of the securities are uncertain as to both the timing and character of any inclusion in income in respect of the securities. Under one approach, a security should be treated as a pre-paid executory contract with respect to the Reference Asset. We intend to treat the securities consistent with this approach. Pursuant to the terms of the securities, you agree to treat the securities 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 a security as a pre-paid executory contract with respect to the Reference Asset. Pursuant to this approach and subject to the discussion below regarding "constructive ownership transactions," we do not intend to report any income or gain with respect to the securities prior to their maturity or an earlier sale or exchange and we intend to treat any gain or loss upon maturity or an earlier sale or exchange as long-term capital gain or loss, provided that you have held the security for more than one year at such time for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Despite the foregoing, U.S. holders (as defined under "U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations" in the accompanying prospectus supplement) should be aware that the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), contains a provision, Section 1260 of the Code, which sets forth rules which are applicable to what it refers to as "constructive ownership transactions." Due to the manner in which it is drafted, the precise applicability of Section 1260 of the Code to any particular transaction is often uncertain. In general, a "constructive ownership transaction" includes a contract under which an investor will receive payment equal to or credit for the future value of any equity interest in a regulated investment company (such as shares of the KRE (the "Underlying Shares")). Under the "constructive ownership" rules, if an investment in the securities is treated as a "constructive ownership transaction," any long-term capital gain recognized by a U.S. holder in respect of a security will be recharacterized as ordinary income to the extent such gain exceeds the amount of "net underlying long-term capital gain" (as defined in Section 1260 of the Code) of the U.S. holder determined as if the U.S. holder had acquired the Underlying Shares on the original issue date of the security at fair market value and sold them at fair

market value on the Maturity Date (if the security was held until the Maturity Date) or on the date of sale or exchange of the security (if the security was sold or exchanged prior to the Maturity Date) (the “Excess Gain”). In addition, an interest charge will also apply to any deemed underpayment of tax in respect of any Excess Gain to the extent such gain would have resulted in gross income inclusion for the U.S. holder in taxable years prior to the taxable year of the sale, exchange or maturity of the security (assuming such income accrued at a constant rate equal to the applicable federal rate as of the date of sale, exchange or maturity of the security). Furthermore, unless otherwise established by clear and convincing evidence, the “net underlying long-term capital gain” is treated as zero.

Although the matter is not clear, there exists a risk that an investment in the securities will be treated as a “constructive ownership transaction.” If such treatment applies, it is not entirely clear to what extent any long-term capital gain recognized by a U.S. holder in respect of the securities will be recharacterized as ordinary income. It is possible, for example, that the amount of the Excess Gain (if any) that would be recharacterized as ordinary income in respect of each security linked to the KRE will equal the excess of (i) any long-term capital gain recognized by the U.S. holder in respect of such a security over (ii) the “net underlying long-term capital gain” such U.S. holder would have had if such U.S. holder had acquired a number of the Underlying Shares at fair market value on the original issue date of such security for an amount equal to the “issue price” of the security and, upon the date of sale, exchange or maturity of the security, sold such Underlying Shares at fair market value (which would reflect the percentage increase in the value of the Underlying Shares over the term of the security). Accordingly, it is possible that all or a portion of any gain on the sale or settlement of the security after one year could be treated as “Excess Gain” from a “constructive ownership transaction,” which gain would be recharacterized as ordinary income, and subject to an interest charge. U.S. holders should consult their tax advisors regarding the potential application of the “constructive ownership” rules.

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.

Under current law, while the matter is not entirely clear, individual non-U.S. holders, and entities whose property is potentially includible in those individuals’ gross estates for U.S. federal estate tax purposes (for example, a trust funded by such an individual and with respect to which the individual has retained certain interests or powers), should note that, absent an applicable treaty benefit, the securities are likely to be treated as U.S. situs property, subject to U.S. federal estate tax. These individuals and entities should consult their own tax advisors regarding the U.S. federal estate tax consequences of investing in the securities.

For a discussion of the U.S. federal income tax consequences of your investment in a security, please see the discussion under “U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations” in the accompanying prospectus supplement.

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HSBC USA Inc.

**\$ Buffered Accelerated Market
Participation Securities Linked to the
SPDR® S&P® Regional Banking ETF**

July 28, 2015

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