

974,046 Units  
 \$10 principal amount per unit  
 CUSIP No. 40434K420

Pricing Date  
 Settlement Date  
 Maturity Date

December 22, 2015  
 December 30, 2015  
 December 21, 2018



## Leveraged Index Return Notes<sup>®</sup> Linked to an International Equity Basket

- Maturity of approximately three years
- 160.00% leveraged upside exposure to increases in the Basket
- The Basket is comprised of the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index, the FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index, the Nikkei 225 Index, the S&P/ASX 200 Index, the Swiss Market Index, and the Hang Seng<sup>®</sup> Index. The EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index was given an initial weight of 40%, the FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index and the Nikkei 225 Index were each given an initial weight of 20%, the S&P/ASX 200 Index and the Swiss Market Index were each given an initial weight of 7.50%, and the Hang Seng<sup>®</sup> Index was given an initial weight of 5.00%
- 1-to-1 downside exposure to decreases in the Basket, with 100% of the principal amount at risk
- All payments occur at maturity and are subject to the credit risk of HSBC USA Inc.
- No interest payments
- No listing on any securities exchange



The notes are being issued by HSBC USA Inc. ("HSBC"). Investing in the notes involves a number of risks. There are important differences between the notes and a conventional debt security, including different investment risks and costs. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page TS-6 of this term sheet and beginning on page PS-6 of product supplement EQUITY INDICES LIRN-1.

The estimated initial value of the notes on the pricing date is \$9.46 per unit, which is less than the public offering price listed below. The market value of the notes at any time will reflect many factors and cannot be predicted with accuracy. See "Summary" on page TS-2 and "Risk Factors" beginning on page TS-6 of this term sheet for additional information.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the notes or passed upon the accuracy or the adequacy of this document, the accompanying product supplement, prospectus or prospectus supplement. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	Per Unit	Total
Public offering price <sup>(1)</sup> .....	\$10.000	\$9,740,460.00
Underwriting discount <sup>(1)</sup> .....	\$ 0.225	\$219,160.35
Proceeds, before expenses, to HSBC	\$ 9.775	\$9,521,299.65

(1) See as well "Supplement to the Plan of Distribution."

### The notes:

Are Not FDIC Insured	Are Not Bank Guaranteed	May Lose Value
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**Merrill Lynch & Co.**

December 22, 2015

## Summary

The Leveraged Index Return Notes<sup>®</sup> Linked to an International Equity Basket, due December 21, 2018 (the “notes”) are our senior unsecured debt securities and are not a direct or indirect obligation of any third party. The notes are not deposit liabilities or other obligations of a bank and are not guaranteed or insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency of the United States or any other jurisdiction.

**The notes will rank equally with all of our other senior unsecured debt. Any payments due on the notes, including any repayment of principal, depends on the credit risk of HSBC and its ability to satisfy its obligations as they come due.** The notes provide you a leveraged return if the Ending Value (as determined below) of the Market Measure, which is the international equity basket described below (the “Basket”), is greater than the Starting Value. If the Ending Value is less than the Threshold Value, you will lose all or a portion of the principal amount of your notes. Payments on the notes, including the amount you receive at maturity, will be calculated based on the \$10 principal amount per unit and will depend on the performance of the Basket, subject to our credit risk. See “Terms of the Notes” below.

The Basket is comprised of the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index, the FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index, the Nikkei 225 Index, the S&P/ASX 200 Index, the Swiss Market Index, and the Hang Seng<sup>®</sup> Index (each, a “Basket Component”). On the pricing date, the Hang Seng<sup>®</sup> Index was given an initial weight of 5%, the S&P/ASX 200 Index and the Swiss Market Index were each given an initial weight of 7.5%, the FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index and the Nikkei 225 Index were each given an initial weight of 20%, and the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index was given an initial weight of 40%.

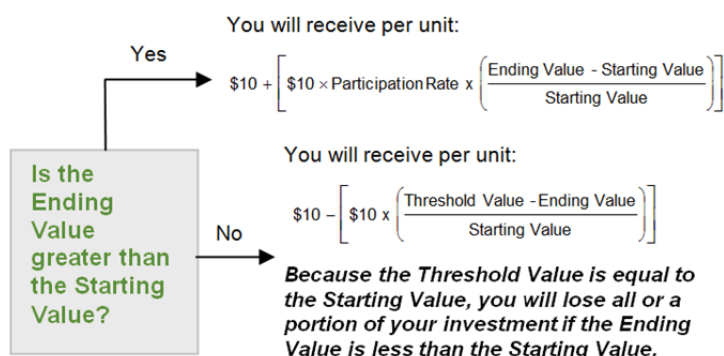
The estimated initial value of the notes is less than the price you pay to purchase the notes. The estimated initial value was determined by reference to our or our affiliates’ internal pricing models and reflects our internal funding rate, which is the borrowing rate we pay to issue market-linked notes, and the market prices for hedging arrangements related to the notes (which may include call options, put options or other derivatives). This internal funding rate is typically lower than the rate we would use when we issue conventional fixed or floating rate debt securities. The difference in the borrowing rate, as well as the underwriting discount and the costs associated with hedging the notes, including the hedging related charge described below, reduced the economic terms of the notes (including the Participation Rate).

## Terms of the Notes

<b>Issuer:</b>	HSBC USA Inc. (“HSBC”)
<b>Principal Amount:</b>	\$10.00 per unit
<b>Term:</b>	Approximately three years
<b>Market Measure:</b>	An international equity basket comprised of the EURO STOXX 50 <sup>®</sup> Index (Bloomberg symbol: “SX5E”), the FTSE <sup>®</sup> 100 Index (Bloomberg symbol: “UKX”), the Nikkei 225 Index (Bloomberg symbol: “NKY”), the S&P/ASX 200 Index (Bloomberg symbol: “AS51”), the Swiss Market Index (Bloomberg symbol: “SMI”), and the Hang Seng <sup>®</sup> Index (Bloomberg symbol: “HSI”). Each Basket Component is a price return index.
<b>Starting Value:</b>	100.00
<b>Ending Value:</b>	The average of the values of the Market Measure on each scheduled calculation day occurring during the Maturity Valuation Period. The calculation days are subject to postponement in the event of Market Disruption Events, as described beginning on page PS-18 of product supplement EQUITY INDICES LIRN-1.
<b>Threshold Value:</b>	100.00 (100% of the Starting Value).
<b>Participation Rate:</b>	160%
<b>Maturity Valuation Period:</b>	December 12, 2018, December 13, 2018, December 14, 2018, December 17, 2018 and December 18, 2018
<b>Fees Charged:</b>	The public offering price of the notes includes the underwriting discount of \$0.225 per unit as listed on the cover page and an additional charge of \$0.075 per unit more fully described on page TS-24.
<b>Calculation Agent:</b>	Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated (“MLPF&S”) and HSBC, acting jointly.

## Redemption Amount Determination

On the maturity date, you will receive a cash payment per unit determined as follows:



The terms and risks of the notes are contained in this term sheet and the documents listed below (together, the "Note Prospectus"). The documents have been filed as part of a registration statement with the SEC, which may, without cost, be accessed on the SEC website as indicated below or obtained from MLPF&S by calling 1-800-294-1322:

- Product supplement EQUITY INDICES LIRN-1 dated April 23, 2015:  
[http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/83246/000114420415014382/v403692\\_424b2.htm](http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/83246/000114420415014382/v403692_424b2.htm)
- Prospectus supplement dated March 5, 2015:  
[http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/83246/000114420415014311/v403645\\_424b2.htm](http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/83246/000114420415014311/v403645_424b2.htm)
- Prospectus dated March 5, 2015:  
<http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/83246/000119312515078931/d884345d424b3.htm>

*Our Central Index Key, or CIK, on the SEC Website is 83246.* Before you invest, you should read the Note Prospectus, including this term sheet, for information about us and this offering. Any prior or contemporaneous oral statements and any other written materials you may have received are superseded by the Note Prospectus. You should carefully consider, among other things, the matters set forth under "Risk Factors" in the section indicated on the cover of this term sheet. The notes involve risks not associated with conventional debt securities. Capitalized terms used but not defined in this term sheet have the meanings set forth in product supplement EQUITY INDICES LIRN-1. Unless otherwise indicated or unless the context requires otherwise, all references in this document to "we," "us," "our," or similar references are to HSBC.

## Investor Considerations

### **You may wish to consider an investment in the notes if:**

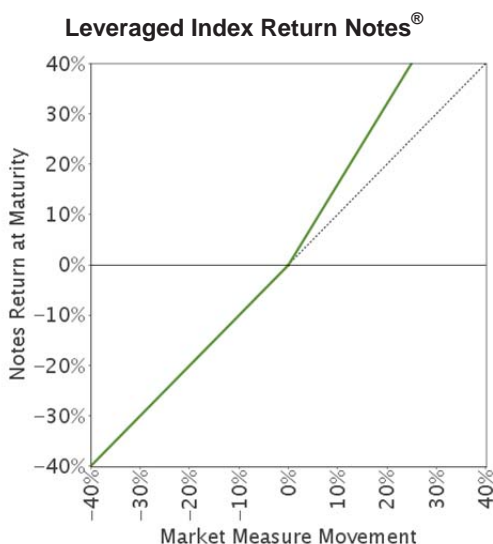
- You anticipate that the Basket will increase from the Starting Value to the Ending Value.
- You are willing to risk a loss of principal and return if the Basket decreases from the Starting Value to the Ending Value.
- You are willing to forgo the interest payments that are paid on traditional interest bearing debt securities.
- You are willing to forgo dividends or other benefits of owning the stocks included in the Basket Components.
- You are willing to accept that a secondary market is not expected to develop for the notes, and understand that the market prices for the notes, if any, may be less than the principal amount and will be affected by various factors, including our actual and perceived creditworthiness, our internal funding rate and the fees charged, as described on page TS-2.
- You are willing to assume our credit risk, as issuer of the notes, for all payments under the notes, including the Redemption Amount.

### **The notes may not be an appropriate investment for you if:**

- You believe that the Basket will decrease from the Starting Value to the Ending Value or that it will not increase sufficiently over the term of the notes to provide you with your desired return.
- You seek principal repayment or preservation of capital.
- You seek interest payments or other current income on your investment.
- You want to receive dividends or other distributions paid on the stocks included in the Basket Components.
- You seek an investment for which there will be a liquid secondary market.
- You are unwilling or are unable to take market risk on the notes or to take our credit risk as issuer of the notes.

We urge you to consult your investment, legal, tax, accounting, and other advisors before you invest in the notes.

## Hypothetical Payout Profile



This graph reflects the returns on the notes based on the Participation Rate of 160% and the Threshold Value of 100% of the Starting Value. The green line reflects the returns on the notes, while the dotted gray line reflects the returns of a direct investment in the stocks included in the Basket Components, excluding dividends.

This graph has been prepared for purposes of illustration only.

## Hypothetical Payments at Maturity

The following table and examples are for purposes of illustration only. They are based on **hypothetical** values and show **hypothetical** returns on the notes. **The actual amount you receive and the resulting total rate of return will depend on the actual Ending Value and term of your investment.**

The following table is based on the Starting Value of 100, the Threshold Value of 100 and the Participation Rate of 160%. It illustrates the effect of a range of Ending Values on the Redemption Amount per unit of the notes and the total rate of return to holders of the notes. The following examples do not take into account any tax consequences from investing in the notes.

Ending Value	Percentage Change from the Starting Value to the Ending Value	Redemption Amount per Unit <sup>(1)</sup>	Total Rate of Return on the Notes
0.00	-100.00%	\$0.00	-100.00%
50.00	-50.00%	\$5.00	-50.00%
80.00	-20.00%	\$8.00	-20.00%
90.00	-10.00%	\$9.00	-10.00%
94.00	-6.00%	\$9.40	-6.00%
97.00	-3.00%	\$9.70	-3.00%
100.00 <sup>(3)(2)</sup>	0.00%	\$10.00	0.00%
102.00	2.00%	\$10.32	3.20%
105.00	5.00%	\$10.80	8.00%
110.00	10.00%	\$11.60	16.00%
120.00	20.00%	\$13.20	32.00%
130.00	30.00%	\$14.80	48.00%
140.00	40.00%	\$16.40	64.00%
150.00	50.00%	\$18.00	80.00%
160.00	60.00%	\$19.60	96.00%

(1) The Redemption Amount per unit is based on the Participation Rate.

(2) The Starting Value was set to 100.00 on the pricing date.

(3) This is the Threshold Value.

For **hypothetical** historical values of the Basket, see "The Basket" section below. For recent actual levels of the Basket Components, see "The Basket Components" section below. Each Basket Component is a price return index and as such the Ending Value will not include any income generated by dividends paid on the stocks included in any of the Basket Components, which you would otherwise be entitled to receive if you invested in those stocks directly. In addition, all payments on the notes are subject to issuer credit risk.

## Redemption Amount Calculation Examples

### Example 1

The Ending Value is 90.00, or 90.00% of the Starting Value:

Starting Value: 100.00

Threshold Value: 100.00

Ending Value: 90.00

$$\$10 - \left[ \$10 \times \left( \frac{100-90}{100} \right) \right] = \$9.00 \quad \text{Redemption Amount per unit}$$

### Example 2

The Ending Value is 150.00, or 150.00% of the Starting Value:

Starting Value: 100.00

Ending Value: 150.00

$$\$10 + \left[ \$10 \times 160.00\% \times \left( \frac{150-100}{100} \right) \right] = \$18.00 \quad \text{Redemption Amount per unit}$$

## Risk Factors

*We urge you to read the section “Risk Factors” in the product supplement and in the accompanying prospectus supplement. Investing in the notes is not equivalent to investing directly in the stocks included in the Basket Components. You should understand the risks of investing in the notes and should reach an investment decision only after careful consideration, with your advisers, with respect to the notes in light of your particular financial and other circumstances and the information set forth in this term sheet and the accompanying product supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus.*

*In addition to the risks in the product supplement identified below, you should review “Risk Factors” in the accompanying prospectus supplement, including the explanation of risks relating to the notes described in the section “— Risks Relating to All Note Issuances.”*

- Depending on the performance of the Basket as measured shortly before the maturity date, your investment may result in a loss; there is no guaranteed return of principal.
- Your return on the notes may be less than the yield you could earn by owning a conventional fixed or floating rate debt security of comparable maturity.
- Payments on the notes are subject to our credit risk, and actual or perceived changes in our creditworthiness are expected to affect the value of the notes. If we become insolvent or are unable to pay our obligations, you may lose your entire investment.
- Your investment return may be less than a comparable investment directly in the stocks included in the Basket Components.
- The estimated initial value of the notes is less than the public offering price and may differ from the market value of the notes in the secondary market, if any. We determined the estimated initial value 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. These pricing models rely in part on certain forecasts about future events, which may prove to be incorrect. Different pricing models and assumptions could provide valuations for the notes that are different from our estimated initial value. The estimated initial value reflects our internal funding rate we use to issue market-linked notes, as well as the mid-market value of the hedging arrangements related to the notes (which may include call options, put options or other derivatives).
- Our internal funding rate for the issuance of these notes is lower than the rate we would use when we issue conventional fixed or floating rate debt securities. This is one of the factors that may result in the market value of the notes being less than their estimated initial value. 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.
- The price of your notes in the secondary market, if any, immediately after the pricing date will be less than the public offering price. The public offering price takes into account certain costs, principally the underwriting discount, the hedging costs described on page TS-24 and the costs associated with issuing the notes. The costs associated with issuing the notes 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.
- The estimated initial value does not represent a minimum price at which we, MLPF&S or any of our respective 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, at any time after issuance will vary based on many factors, including the value of the Market Measure 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.
- A trading market is not expected to develop for the notes. Neither we nor MLPF&S is obligated to make a market for, or to repurchase, the notes. There is no assurance that any party will be willing to purchase your notes at any price in any secondary market.
- Our business, hedging and trading activities, and those of MLPF&S and our respective affiliates (including trades in shares of companies included in the Basket Components), and any hedging and trading activities we, MLPF&S or our respective affiliates engage in for our clients' accounts, may affect the market value and return of the notes and may create conflicts of interest with you.
- Changes in the level of one of the Basket Components may be offset by changes in the levels of the other Basket Components. Due to the different Initial Component Weights, changes in the levels of some Basket Components will have a more substantial impact on the value of the Basket than similar changes in the levels of the other Basket Components.
- The Index sponsors may adjust each Basket Component in a way that affects its level, and the Index sponsors have no obligation to consider your interests.
- You will have no rights of a holder of the securities represented by the Basket Components, and you will not be entitled to receive securities or dividends or other distributions by the issuers of those securities.
- While we, MLPF&S or our respective affiliates may from time to time own securities of companies included in the Basket Components, we, MLPF&S and our respective affiliates do not control any company included in any Basket Component, and

are not responsible for any disclosure made by any other company, except to the extent that the common stock of HSBC Holdings plc, which is our parent company, is included in the FTSE 100<sup>®</sup> Index.

- Your return on the notes and the value of the notes may be affected by exchange rate movements and factors affecting the international securities markets.
- There may be potential conflicts of interest involving the calculation agent. We have the right to appoint and remove the calculation agent.
- The U.S. federal income tax consequences of the notes are uncertain, and may be adverse to a holder of the notes. See “Summary Tax Consequences” below and “U.S. Federal Income Tax Summary” beginning on page PS-29 of product supplement EQUITY INDICES LIRN-1.

## Other Terms of the Notes

### Market Measure Business Day

The following definition shall supersede and replace the definition of a “Market Measure Business Day” set forth in product supplement EQUITY INDICES LIRN-1.

A “Market Measure Business Day” means a day on which:

- (A) each of the Eurex (as to the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index), the London Stock Exchange (as to the FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index), the Tokyo Stock Exchange (as to the Nikkei 225 Index), the Australian Stock Exchange (as to the S&P/ASX 200 Index), the Geneva, Zurich, Basle Stock Exchanges (as to the Swiss Market Index) and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange (as to the Hang Seng<sup>®</sup> Index) (or any successor to the foregoing exchanges) are open for trading; and
- (B) the Basket Components or any successors thereto are calculated and published.



## The Basket

The Basket is designed to allow investors to participate in the percentage changes in the levels of the Basket Components from the Starting Value to the Ending Value of the Basket. The Basket Components are described in the section “The Basket Components” below. Each Basket Component was assigned an initial weight on the pricing date, as set forth in the table below.

For more information on the calculation of the value of the Basket, please see the section entitled “Description of LIRNs—Basket Market Measures” beginning on page 20 of product supplement EQUITY INDICES LIRN-1.

On the pricing date, for each Basket Component, the Initial Component Weight, the closing level, the Component Ratio and the initial contribution to the Basket value were as follows:

Basket Component	Bloomberg Symbol	Initial Component Weight	Closing Level <sup>(1)</sup>	Component Ratio <sup>(2)</sup>	Initial Basket Value Contribution
EURO STOXX 50 <sup>®</sup> Index	SX5E	40.00	3,214.32	0.01244431	40.00
FTSE <sup>®</sup> 100 Index	UKX	20.00	6,083.10	0.00328780	20.00
Nikkei 225 Index	NKY	20.00	18,886.70	0.00105895	20.00
S&P/ASX 200 Index	AS51	7.50	5,116.691	0.00146579	7.50
Swiss Market Index	SMI	7.50	8,515.82	0.00088071	7.50
Hang Seng Index	HSI	5.00	21,830.02	0.00022904	5.00
<b>Starting Value</b>					<b>100.00</b>

(1) These were the closing levels of the Basket Components on the pricing date.

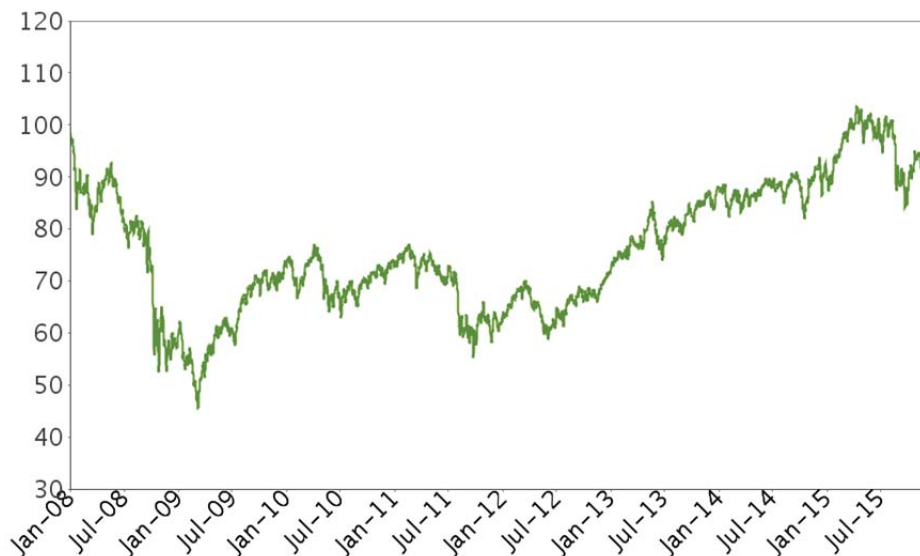
(2) Each Component Ratio equals the Initial Component Weight of the relevant Basket Component (as a percentage) multiplied by 100, and then divided by the closing level of that Basket Component on the pricing date and rounded to eight decimal places.

The calculation agent will calculate the value of the Basket by summing the products of the closing level for each Basket Component on each calculation day during the Maturity Valuation Period and the Component Ratio applicable to such Basket Component. If a Market Disruption Event occurs as to any Basket Component on any scheduled calculation day, the closing level of that Basket Component will be determined as more fully described in the section entitled “Description of LIRNs—Basket Market Measures—Ending Value of the Basket” beginning on page PS-21 of product supplement EQUITY INDICES LIRN-1.



*While actual historical information on the Basket did not exist before the pricing date, the following graph sets forth the hypothetical historical performance of the Basket from January 1, 2008 through December 22, 2015. The graph is based upon actual daily historical levels of the Basket Components, hypothetical Component Ratios based on the closing levels of the Basket Components as of December 31, 2007, and a Basket value of 100.00 as of that date. This hypothetical historical data on the Basket is not necessarily indicative of the future performance of the Basket or what the value of the notes may be. Any hypothetical historical upward or downward trend in the value of the Basket during any period set forth below is not an indication that the value of the Basket is more or less likely to increase or decrease at any time over the term of the notes.*

Hypothetical Historical Performance of the Basket



## The Basket Components

All disclosures contained in this term sheet regarding the Basket Components, including, without limitation, their make-up, method of calculation, and changes in their components, have been derived from publicly available sources. The information reflects the policies of, and is subject to change by each of STOXX Limited (“STOXX”) with respect to the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index, FTSE International Limited (“FTSE”) with respect to the FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index, Nikkei Inc. (“Nikkei”) with respect to the Nikkei 225 Index, S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (“S&P”), a part of McGraw Hill Financial, with respect to the S&P/ASX 200 Index, the Geneva, Zurich, SIX Group Ltd., certain of its subsidiaries, and the Management Committee of the SIX Swiss Exchange (the “SIX Exchange”), with respect to the Swiss Market Index, and HSI Services Limited (“HSIL”) with respect to the Hang Seng<sup>®</sup> Index (STOXX, FTSE, Nikkei, S&P, Six Exchange and HSIL together, the “Index sponsors”). The Index sponsors have no obligation to continue to publish, and may discontinue or suspend the publication of any Basket Component at any time. The consequences of any Index sponsor discontinuing publication of a Basket Component are discussed in the section entitled “Description of LIRNs—Discontinuance of an Index” beginning on page PS-19 of product supplement EQUITY INDICES LIRN-1. None of us, the calculation agent, or the selling agent accepts any responsibility for the calculation, maintenance, or publication of any Basket Component or any successor index.

### The EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index

The EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index was created by STOXX, which is owned by Deutsche Börse AG and SIX Group AG. Publication of the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index began on February 28, 1998, based on an initial index value of 1,000 at December 31, 1991. The EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index is reported daily on the Bloomberg Professional<sup>®</sup> service under the symbol “SX5E” and on the STOXX website. Information contained in the STOXX website is not incorporated by reference in, and should not be considered a part of, this term sheet.

#### *Composition and Maintenance of the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index*

The EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index is composed of 50 stocks from 12 Eurozone countries (Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain) of the STOXX Europe 600 Supersector indices. The STOXX 600 Supersector indices contain the 600 largest stocks traded on the major exchanges of 18 European countries and are organized into the following 19 Supersectors: automobiles & parts; banks; basic resources; chemicals; construction & materials; financial services; food & beverage; health care; industrial goods & services; insurance; media; oil & gas; personal & household goods; real estate; retail; technology; telecommunications; and utilities.

The EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index is weighted by free float market capitalization. Each component’s weight is capped at 10% of the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index’s total free float market capitalization. Free float weights are reviewed quarterly and the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index composition is reviewed annually in September. The review cut-off date is the last trading day of August.

Within each of the 19 EURO STOXX Supersector indices, the component stocks are ranked by free float market capitalization. The largest stocks are added to the selection list until the coverage is close to, but still less than, 60% of the free float market capitalization of the corresponding EURO STOXX Total Market Index Supersector Index. If the next-ranked stock brings the coverage closer to 60% in absolute terms, then it is also added to the selection list. All current component stocks are then added to the selection list. The stocks on the selection list are ranked by free float market capitalization. In exceptional cases, the STOXX Supervisory Board may make additions and deletions to the selection list.

The 40 largest stocks on the selection list are chosen as components. The remaining 10 stocks are selected from the largest remaining current components of the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index that are ranked between 41 and 60. If the component number is still below 50, then the largest remaining stocks on the selection list are added until the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index contains 50 stocks.

#### *Index Calculation*

The EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index is calculated with the “Laspeyres formula,” which measures the aggregate price changes in the component stocks against a fixed base quantity weight. The formula for calculating the index value can be expressed as follows:

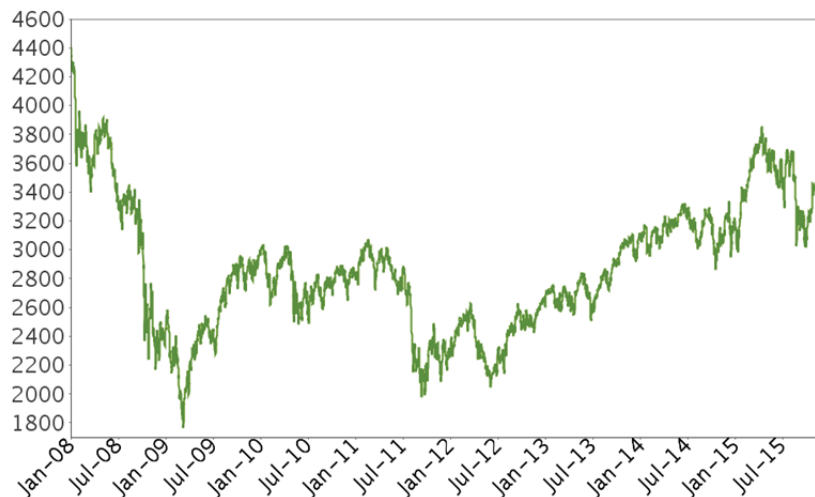
$$\text{index} = \frac{\text{free float market capitalization of the index}}{\text{divisor of the index}}$$

The “free float market capitalization of the index” is equal to the sum of the product of the price, number of shares, free float factor and weighting cap factor for each component stock as of the time the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index is being calculated.

The EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index is also subject to a divisor, which is adjusted to maintain the continuity of index values despite changes due to corporate actions.

*The following graph shows the daily historical performance of the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index in the period from January 1, 2008 through December 22, 2015. We obtained this historical data from Bloomberg L.P. We have not independently verified the accuracy or completeness of the information obtained from Bloomberg L.P. On the pricing date, the closing level of the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index was 3,214.32.*

Historical Performance of the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index



*This historical data on the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index is not necessarily indicative of the future performance of the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index or what the value of the notes may be. Any historical upward or downward trend in the level of the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index during any period set forth above is not an indication that the level of the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index is more or less likely to increase or decrease at any time over the term of the notes.*

Before investing in the notes, you should consult publicly available sources for the levels of the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index.

#### License Agreement

HSBC or one of its affiliates has entered into a nonexclusive license agreement providing for the license to it, in exchange for a fee, of the right to use certain indices owned and published by STOXX in connection with some products, including the notes.

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## The FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index

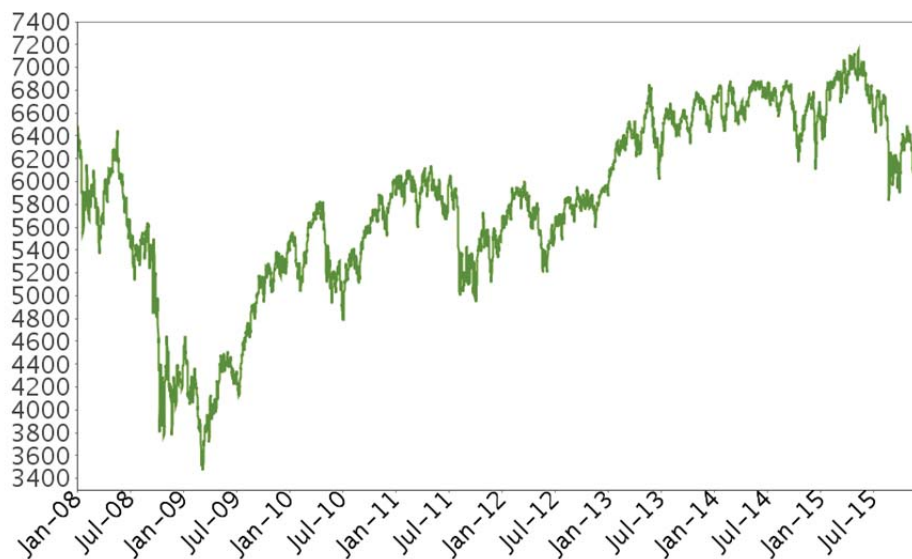
The FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index is a market-capitalization weighted index calculated, published and disseminated by FTSE, an independent company wholly owned by the London Stock Exchange Group (the “LSE”). The FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index is designed to measure the composite performance of the 100 largest UK domiciled blue chip companies that pass screening for size and liquidity traded on the LSE. The FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index was launched on January 3, 1984 and has a base date of December 30, 1983. The FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index is reported by Bloomberg under the ticker symbol “UKX.”

The FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index is calculated by (i) multiplying the per share price of each stock included in the FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index by the number of outstanding shares and by the free float factor applicable to such stock, (ii) calculating the sum of all these products (such sum referred to hereinafter as the “FTSE Aggregate Market Value”) as of the starting date of the FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index and (iii) dividing the FTSE Aggregate Market Value by a divisor which represents the total issued share capital of the FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index on the base date and which can be adjusted to allow changes in the issued share capital of individual underlying stocks (including the deletion and addition of stocks, the substitution of stocks, stock dividends and stock splits) to be made without distorting the FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index. Because of such capitalization weighting, movements in share prices of companies with relatively larger market capitalization will have a greater effect on the level of the entire FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index than will movements in share prices of companies with relatively smaller market capitalization.

The 100 stocks included in the FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index (the “FTSE 100 Index Underlying Stocks”) were selected from a reference group of stocks trading on the LSE which were selected by excluding certain stocks that have low liquidity based on public float, accuracy and reliability of prices, size and number of trading days. The FTSE 100 Index Underlying Stocks were selected from this reference group by selecting 100 stocks with the largest market value. A list of the issuers of the FTSE 100 Index Underlying Stocks is available from FTSE. The FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index is reviewed quarterly by the FTSE Europe/Middle East/Africa Regional Committee (the “Committee”) in order to maintain continuity in the level. The FTSE 100 Index Underlying Stocks may be replaced, if necessary, in accordance with deletion/addition rules which provide generally for the removal and replacement of a stock from the FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index if such stock is delisted or its issuer is subject to a takeover offer that has been declared unconditional or it has ceased to be a viable component of the FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index. To maintain continuity, a stock will be added at the quarterly review if it has risen to 90th place or above and a stock will be deleted if at the quarterly review it has fallen to 111th place or below, in each case ranked on the basis of market value.

***The following graph shows the daily historical performance of the FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index in the period from January 1, 2008 through December 22, 2015. We obtained this historical data from Bloomberg L.P. We have not independently verified the accuracy or completeness of the information obtained from Bloomberg L.P. On the pricing date, the closing level of the FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index was 6,083.10.***

Historical Performance of the FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index



***This historical data on the FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index is not necessarily indicative of the future performance of the FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index or what the value of the notes may be. Any historical upward or downward trend in the level of the FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index during any period set forth above is not an indication that the level of the FTSE<sup>®</sup> 100 Index is more or less likely to increase or decrease at any time over the term of the notes.***

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## The Nikkei 225 Index

The Nikkei 225 Index is a stock index that measures the composite price performance of selected Japanese stocks. The formal name of the Nikkei 225 Index is the Nikkei Stock Average Index. The Nikkei 225 Index is based on 225 underlying stocks (the “Nikkei Underlying Stocks”) trading on the Tokyo Stock Exchange (“TSE”), representing a broad cross-section of Japanese industries. All 225 Nikkei Underlying Stocks are stocks listed in the First Section of the TSE. Stocks listed in the First Section of the TSE are among the most actively traded stocks on the TSE. Nikkei’s rules require that the 75 most liquid issues (one-third of the component count of the Nikkei 225 Index) be included in the Nikkei 225 Index. Nikkei first calculated and published the Nikkei 225 Index in 1970; prior to 1970, the TSE calculated the Nikkei 225 Index. The Nikkei 225 Index is reported by Bloomberg under the ticker symbol “NKY.”

The 225 companies included in the Nikkei 225 Index are divided into six sector categories: Technology, Financials, Consumer Goods, Materials, Capital Goods/Others and Transportation and Utilities. These six sector categories are further divided into 36 industrial classifications as follows:

- Technology — Pharmaceuticals, Electrical Machinery, Automobiles, Precision Machinery, Telecommunications;
- Financials — Banks, Miscellaneous Finance, Securities, Insurance;
- Consumer Goods — Marine Products, Food, Retail, Services;
- Materials — Mining, Textiles, Paper and Pulp, Chemicals, Oil, Rubber, Ceramics, Steel, Nonferrous Metals, Trading Houses;
- Capital Goods/Others — Construction, Machinery, Shipbuilding, Transportation Equipment, Miscellaneous Manufacturing, Real Estate; and
- Transportation and Utilities — Railroads and Buses, Trucking, Shipping, Airlines, Warehousing, Electric Power, Gas.

### *Calculation of the Nikkei 225 Index*

The Nikkei 225 Index is a modified, price-weighted index (*i.e.*, a Nikkei Underlying Stock’s weight in the Nikkei 225 Index is based on its price per share rather than the total market capitalization of the issuer) which is calculated by (i) multiplying the per share price of each Nikkei Underlying Stock by the corresponding weighting factor for such Nikkei Underlying Stock (a “Weight Factor”), (ii) calculating the sum of all these products and (iii) dividing such sum by a divisor (the “Divisor”). The Divisor was initially set at 225 for the date of May 16, 1949 (the date on which the TSE was reopened after World War II) using historical numbers from that date. The Divisor is subject to periodic adjustments as set forth below. Each Weight Factor is computed by dividing ¥50 by the presumed par value of the relevant Nikkei Underlying Stock, so that the share price of each Nikkei Underlying Stock when multiplied by its Weight Factor corresponds to a share price based on a uniform par value of ¥50. The stock prices used in the calculation of the Nikkei 225 Index are those reported by a primary market for the Nikkei Underlying Stocks (currently the TSE). The level of the Nikkei 225 Index is calculated once every 15 seconds during TSE trading hours.

In order to maintain continuity in the Nikkei 225 Index in the event of certain changes due to non-market factors affecting the Nikkei Underlying Stocks, such as the addition or deletion of stocks, substitution of stocks, stock splits or distributions of assets to stockholders, the Divisor used in calculating the Nikkei 225 Index is adjusted in a manner designed to prevent any instantaneous change or discontinuity in the level of the Nikkei 225 Index. Thereafter, the Divisor remains at the new value until a further adjustment is necessary as the result of another change. As a result of such change affecting any Nikkei Underlying Stock, the Divisor is adjusted in such a way that the sum of all share prices immediately after the change multiplied by the applicable Weight Factor and divided by the new Divisor (*i.e.*, the level of the Nikkei 225 Index immediately after such change) will equal the level of the Nikkei 225 Index immediately prior to the change.

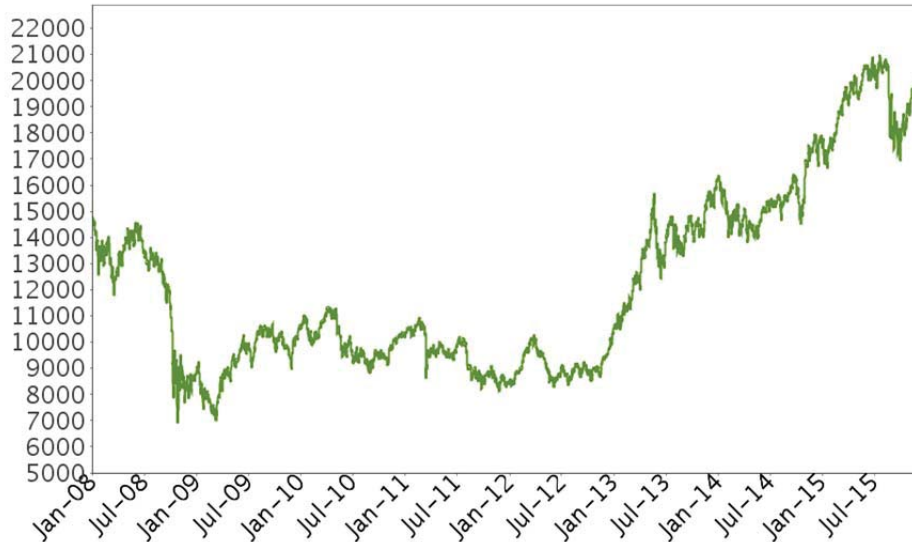
### *Standards for Listing and Maintenance*

A Nikkei Underlying Stock may be deleted or added by Nikkei. Any stock becoming ineligible for listing in the First Section of the TSE due to any of the following reasons will be deleted from the Nikkei Underlying Stocks: (i) bankruptcy of the issuer, (ii) merger of the issuer with, or acquisition of the issuer by, another company, (iii) delisting of such stock, (iv) transfer of such stock to the “Seiri-Post” because of excess debt of the issuer or because of any other reason or (v) transfer of such stock to the Second Section. In addition, a component stock transferred to the “Kanri-Post” (posts for stocks under supervision) becomes a candidate for deletion. Nikkei Underlying Stocks with relatively low liquidity, based on trading value and rate of price fluctuation over the past five years, may be deleted by Nikkei. Upon deletion of a stock from the Nikkei Underlying Stocks, Nikkei will select a replacement for such deleted Nikkei Underlying Stock in accordance with certain criteria. In an exceptional case, a newly listed stock in the First Section of the TSE that is recognized by Nikkei to be representative of a market may be added to the Nikkei Underlying Stocks. In such a case, an existing Nikkei Underlying Stock with low trading volume and deemed not to be representative of a market will be deleted by Nikkei.

A list of the issuers of the Nikkei Underlying Stocks constituting the Nikkei 225 Index is published by Nikkei. Nikkei may delete, add or substitute any stock underlying the Nikkei 225 Index.

*The following graph shows the daily historical performance of the Nikkei 225 Index in the period from January 1, 2008 through December 22, 2015. We obtained this historical data from Bloomberg L.P. We have not independently verified the accuracy or completeness of the information obtained from Bloomberg L.P. On the pricing date, the closing level of the Nikkei 225 Index was 18,886.70.*

Historical Performance of the Nikkei 225 Index



***This historical data on the Nikkei 225 Index is not necessarily indicative of the future performance of the Nikkei 225 Index or what the value of the notes may be. Any historical upward or downward trend in the level of the Nikkei 225 Index during any period set forth above is not an indication that the level of the Nikkei 225 Index is more or less likely to increase or decrease at any time over the term of the notes.***

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## **The S&P/ASX 200 Index**

The S&P/ASX 200 Index (Bloomberg ticker "AS51"):

- was first launched in 1979 by the Australian Securities Exchange and was acquired and re-launched by its current Index sponsor on April 3, 2000; and
- is sponsored, calculated, published and disseminated by S&P.

The S&P/ASX 200 Index includes 200 companies and covers approximately 80% of the Australian equity market by market capitalization. As discussed below, the S&P/ASX 200 Index is not limited solely to companies having their primary operations or headquarters in Australia or to companies having their primary listing on the Australian Securities Exchange (the "ASX"). All ordinary and preferred shares (if such preferred shares are not of a fixed income nature) listed on the ASX, including secondary listings, are eligible for the S&P/ASX 200 Index. Hybrid stocks, bonds, warrants, preferred stock that provides a guaranteed fixed return and listed investment companies are not eligible for inclusion.

The S&P/ASX 200 Index is intended to provide exposure to the largest 200 eligible securities that are listed on the ASX by float-adjusted market capitalization. Constituent companies for the S&P/ASX 200 Index are chosen based on market capitalization, public float and liquidity. All index-eligible securities that have their primary or secondary listing on the ASX are included in the initial selection of stocks from which the 200 index stocks may be selected.

The float-adjusted market capitalization of companies is determined based on the daily average market capitalization over the last six months. The security's price history over the last six months, the latest available shares on issue and the investable weight factor (the "IWF"), are the factors relevant to the calculation of daily average market capitalization. The IWF is a variable that is primarily used to determine the available float of a security for ASX listed securities.

### **Number of Shares**

When considering the index eligibility of securities for inclusion or promotion into S&P/ASX indices, the number of index securities under consideration is based upon the latest available ASX quoted securities. For domestic securities (companies incorporated in Australia and traded on the ASX, companies incorporated overseas but exclusively listed on the ASX and companies incorporated overseas and traded on other markets but most of its trading activity is on the ASX), this figure is purely based upon the latest available data from the ASX.

Foreign-domiciled securities may quote the total number of securities on the ASX that is representative of their global equity capital; whereas other foreign-domiciled securities may quote securities on the ASX on a partial basis that represents their Australian equity capital. In order to overcome this inconsistency, S&P will quote the number of index securities that are represented by CHESS Depositary Interests ("CDIs") for a foreign entity. When CDIs are not issued, S&P will use the total securities held on the Australian register (CHESS and, where supplied, the issuer sponsored register). This quoted number for a foreign entity is representative of the Australian equity capital, thereby allowing the S&P/ASX 200 Index to be increasingly reflective of the Australian market.

The number of CDIs or shares of a foreign entity quoted on the ASX can experience more volatility than is typically the case for ordinary shares on issue. Therefore, an average number on issue will be applied over a six-month period.

Where CDI information is not supplied to the ASX by the company or the company's share register, estimates for Australian equity capital will be drawn from CHESS data and, ultimately, registry-sourced data.

### **IWF**

The IWF represents the float-adjusted portion of a stock's equity capital. Therefore any strategic holdings that are classified as either corporate, private or government holdings reduce the IWF which, in turn, results in a reduction in the float-adjusted market capital.

The IWF ranges between 0 and 1, is calculated as  $1 - \text{Sum of the \% held by strategic shareholders who possess 5\% or more of issued shares}$ , and is an adjustment factor that accounts for the publicly available shares of a company. A company must have a minimum IWF of 0.3 to be eligible for index inclusion.

S&P Dow Jones Indices identifies the following shareholders whose holdings are considered to be control blocks and are subject to float adjustment:

1. Government and government agencies;
2. Controlling and strategic shareholders/partners;
3. Any other entities or individuals which hold more than 5%, excluding insurance companies, securities companies and investment funds; and
4. Other restricted portions such as treasury stocks.

### **Liquidity Test**

Only stocks that are regularly traded are eligible for inclusion. Eligible stocks are considered for index inclusion based on their stock median liquidity (median daily value traded divided by its average float-adjusted market capitalization for the last six months relative to the market capitalization weighted average of the stock median liquidities of the 500 constituents of the All Ordinaries index, another member of the S&P/ASX index family).

### **Index Maintenance**

S&P rebalances constituents quarterly to ensure adequate market capitalization and liquidity using the previous six months' data to determine index eligibility. Quarterly review changes take effect the third Friday of March, June, September and December. Eligible

stocks are considered for index inclusion based on their float-adjusted market capitalization rank relative to the stated quota of 200 securities. For example, a stock that is currently in the S&P/ASX 300 and is ranked at 175, based on float-adjusted market capitalization, within the universe of eligible securities may be considered for inclusion into the S&P/ASX 200 Index, provided that liquidity hurdles are met.

In order to limit the level of index turnover, eligible securities will only be considered for index inclusion once another stock is excluded due to a sufficiently low rank and/or liquidity, based on the float-adjusted market capitalization. Potential index inclusions and exclusions need to satisfy buffer requirements in terms of the rank of the stock relative to a given index. The buffers are established to limit the level of index turnover that may take place at each quarterly rebalancing.

Between rebalancing dates, an index addition is generally made only if a vacancy is created by an index deletion. Index additions are made according to float-adjusted market capitalization and liquidity. An initial public offering is added to the S&P/ASX 200 Index only when an appropriate vacancy occurs and is subject to proven liquidity for at least two months. An exception may be made for extraordinary large offerings where sizeable trading volumes justify index inclusion.

Deletions can occur between index rebalancing dates due to acquisitions, mergers and spin-offs or due to suspension or bankruptcies. The decision to remove a stock from the S&P/ASX 200 Index will be made once there is sufficient evidence that the transaction will be completed. Stocks that are removed due to mergers and acquisitions are removed from the S&P/ASX 200 Index at the cash offer price for cash-only offers. Otherwise, the best available price in the market is used.

Share numbers for all index constituents are updated quarterly and are rounded to the nearest thousand. The update to the number of issued shares will be considered if the change is at least 5% of the float adjusted shares or \$100 million in value.

Share updates for foreign-domiciled securities will take place annually at the March rebalancing. The update to the number of index shares will only take place when the six-month average of CDIs or the Total Securities held in the Australian branch of issuer sponsored register (where supplied) and in CHES, as of the March rebalancing, differs from the current index shares by either 5% or a market-cap dollar amount greater than A\$ 100 million. Where CDI information is not supplied to the ASX by the company or the company's share register, estimates for Australian equity capital will be drawn from CHES data and, ultimately, registry-sourced data.

Intra-quarter share changes are implemented at the effective date or as soon as reliable information is available; however, they will only take place in the following circumstances:

- changes in a company's float-adjusted shares of 5% or more due to market-wide shares issuance;
- rights issues, bonus issues and other major corporate actions; and
- share issues resulting from index companies merging and major off-market buy-backs.

Share changes due to mergers or acquisitions are implemented when the transaction occurs, even if both of the companies are not in the same index and regardless of the size of the change.

IWFs are reviewed annually as part of the September quarterly review. However, any event that alters the float of a security in excess of 5% will be implemented as soon as practicable by an adjustment to the IWF.

The function of the IWF is also to manage the index weight of foreign-domiciled securities that quote shares on the basis of CDIs. Due to the volatility that is displayed by CDIs, unusually large changes in the number of CDIs on issue could result. Where this is the case, the IWF may be used to limit the effect of unusually large changes in the average number of CDIs (and, thereby, limit the potential to manipulate this figure). Where the Australian Index Committee sees fit to apply the IWF in this manner, the rationale for the decision will be announced to the market. This will be reviewed annually at the March-quarter index rebalancing date.

### Index Calculation

The S&P/ASX 200 Index is calculated using a base-weighted aggregate methodology. The value of the S&P/ASX 200 Index on any day for which an index value is published is determined by a fraction, the numerator of which is the aggregate of the price of each stock in the S&P/ASX 200 Index times the number of shares of such stock included in the S&P/ASX 200 Index times that stock's IWF, and the denominator of which is the divisor, which is described more fully below.

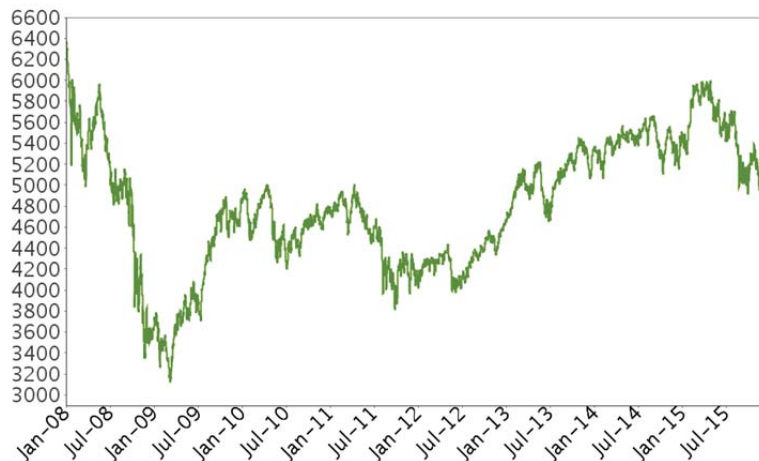
In order to prevent the value of the S&P/ASX 200 Index from changing due to corporate actions, all corporate actions may require S&P to make an index or divisor adjustment, as described in S&P's rules. This helps maintain the value of the S&P/ASX 200 Index and ensures that the movement of the S&P/ASX 200 Index does not reflect the corporate actions of the individual companies that comprise the S&P/ASX 200 Index.

In situations where an exchange is forced to close early due to unforeseen events, such as computer or electric power failures, weather conditions or other events, S&P will calculate the closing price of the indices based on (1) the closing prices published by the exchange or (2) if no closing price is available, the last regular trade reported for each security before the exchange closed. If the exchange fails to open due to unforeseen circumstances, S&P treats this closure as a standard market holiday. The S&P/ASX 200 Index will use the prior day's closing prices and shifts any corporate actions to the following business day. If all exchanges fail to open or in other extreme circumstances, S&P may determine not to publish the S&P/ASX 200 Index for that day.

S&P reserves the right to recalculate the S&P/ASX 200 Index under certain limited circumstances.

**The following graph shows the daily historical performance of the S&P/ASX 200 Index in the period from January 1, 2008 through December 22, 2015. We obtained this historical data from Bloomberg L.P. We have not independently verified the accuracy or completeness of the information obtained from Bloomberg L.P. On the pricing date, the closing level of the S&P/ASX 200 Index was 5,116.691.**

**Historical Performance of the S&P/ASX 200 Index**



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## **The Swiss Market Index**

The Swiss Market Index (Bloomberg ticker "SMI"):

- was first launched with a base level of 1,500 as of June 30, 1988; and
- is sponsored, calculated, published and disseminated by the SIX Exchange.

The Swiss Market Index is a price return float-adjusted market capitalization-weighted index of the 20 largest stocks traded on the Swiss Stock Exchange. The Management Committee of SIX Swiss Exchange is supported by an Index Commission (advisory board) in all index-related matters, notably in connection with changes to the Swiss Market Index rules and adjustments, additions and exclusions outside of the established review and acceptance period. The Index Commission meets at least twice annually.

## **Index Composition and Selection Criteria**

The Swiss Market Index is comprised of the 20 highest ranked stocks traded on the Swiss Stock Exchange that have a free float of 20% or more and that are not investment companies. The equity universe is largely Swiss domestic companies; however, in some cases, foreign issuers with a primary listing on the Swiss Stock Exchange or investment companies that do not hold any shares of any other eligible company and that have a primary listing on the Swiss Stock Exchange may be included.

The ranking of each security is determined by a combination of the following criteria:

- average free-float market capitalization (compared to the capitalization of the entire Swiss Stock Exchange index family), and
- cumulative on order book turnover (compared to the total turnover of the Swiss Stock Exchange index family).

Each of these two factors is assigned a 50% weighting in ranking the stocks eligible for the Swiss Market Index.

The Swiss Market Index is reconstituted annually after prior notice of at least two months on the third Friday in September after the close of trading.

The reconstitution is based on data from the previous July 1 through June 30. Provisional interim selection (ranking) lists are also published following the end of the third, fourth and first financial quarters.

In order to reduce turnover, an index constituent will not be replaced unless it is ranked below 23 or, if it is ranked 21 or 22, if another share ranks 18 or higher. If a company has primary listings on several exchanges and less than 50% of that company's total turnover is generated on the Swiss Stock Exchange, it will not be included in the Swiss Market Index unless it ranks at least 18 or better on the selection list on the basis of its turnover alone (i.e., without considering its free float).

## **Maintenance of the Index**

***Constituent Changes.*** In the case of major market changes as a result of capital events such as mergers or new listings, the Management Committee of SIX Swiss Exchange can decide at the request of the Index Commission that a security should be admitted to the Swiss Market Index outside the annual review period as long as it clearly fulfills the criteria for inclusion. For the same reasons, a security can also be excluded if the requirements for admission to the Swiss Market Index are no longer fulfilled. As a general rule, extraordinary acceptances into the Swiss Market Index take place after a three-month period on a quarterly basis after the close of trading on the third Friday of March, June, September and December (for example, a security listed on or before the fifth trading day prior to the end of November cannot be included until the following March). An announced insolvency is deemed to be an extraordinary event and the security will be removed from the Swiss Market Index with five trading days' prior notice if the circumstances permit such notice.

***Number of Shares and Free Float.*** The securities included in the Swiss Market Index are weighted according to their free float. This means that shares deemed to be in firm hands are subtracted from the total market capitalization of that company. The free float is calculated on the basis of outstanding shares. Issued and outstanding equity capital is, as a rule, the total amount of equity capital that has been fully subscribed and wholly or partially paid in and documented in the Commercial Register. Not counting as issued and outstanding equity capital are the approved capital and the conditional capital of a company. The free float is calculated on the basis of listed shares only. If a company offers several different categories of listed participation rights, each is treated separately for purposes of index calculation.

Shares held deemed to be in firm hands are shareholdings that have been acquired by one person or a group of persons in companies domiciled in Switzerland and which, upon exceeding 5%, have been reported to the SIX Exchange. Shares of persons and groups of persons who are subject to a shareholder agreement which is binding for more than 5% of the listed shares or who, according to publicly known facts, have a long-term interest in a company, are also deemed to be in firm hands.

For the calculation of the number of shares in firm hands, the SIX Exchange may also use other sources than the reports submitted to it. In particular, the SIX Exchange may use data gained from issuer surveys that it conducts itself.

In general, shares held by custodian nominees, trustee companies, investment funds, pension funds and investment companies are deemed free-floating regardless whether a report has been made to the SIX Exchange. The SIX Exchange classifies at its own discretion persons and groups of persons who, because of their area of activity or the absence of important information, cannot be clearly assigned.

The free-float rule applies only to bearer shares and registered shares. Capital issued in the form of participation certificates and bonus certificates is taken into full account in calculating the Swiss Market Index because it does not confer voting rights.



The number of securities in the Swiss Market Index and the free-float factors are adjusted after the close of trading on four adjustment dates per year, the third Friday of March, June, September and December. Such changes are pre-announced at least one month before the adjustment date, although the Index sponsor reserves the right to take account of recent changes before the adjustment date in the actual adjustment, so the definite new securities are announced five trading days before the adjustment date.

In order to avoid frequent slight changes to the weighting and to maintain the stability of the Swiss Market Index, any extraordinary change of the total number of outstanding securities or the free float will only result in an extraordinary adjustment if it exceeds 10% and 5% respectively and is in conjunction with a corporate action.

After a takeover, Six Exchange may, in exceptional cases, adjust the free float of a company upon publication of the end results after a five-day notification period or may exclude the security from the relevant index family. When an insolvency has been announced, an extraordinary adjustment will be made and the affected security will be removed from the Swiss Market Index after five trading days' notice.

The Index sponsor reserves the right to make an extraordinary adjustment, in exceptional cases, without observing the notification period.

### Calculation of the Index

The Index sponsor calculates the Swiss Market Index using the "Laspeyres formula," with a weighted arithmetic mean of a defined number of securities issues. The formula for calculating the index value can be expressed as follows:

$$\text{Index} = \frac{\text{Free Float Market Capitalization of the index}}{\text{Divisor}}$$

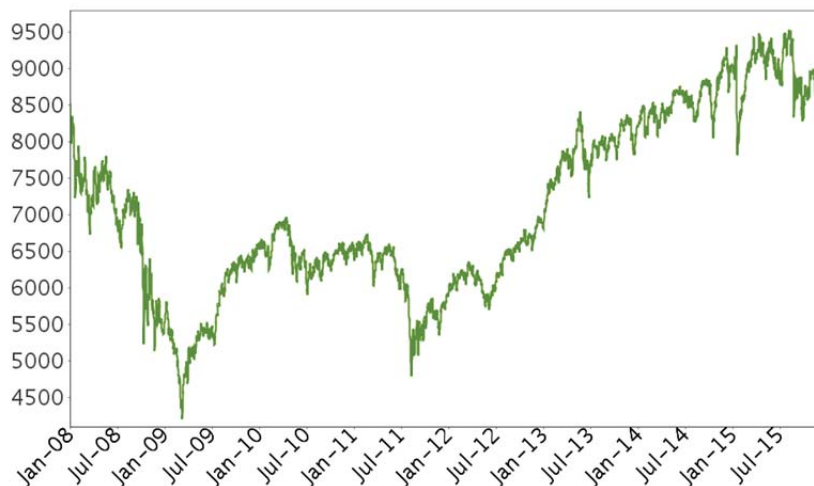
The "free float market capitalization of the index" is equal to the sum of the product of the last-paid price, the number of shares, the free-float factor and, if a foreign stock is included, the current CHF exchange rate as of the time the index value is being calculated. The index value is calculated in real time and is updated whenever a trade is made in a component stock. Where any index component stock price is unavailable on any trading day, Six Exchange will use the last reported price for such component stock. Only prices from the SIX Exchange's electronic order book are used in calculating the Swiss Market Index.

### Divisor Value and Adjustments

The divisor is a technical number used to calculate the Swiss Market Index and is adjusted to reflect changes in market capitalization due to corporate events, and is adjusted by Six Exchange to reflect corporate events, as described in the Swiss Market Index rules.

***The following graph shows the historical performance of the Swiss Market Index in the period from January 1, 2008 through December 22, 2015. We obtained this historical data from Bloomberg L.P. We have not independently verified the accuracy or completeness of the information obtained from Bloomberg L.P. On the pricing date, the closing level of the Swiss Market Index was 8,515.82.***

**Historical Performance of the Swiss Market Index**



***This historical data on the Swiss Market Index is not necessarily indicative of the future performance of the Swiss Market Index or what the value of the notes may be. Any historical upward or downward trend in the level of the Swiss Market Index during any period set forth above is not an indication that the level of the Swiss Market Index is more or less likely to increase or decrease at any time over the term of the notes.***

Before investing in the notes, you should consult publicly available sources for the levels of the Swiss Market Index.

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### **License Agreement**

These notes are not in any way sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by the SIX Exchange and the SIX Exchange makes no warranty or representation whatsoever, express or implied, either as to the results to be obtained from the use of the Swiss Market Index and/or the figure at which the Swiss Market Index stands at any particular time on any particular day or otherwise. However, the SIX Exchange shall not be liable (whether in negligence or otherwise) to any person for any error in the Swiss Market Index and the SIX Exchange shall not be under any obligation to advise any person of any error therein.

<sup>®</sup> SIX Group, SIX Swiss Exchange, SPI, Swiss Performance Index (SPI), SPI EXTRA, SPI ex SLI, SMI, Swiss Market Index (SMI), SMI MID (SMIM), SMI Expanded, SXI, SXI Real Estate, SXI Swiss Real Estate, SXI Life Sciences, SXI Bio+Medtech, SLI, SLI Swiss Leader Index, SBI, SBI Swiss Bond Index, SAR, SAR SWISS AVERAGE RATE, SARON, SCR, SCR SWISS CURRENT RATE, SCRON, SAION, SCION, VSMI and SWX Immobilienfonds Index are trademarks that have been registered in Switzerland and/or abroad by SIX Group Ltd respectively SIX Exchange. Their use is subject to a licence.

## The Hang Seng<sup>®</sup> Index

The Hang Seng<sup>®</sup> Index is calculated, maintained and published by HSIL, a wholly owned subsidiary of Hang Seng Bank, in concert with the HSI Advisory Committee and was first developed, calculated and published on November 24, 1969. The Hang Seng<sup>®</sup> Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted stock market index that is designed to reflect the performance of the Hong Kong stock market.

Only companies with a primary listing on the main board of the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong ("SEHK") are eligible as constituents of the Hang Seng<sup>®</sup> Index. Mainland China enterprises that have an H-share listing in Hong Kong will not be eligible for inclusion in the Hang Seng<sup>®</sup> Index unless the company has no unlisted share capital. In addition, to be eligible for selection, a company: (1) must be among those that constitute the top 90% of the total market value of all primary listed shares on the SEHK (the market value of a company refers to the average of its month-end market capitalizations for the past 12 months); (2) must be among those that constitute the top 90% of the total turnover of all primary listed shares on the SEHK in a sufficient number of measurement sub-periods (turnover is assessed over the last eight quarterly sub-periods: if a company was in the top 90% in any of the most recent four sub-periods, it receives two points; if it was in the top 90% in any of the latter four sub-periods, it receives one point. A company must attain a "score" of eight points to meet the turnover requirement); and (3) should normally have a listing history of 24 months (there are exceptions for companies that have shorter listing histories but large market values and/or high turnover scores). From the many eligible candidates, final selections are based on the following: (1) the market value and turnover rankings of the companies; (2) the representation of the sub-sectors within the Hang Seng<sup>®</sup> Index directly reflecting that of the market; and (3) the financial performance of the companies.

## Calculation of the Hang Seng<sup>®</sup> Index

The calculation methodology of the Hang Seng<sup>®</sup> Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighting with a 15% cap on individual stocks. Under this calculation methodology, shares held by any entities (excluding custodians, trustees, mutual funds and investment companies) which control more than 5% of shares are excluded for index calculation:

- *Strategic holdings* (governments and affiliated entities or any other entities which hold substantial shares in the company would be considered as non-freefloat unless otherwise proved);
- *Directors' and management holdings* (directors, members of the board committee, principal officers or founding members);
- *Corporate cross holdings* (publicly traded companies or private firms / institutions); and
- *Lock-up shares* (shareholdings with a publicly disclosed lock-up arrangement).

A free float-adjusted factor representing the proportion of shares that is free floated as a percentage of the issued shares, is rounded up to the nearest multiple of 5% for the calculation of the Hang Seng<sup>®</sup> Index and is updated quarterly.

A cap of 15% on individual stock weightings is applied. A cap factor is calculated quarterly to coincide with the regular update of the free float-adjusted factor. Additional re-capping is performed upon constituent changes.

The formula for the index calculation is as follows:

Current Index =

$$\frac{\sum(P_t \times IS \times FAF \times CF)}{\sum(P_{t-1} \times IS \times FAF \times CF)} \times \text{Yesterday's Closing Index}$$

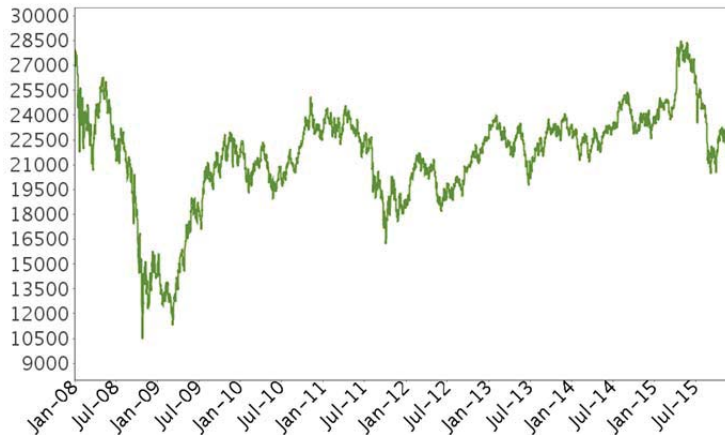
where:

- $P_t$ : current price at day  $t$ ;  
 $P_{t-1}$ : closing price at day  $t-1$ ;  
 $IS$ : number of issued shares;  
 $FAF$ : freefloat-adjusted factor, which is between 0 and 1; and  
 $CF$ : capping factor, which is between 0 and 1.



The following graph shows the daily historical performance of the Hang Seng® Index in the period from January 1, 2008 through December 22, 2015. We obtained this historical data from Bloomberg L.P. We have not independently verified the accuracy or completeness of the information obtained from Bloomberg L.P. On the pricing date, the closing level of the Hang Seng® Index was 21,830.02.

Historical Performance of the Hang Seng® Index



*This historical data on the Hang Seng® Index is not necessarily indicative of the future performance of the Hang Seng® Index or what the value of the notes may be. Any historical upward or downward trend in the level of the Hang Seng® Index during any period set forth above is not an indication that the level of the Hang Seng® Index is more or less likely to increase or decrease at any time over the term of the notes.*

Before investing in the notes, you should consult publicly available sources for the levels of the Hang Seng® Index.

## License Agreement

HSBC or one of its affiliates has entered into a non-exclusive license agreement with HSIL and Hang Seng Data Services Limited whereby HSBC or one of its affiliates, in exchange for a fee, is permitted to use the Hang Seng® Index in connection with certain securities, including the notes. HSBC is not affiliated with HSIL; the only relationship between HSIL and HSBC is any licensing of the use of HSIL's indices and trademarks related to them.

THE HANG SENG® INDEX IS PUBLISHED AND COMPILED BY HSI SERVICES LIMITED PURSUANT TO A LICENSE FROM HANG SENG DATA SERVICES LIMITED. THE MARK AND NAME HANG SENG CHINA ENTERPRISES INDEX ARE PROPRIETARY TO HANG SENG DATA SERVICES LIMITED. HSI SERVICES LIMITED AND HANG SENG DATA SERVICES LIMITED HAVE AGREED TO THE USE OF, AND REFERENCE TO, THE HANG SENG® INDEX BY HSBC IN CONNECTION WITH THE NOTES, **BUT NEITHER HSI SERVICES LIMITED NOR HANG SENG DATA SERVICES LIMITED WARRANTS OR REPRESENTS OR GUARANTEES TO ANY BROKER OR HOLDER OF THE NOTES OR ANY OTHER PERSON (I) THE ACCURACY OR COMPLETENESS OF THE HANG SENG® INDEX AND ITS COMPUTATION OR ANY INFORMATION RELATED THERETO; OR (II) THE FITNESS OR SUITABILITY FOR ANY PURPOSE OF THE HANG SENG® INDEX OR ANY COMPONENT OR DATA COMPRISED IN IT; OR (III) THE RESULTS WHICH MAY BE OBTAINED BY ANY PERSON FROM THE USE OF THE HANG SENG® INDEX OR ANY COMPONENT OR DATA COMPRISED IN IT FOR ANY PURPOSE, AND NO WARRANTY OR REPRESENTATION OR GUARANTEE OF ANY KIND WHATSOEVER RELATING TO THE HANG SENG® INDEX IS GIVEN OR MAY BE IMPLIED.** THE PROCESS AND BASIS OF COMPUTATION AND COMPILATION OF THE HANG SENG® INDEX AND ANY OF THE RELATED FORMULA OR FORMULAE, CONSTITUENT STOCKS AND FACTORS MAY AT ANY TIME BE CHANGED OR ALTERED BY HSI SERVICES LIMITED WITHOUT NOTICE. **TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW, NO RESPONSIBILITY OR LIABILITY IS ACCEPTED BY HSI SERVICES LIMITED OR HANG SENG DATA SERVICES LIMITED (I) IN RESPECT OF THE USE OF AND/OR REFERENCE TO THE HANG SENG® INDEX BY HSBC IN CONNECTION WITH THE NOTES; OR (II) FOR ANY INACCURACIES, OMISSIONS, MISTAKES OR ERRORS OF HSI SERVICES LIMITED IN THE COMPUTATION OF THE HANG SENG® INDEX; OR (III) FOR ANY INACCURACIES, OMISSIONS, MISTAKES, ERRORS OR INCOMPLETENESS OF ANY INFORMATION USED IN CONNECTION WITH THE COMPUTATION OF THE HANG SENG® INDEX WHICH IS SUPPLIED BY ANY OTHER PERSON; OR (IV) FOR ANY ECONOMIC OR OTHER LOSS WHICH MAY BE DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY SUSTAINED BY ANY BROKER OR HOLDER OF THE PRODUCT OR ANY OTHER PERSON DEALING WITH THE NOTES AS A RESULT OF ANY OF THE AFORESAID, AND NO CLAIMS, ACTIONS OR LEGAL PROCEEDINGS MAY BE BROUGHT AGAINST HSI SERVICES LIMITED AND/OR HANG SENG DATA SERVICES LIMITED IN CONNECTION WITH THE NOTES IN ANY MANNER WHATSOEVER BY ANY BROKER, HOLDER OR OTHER PERSON DEALING WITH THE NOTES. ANY BROKER, HOLDER OR OTHER PERSON DEALING WITH THE NOTES DOES SO THEREFORE IN FULL KNOWLEDGE OF THIS DISCLAIMER AND CAN PLACE NO RELIANCE WHATSOEVER ON HSI SERVICES LIMITED AND HANG SENG DATA SERVICES LIMITED. FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBT, THIS DISCLAIMER DOES NOT CREATE ANY CONTRACTUAL OR QUASI-CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ANY BROKER, HOLDER OR OTHER PERSON AND HSI SERVICES LIMITED AND/OR HANG SENG DATA SERVICES LIMITED AND MUST NOT BE CONSTRUED TO HAVE CREATED SUCH RELATIONSHIP.**

## Supplement to the Plan of Distribution

We will deliver the notes against payment therefor in New York, New York on a date that is greater than three business days following the pricing date. Under Rule 15c6-1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, trades in the secondary market generally are required to settle in three business days, unless the parties to any such trade expressly agree otherwise. Accordingly, purchasers who wish to trade the notes more than three business days prior to the original issue date will be required to specify alternative settlement arrangements to prevent a failed settlement.

The notes will not be listed on any securities exchange. In the original offering of the notes, the notes will be sold in minimum investment amounts of 100 units. If you place an order to purchase the notes, you are consenting to MLPF&S acting as a principal in effecting the transaction for your account.

MLPF&S may repurchase and resell the notes, with repurchases and resales being made at prices related to then-prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices, and these will include MLPF&S's trading commissions and mark-ups. MLPF&S may act as principal or agent in these market-making transactions; however, it is not obligated to engage in any such transactions. At MLPF&S's discretion, for a short, undetermined initial period after the issuance of the notes, MLPF&S may offer to buy the notes in the secondary market at a price that may exceed the estimated initial value of the notes. Any price offered by MLPF&S for the notes will be based on then-prevailing market conditions and other considerations, including the performance of the Basket, the remaining term of the notes, and the issuer's creditworthiness. However, neither we nor any of our affiliates is obligated to purchase your notes at any price, or at any time, and we cannot assure you that we, MLPF&S or any of our respective affiliates will purchase your notes at a price that equals or exceeds the estimated initial value of the notes.

The value of the notes shown on your account statement provided by MLPF&S will be based on their estimate of the value of the notes if MLPF&S or one of its affiliates were to make a market in the notes, which it is not obligated to do. This estimate will be based upon the price that MLPF&S may pay for the notes in light of then-prevailing market conditions, and other considerations, as mentioned above, and will include transaction costs. At certain times, this price may be higher than or lower than the estimated initial value of the notes.

The distribution of the Note Prospectus in connection with these offers or sales will be solely for the purpose of providing investors with the description of the terms of the notes that was made available to investors in connection with their initial offering. Secondary market investors should not, and will not be authorized to, rely on the Note Prospectus for information regarding HSBC or for any purpose other than that described in the immediately preceding sentence.

### Role of MLPF&S

MLPF&S will participate as selling agent in the distribution of the notes. Under our distribution agreement with MLPF&S, MLPF&S will purchase the notes from us as principal at the public offering price indicated on the cover of this term sheet, less the indicated underwriting discount.

At maturity, we are required to pay the Redemption Amount to holders of the notes, which will be calculated based on the performance of the Basket and the \$10 per unit principal amount. In order to meet these payment obligations, at the time we issue the notes, we may choose to enter into certain hedging arrangements (which may include call options, put options or other derivatives) with MLPF&S or one of its affiliates. The terms of these hedging arrangements are determined by MLPF&S seeking bids from market participants, which could include one of our affiliates and MLPF&S and its affiliates. These hedging arrangements take into account a number of factors, including the issuer's creditworthiness, interest rate movements, the volatility of the Basket Components, the tenor of the notes and the tenor of the hedging arrangements. The economic terms of the notes depend in part on the terms of the hedging arrangements.

MLPF&S has advised us that the hedging arrangements will include a hedging related charge of approximately \$0.075 per unit, reflecting an estimated profit to be credited to MLPF&S from these transactions. Since hedging entails risk and may be influenced by unpredictable market forces, additional profits and losses from these hedging arrangements may be realized by MLPF&S or any third party hedge providers.

For further information, see "Risk Factors—General Risks Relating to LIRNs" beginning on page PS-6 and "Use of Proceeds" on page PS-15 of product supplement EQUITY INDICES LIRN-1.

## Summary Tax Consequences

You should consider the U.S. federal income tax consequences of an investment in the notes, including the following:

- There is no statutory, judicial, or administrative authority directly addressing the characterization of the notes.
- You agree with us (in the absence of an administrative determination, or judicial ruling to the contrary) to characterize and treat the notes for all tax purposes as pre-paid executory contracts with respect to the Basket.
- Under this characterization and tax treatment of the notes, a U.S. holder (as defined in the prospectus supplement) generally will recognize capital gain or loss upon maturity or upon a sale or exchange of the notes prior to maturity. This capital gain or loss generally will be long-term capital gain or loss if you held the notes for more than one year.
- No assurance can be given that the IRS or any court will agree with this characterization and tax treatment.
- Recently finalized Treasury regulations provide that withholding on “dividend equivalent” payments (as discussed in the product supplement and prospectus supplement), if any, will not apply to notes issued before January 1, 2017. Additionally, the IRS has announced that withholding under the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (as discussed in the prospectus supplement) on payments of gross proceeds from a sale or redemption of the notes will only apply to payments made after December 31, 2018.

You should consult your own tax advisor concerning the U.S. federal income tax consequences to you of acquiring, owning, and disposing of the notes, as well as any tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local, foreign, or other tax jurisdiction and the possible effects of changes in U.S. federal or other tax laws. You should review carefully the discussion under the section entitled “U.S. Federal Income Tax Summary” beginning on page PS-29 of product supplement EQUITY INDICES LIRN-1.

## Validity of the Notes

In the opinion of Morrison & Foerster LLP, as counsel to the issuer, when this term sheet has been attached to, and duly notated on, the master note that represents the notes pursuant to the Senior Indenture referred to in the prospectus supplement dated March 5, 2015, and issued and paid for as contemplated herein, the notes offered by this term sheet will be valid, binding and enforceable obligations of the issuer, entitled to the benefits of the Senior Indenture, subject to applicable bankruptcy, insolvency and similar laws affecting creditors’ rights generally, concepts of reasonableness and equitable principles of general applicability (including, without limitation, concepts of good faith, fair dealing and the lack of bad faith). This opinion is given as of the date hereof and is limited to the laws of the State of New York, the Maryland General Corporation Law (including the statutory provisions, all applicable provisions of the Maryland Constitution and the reported judicial decisions interpreting the foregoing) and the federal laws of the United States of America. This opinion is subject to customary assumptions about the trustee’s authorization, execution and delivery of the Senior Indenture and the genuineness of signatures and to such counsel’s reliance on the issuer and other sources as to certain factual matters, all as stated in the legal opinion dated March 5, 2015, which has been filed as Exhibit 5.3 to the issuer’s registration statement on Form S-3 dated March 5, 2015.

## Where You Can Find More Information

We have filed a registration statement (including a product supplement, a prospectus supplement, and a prospectus) with the SEC for the offering to which this term sheet relates. Before you invest, you should read the Note Prospectus, including this term sheet, and the other documents that we have filed with the SEC, for more complete information about us and this offering. You may get these documents without cost by visiting EDGAR on the SEC website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). Alternatively, we, any agent, or any dealer participating in this offering will arrange to send you these documents if you so request by calling MLPF&S toll-free at 1-800-294-1322.

## Market-Linked Investments Classification



*MLPF&S classifies certain market-linked investments (the “Market-Linked Investments”) into categories, each with different investment characteristics. The following description is meant solely for informational purposes and is not intended to represent any particular Enhanced Return Market-Linked Investment or guarantee any performance.*

Enhanced Return Market-Linked Investments are short- to medium-term investments that offer you a way to enhance exposure to a particular market view without taking on a similarly enhanced level of market downside risk. They can be especially effective in a flat to moderately positive market (or, in the case of bearish investments, a flat to moderately negative market). In exchange for the potential to receive better-than market returns on the linked asset, you must generally accept market downside risk and capped upside potential. As these investments are not market downside protected, and do not assure full repayment of principal at maturity, you need to be prepared for the possibility that you may lose all or part of your investment.

“Leveraged Index Return Notes<sup>®</sup>” and “LIRNs<sup>®</sup>” are the registered service marks of Bank of America Corporation, the parent company of MLPF&S.