

GOLDMAN SACHS GROUP INC

Form 424B2

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The information in this preliminary prospectus supplement is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary prospectus supplement is not an offer to sell nor does it seek an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject to Completion. Dated October 15, 2018.

GS Finance Corp.

\$

Callable Contingent Coupon Index-Linked Notes due
guaranteed by

The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.

The notes will not pay a fixed coupon and may pay no coupon on a payment date. The amount that you will be paid on your notes is based on the performances of the Russell 2000[®] Index, the NASDAQ-100 Index[®] and the S&P 500[®] Index. The notes will mature on October 24, 2023, unless we redeem them.

We may redeem your notes at 100% of their face amount plus any coupon then due on any payment date (expected to be the 24th day of each January, April, July and October, commencing in January 2019 and ending on the stated maturity date) on or after the payment date in April 2019 up to the payment date in July 2023.

If we do not redeem your notes, on each determination date (expected to be the tenth scheduled trading day for all indices prior to each payment date), if the closing level of each index is greater than or equal to 70% of its initial level (set on the trade date, expected to be October 19, 2018), you will receive on the applicable payment date a coupon for each \$1,000 face amount of your notes equal to \$21.625. If the closing level of any index on a determination date is less than 70% of its initial level, you will not receive a coupon on the applicable payment date.

If we do not redeem your notes, the amount that you will be paid on your notes at maturity, in addition to the final coupon, if any, is based on the performance of the lesser performing index (the index with the lowest index return). The index return for each index is the percentage increase or decrease in the final level of such index on the final determination date from its initial level.

At maturity, for each \$1,000 face amount of your notes you will receive an amount in cash equal to:

if the index return of each index is greater than or equal to -30% (the final level of each index is greater than or equal to 70% of its initial level), \$1,000 plus the final coupon;

if the index return of each index is greater than or equal to -40% (the final level of each index is greater than or equal to 60% of its initial level) but the index return of any index is less than -30% (the final level of any index is less than 70% of its initial level), \$1,000. You will not receive a coupon; or

if the index return of any index is less than -40% (the final level of any index is less than 60% of its initial level), the sum of (i) \$1,000 plus (ii) the product of (a) the lesser performing index return times (b) \$1,000. You will receive less than 60% of the face amount of your notes and you will not receive a final coupon.

You should read the disclosure herein to better understand the terms and risks of your investment, including the credit risk of GS Finance Corp. and The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. See page S-10.

The estimated value of your notes at the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date is expected to be between \$920 and \$960 per \$1,000 face amount. For a discussion of the estimated value and the price at which Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC would initially buy or sell your notes, if it makes a market in the notes, see the following page.

Original issue date: expected to be October 24, 2018 Original issue price: 100% of the face amount*

Underwriting discount: % of the face amount* Net proceeds to the issuer: % of the face amount

*The original issue price will be % for certain investors; see "Supplemental Plan of Distribution" on page S-60.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense. The notes are not bank deposits and are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency, nor are they obligations of, or guaranteed by, a bank.

Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC

Prospectus Supplement No. dated , 2018.

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The issue price, underwriting discount and net proceeds listed above relate to the notes we sell initially. We may decide to sell additional notes after the date of this prospectus supplement, at issue prices and with underwriting discounts and net proceeds that differ from the amounts set forth above. The return (whether positive or negative) on your investment in notes will depend in part on the issue price you pay for such notes.

GS Finance Corp. may use this prospectus in the initial sale of the notes. In addition, Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC, or any other affiliate of GS Finance Corp., may use this prospectus in a market-making transaction in a note after its initial sale. Unless GS Finance Corp. or its agent informs the purchaser otherwise in the confirmation of sale, this prospectus is being used in a market-making transaction.

Estimated Value of Your Notes

The estimated value of your notes at the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date (as determined by reference to pricing models used by Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC (GS&Co.) and taking into account our credit spreads) is expected to be between \$920 and \$960 per \$1,000 face amount, which is less than the original issue price. The value of your notes at any time will reflect many factors and cannot be predicted; however, the price (not including GS&Co.'s customary bid and ask spreads) at which GS&Co. would initially buy or sell notes (if it makes a market, which it is not obligated to do) and the value that GS&Co. will initially use for account statements and otherwise is equal to approximately the estimated value of your notes at the time of pricing, plus an additional amount (initially equal to \$ per \$1,000 face amount).

Prior to , the price (not including GS&Co.'s customary bid and ask spreads) at which GS&Co. would buy or sell your notes (if it makes a market, which it is not obligated to do) will equal approximately the sum of (a) the then-current estimated value of your notes (as determined by reference to GS&Co.'s pricing models) plus (b) any remaining additional amount (the additional amount will decline to zero on a straight-line basis from the time of pricing through). On and after , the price (not including GS&Co.'s customary bid and ask spreads) at which GS&Co. would buy or sell your notes (if it makes a market) will equal approximately the then-current estimated value of your notes determined by reference to such pricing models.

About Your Prospectus

The notes are part of the Medium-Term Notes, Series E program of GS Finance Corp., and are fully and unconditionally guaranteed by The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. This prospectus includes this prospectus supplement and the accompanying documents listed below. This prospectus supplement constitutes a supplement to the documents listed below and should be read in conjunction with such documents:

Prospectus supplement dated July 10, 2017

Prospectus dated July 10, 2017

The information in this prospectus supplement supersedes any conflicting information in the documents listed above. In addition, some of the terms or features described in the listed documents may not apply to your notes.

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SUMMARY INFORMATION

We refer to the notes we are offering by this prospectus supplement as the “offered notes” or the “notes”. Each of the offered notes has the terms described below and under “Specific Terms of Your Notes” on page S-20. Please note that in this prospectus supplement, references to “GS Finance Corp.”, “we”, “our” and “us” mean only GS Finance Corp. and do not include its subsidiaries or affiliates, references to “The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.”, our parent company, mean only The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. and do not include its subsidiaries or affiliates and references to “Goldman Sachs” mean The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. together with its consolidated subsidiaries and affiliates, including us. Also, references to the “accompanying prospectus” mean the accompanying prospectus, dated July 10, 2017, and references to the “accompanying prospectus supplement” mean the accompanying prospectus supplement, dated July 10, 2017, for Medium-Term Notes, Series E, in each case of GS Finance Corp. and The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. References to the “indenture” in this prospectus supplement mean the senior debt indenture, dated as of October 10, 2008, as supplemented by the First Supplemental Indenture, dated as of February 20, 2015, each among us, as issuer, The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., as guarantor, and The Bank of New York Mellon, as trustee. This indenture, as so supplemented and as further supplemented thereafter, is referred to as the “GSFC 2008 indenture” in the accompanying prospectus supplement.

Key Terms

Issuer: GS Finance Corp.

Guarantor: The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.

Indices: the Russell 2000[®] Index (Bloomberg symbol, “RTY Index”), as published by FTSE Russell, the NASDAQ-100 Index[®] (Bloomberg symbol, “NDX Index”), as published by Nasdaq, Inc., and the S&P 500 Index (Bloomberg symbol, “SPX Index”), as published by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC; see “The Indices” on page S-29

Specified currency: U.S. dollars (“\$”)

Face amount: each note will have a face amount equal to \$1,000; \$ in the aggregate for all the offered notes; the aggregate face amount of the offered notes may be increased if the issuer, at its sole option, decides to sell an additional amount of the offered notes on a date subsequent to the date of this prospectus supplement

Denominations: \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof

Purchase at amount other than face amount: the amount we will pay you for your notes on the stated maturity date or upon any early redemption of your notes will not be adjusted based on the issue price you pay for your notes, so if you acquire notes at a premium (or discount) to face amount and hold them to the stated maturity date or date of early redemption, it could affect your investment in a number of ways. The return on your investment in such notes will be lower (or higher) than it would have been had you purchased the notes at face amount. See “Additional Risk Factors Specific to Your Notes — If You Purchase Your Notes at a Premium to Face Amount, the Return on Your Investment Will Be Lower Than the Return on Notes Purchased at Face Amount and the Impact of Certain Key Terms of the Notes Will Be Negatively Affected” on page S-13 of this prospectus supplement

Supplemental discussion of U.S. federal income tax consequences: you will be obligated pursuant to the terms of the notes — in the absence of a change in law, an administrative determination or a judicial ruling to the contrary — to characterize each note for all tax purposes as an income-bearing pre-paid derivative contract in respect of the indices, as described under “Supplemental Discussion of Federal Income Tax Consequences” herein. Pursuant to this approach, it is the opinion of Sidley Austin LLP that it is likely that any coupon payment will be taxed as ordinary income in accordance with your regular method of accounting for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If you are a United States alien holder of the notes, we intend to withhold on coupon payments made to you at a 30% rate or at a lower rate specified by an applicable income tax treaty. In addition, upon the sale, exchange, redemption or maturity of your notes, it

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would be reasonable for you to recognize capital gain or loss equal to the difference, if any, between the amount of cash you receive at such time (excluding amounts attributable to any coupon payment) and your tax basis in your notes.

Cash settlement amount: subject to our redemption right, for each \$1,000 face amount of your notes, we will pay you on the stated maturity date an amount in cash equal to:

- if the index return of each index is greater than or equal to -30%, \$1,000 plus the final coupon;
- if the index return of each index is greater than or equal to -40% but the index return of any index is less than -30%, \$1,000. You will not receive a coupon; or
- if the index return of any index is less than -40%, the sum of (i) \$1,000 plus (ii) the product of (a) the lesser performing index return times (b) \$1,000.

Early redemption right: we have the right to redeem your notes, in whole but not in part, at a price equal to 100% of the face amount plus any coupon then due, on each coupon payment date commencing in April 2019 and ending in July 2023, subject to at least ten business days' prior notice

Lesser performing index return: the index return of the lesser performing index

Lesser performing index: the index with the lowest index return

Coupon: subject to our redemption right, on each coupon payment date, for each \$1,000 face amount of your notes, we will pay you an amount in cash equal to:

- if the closing level of each index on the related coupon determination date is greater than or equal to 70% of its initial index level, \$21.625; or
 - if the closing level of any index on the related coupon determination date is less than 70% of its initial index level, \$0
- Initial index level (to be set on the trade date): with respect to each index, the closing level of such index on the trade date

Final index level: with respect to each index, the closing level of such index on the determination date, except in the limited circumstances described under "Specific Terms of Your Notes — Consequences of a Market Disruption Event or a Non-Trading Day" on page S-23

Closing level: with respect to each index on any trading day, the closing level of such index, as further described under "Specific Terms of Your Notes — Special Calculation Provisions — Closing Level" on page S-25

Index return: with respect to each index on the determination date, the quotient of (i) the final index level minus the initial index level divided by (ii) the initial index level, expressed as a positive or negative percentage

Defeasance: not applicable

No listing: the offered notes will not be listed or displayed on any securities exchange or interdealer market quotation system

Business day: as described under "Specific Terms of Your Notes — Special Calculation Provisions — Business Day" on page S-25

Trading day: as described under "Specific Terms of Your Notes — Special Calculation Provisions — Trading Day" on page S-25

Trade date: expected to be October 19, 2018

Original issue date (settlement date) (to be set on the trade date): expected to be October 24, 2018

Stated maturity date (to be set on the trade date): expected to be October 24, 2023, subject to adjustment as described under "Specific Terms of Your Notes — Stated Maturity Date" on page S-22

Determination date (to be set on the trade date): the last coupon determination date, expected to be October 10, 2023, subject to adjustment as described under "Specific Terms of Your Notes — Determination Date" on page S-22

Coupon determination dates (to be set on the trade date): the tenth scheduled trading day for all indices prior to each coupon payment date, subject to adjustment as described under "Specific Terms of Your Notes — Coupon Determination Dates" on page S-22

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Coupon payment dates (to be set on the trade date): expected to be the 24th day of each January, April, July and October, commencing in January 2019 and ending on the stated maturity date, subject to adjustment as described under “Specific Terms of Your Notes — Coupon and Coupon Payment Dates” on page S-22

Regular record dates: the scheduled business day immediately preceding the day on which payment is to be made (as such payment date may be adjusted)

Calculation agent: GS&Co.

CUSIP no.: 40056EBB3

ISIN no.: US40056EBB39

FDIC: the notes are not bank deposits and are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency, nor are they obligations of, or guaranteed by, a bank

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HYPOTHETICAL EXAMPLES

The following examples are provided for purposes of illustration only. They should not be taken as an indication or prediction of future investment results and are intended merely to illustrate (i) the impact that various hypothetical closing levels of the indices on a coupon determination date could have on the coupon payable, if any, on the related coupon payment date and (ii) the impact that the various hypothetical closing levels of the lesser performing index on the determination date could have on the cash settlement amount at maturity assuming all other variables remain constant.

The examples below are based on a range of index levels that are entirely hypothetical; no one can predict what the index level of any index will be on any day throughout the life of your notes, what the closing level of any index will be on any coupon determination date and what the final index level of the lesser performing index will be on the determination date. The indices have been highly volatile in the past — meaning that the index levels have changed substantially in relatively short periods — and their performance cannot be predicted for any future period.

The information in the following examples reflects the hypothetical rates of return on the offered notes assuming that they are purchased on the original issue date at the face amount and held to the stated maturity date or date of early redemption. If you sell your notes in a secondary market prior to the stated maturity date or date of early redemption, as the case may be, your return will depend upon the market value of your notes at the time of sale, which may be affected by a number of factors that are not reflected in the examples below such as interest rates, the volatility of the indices, the creditworthiness of GS Finance Corp., as issuer, and the creditworthiness of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., as guarantor. In addition, the estimated value of your notes at the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date (as determined by reference to pricing models used by GS&Co.) is less than the original issue price of your notes. For more information on the estimated value of your notes, see “Additional Risk Factors Specific to Your Notes — The Estimated Value of Your Notes At the Time the Terms of Your Notes Are Set On the Trade Date (as Determined By Reference to Pricing Models Used By GS&Co.) Is Less Than the Original Issue Price Of Your Notes” on page S-10 of this prospectus supplement. The information in the examples also reflect the key terms and assumptions in the box below.

Key Terms and Assumptions

| | |
|---|----------|
| Face amount | \$1,000 |
| Hypothetical initial index level of the Russell 2000® Index | 1,500 |
| Hypothetical initial index level of the NASDAQ-100 Index® | 7,200 |
| Hypothetical initial index level of the S&P 500® Index | 2,800 |
| Coupon | \$21.625 |

Neither a market disruption event nor a non-trading day occurs on any originally scheduled coupon determination date or the originally scheduled determination date

No change in or affecting any of the index stocks or the method by which the applicable index sponsor calculates any index

Notes purchased on original issue date at the face amount and held to the stated maturity date or date of early redemption

Moreover, we have not yet set the initial index levels that will serve as the baseline for determining the coupon payable on each coupon payment date, if any, if the notes will be redeemed, the index returns and the amount that we will pay on your notes, if any, at maturity. We will not do so until the trade date. As a result, the actual initial index levels may differ substantially from the index levels prior to the trade date. They may also differ substantially from the index levels at the time you purchase your notes.

For these reasons, the actual performance of the indices over the life of your notes, the actual index levels on any coupon determination date, as well as the coupon payable, if any, on each coupon payment date, may bear little relation to the hypothetical examples shown below or to the historical index levels shown elsewhere in this prospectus supplement. For information about the index levels during recent periods, see “The Indices — Historical Closing Levels of the Indices” on page S-51. Before investing in the notes, you should consult publicly available information to determine the index levels between the date of this prospectus supplement and the date of your purchase of the notes.

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Also, the hypothetical examples shown below do not take into account the effects of applicable taxes. Because of the U.S. tax treatment applicable to your notes, tax liabilities could affect the after-tax rate of return on your notes to a comparatively greater extent than the after-tax return on the index stocks.

Hypothetical Coupon Payments

The examples below show hypothetical performances of each index as well as the hypothetical coupons, if any, that we would pay on each coupon payment date with respect to each \$1,000 face amount of the notes if the closing level of each index on the applicable coupon determination date were the hypothetical closing levels shown and 70% of the hypothetical initial index levels were 1,050, 5,040 and 1,960 for the Russell 2000® Index, the NASDAQ-100 Index® and the S&P 500® Index, respectively.

Scenario 1

| Hypothetical Coupon Determination Date | Hypothetical Closing Level of the Russell 2000® Index | Hypothetical Closing Level of the NASDAQ-100 Index® | Hypothetical Closing Level of the S&P 500® Index | Hypothetical Coupon |
|--|---|---|--|---------------------|
| First | 1,800 | 3,900 | 900 | \$0 |
| Second | 800 | 3,900 | 900 | \$0 |
| Third | 500 | 3,000 | 2,100 | \$0 |
| Fourth | 1,400 | 7,900 | 3,000 | \$21.625 |
| Fifth | 1,000 | 3,900 | 900 | \$0 |
| Sixth | 500 | 5,400 | 2,000 | \$0 |
| Seventh | 1,300 | 5,300 | 2,400 | \$21.625 |
| Eighth | 500 | 4,100 | 2,100 | \$0 |
| Ninth | 550 | 4,150 | 2,150 | \$0 |
| Tenth | 500 | 4,000 | 2,000 | \$0 |
| Eleventh | 500 | 4,000 | 2,000 | \$0 |
| Twelfth - Twentieth | 500 | 3,900 | 1,900 | \$0 |
| | | | Total Hypothetical Coupons | \$43.25 |

In Scenario 1, the hypothetical closing level of each index increases and decreases by varying amounts on each hypothetical coupon determination date. Because the hypothetical closing level of each index on the fourth and seventh hypothetical coupon determination dates is greater than or equal to 70% of its hypothetical initial index level, the total of the hypothetical coupons in Scenario 1 is \$43.25. Because the hypothetical closing level of at least one index on all other hypothetical coupon determination dates is less than 70% of its hypothetical initial index level, no further coupons will be paid, including at maturity.

Scenario 2

| Hypothetical Coupon Determination Date | Hypothetical Closing Level of the Russell 2000® Index | Hypothetical Closing Level of the NASDAQ-100 Index® | Hypothetical Closing Level of the S&P 500® Index | Hypothetical Coupon |
|--|---|---|--|---------------------|
| First | 500 | 3,900 | 3,000 | \$0 |
| Second | 1,800 | 4,900 | 900 | \$0 |
| Third | 525 | 4,000 | 2,000 | \$0 |
| Fourth | 550 | 4,100 | 1,900 | \$0 |
| Fifth | 500 | 3,900 | 1,800 | \$0 |
| Sixth | 550 | 4,800 | 2,000 | \$0 |
| Seventh | 525 | 3,900 | 2,100 | \$0 |

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| | | | | |
|---------------------|-------|-------|-------------------------------|-----|
| Eighth | 550 | 6,100 | 2,200 | \$0 |
| Ninth | 500 | 7,900 | 2,000 | \$0 |
| Tenth | 1,300 | 5,000 | 900 | \$0 |
| Eleventh | 300 | 4,000 | 900 | \$0 |
| Twelfth - Twentieth | 500 | 3,900 | 2,000 | \$0 |
| | | | Total Hypothetical Coupons | \$0 |

In Scenario 2, the hypothetical closing level of each index increases and decreases by varying amounts on each hypothetical coupon determination date. Because in each case the hypothetical closing level of at least one of the indices on the related coupon determination date is less than 70% of its hypothetical initial index level, you will not receive a coupon payment on the applicable hypothetical coupon payment date. Since this occurs on every hypothetical coupon determination date, the overall return you earn on your notes will be zero or less. Therefore, the total of the hypothetical coupons in Scenario 2 is \$0.

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Scenario 3

| Hypothetical Coupon Determination Date | Hypothetical Closing Level of the Russell 2000® Index | Hypothetical Closing Level of the NASDAQ-100 Index® | Hypothetical Closing Level of the S&P 500® Index | Hypothetical Coupon |
|--|---|---|--|---------------------|
| First | 500 | 4,100 | 1,100 | \$0 |
| Second | 1,800 | 7,800 | 3,000 | \$21.625 |
| | | | Total Hypothetical Coupons | \$21.625 |

In Scenario 3, the hypothetical closing level of each index is less than 70% of its hypothetical initial index level on the first hypothetical coupon determination date, but increases to a level that is greater than or equal to 70% of its initial index level on the second hypothetical coupon determination date. Further, we also exercise our early redemption right on the second coupon payment date (which is also the first hypothetical date with respect to which we could exercise such right). Therefore, on the second coupon payment date (the redemption date), in addition to the hypothetical coupon of \$21.625, you will receive an amount in cash equal to \$1,000 for each \$1,000 face amount of your notes.

Hypothetical Payment at Maturity

If the notes are not redeemed, the cash settlement amount we would deliver for each \$1,000 face amount of your notes on the stated maturity date will depend on the performance of the lesser performing index on the determination date, as shown in the table below. The table below assumes that the notes have not been redeemed, does not include the final coupon, if any, and reflects hypothetical cash settlement amounts that you could receive on the stated maturity date. If the final index level of the lesser performing index (as a percentage of the initial index level) is less than 70%, you will not be paid a final coupon at maturity.

The levels in the left column of the table below represent hypothetical final index levels of the lesser performing index and are expressed as percentages of the initial index level of the lesser performing index. The amounts in the right column represent the hypothetical cash settlement amounts, based on the corresponding hypothetical final index level of the lesser performing index (expressed as a percentage of the initial index level of the lesser performing index), and are expressed as percentages of the face amount of a note (rounded to the nearest one-thousandth of a percent). Thus, a hypothetical cash settlement amount of 100.000% means that the value of the cash payment that we would deliver for each \$1,000 of the outstanding face amount of the offered notes on the stated maturity date would equal 100.000% of the face amount of a note, based on the corresponding hypothetical final index level of the lesser performing index (expressed as a percentage of the initial index level of the lesser performing index) and the assumptions noted above.

The Notes Have Not Been Redeemed

| Hypothetical Final Index Level of the Lesser Performing Index (as Percentage of Initial Index Level) | Hypothetical Cash Settlement Amount at Maturity if the Notes Have Not Been Redeemed (as Percentage of Face Amount) |
|---|---|
| 175.000% | 100.000%* |
| 150.000% | 100.000%* |
| 125.000% | 100.000%* |
| 100.000% | 100.000%* |
| 85.000% | 100.000%* |
| 80.000% | 100.000%* |
| 70.000% | 100.000%* |
| 65.000% | 100.000% |
| 60.000% | 100.000% |
| 59.999% | 59.999% |
| 50.000% | 50.000% |
| 25.000% | 25.000% |

| | |
|---------|---------|
| 10.000% | 10.000% |
| 0.000% | 0.000% |

*Does not include the final coupon

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If, for example, the notes have not been redeemed and the final index level of the lesser performing index were determined to be 25.000% of its initial index level, the cash settlement amount that we would deliver on your notes at maturity would be 25.000% of the face amount of your notes, as shown in the table above. As a result, if you purchased your notes on the original issue date at the face amount and held them to the stated maturity date, you would lose 75.000% of your investment (if you purchased your notes at a premium to face amount you would lose a correspondingly higher percentage of your investment). In addition, if the final index level of the lesser performing index were determined to be 175.000% of its initial index level, the cash settlement amount that we would deliver on your notes at maturity would be limited to 100.000% of each \$1,000 face amount of your notes, as shown in the table above. As a result, if you held your notes to the stated maturity date, you would not benefit from any increase in the final index level over the initial index level.

The cash settlement amounts shown above are entirely hypothetical; they are based on market prices for the index stocks that may not be achieved on the determination date and on assumptions that may prove to be erroneous. The actual market value of your notes on the stated maturity date or at any other time, including any time you may wish to sell your notes, may bear little relation to the hypothetical cash settlement amounts shown above, and these amounts should not be viewed as an indication of the financial return on an investment in the offered notes. The hypothetical cash settlement amounts on notes held to the stated maturity date in the examples above assume you purchased your notes at their face amount and have not been adjusted to reflect the actual issue price you pay for your notes. The return on your investment (whether positive or negative) in your notes will be affected by the amount you pay for your notes. If you purchase your notes for a price other than the face amount, the return on your investment will differ from, and may be significantly lower than, the hypothetical returns suggested by the above examples. Please read “Additional Risk Factors Specific to Your Notes — The Market Value of Your Notes May Be Influenced by Many Unpredictable Factors” on page S-12.

Payments on the notes are economically equivalent to the amounts that would be paid on a combination of other instruments. For example, payments on the notes are economically equivalent to a combination of an interest-bearing bond bought by the holder and one or more options entered into between the holder and us (with one or more implicit option premiums paid over time). The discussion in this paragraph does not modify or affect the terms of the notes or the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the notes, as described elsewhere in this prospectus supplement.

We cannot predict the actual closing levels of the indices on any day, the final index levels of the indices or what the market value of your notes will be on any particular trading day, nor can we predict the relationship between the closing levels of the indices and the market value of your notes at any time prior to the stated maturity date. The actual coupon payment, if any, that a holder of the notes will receive on each coupon payment date, the actual amount that you will receive at maturity, if any, and the rate of return on the offered notes will depend on whether or not the notes are redeemed and the actual initial index levels, which we will set on the trade date, and on the actual closing levels of the indices and the actual final index levels determined by the calculation agent as described above. Moreover, the assumptions on which the hypothetical examples are based may turn out to be inaccurate.

Consequently, the coupon to be paid in respect of your notes, if any, and the cash amount to be paid in respect of your notes on the stated maturity date, if any, may be very different from the information reflected in the examples above.

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ADDITIONAL RISK FACTORS SPECIFIC TO YOUR NOTES

An investment in your notes is subject to the risks described below, as well as the risks and considerations described in the accompanying prospectus and in the accompanying prospectus supplement. You should carefully review these risks and considerations as well as the terms of the notes described herein and in the accompanying prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement. Your notes are a riskier investment than ordinary debt securities. Also, your notes are not equivalent to investing directly in the index stocks, i.e., with respect to an index to which your notes are linked, the stocks comprising such index. You should carefully consider whether the offered notes are suited to your particular circumstances.

The Estimated Value of Your Notes At the Time the Terms of Your Notes Are Set On the Trade Date (as Determined By Reference to Pricing Models Used By GS&Co.) Is Less Than the Original Issue Price Of Your Notes

The original issue price for your notes exceeds the estimated value of your notes as of the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date, as determined by reference to GS&Co.'s pricing models and taking into account our credit spreads. Such estimated value on the trade date is set forth above under "Estimated Value of Your Notes"; after the trade date, the estimated value as determined by reference to these models will be affected by changes in market conditions, the creditworthiness of GS Finance Corp., as issuer, the creditworthiness of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., as guarantor, and other relevant factors. The price at which GS&Co. would initially buy or sell your notes (if GS&Co. makes a market, which it is not obligated to do), and the value that GS&Co. will initially use for account statements and otherwise, also exceeds the estimated value of your notes as determined by reference to these models. As agreed by GS&Co. and the distribution participants, this excess (i.e., the additional amount described under "Estimated Value of Your Notes") will decline to zero on a straight line basis over the period from the date hereof through the applicable date set forth above under "Estimated Value of Your Notes". Thereafter, if GS&Co. buys or sells your notes it will do so at prices that reflect the estimated value determined by reference to such pricing models at that time. The price at which GS&Co. will buy or sell your notes at any time also will reflect its then current bid and ask spread for similar sized trades of structured notes.

In estimating the value of your notes as of the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date, as disclosed above under "Estimated Value of Your Notes", GS&Co.'s pricing models consider certain variables, including principally our credit spreads, interest rates (forecasted, current and historical rates), volatility, price-sensitivity analysis and the time to maturity of the notes. These pricing models are proprietary and rely in part on certain assumptions about future events, which may prove to be incorrect. As a result, the actual value you would receive if you sold your notes in the secondary market, if any, to others may differ, perhaps materially, from the estimated value of your notes determined by reference to our models due to, among other things, any differences in pricing models or assumptions used by others. See "— The Market Value of Your Notes May Be Influenced by Many Unpredictable Factors" below.

The difference between the estimated value of your notes as of the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date and the original issue price is a result of certain factors, including principally the underwriting discount and commissions, the expenses incurred in creating, documenting and marketing the notes, and an estimate of the difference between the amounts we pay to GS&Co. and the amounts GS&Co. pays to us in connection with your notes. We pay to GS&Co. amounts based on what we would pay to holders of a non-structured note with a similar maturity. In return for such payment, GS&Co. pays to us the amounts we owe under your notes.

In addition to the factors discussed above, the value and quoted price of your notes at any time will reflect many factors and cannot be predicted. If GS&Co. makes a market in the notes, the price quoted by GS&Co. would reflect any changes in market conditions and other relevant factors, including any deterioration in our creditworthiness or perceived creditworthiness or the creditworthiness or perceived creditworthiness of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. These changes may adversely affect the value of your notes, including the price you may receive for your notes in any market making transaction. To the extent that GS&Co. makes a market in the notes, the quoted price will reflect the estimated value determined by reference to GS&Co.'s pricing models at that time, plus or minus its then current bid and ask spread for similar sized trades of structured notes (and subject to the declining excess amount described above).

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Furthermore, if you sell your notes, you will likely be charged a commission for secondary market transactions, or the price will likely reflect a dealer discount. This commission or discount will further reduce the proceeds you would receive for your notes in a secondary market sale.

There is no assurance that GS&Co. or any other party will be willing to purchase your notes at any price and, in this regard, GS&Co. is not obligated to make a market in the notes. See “— Your Notes May Not Have an Active Trading Market” below.

The Notes Are Subject to the Credit Risk of the Issuer and the Guarantor

Although the coupons (if any) and return on the notes will be based on the performance of each index, the payment of any amount due on the notes is subject to the credit risk of GS Finance Corp., as issuer of the notes, and the credit risk of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., as guarantor of the notes. The notes are our unsecured obligations. Investors are dependent on our ability to pay all amounts due on the notes, and therefore investors are subject to our credit risk and to changes in the market’s view of our creditworthiness. Similarly, investors are dependent on the ability of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., as guarantor of the notes, to pay all amounts due on the notes, and therefore are also subject to its credit risk and to changes in the market’s view of its creditworthiness. See “Description of the Notes We May Offer — Information About Our Medium-Term Notes, Series E Program — How the Notes Rank Against Other Debt” on page S-4 of the accompanying prospectus supplement and “Description of Debt Securities We May Offer – Guarantee by The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.” on page 42 of the accompanying prospectus.

You May Lose Your Entire Investment in the Notes

You can lose your entire investment in the notes. Subject to our redemption right, the cash settlement amount on your notes, if any, on the stated maturity date will be based on the performance of the lesser performing of the Russell 2000[®] Index, the NASDAQ-100 Index[®] and the S&P 500[®] Index as measured from their initial index levels set on the trade date to their closing levels on the determination date. If the final index level of the lesser performing index for your notes is less than 60% of its initial index level, you will have a loss for each \$1,000 of the face amount of your notes equal to the product of the lesser performing index return times \$1,000. Thus, you may lose your entire investment in the notes, which would include any premium to face amount you paid when you purchased the notes. Also, the market price of your notes prior to the stated maturity date may be significantly lower than the purchase price you pay for your notes. Consequently, if you sell your notes before the stated maturity date, you may receive far less than the amount of your investment in the notes.

The Return on Your Notes May Change Significantly Despite Only a Small Change in the Level of the Lesser Performing Index

If your notes are not redeemed and the final index level of the lesser performing index is less than 60% of its initial index level, you will receive less than the face amount of your notes and you could lose all or a substantial portion of your investment in the notes. This means that while a drop of up to 40% between the initial index level and the final index level of the lesser performing index will not result in a loss of principal on the notes, a decrease in the final index level of the lesser performing index to less than 60% of its initial index level will result in a loss of a significant portion of the face amount of the notes despite only a small change in the level of the lesser performing index.

You May Not Receive a Coupon on Any Coupon Payment Date

If the closing level of any index on the related coupon determination date is less than 70% of its initial index level, you will not receive a coupon payment on the applicable coupon payment date. If this occurs on every coupon determination date, the overall return you earn on your notes will be zero or less and such return will be less than you would have earned by investing in a note that bears interest at the prevailing market rate.

On any coupon payment date, although you will receive a coupon if the closing level of each index on the related coupon determination date is greater than or equal to 70% of its initial index level, the coupon paid on the corresponding coupon payment date will be equal to \$21.625. You should be aware that, with

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respect to any prior coupon determination dates that did not result in the payment of a coupon, you will not be compensated for any opportunity cost implied by inflation and other factors relating to the time value of money. Further, there is no guarantee that you will receive any coupon payment with respect to the notes at any time and you may lose your entire investment in the notes.

We Are Able to Redeem Your Notes at Our Option

On each coupon payment date commencing in April 2019 and ending in July 2023, we will be permitted to redeem your notes at our option. Even if we do not exercise our option to redeem your notes, our ability to do so may adversely affect the value of your notes. It is our sole option whether to redeem your notes prior to maturity and we may or may not exercise this option for any reason. Because of this redemption option, the term of your notes could be anywhere between six months and five years.

The Coupon Does Not Reflect the Actual Performance of the Indices from the Trade Date to Any Coupon Determination Date or from Coupon Determination Date to Coupon Determination Date

The coupon for each quarterly coupon payment date is different from, and may be less than, a coupon determined based on the percentage difference of the closing levels of the indices between the trade date and any coupon determination date or between two coupon determination dates. Accordingly, the coupons, if any, on the notes may be less than the return you could earn on another instrument linked to the indices that pays coupons based on the performance of the indices from the trade date to any coupon determination date or from coupon determination date to coupon determination date.

The Cash Settlement Amount Will Be Based Solely on the Lesser Performing Index

If the notes are not redeemed by us, the cash settlement amount will be based on the lesser performing index without regard to the performance of the other indices. As a result, you could lose all or some of your initial investment if the lesser performing index return is negative, even if there is an increase in the level of the other indices. This could be the case even if the other indices increased by an amount greater than the decrease in the lesser performing index.

The Market Value of Your Notes May Be Influenced by Many Unpredictable Factors

When we refer to the market value of your notes, we mean the value that you could receive for your notes if you chose to sell them in the open market before the stated maturity date. A number of factors, many of which are beyond our control, will influence the market value of your notes, including:

- the levels of the indices;
- the volatility – i.e., the frequency and magnitude of changes – in the closing levels of the indices;
- the dividend rates of the index stocks;
- economic, financial, regulatory, political, military and other events that affect stock markets generally and the index stocks, and which may affect the closing levels of the indices;
- interest rates and yield rates in the market;
- the time remaining until your notes mature; and

our creditworthiness and the creditworthiness of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., whether actual or perceived, and including actual or anticipated upgrades or downgrades in our credit ratings or the credit ratings of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. or changes in other credit measures.

These factors, and many other factors, will influence the price you will receive if you sell your notes before maturity, including the price you may receive for your notes in any market making transaction. If you sell your notes before maturity, you may receive less than the face amount of your notes.

You cannot predict the future performance of the indices based on their historical performance. The actual performance of the indices over the life of the offered notes, the cash settlement amount paid on the stated maturity date, as well as the coupon payable, if any, on each coupon payment date, may bear little or no relation to the historical closing levels of the indices or to the hypothetical examples shown elsewhere in this prospectus supplement.

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Your Notes May Not Have an Active Trading Market

Your notes will not be listed or displayed on any securities exchange or included in any interdealer market quotation system, and there may be little or no secondary market for your notes. Even if a secondary market for your notes develops, it may not provide significant liquidity and we expect that transaction costs in any secondary market would be high. As a result, the difference between bid and asked prices for your notes in any secondary market could be substantial.

If You Purchase Your Notes at a Premium to Face Amount, the Return on Your Investment Will Be Lower Than the Return on Notes Purchased at Face Amount and the Impact of Certain Key Terms of the Notes Will Be Negatively Affected

The cash settlement amount you will be paid for your notes on the stated maturity date or the amount we will pay you upon any early redemption of your notes will not be adjusted based on the issue price you pay for the notes. If you purchase notes at a price that differs from the face amount of the notes, then the return on your investment in such notes held to the stated maturity date or date of early redemption will differ from, and may be substantially less than, the return on notes purchased at face amount. If you purchase your notes at a premium to face amount and hold them to the stated maturity date or date of early redemption, the return on your investment in the notes will be lower than it would have been had you purchased the notes at face amount or a discount to face amount.

If the Levels of the Indices Change, the Market Value of Your Notes May Not Change in the Same Manner

The price of your notes may move differently than the performance of the indices. Changes in the levels of the indices may not result in a comparable change in the market value of your notes. Even if the closing level of each index is greater than or equal to 70% of its initial index level during some portion of the life of the notes, the market value of your notes may not reflect this. We discuss some of the reasons for this disparity under “— The Market Value of Your Notes May Be Influenced by Many Unpredictable Factors” above.

Anticipated Hedging Activities by Goldman Sachs or Our Distributors May Negatively Impact Investors in the Notes and Cause Our Interests and Those of Our Clients and Counterparties to be Contrary to Those of Investors in the Notes

Goldman Sachs expects to hedge our obligations under the notes by purchasing listed or over-the-counter options, futures and/or other instruments linked to the indices or the index stocks. Goldman Sachs also expects to adjust the hedge by, among other things, purchasing or selling any of the foregoing, and perhaps other instruments linked to the indices or the index stocks, at any time and from time to time, and to unwind the hedge by selling any of the foregoing on or before the determination date for your notes. Alternatively, Goldman Sachs may hedge all or part of our obligations under the notes with unaffiliated distributors of the notes which we expect will undertake similar market activity. Goldman Sachs may also enter into, adjust and unwind hedging transactions relating to other index-linked notes whose returns are linked to changes in the levels of the indices or the index stocks, as applicable.

In addition to entering into such transactions itself, or distributors entering into such transactions, Goldman Sachs may structure such transactions for its clients or counterparties, or otherwise advise or assist clients or counterparties in entering into such transactions. These activities may be undertaken to achieve a variety of objectives, including: permitting other purchasers of the notes or other securities to hedge their investment in whole or in part; facilitating transactions for other clients or counterparties that may have business objectives or investment strategies that are inconsistent with or contrary to those of investors in the notes; hedging the exposure of Goldman Sachs to the notes including any interest in the notes that it reacquires or retains as part of the offering process, through its market-making activities or otherwise; enabling Goldman Sachs to comply with its internal risk limits or otherwise manage firmwide, business unit or product risk; and/or enabling Goldman Sachs to take directional views as to relevant markets on behalf of itself or its clients or counterparties that are inconsistent with or contrary to the views and objectives of the investors in the notes.

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Any of these hedging or other activities may adversely affect the levels of the indices — directly or indirectly by affecting the price of the index stocks — and therefore the market value of your notes and the amount we will pay on your notes, if any. In addition, you should expect that these transactions will cause Goldman Sachs or its clients, counterparties or distributors to have economic interests and incentives that do not align with, and that may be directly contrary to, those of an investor in the notes. Neither Goldman Sachs nor any distributor will have any obligation to take, refrain from taking or cease taking any action with respect to these transactions based on the potential effect on an investor in the notes, and may receive substantial returns on hedging or other activities while the value of your notes declines. In addition, if the distributor from which you purchase notes is to conduct hedging activities in connection with the notes, that distributor may otherwise profit in connection with such hedging activities and such profit, if any, will be in addition to the compensation that the distributor receives for the sale of the notes to you. You should be aware that the potential to earn fees in connection with hedging activities may create a further incentive for the distributor to sell the notes to you in addition to the compensation they would receive for the sale of the notes.

Goldman Sachs' Trading and Investment Activities for its Own Account or for its Clients, Could Negatively Impact Investors in the Notes

Goldman Sachs is a global investment banking, securities and investment management firm that provides a wide range of financial services to a substantial and diversified client base that includes corporations, financial institutions, governments and individuals. As such, it acts as an investor, investment banker, research provider, investment manager, investment advisor, market maker, trader, prime broker and lender. In those and other capacities, Goldman Sachs purchases, sells or holds a broad array of investments, actively trades securities, derivatives, loans, commodities, currencies, credit default swaps, indices, baskets and other financial instruments and products for its own account or for the accounts of its customers, and will have other direct or indirect interests, in the global fixed income, currency, commodity, equity, bank loan and other markets. Any of Goldman Sachs' financial market activities may, individually or in the aggregate, have an adverse effect on the market for your notes, and you should expect that the interests of Goldman Sachs or its clients or counterparties will at times be adverse to those of investors in the notes.

Goldman Sachs regularly offers a wide array of securities, financial instruments and other products into the marketplace, including existing or new products that are similar to your notes, or similar or linked to the indices or index stocks. Investors in the notes should expect that Goldman Sachs will offer securities, financial instruments, and other products that will compete with the notes for liquidity, research coverage or otherwise.

Goldman Sachs' Market-Making Activities Could Negatively Impact Investors in the Notes

Goldman Sachs actively makes markets in and trades financial instruments for its own account and for the accounts of customers. These financial instruments include debt and equity securities, currencies, commodities, bank loans, indices, baskets and other products. Goldman Sachs' activities include, among other things, executing large block trades and taking long and short positions directly and indirectly, through derivative instruments or otherwise. The securities and instruments in which Goldman Sachs takes positions, or expects to take positions, include securities and instruments of an index or index stocks, securities and instruments similar to or linked to the foregoing or the currencies in which they are denominated. Market making is an activity where Goldman Sachs buys and sells on behalf of customers, or for its own account, to satisfy the expected demand of customers. By its nature, market making involves facilitating transactions among market participants that have differing views of securities and instruments. As a result, you should expect that Goldman Sachs will take positions that are inconsistent with, or adverse to, the investment objectives of investors in the notes.

If Goldman Sachs becomes a holder of any securities of the indices or index stocks in its capacity as a market-maker or otherwise, any actions that it takes in its capacity as securityholder, including voting or provision of consents, will not necessarily be aligned with, and may be inconsistent with, the interests of investors in the notes.

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You Should Expect That Goldman Sachs Personnel Will Take Research Positions, or Otherwise Make Recommendations, Provide Investment Advice or Market Color or Encourage Trading Strategies That Might Negatively Impact Investors in the Notes

Goldman Sachs and its personnel, including its sales and trading, investment research and investment management personnel, regularly make investment recommendations, provide market color or trading ideas, or publish or express independent views in respect of a wide range of markets, issuers, securities and instruments. They regularly implement, or recommend to clients that they implement, various investment strategies relating to these markets, issuers, securities and instruments. These strategies include, for example, buying or selling credit protection against a default or other event involving an issuer or financial instrument. Any of these recommendations and views may be negative with respect to the indices or index stocks or other securities or instruments similar to or linked to the foregoing or result in trading strategies that have a negative impact on the market for any such securities or instruments, particularly in illiquid markets. In addition, you should expect that personnel in the trading and investing businesses of Goldman Sachs will have or develop independent views of the indices or index stocks, the relevant industry or other market trends, which may not be aligned with the views and objectives of investors in the notes. Goldman Sachs Regularly Provides Services to, or Otherwise Has Business Relationships with, a Broad Client Base, Which May Include the Sponsors of an Index or the Issuers of the Index Stocks or Other Entities That Are Involved in the Transaction

Goldman Sachs regularly provides financial advisory, investment advisory and transactional services to a substantial and diversified client base, and you should assume that Goldman Sachs will, at present or in the future, provide such services or otherwise engage in transactions with, among others, the sponsors of the indices or the issuers of the index stocks, or transact in securities or instruments or with parties that are directly or indirectly related to the foregoing. These services could include making loans to or equity investments in those companies, providing financial advisory or other investment banking services, or issuing research reports. You should expect that Goldman Sachs, in providing such services, engaging in such transactions, or acting for its own account, may take actions that have direct or indirect effects on the indices or index stocks, as applicable, and that such actions could be adverse to the interests of investors in the notes. In addition, in connection with these activities, certain Goldman Sachs personnel may have access to confidential material non-public information about these parties that would not be disclosed to Goldman Sachs employees that were not working on such transactions as Goldman Sachs has established internal information barriers that are designed to preserve the confidentiality of non-public information. Therefore, any such confidential material non-public information would not be shared with Goldman Sachs employees involved in structuring, selling or making markets in the notes or with investors in the notes.

In this offering, as well as in all other circumstances in which Goldman Sachs receives any fees or other compensation in any form relating to services provided to or transactions with any other party, no accounting, offset or payment in respect of the notes will be required or made; Goldman Sachs will be entitled to retain all such fees and other amounts, and no fees or other compensation payable by any party or indirectly by holders of the notes will be reduced by reason of receipt by Goldman Sachs of any such other fees or other amounts.

The Offering of the Notes May Reduce an Existing Exposure of Goldman Sachs or Facilitate a Transaction or Position That Serves the Objectives of Goldman Sachs or Other Parties

A completed offering may reduce Goldman Sachs' existing exposure to the indices or index stocks, securities and instruments similar to or linked to the foregoing or the currencies in which they are denominated, including exposure gained through hedging transactions in anticipation of this offering. An offering of notes will effectively transfer a portion of Goldman Sachs' exposure (and indirectly transfer the exposure of Goldman Sachs' hedging or other counterparties) to investors in the notes.

The terms of the offering (including the selection of the indices or index stocks, and the establishment of other transaction terms) may have been selected in order to serve the investment or other objectives of Goldman Sachs or another client or counterparty of Goldman Sachs. In such a case, Goldman Sachs would typically receive the input of other parties that are involved in or otherwise have an interest in the offering, transactions hedged by the offering, or related transactions. The incentives of these other parties would normally differ from and in many cases be contrary to those of investors in the notes.

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Other Investors in the Notes May Not Have the Same Interests as You

Other investors in the notes are not required to take into account the interests of any other investor in exercising remedies or voting or other rights in their capacity as securityholders or in making requests or recommendations to Goldman Sachs as to the establishment of other transaction terms. The interests of other investors may, in some circumstances, be adverse to your interests. For example, certain investors may take short positions (directly or indirectly through derivative transactions) on assets that are the same or similar to your notes, index, index stocks or other similar securities, which may adversely impact the market for or value of your notes.

The Policies of an Index Sponsor and Changes that Affect an Index or the Index Stocks Comprising an Index, Could Affect the Coupons Payable on Your Notes, if Any, the Cash Settlement Amount on the Stated Maturity Date and the Market Value of Your Notes

The policies of an index sponsor concerning the calculation of the level of an index, additions, deletions or substitutions of the index stocks comprising such index, and the manner in which changes affecting such index stocks or their issuers, such as stock dividends, reorganizations or mergers, are reflected in the index level, could affect the level of such index and, therefore, the coupon payable on your notes, if any, on any coupon payment date and the market value of your notes before that date. The coupons payable on your notes, if any, and their market value could also be affected if an index sponsor changes these policies, for example, by changing the manner in which it calculates the index level, or if the index sponsor discontinues or suspends calculation or publication of such index level, in which case it may become difficult to determine the market value of your notes. If events such as these occur, the calculation agent — which initially will be GS&Co., our affiliate — may determine the applicable index levels on any such date — and thus the amount payable on any coupon payment date, if any, or the cash settlement amount on the stated maturity date— in a manner it considers appropriate, in its sole discretion. We describe the discretion that the calculation agent will have in determining the applicable index levels on any trading day, a coupon determination date or the determination date and the coupons payable on your notes, if any, or the cash settlement amount more fully under “Specific Terms of Your Notes — Discontinuance or Modification of an Index” and “— Role of Calculation Agent” below.

An Investment in the Offered Notes Is Subject to Risks Associated with Foreign Securities

The value of your notes is linked, in part, to an index (the NASDAQ-100 Index[®]) that is comprised, in part, of stocks from one or more foreign securities markets. Investments linked to the value of foreign equity securities involve particular risks. Any foreign securities market may be less liquid, more volatile and affected by global or domestic market developments in a different way than are the U.S. securities market or other foreign securities markets. Both government intervention in a foreign securities market, either directly or indirectly, and cross-shareholdings in foreign companies, may affect trading prices and volumes in that market. Also, there is generally less publicly available information about foreign companies than about those U.S. companies that are subject to the reporting requirements of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Further, foreign companies are subject to accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and requirements that differ from those applicable to U.S. reporting companies.

The prices of securities in a foreign country are subject to political, economic, financial and social factors that are unique to such foreign country's geographical region. These factors include: recent changes, or the possibility of future changes, in the applicable foreign government's economic and fiscal policies; the possible implementation of, or changes in, currency exchange laws or other laws or restrictions applicable to foreign companies or investments in foreign equity securities; fluctuations, or the possibility of fluctuations, in currency exchange rates; and the possibility of outbreaks of hostility, political instability, natural disaster or adverse public health developments. For example, the United Kingdom has voted to leave the European Union (popularly known as “Brexit”). The effect of Brexit is uncertain, and Brexit has and may continue to contribute to volatility in the prices of securities of companies located in Europe and currency exchange rates, including the valuation of the euro and British pound in particular. Any one of these factors, or the combination of more than one of these factors, could negatively affect such foreign securities market and the price of securities therein. Further, geographical regions may react to global factors in different ways, which may cause the prices of securities in a foreign securities market to fluctuate in a way that differs from those of securities in the U.S. securities market or other foreign securities markets. Foreign economies may also differ from the U.S. economy in important respects, including growth of gross national product, rate of inflation, capital reinvestment, resources and self-sufficiency, which may have a positive or negative effect on foreign securities prices.

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As Compared to Other Index Sponsors, Nasdaq, Inc. Retains Significant Control and Discretionary Decision-Making Over the NASDAQ-100 Index[®], Which May Have an Adverse Effect on the Level of the NASDAQ-100 Index[®] and on Your Notes

Pursuant to the NASDAQ-100 Index[®] methodology, Nasdaq, Inc. retains the right, from time to time, to exercise reasonable discretion as it deems appropriate in order to ensure NASDAQ-100 Index[®] integrity, including, but not limited to, changes to quantitative inclusion criteria. Nasdaq, Inc. may also, due to special circumstances, apply discretionary adjustments to ensure and maintain quality of the NASDAQ-100 Index[®]. Although it is unclear how and to what extent this discretion could or would be exercised, it is possible that it could be exercised by Nasdaq, Inc. in a manner that materially and adversely affects the level of the NASDAQ-100 Index[®] and therefore your notes. Nasdaq, Inc. is not obligated to, and will not, take account of your interests in exercising the discretion described above.

The Return on Your Notes Will Not Reflect Any Dividends Paid on the Index Stocks

The applicable index sponsor calculates the level of an index by reference to the prices of the index stocks, without taking account of the value of dividends paid on those index stocks. Therefore, the return on your notes will not reflect the return you would realize if you actually owned the index stocks included in each index and received the dividends paid on those index stocks. You will not receive any dividends that may be paid on any of the index stocks by the index stock issuers. See “— You Have No Shareholder Rights or Rights to Receive Any Index Stock” below for additional information.

You Have No Shareholder Rights or Rights to Receive Any Index Stock

Investing in your notes will not make you a holder of any of the index stocks. Neither you nor any other holder or owner of your notes will have any rights with respect to the index stocks, including any voting rights, any right to receive dividends or other distributions, any rights to make a claim against the index stocks or any other rights of a holder of the index stocks. Your notes will be paid in cash, as will any coupon payments, and you will have no right to receive delivery of any index stocks.

Past Index Performance is No Guide to Future Performance

The actual performance of the indices over the life of the notes, as well as the amount payable on your notes, if any, may bear little relation to the historical closing levels of the indices or to the hypothetical examples set forth elsewhere in this prospectus supplement. We cannot predict the future performance of the indices.

As Calculation Agent, GS&Co. Will Have the Authority to Make Determinations that Could Affect the Value of Your Notes

As calculation agent for your notes, GS&Co. will have discretion in making certain determinations that affect your notes, including determining: the closing levels of the indices on any coupon determination date, which we will use to determine the coupon, if any, we will pay on any applicable coupon payment date; the final index level of the lesser performing index on the determination date, which we will use to determine the amount we must pay on the stated maturity date; whether to postpone a coupon determination date or the determination date because of a market disruption event or a non-trading day; the coupon determination dates and the coupon payment dates. The calculation agent also has discretion in making certain adjustments relating to a discontinuation or modification of the indices. See “Specific Terms of Your Notes — Discontinuance or Modification of an Index” below. The exercise of this discretion by GS&Co. could adversely affect the value of your notes and may present GS&Co. with a conflict of interest. We may change the calculation agent at any time without notice and GS&Co. may resign as calculation agent at any time upon 60 days' written notice to us.

The Calculation Agent Can Postpone a Coupon Determination Date or the Determination Date, as the Case May Be, If a Market Disruption Event or a Non-Trading Day Occurs or is Continuing

If the calculation agent determines that, on a date that would otherwise be a coupon determination date or the determination date, a market disruption event has occurred or is continuing with respect to any index or that day is not a trading day with respect to any index, such coupon determination date or the determination date will be postponed as provided under “Specific Terms of Your Notes — Coupon

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Determination Dates” and “Specific Terms of Your Notes — Determination Dates”, as applicable. In no case, however, will the coupon determination date or the determination date be postponed by more than three scheduled trading days for all indices from the originally scheduled coupon determination date or the originally scheduled determination date, as applicable. Moreover, if a coupon determination date or the determination date, as applicable, is postponed to the last possible day, but the market disruption event has not ceased by that day or that day is not a trading day, that day will nevertheless be the coupon determination date or the determination date, as applicable, for the corresponding coupon payment date or stated maturity date. In such a case, the calculation agent will determine the applicable closing levels or final index levels for such coupon determination date or the determination date based on the procedures described under “Specific Terms of Your Notes — Consequences of a Market Disruption Event or a Non-Trading Day” below.

Certain Considerations for Insurance Companies and Employee Benefit Plans

Any insurance company or fiduciary of a pension plan or other employee benefit plan that is subject to the prohibited transaction rules of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended, which we call “ERISA”, or the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, including an IRA or a Keogh plan (or a governmental plan to which similar prohibitions apply), and that is considering purchasing the offered notes with the assets of the insurance company or the assets of such a plan, should consult with its counsel regarding whether the purchase or holding of the offered notes could become a “prohibited transaction” under ERISA, the Internal Revenue Code or any substantially similar prohibition in light of the representations a purchaser or holder in any of the above categories is deemed to make by purchasing and holding the offered notes. This is discussed in more detail under “Employee Retirement Income Security Act” below.

We May Sell an Additional Aggregate Face Amount of the Notes at a Different Issue Price

At our sole option, we may decide to sell an additional aggregate face amount of the notes subsequent to the date of this prospectus supplement. The issue price of the notes in the subsequent sale may differ substantially (higher or lower) from the issue price you paid as provided on the cover of this prospectus supplement.

The Tax Consequences of an Investment in Your Notes Are Uncertain

The tax consequences of an investment in your notes are uncertain, both as to the timing and character of any inclusion in income in respect of your notes.

The Internal Revenue Service announced on December 7, 2007 that it is considering issuing guidance regarding the tax treatment of an instrument such as your notes, and any such guidance could adversely affect the value and the tax treatment of your notes. Among other things, the Internal Revenue Service may decide to require the holders to accrue ordinary income on a current basis and recognize ordinary income on payment at maturity, and could subject non-U.S. investors to withholding tax. Furthermore, in 2007, legislation was introduced in Congress that, if enacted, would have required holders that acquired instruments such as your notes after the bill was enacted to accrue interest income over the term of such instruments. It is not possible to predict whether a similar or identical bill will be enacted in the future, or whether any such bill would affect the tax treatment of your notes. We describe these developments in more detail under “Supplemental Discussion of Federal Income Tax Consequences – United States Holders – Possible Change in Law” below. You should consult your tax advisor about this matter. Except to the extent otherwise provided by law, GS Finance Corp. intends to continue treating the notes for U.S. federal income tax purposes in accordance with the treatment described under “Supplemental Discussion of Federal Income Tax Consequences” on page S-54 below unless and until such time as Congress, the Treasury Department or the Internal Revenue Service determine that some other treatment is more appropriate. Please also consult your tax advisor concerning the U.S. federal income tax and any other applicable tax consequences to you of owning your notes in your particular circumstances.

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Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) Withholding May Apply to Payments on Your Notes, Including as a Result of the Failure of the Bank or Broker Through Which You Hold the Notes to Provide Information to Tax Authorities

Please see the discussion under “United States Taxation — Taxation of Debt Securities — Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) Withholding” in the accompanying prospectus for a description of the applicability of FATCA to payments made on your notes.

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SPECIFIC TERMS OF YOUR NOTES

We refer to the notes we are offering by this prospectus supplement as the “offered notes” or the “notes”. Please note that in this prospectus supplement, references to “GS Finance Corp.”, “we”, “our” and “us” mean only GS Finance Corp. and do not include its subsidiaries or affiliates, references to “The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.”, our parent company, mean only The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. and do not include its subsidiaries or affiliates and references to “Goldman Sachs” mean The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. together with its consolidated subsidiaries and affiliates, including us. Also, references to the “accompanying prospectus” mean the accompanying prospectus, dated July 10, 2017, and references to the “accompanying prospectus supplement” mean the accompanying prospectus supplement, dated July 10, 2017, for Medium-Term Notes, Series E, in each case of GS Finance Corp. and The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. Please note that in this section entitled “Specific Terms of Your Notes”, references to “holders” mean those who own notes registered in their own names, on the books that we or the trustee maintain for this purpose, and not those who own beneficial interests in notes registered in street name or in notes issued in book-entry form through The Depository Trust Company. Please review the special considerations that apply to owners of beneficial interests in the accompanying prospectus, under “Legal Ownership and Book-Entry Issuance”.

The offered notes are part of a series of debt securities, entitled “Medium-Term Notes, Series E”, that we may issue under the indenture from time to time as described in the accompanying prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus. The offered notes are also “indexed debt securities”, as defined in the accompanying prospectus.

This prospectus supplement summarizes specific financial and other terms that apply to the offered notes, including your notes; terms that apply generally to all Series E medium-term notes are described in “Description of Notes We May Offer” in the accompanying prospectus supplement. The terms described here supplement those described in the accompanying prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and, if the terms described here are inconsistent with those described there, the terms described here are controlling.

In addition to those terms described under “Summary Information” in this prospectus supplement, the following terms will apply to your notes:

Specified currency:

· U.S. dollars (“\$”)

Form of note:

· global form only: yes, at DTC

· non-global form available: no

Denominations: each note registered in the name of a holder must have a face amount of \$1,000 or an integral multiple of \$1,000 in excess thereof

Defeasance applies as follows:

· full defeasance: no

· covenant defeasance: no

Other terms:

· the default amount will be payable on any acceleration of the maturity of your notes as described under “— Special Calculation Provisions” below

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a business day for your notes will not be the same as a business day for our other Series E medium-term notes, as described under “— Special Calculation Provisions” below

a trading day for your notes will be as described under “— Special Calculation Provisions” below

Please note that the information about the settlement or trade date, issue price, discount or commission and net proceeds to GS Finance Corp. on the front cover page or elsewhere in this prospectus supplement relates only to the initial issuance and sale of the offered notes. We may decide to sell additional notes on one or more dates after the date of this prospectus supplement, at issue prices and with underwriting discounts and net proceeds that differ from the amounts set forth on the front cover page or elsewhere in this prospectus supplement. If you have purchased your notes in a market-making transaction after the initial issuance and sale of the offered notes, any such relevant information about the sale to you will be provided in a separate confirmation of sale.

We describe the terms of your notes in more detail below.

Index, Index Sponsor and Index Stocks

In this prospectus supplement, when we refer to an index, we mean either the Russell 2000[®] Index, the NASDAQ-100 Index[®] or the S&P 500[®] Index specified on the front cover page, or any successor index, as each may be modified, replaced or adjusted from time to time as described under “— Discontinuance or Modification of an Index” below. When we refer to an index sponsor as of any time, we mean the entity, including any successor sponsor, that determines and publishes the applicable index as then in effect. When we refer to the index stocks of an index as of any time, we mean the stocks that comprise the index as then in effect, after giving effect to any additions, deletions or substitutions.

Payment of a Contingent Coupon

Subject to our redemption right, on each coupon payment date, for each \$1,000 face amount of your notes, we will pay you an amount in cash equal to:

- if the closing level of each index on the related coupon determination date is greater than or equal to 70% of its initial index level, \$21.625; or
- if the closing level of any index on the related coupon determination date is less than 70% of its initial index level, \$0.

Payment of Principal on Stated Maturity Date

Subject to our redemption right, for each \$1,000 face amount of your notes, we will pay you on the stated maturity date an amount in cash equal to:

- if the index return of each index is greater than or equal to -30%, \$1,000 plus the final coupon;
- if the index return of each index is greater than or equal to -40% but the index return of any index is less than -30%, \$1,000. You will not receive a coupon; or
- if the index return of any index is less than -40%, the sum of (i) \$1,000 plus (ii) the product of (a) the lesser performing index return times (b) \$1,000.

With respect to each index, the index return is calculated by subtracting the initial index level from the final index level and dividing the result by the initial index level, with the quotient expressed as a percentage. The lesser performing index is the index with the lowest index return. The lesser performing index return is the index return of the lesser performing index.

With respect to each index, the initial index level will be set on the trade date, which will be the closing level of such index on the trade date. With respect to each index, the calculation agent will determine the final index level, which will be the closing level of such index on the determination date. However, the calculation agent will have discretion to adjust the closing level on the determination date or to determine it in a different manner as described under “— Consequences of a Market Disruption Event or a Non-Trading Day” and “— Discontinuance or Modification of an Index” below.

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Stated Maturity Date

The stated maturity date is expected to be October 24, 2023, unless that day is not a business day, in which case the stated maturity date will be postponed to the next following business day. If the determination date is postponed as described under “— Determination Date” below, such postponement of the determination date will not postpone the stated maturity date.

Determination Date

The determination date will be the last coupon determination date, expected to be October 10, 2023, subject to adjustment as described under “— Coupon Determination Dates” below. If the stated maturity date is postponed as described under “— Stated Maturity Date” above, such postponement of the stated maturity date will not postpone the determination date.

Coupon and Coupon Payment Dates

The coupons will be calculated and paid as described in this prospectus supplement.

The coupons on the offered notes will be paid on the coupon payment dates (to be set on the trade date and are expected to be the 24th day of each January, April, July and October, commencing in January 2019 and ending on the stated maturity date, unless, for any such coupon payment date, that day is not a business day, in which case such coupon payment date will be postponed to the next following business day). If a coupon determination date is postponed as described under “— Coupon Determination Dates” below, such postponement of the coupon determination date will not postpone the related coupon payment date.

Coupon Determination Dates

The coupon determination dates are expected to be the tenth scheduled trading day for all indices prior to each coupon payment date, unless the calculation agent determines that, with respect to any index, a market disruption event occurs or is continuing on that day or that day is not otherwise a trading day. If a coupon payment date is postponed due to a non-business day as described under “— Coupon and Coupon Payment Dates” above, such postponement will not postpone the related coupon determination date.

In the event the originally scheduled coupon determination date is a non-trading day with respect to any index, the coupon determination date will be the first day thereafter that is a trading day for all indices (the “first qualified coupon trading day”) provided that no market disruption event occurs or is continuing with respect to an index on that day. If a market disruption event with respect to an index occurs or is continuing on the originally scheduled coupon determination date or the first qualified coupon trading day, the coupon determination date will be the first following trading day on which the calculation agent determines that each index has had at least one trading day (from and including the originally scheduled coupon determination date or the first qualified coupon trading date, as applicable) on which no market disruption event has occurred or is continuing and the closing level of each index for that coupon determination date will be determined on or prior to the postponed coupon determination date as set forth under “— Consequences of a Market Disruption Event or a Non-Trading Day” below. (In such case, the coupon determination date may differ from the date on which the level of an index is determined for the purpose of the calculations to be performed on the coupon determination date.) In no event, however, will the coupon determination date be postponed by more than three scheduled trading days for all indices from the originally scheduled coupon determination date either due to the occurrence of serial non-trading days in the applicable pricing supplement, investors in REXs will receive interest payments at a fixed rate. At maturity, investors in REXs will receive either a cash payment equal to the original principal amount of the notes or a number of shares of underlying stock equal to the stock redemption amount. The type of payment at maturity will be determined by comparing the closing price of the underlying stock on a specified determination date to the closing price of the underlying stock on the date the notes were priced. If the closing price of the underlying stock on the determination date is at or above the closing price of the underlying stock on the date the notes were priced, the payment at maturity will be a cash payment equal to the principal amount. If the closing price of the underlying stock on the determination date is below the closing price of the underlying stock on the date the notes were priced, the investors will receive the stock redemption amount. The stock redemption amount is a number of shares of the underlying stock equal to the principal amount per security divided by the closing price of the underlying stock on the date the securities were priced. Knock-in Reverse Exchangeable Securities (“Knock-in REXs”). ----- Unless otherwise provided in the applicable pricing supplement, investors in Knock-in REXs will receive interest payments at a fixed rate. Like REXs, at maturity,

investors in Knock-in REXs will receive either a cash payment equal to the original principal amount of the securities or a number of shares of underlying stock equal to the stock redemption amount. However, the type of payment at maturity will be calculated by first determining if the closing price of the underlying stock was at or below the predetermined "knock-in level" on any trading day from the date the notes were priced to, and including, a specified determination date. If the closing price of the underlying stock was never at or below the "knock-in level" on any trading day during the period from the date the securities were priced to, and including, the determination date, the payment at maturity will always be a cash payment equal to the principal amount, irrespective of the closing price of the underlying stock on the determination date. If, however, the closing price of the underlying stock was at or below the "knock-in level" on any trading day during the period from the date the securities were priced to, and including, the determination date, the payment at maturity will be determined by comparing the closing price of the underlying stock on the determination date to the closing price of the underlying stock on the date the notes were priced. If such closing price is equal to or greater than the closing price of the underlying stock on the date the securities were priced, the payment at maturity will be a cash payment equal to the principal amount. If, on the other hand, such closing price is below the closing price of the underlying stock on the date the securities were priced, investors will receive the stock redemption amount described above.

PAYMENTS UPON EXCHANGE. The applicable pricing supplement will specify if upon exchange, at maturity or otherwise, the holder of an exchangeable note may receive, at the specified exchange rate, either the underlying property or the cash value of the underlying property. The underlying property may be the securities of either U.S. or foreign entities or both. The exchangeable notes may or may not provide for protection against fluctuations in the exchange rate between the currency in which that note is denominated and the currency or currencies in which the market prices of the underlying security or securities are quoted. Exchangeable notes may have other terms, which will be specified in the applicable pricing supplement.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR EXCHANGE OF GLOBAL SECURITIES. If an optionally exchangeable note is represented by a global note, the Depository's nominee will be the holder of that note and therefore will be the only entity that can S-21 exercise a right to exchange. In order to ensure that the Depository's nominee will timely exercise a right to exchange a particular note or any portion of a particular note, the beneficial owner of the note must instruct the broker or other direct or indirect participant through which it holds an interest in that note to notify the Depository of its desire to exercise a right to exchange. Different firms have different deadlines for accepting instructions from their customers. Each beneficial owner should consult the broker or other participant through which it holds an interest in a note in order to ascertain the deadline for ensuring that timely notice will be delivered to the Depository.

PAYMENTS UPON ACCELERATION OF MATURITY OR UPON TAX REDEMPTION. If the principal amount payable at maturity of any exchangeable note is declared due and payable prior to maturity, the amount payable on: o an optionally exchangeable note will equal the face amount of the note plus accrued interest, if any, to but excluding the date of payment, except that if a holder has exchanged an optionally exchangeable note prior to the date of declaration or tax redemption without having received the amount due upon exchange, the amount payable will be an amount of cash equal to the amount due upon exchange and will not include any accrued but unpaid interest; and o a mandatorily exchangeable note will equal an amount determined as if the date of declaration or tax redemption were the maturity date plus accrued interest, if any, to but excluding the date of payment.

NOTES LINKED TO COMMODITY PRICES, SINGLE SECURITIES, ECONOMIC OR FINANCIAL MEASURES AND BASKETS OR INDICES THEREOF We may issue notes with the principal amount payable on any principal payment date and/or the amount of interest payable on any interest payment date to be determined by reference to one or more commodity prices, securities of entities not affiliated with us, any other financial, economic or other measures or instruments, including the occurrence or non-occurrence of any event or circumstance, and/or baskets or indices of any of these items, or any combination of the above. These notes may include other terms, which will be specified in the relevant pricing supplement.

CURRENCY-LINKED NOTES We may issue notes with the principal amount payable on any principal payment date and/or the amount of interest payable on any interest payment date to be determined by reference to the value of one or more currencies as compared to the value of one or more other currencies, which we refer to as "currency-linked notes." The pricing supplement will specify the following: o information as to the one or more currencies to which the principal amount payable on any principal payment date or the amount of interest payable on any interest payment date is linked or indexed; o the currency in which the face amount of the currency-linked note is denominated, which we refer to as the "denominated currency"; o the currency in which principal on the currency-linked note will be paid, which we refer to as the "payment currency"; o the interest rate per

annum and the dates on which we will make interest payments; o specific historic exchange rate information and any currency risks relating to the specific currencies selected; and o additional tax considerations, if any. The denominated currency and the payment currency may be the same currency or different currencies. Interest on currency-linked notes will be paid in the denominated currency. **GUARANTEED NOTES S-22** We may issue notes that are subject to a financial insurance guaranty policy issued by a financial institution that unconditionally and irrevocably guarantees certain payments on the notes. The terms of the financial insurance guaranty policy will be described in the relevant pricing supplement. **S-23 TAXATION IN THE NETHERLANDS** The following is a general summary of certain Netherlands tax consequences as of the date of this prospectus supplement in relation to the notes. It is not exhaustive and holders who are in doubt as to their tax position should consult their professional advisers. **DUTCH RESIDENT HOLDERS** Holders who are individuals and are resident or deemed to be resident in The Netherlands, or who have elected to be treated as a Dutch resident holder for Dutch tax purposes, are subject to Dutch income tax on a deemed return regardless of the actual income derived from a note or gain or loss realized upon disposal or redemption of a note, provided that the note is a portfolio investment and is not held in the context of any business or substantial interest. The deemed return amounts to 4 percent of the average value of the holder's net assets in the relevant fiscal year (including the notes) and is taxed at a flat rate of 30 percent. Corporate holders that are resident or deemed to be resident in The Netherlands, without being exempt from Dutch corporate tax, will be subject to Dutch corporate tax on all income and gains realized in connection with the notes. **NON-DUTCH RESIDENT HOLDERS** Non-Dutch resident holders normally will not be subject to Dutch income or corporate taxation with respect to income or capital gains realized in connection with a note, unless there is a specific connection with The Netherlands, such as an enterprise or part thereof which is carried on through a permanent establishment in The Netherlands or a substantial interest or deemed substantial interest in the Bank. A holder will not become resident or deemed to be resident in The Netherlands by reason only of the holding of a note. **REGISTRATION TAXES, STAMP DUTY, ETC.** There is no Dutch registration tax, capital tax, customs duty, stamp duty or any other similar tax or duty payable by the holder in The Netherlands in connection with the notes. **WITHHOLDING TAX** All payments by the Bank to the holder in respect of the notes can be made free of any Dutch withholding tax, unless the notes qualify as debt as referred to in Article 10, paragraph 1 sub d of the Dutch Corporate Income Tax Act (Wet op de Venootschapsbelasting 1969). **S-24 UNITED STATES FEDERAL TAXATION** Based on the advice of Davis Polk & Wardwell, special tax counsel to the Bank ("Tax Counsel"), the following summary accurately describes the principal U.S. federal income tax consequences of ownership and disposition of the notes. Except as specifically noted below, this discussion applies only to: o notes purchased on original issuance at the issue price (as defined below); and o notes held as capital assets. This discussion does not describe all of the tax consequences that may be relevant in light of a holder's particular circumstances or to holders subject to special rules, such as: o certain financial institutions; o insurance companies; o dealers or certain traders in securities, commodities, or foreign currencies; o persons holding notes as part of a hedging transaction, "straddle," conversion transaction or other integrated transaction; o regulated investment companies; o real estate investment trusts; o tax-exempt entities; o U.S. holders (as defined below) whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar; o partnerships or other entities classified as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes; o holders that are not U.S. holders (as defined below), if income from payments on a note, or gain recognized on a disposition of a note, is effectively connected with such holders' conduct of a trade or business in the United States; or o individual holders who are not U.S. holders (as defined below) and are present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of the sale, exchange or retirement. This summary is based on the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended to the date hereof (the "Code"), administrative pronouncements, judicial decisions and final, temporary and proposed Treasury Regulations, changes to any of which subsequent to the date of this Prospectus Supplement may affect the tax consequences described below. Persons considering the purchase of the notes should consult the applicable pricing supplement for any additional discussion regarding U.S. federal income taxation and their tax advisers with regard to the application of the U.S. federal income tax laws to their particular situations as well as any tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local or foreign taxing jurisdiction. This discussion does not apply to currency-linked notes or, except as specifically noted below, mandatorily exchangeable notes. The tax treatment of these instruments will be specified in the relevant pricing supplement. **THIS DISCUSSION APPLIES ONLY TO NOTES ISSUED IN COMPLIANCE WITH CERTAIN GUIDELINES PROVIDED TO US BY TAX COUNSEL. TO THE EXTENT THAT THIS DISCUSSION DOES NOT APPLY TO A PARTICULAR ISSUANCE OF NOTES AS A RESULT OF ANY DEVIATION FROM SUCH GUIDELINES,**

DISCLOSURE REGARDING THE U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION OF SUCH ISSUANCE WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE APPLICABLE PRICING SUPPLEMENT. ACCORDINGLY, YOU SHOULD ALSO CONSULT THE APPLICABLE PRICING S-25 SUPPLEMENT FOR ANY ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION REGARDING U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION WITH RESPECT TO THE SPECIFIC NOTES OR SECURITIES OFFERED THEREUNDER. TAX CONSEQUENCES FOR U.S. HOLDERS As used herein, the term "U.S. holder" means a beneficial owner of a note that is for U.S. federal income tax purposes: o a citizen or individual resident of the United States; o a corporation created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or of any political subdivision thereof; or o an estate or trust the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source. The term "U.S. holders" also includes certain former citizens and residents of the United States. If an entity that is classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes holds notes, the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner will generally depend on the status of the partner and upon the activities of the partnership. Partners of partnerships holding notes should consult with their tax advisers. PAYMENTS OF INTEREST Interest paid on a note will be taxable to a U.S. holder as ordinary interest income at the time it accrues or is received in accordance with the holder's method of accounting for federal income tax purposes, provided that the interest is "qualified stated interest" (as defined below). Interest income earned by a U.S. holder with respect to a note will constitute foreign source income for U.S. federal income tax purposes, which may be relevant in calculating the holder's foreign tax credit limitation. The limitation on foreign taxes eligible for credit is calculated separately with respect to specific classes of income. For this purpose, interest paid on the notes will constitute "passive income." Special rules governing the treatment of payments made with respect to short-term notes, original issue discount notes, contingent payment debt instruments and certain exchangeable notes are described under "--Interest on Short-Term Notes," "--Original Issue Discount," "--Contingent Payment Debt Instruments," "--Optionally Exchangeable Notes" and "--Mandatorily Exchangeable Notes--Reverse Exchangeable and Knock-in Reverse Exchangeable Securities." INTEREST ON SHORT-TERM NOTES A note that matures (after taking into account the last possible date that the note could be outstanding under the terms of the note) one year or less from its date of issuance (a "short-term note") will be treated as being issued at a discount and none of the interest paid on the note will be treated as qualified stated interest (as defined below). In general, a cash-method U.S. holder of a short-term note is not required to accrue the discount for U.S. federal income tax purposes unless it elects to do so. If a cash method U.S. holder does not make this election, the holder should include interest payments as ordinary income upon receipt. Holders who elect to accrue the discount, and certain other holders, including those who report income on the accrual method of accounting for federal income tax purposes, are required to include the discount in income as it accrues on a straight-line basis, unless another election is made to accrue the discount according to a constant-yield method based on daily compounding. In the case of a U.S. holder who is not required and who does not elect to include the discount in income currently, any gain realized on the sale, exchange, or retirement of the short-term note will generally be ordinary income to the extent of the discount accrued on a straight-line basis (or, if elected, according to a constant yield method based on daily compounding) through the date of sale, exchange or retirement. In addition, those U.S. holders will be required to defer deductions for any interest paid on indebtedness incurred to purchase or carry short-term notes in an amount not exceeding the accrued discount until the accrued discount is included in income. S-26 ORIGINAL ISSUE DISCOUNT A note that has an "issue price" that is less than its "stated redemption price at maturity" will be considered to have been issued at an original discount for federal income tax purposes (and will be referred to in this section as an "original issue discount note") unless the note satisfies a DE MINIMIS threshold (as described below) or is a short-term note (as defined above). The "issue price" of a note will be the first price at which a substantial amount of the notes are sold to the public (not including sales to bond houses, brokers or similar persons or organizations acting in the capacity of underwriters, placement agents or wholesalers). The "stated redemption price at maturity" of a note generally will equal the sum of all payments required under the note other than payments of "qualified stated interest." "Qualified stated interest" is stated interest unconditionally payable (other than in debt instruments of the issuer) at least annually during the entire term of the note and equal to the outstanding principal balance of the note multiplied by a single fixed rate of interest. In addition, qualified stated interest includes, among other things, stated interest on a "variable rate debt instrument" (as defined in the applicable U.S. Treasury regulations) that is unconditionally payable (other than in debt instruments of the issuer) at least annually at a single qualified floating rate of interest or at a rate that is determined at a single fixed formula that is based on objective financial or economic information. A rate is a qualified floating rate if variations in the rate can

reasonably be expected to measure contemporaneous fluctuations in the cost of newly borrowed funds in the currency in which the note is denominated. For this purpose, if a floating rate note provides for stated interest at a fixed rate for an initial period of one year or less followed by a variable rate and if the variable rate on the floating rate note's issue date is intended to approximate the fixed rate (E.G., the value of the variable rate on the issue date does not differ from the value of the fixed rate by more than 0.25%), then the fixed rate and the variable rate together will constitute a single variable rate. If the difference between a note's stated redemption price at maturity and its issue price is less than a DE MINIMIS amount, I.E., 1/4 of 1 percent of the stated redemption price at maturity multiplied by the number of complete years to maturity, the note will not be considered to have original issue discount. U.S. holders of notes with a DE MINIMIS amount of original issue discount will include this original issue discount in income, as capital gain, on a PRO RATA basis as principal payments are made on the note. A U.S. holder of original discount notes will be required to include any qualified stated interest payments in income in accordance with the holder's method of accounting for federal income tax purposes. U.S. holders of original issue discount notes (other than short-term notes, as defined above) will be required to include in income for federal income tax purposes the sum of the daily portions of the original issue discount for each day on which the holder held the note. The U.S. holder will be required to include such original issue discount as it accrues in accordance with a constant yield method based on a compounding of interest, regardless of whether cash attributable to this income is received. A U.S. holder may make an election to include in gross income all interest that accrues on any note (including stated interest, acquisition discount, original issue discount, DE MINIMIS original issue discount, market discount, DE MINIMIS market discount and unstated interest, as adjusted by any amortizable bond premium or acquisition premium) in accordance with a constant yield method based on the compounding of interest (a "constant yield election"). We may have an unconditional option to redeem, or holders may have an unconditional option to require us to redeem, a note prior to its stated maturity date. Under applicable regulations, if we have an unconditional option to redeem a note prior to its stated maturity date, this option will be presumed to be exercised if the exercise of the option will lower the yield on the note. Conversely, if holders have an unconditional option to require us to redeem a note prior to its stated maturity date, this option will be presumed to be exercised if the exercise of the option will increase the yield on the note. If an option discussed above is "deemed" exercised, but is not in fact exercised, the note will be treated solely for purposes of calculating original issue discount as if it were redeemed, and a new note were issued, on the presumed exercise date for an amount equal to the note's adjusted issue price on that date. The adjusted issue price of an original issue discount note is defined as the sum of the issue price of the note and the aggregate amount of previously accrued original issue discount, less any prior payments other than payments of qualified stated interest.

S-27 SALE, EXCHANGE OR RETIREMENT OF THE NOTES Upon the sale, exchange or retirement of a note, a U.S. holder will recognize taxable gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized on the sale, exchange or retirement and the holder's adjusted tax basis in the note. Gain or loss, if any, will generally be U.S. source income for purposes of computing a U.S. holder's foreign tax credit limitation. Amounts attributable to accrued interest or discount are treated as interest as described under "--Payment of Interest," "--Interest on Short-Term Notes" and "--Original Issue Discount" above. Except as described below, gain or loss realized on the sale, exchange or retirement of a note will generally be capital gain or loss and will be long-term capital gain or loss if at the time of sale, exchange or retirement the note has been held for more than one year. Exception to this general rule applies to the extent of any accrued discount not previously included in the holder's taxable income. See "--Interest on Short-Term Notes" and "--Original Issue Discount" above. In addition, other exceptions to this general rule apply in the case of contingent payment debt instruments, optionally exchangeable notes and mandatorily exchangeable notes. See "--Contingent Payment Debt Instruments," "--Optionally Exchangeable Notes" and "--Mandatorily Exchangeable Notes--Reverse Exchangeable Securities and Knock-In Reverse Exchangeable Securities" below.

CONTINGENT PAYMENT DEBT INSTRUMENTS We may issue notes or securities that will be treated as "contingent payment debt instruments" for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If a note or a security is treated as a contingent payment debt instrument, no payment on such instrument qualifies as qualified stated interest. Rather, a U.S. holder must account for interest for U.S. federal income tax purposes based on a "comparable yield" and the differences between actual payments on the contingent payment debt instrument and the instrument's "projected payment schedule" as described below. The comparable yield is determined by us at the time of issuance of the contingent payment debt instrument and takes into account the yield at which we could issue a fixed rate debt instrument with no contingent payments, but with terms and conditions otherwise similar to those of the contingent payment debt instrument. The comparable yield may be greater than or less than the stated interest, if any,

with respect to the instrument. Solely for the purpose of determining the amount of interest income that a U.S. holder will be required to accrue on a contingent payment debt instrument, we will be required to construct a "projected payment schedule" that represents a series of payments the amount and timing of which would produce a yield to maturity on the instrument equal to the comparable yield used. NEITHER THE COMPARABLE YIELD NOR THE PROJECTED PAYMENT SCHEDULE CONSTITUTES A REPRESENTATION BY US OR HOLDING REGARDING THE ACTUAL AMOUNT, IF ANY, THAT THE CONTINGENT PAYMENT DEBT INSTRUMENT WILL PAY. For U.S. federal income tax purposes, a U.S. holder will be required to use the comparable yield and projected payment schedule established by us in determining interest accruals and adjustments in respect of a contingent payment debt instrument, unless the holder timely discloses and justifies the use of a different comparable yield and projected payment schedule to the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS"). A U.S. holder, regardless of the holder's method of accounting for U.S. federal income tax purposes, will be required to accrue interest income on a contingent payment debt instrument at the comparable yield, adjusted upward or downward to reflect the difference, if any, between the actual and the projected amount of any contingent payments on the instrument (as set forth below). A U.S. holder will be required to recognize interest income equal to the amount of any net positive adjustment, I.E., the excess of actual payments over projected payments, in respect of a contingent payment debt instrument for a taxable year. A net negative adjustment, I.E., the excess of projected payments over actual payments, in respect of a contingent payment debt instrument for a taxable year: o will first reduce the amount of interest in respect of the contingent payment debt instrument that a holder would otherwise be required to include in income in the taxable year; and S-28 o any excess will give rise to an ordinary loss to the extent that the amount of all previous interest inclusions under the contingent payment debt instrument exceeds the total amount of the U.S. holder's net negative adjustments treated as ordinary loss on the contingent payment debt instrument in prior taxable years. A net negative adjustment is not subject to the two percent floor limitation imposed on miscellaneous deductions. Any net negative adjustment in excess of the amounts described above will be carried forward to offset future interest income in respect of the contingent payment debt instrument or to reduce the amount realized on a sale, exchange or retirement of the instrument. Upon a sale, exchange or retirement of a contingent payment debt instrument (including a delivery of property pursuant to the terms of the instrument), a U.S. holder will generally recognize taxable gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized on the sale, exchange or retirement and the holder's adjusted basis in the contingent payment debt instrument. If we deliver property, other than cash, to a U.S. holder in retirement of a contingent payment debt instrument, the amount realized will equal the fair market value of the property, determined at the time of retirement, plus the amount of cash, if any, received in lieu of property. A U.S. holder generally will treat any gain as interest income, and any loss as ordinary loss to the extent of the excess of previous interest inclusions in excess of the total net negative adjustments previously taken into account as ordinary losses, and the balance as capital loss. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations. In addition, if a holder recognizes loss above certain thresholds, the holder may be required to file a disclosure statement with the IRS. A U.S. holder will have a tax basis in any property, other than cash, received upon the retirement of a contingent payment debt instrument, including in satisfaction of a conversion right or a call right, equal to the fair market value of the property determined at the time of retirement. The holder's holding period for the property will commence on the day immediately following its receipt. Special rules will apply if one or more contingent payments on a contingent payment debt instrument become fixed. For purposes of the preceding sentence, a payment (including an amount payable at maturity) will be treated as fixed if (and when) all remaining contingencies with respect to it are remote or incidental within the meaning of the applicable Treasury regulations. If one or more contingent payments on a contingent payment debt instrument become fixed more than six months prior to the date the payment is due, a U.S. holder would be required to make a positive or negative adjustment, as appropriate, equal to the difference between the present value of the amounts that are fixed, using the comparable yield as the discount rate, and the projected amounts of the contingent payments relevant as provided in the projected payment schedule. If all remaining scheduled contingent payments on a contingent payment debt instrument become fixed substantially contemporaneously, a U.S. holder would be required to make adjustments to account for the difference between the amounts so treated as fixed and the projected payments in a reasonable manner over the remaining term of the contingent payment debt instrument. A U.S. holder's tax basis in the contingent payment debt instrument and the character of any gain or loss on the sale of the instrument would also be affected. U.S. holders are urged to consult their tax advisers concerning the application of these special rules. CPI RATE NOTES Depending on the terms of

each CPI Rate Note, a CPI Rate Note will be treated as either a "variable rate debt instrument," or a "contingent payment debt instrument." For a description of the contingent payment debt instrument rules, see the discussion under "--Contingent Payment Debt Instruments" above. Unless otherwise provided in the applicable pricing supplement, a CPI Rate Note will be treated as a variable rate debt instrument for U.S. federal income tax purposes. The discussion below assumes that the CPI Rate Notes will qualify as a variable rate debt instruments. If a CPI Rate Note qualifies as a variable rate debt instrument, the tax consequences to a U.S. holder will generally be the same as the tax consequences to a U.S. holder holding a fixed rate note and are summarized below under this section "--CPI Rate Notes".

PAYMENT OF INTEREST. Each interest payment will be taxable to a U.S. holder as ordinary interest income at the time it accrues or is received in accordance with the U.S. holder's method of accounting for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See "--Payment of Interest." If the CPI Rate Note qualifies as a short-term note (as defined above), S-29 interest payment on the CPI Rate Note will be taxable to a U.S. holder as described in "--Interest on Short-Term Notes" above. If a CPI Rate Note is issued with original issue discount (i.e., the issue price of the CPI Rate Note is less than its stated principal amount, and the difference between the issue price and the stated principal amount exceeds the DE MINIMIS amount described in "--Original Issue Discount" above), the amount of qualified stated interest and the amount of original issue discount that accrues during an accrual period on such CPI Rate Note would be determined by applying the rules described in "--Original Issue Discount" above, assuming that the stated variable interest rate for which the CPI Rate Note provide is a fixed rate that reflects the yield that is reasonably expected for the CPI Rate Note.

SALE OR EXCHANGE OF THE NOTES. Upon a sale or exchange of CPI Rate Notes, a U.S. holder will recognize capital gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized on the sale or exchange and the U.S. holder's tax basis in the notes. This gain or loss will generally be long-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. holder held the CPI Rate Note for more than one year at the time of disposition. Amounts attributable to accrued but unpaid interest will be treated as interest as described under "--Payment of Interest," or under "--Interest on Short-Term Notes" above if the CPI Rate Note is a short-term note (as defined above).

OPTIONALLY EXCHANGEABLE NOTES Unless otherwise noted in the applicable pricing supplement, optionally exchangeable notes will be treated as "contingent payment debt instruments" for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See "--Contingent Payment Debt Instruments" above.

MANDATORILY EXCHANGEABLE NOTES--REVERSE EXCHANGEABLE AND KNOCK-IN REVERSE EXCHANGEABLE SECURITIES Unless otherwise provided in the applicable pricing supplement, we and every holder of Reverse Exchangeable Securities, which we refer to as "REXs", or Knock-In Reverse Exchangeable Securities, which we refer to as "Knock-In REXs", will agree (in the absence of an administrative determination or judicial ruling to the contrary) to characterize each such security for U.S. federal income tax purposes as consisting of the following components (the "Components"): o a put option (the "Put Option") that requires the holder of the REXs or the Knock-In REXs to buy the underlying shares from us for an amount equal to the Deposit (as defined below); and o a deposit with us of cash, in an amount equal to the principal amount of the REXs or the Knock-In REXs (the "Deposit"), to secure the holder's potential obligation to purchase the underlying shares. In the case of REXs, under this characterization the Put Option would be treated as exercised if the closing price of the underlying share on the determination date was lower than its closing price on the pricing date. In the case of Knock-In REXs, under this characterization the Put Option would be treated as exercised if the closing price of the underlying share on the determination date is lower than its closing price on the pricing date and in addition, the closing price of the underlying shares falls to or below the knock-in level at any time from the pricing date to and including the determination date. Under this characterization, a portion of the stated interest payments on REXs or Knock-In REXs is treated as interest on the Deposit, and the remainder is treated as attributable to the holder's sale of the Put Option to us (the "Put Premium"). Based on our judgment as to, among other things, our normal borrowing cost and the value of the Put Option, we will specify in the pricing supplement for each REXs and Knock-In REXs the portion of the stated payments on such security that we will treat as constituting interest on the Deposit. We will treat the remaining portion as the Put Premium.

NOTWITHSTANDING OUR AGREEMENT TO TREAT THE REXS AND KNOCK-IN REXS AS DESCRIBED ABOVE, THE U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX TREATMENT OF THE REXS AND KNOCK-IN REXS IS UNCERTAIN. DUE TO THE ABSENCE OF STATUTORY, JUDICIAL OR ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITIES THAT DIRECTLY ADDRESS INSTRUMENTS SIMILAR TO THE REXS AND KNOCK-IN REXS, TAX COUNSEL IS UNABLE TO RENDER AN OPINION AS TO WHETHER THE TREATMENT DESCRIBED ABOVE WILL BE RESPECTED. THE U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX TREATMENT OF THE REXS AND KNOCK-IN REXS DESCRIBED ABOVE AND

OUR S-30 ALLOCATION OF INTEREST AND PUT PREMIUM ARE NOT BINDING ON THE IRS OR THE COURTS, AND NO RULING IS BEING REQUESTED FROM THE IRS WITH RESPECT TO THESE SECURITIES. ACCORDINGLY, NO ASSURANCE CAN BE GIVEN THAT THE IRS OR A COURT WILL AGREE WITH THE TAX TREATMENT DESCRIBED ABOVE AND SIGNIFICANT ASPECTS OF THE U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES OF AN INVESTMENT IN REXS OR KNOCK-IN REXS ARE UNCERTAIN. PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS OF REXS OR KNOCK-IN REXS ARE URGED TO CONSULT THEIR TAX ADVISERS REGARDING THE U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES OF AN INVESTMENT IN SUCH SECURITIES (INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE CHARACTERIZATIONS OF THE SECURITIES) AS WELL AS ANY TAX CONSEQUENCES ARISING UNDER THE LAWS OF ANY STATE, LOCAL OR FOREIGN TAXING JURISDICTION. THE DISCUSSION BELOW DOES NOT ADDRESS THE U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE OWNERSHIP OR DISPOSITION OF THE STOCK UNDERLYING REXS OR KNOCK-IN REXS SHOULD A HOLDER RECEIVE SUCH UNDERLYING STOCK AT MATURITY. PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS OF REXS OR KNOCK-IN REXS ARE URGED TO CONSULT THEIR TAX ADVISERS REGARDING THE POTENTIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE OWNERSHIP OR DISPOSITION OF THE UNDERLYING STOCK. Assuming the treatment of the REXs and Knock-In REXs as set forth above, the following U.S. federal income tax consequences should result to a U.S. holder:

STATED INTEREST PAYMENTS ON REXS OR KNOCK-IN REXS. Yield attributable to the Deposit will be treated as interest. Accordingly, if a REXs or a Knock-In REXs matures (after taking into account the last possible date that the security could be outstanding under the terms of the security) one year or less from its date of issuance (a "short-term REX"), the Deposit will be treated as a short-term obligation for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Interest on the Deposit component of a short-term REX will be treated as described in "--Interest on Short Term Notes" above. If a REXs or a Knock-In REXs is not a short-term REX, interest on the Deposit will be treated as described in "--Payments of Interest" above. Receipt of the Put Premium will not be taxable to a U.S. holder upon receipt.

EXERCISE OR EXPIRATION OF THE PUT OPTION. If the Put Option expires unexercised (I.E., a cash payment of the principal amount of the REXs or Knock-In REXs is made to a U.S. holder at maturity), the U.S. holder will recognize in respect of the Put Option short term capital gain equal to the total Put Premium received. In the event that the Put Option is exercised (I.E., the final payment on the REXs or the Knock-In REXs is paid in underlying shares), a U.S. holder will not recognize any gain or loss in respect of the Put Option (other than in respect of cash received in lieu of fractional shares), and the holder will have an aggregate adjusted tax basis in the underlying shares (including any fractional shares) received equal to: o the Deposit minus o the total Put Premium received. The holding period for any underlying shares a U.S. holder receives will start on the day after the delivery of the underlying shares. In the event that we deliver cash in lieu of fractional underlying shares, a U.S. holder will generally recognize a short-term capital gain or loss in an amount equal to the difference between: o the amount of cash received in respect of the fractional shares; and o the basis in such shares, as determined above.

SALE OR EXCHANGE OF REXS OR KNOCK-IN REXS. Upon a sale of REXs or Knock-In REXs for cash, a U.S. holder will be required to apportion the amount received between the Deposit and the Put Option on the basis of their S-31 respective values on the date of sale. The U.S. holder will generally recognize gain or loss with respect to the Deposit in an amount equal to the difference between: o the amount received that is apportioned to the Deposit; and o the holder's adjusted basis in the Deposit, which will generally be equal to the principal amount of the holder's REXs or Knock-In REXs (and in the case of a short-term REX increased by the amount of any income the holder has recognized in connection with the Deposit and decreased by the amount of any payments made to the holder with respect to the Deposit). Except to the extent attributable to accrued discount on the Deposit (in the case of a short-term REX), or to accrued interest on the Deposit (if the REXs or the Knock-In REXs is not a short-term REX), which will be taxed as described above under "Stated Interest Payments on REXs or Knock-In REXs," such gain or loss will be capital gain or loss (and will be short-term capital gain or loss in the case of a short-term REX, or if the REXs or the Knock-In REXs has been held by the disposing holder for one year or less). The amount of cash that a U.S. holder receives that is apportioned to the Put Option (together with the total Put Premium previously received) will be treated as short-term capital gain. If the value of the Deposit on the date of the sale is in excess of the amount the holder receives upon such sale, the holder will be treated as having made a payment to the purchaser equal to the amount of such excess in exchange for the purchaser's assumption of the holder's rights and obligations under the Put Option. In such a case, the selling holder will recognize short-term capital gain or loss in an amount equal to the difference between the total Put Premium the holder

previously received in respect of the Put Option and the amount of the deemed payment made by the holder with respect to the assumption of the Put Option. The amount of the deemed payment will also be treated as an amount received in connection with the Deposit in determining the U.S. holder's gain or loss in respect of the Deposit.

POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE TAX TREATMENTS OF AN INVESTMENT IN REXS OR KNOCK-IN REXS. Due to the absence of authorities that directly address the proper tax treatment of the REXs and Knock-In REXs, no assurance can be given that the IRS will accept, or that a court will uphold, the characterization and treatment described above. A successful assertion of an alternative characterization of the REXs or Knock-In REXs by the IRS could affect the timing and the character of any income or loss with respect to such securities. It is possible, for instance, that the entire coupon on the securities could be treated as giving rise to ordinary income. Alternatively, if a REXs or a Knock-In REXs is not a short-term REX, the IRS could seek to treat the REXs and Knock-In REXs as contingent payment debt instruments. See "--Contingent Payment Debt Instruments" above. Even if the Contingent Payment Regulations do not apply to the securities, other alternative U.S. federal income tax characterizations or treatments of the securities are also possible, which if applied could significantly affect the timing and character of the income or loss with respect to the securities. U.S. holders are urged to consult their own tax advisers regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences of an investment in a REXs or a Knock-In REXs.

BACKUP WITHHOLDING AND INFORMATION REPORTING Information returns may be filed with the IRS in connection with payments on the notes and the proceeds from a sale or other disposition of the notes. A U.S. holder may be subject to U.S. backup withholding on these payments if it fails to provide its tax identification number to the paying agent and comply with certain certification procedures or otherwise establish an exemption from backup withholding. The amount of any backup withholding from a payment to a U.S. holder will be allowed as a credit against the holder's U.S. federal income tax liability and may entitle the holder to a refund, provided that the required information is furnished to the IRS.

TAX CONSEQUENCES FOR NON-U.S. HOLDERS Unless otherwise noted in the applicable pricing supplement, a holder that is not a U.S. holder will not be subject to U.S. withholding tax with respect to payments on notes or securities, but may be subject to generally applicable information reporting, and may also be subject to backup withholding requirements with respect to such payments unless the holder complies with certain certification and identification requirements as to the holder's foreign status or an exception to the information reporting and backup withholding rules otherwise applies.

S-32 THE FEDERAL INCOME TAX DISCUSSION SET FORTH ABOVE IS INCLUDED FOR GENERAL INFORMATION ONLY AND MAY NOT BE APPLICABLE DEPENDING UPON A HOLDER'S PARTICULAR SITUATION. HOLDERS SHOULD CONSULT THEIR OWN TAX ADVISERS WITH RESPECT TO THE TAX CONSEQUENCES TO THEM OF THE OWNERSHIP AND DISPOSITION OF THE NOTES AND THE UNDERLYING STOCK, INCLUDING THE TAX CONSEQUENCES UNDER STATE, LOCAL, FOREIGN AND OTHER TAX LAWS AND THE POSSIBLE EFFECTS OF CHANGES IN FEDERAL OR OTHER TAX LAWS.

S-33 PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION We and Holding are offering the ABN Notes(SM) and related guarantees on a continuing basis exclusively through ABN AMRO Incorporated and LaSalle Financial Services, Inc. to the extent either or both of them are named in the applicable pricing supplement. In addition, we and Holding may offer the notes and related guarantees through certain other agents to be named in the applicable pricing supplement. The agents have agreed to use reasonable efforts to solicit offers to purchase these securities. We will have the sole right to accept offers to purchase these securities and may reject any offer in whole or in part. Each agent may reject, in whole or in part, any offer it solicited to purchase securities. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, we will pay an agent, in connection with sales of these securities resulting from a solicitation that agent made or an offer to purchase the agent received, a commission ranging from 0.5% to 4% of the initial offering price of the securities to be sold, depending upon the maturity of the securities. We and the agent will negotiate commissions for securities with a maturity of 30 years or greater at the time of sale. We and Holding may also sell these securities to an agent as principal for its own account at discounts to be agreed upon at the time of sale. That agent may resell these securities to investors and other purchasers at a fixed offering price or at prevailing market prices, or prices related thereto at the time of resale or otherwise, as that agent determines and as we will specify in the applicable pricing supplement. An agent may offer the securities it has purchased as principal to other dealers. That agent may sell the securities to any dealer at a discount and, unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the discount allowed to any dealer will not be in excess of the discount that agent will receive from us. After the initial public offering of securities that the agent is to resell on a fixed public offering price basis, the agent may change the public offering price, concession and discount. Each of the agents may be deemed to

be an "underwriter" within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. We and Holding have agreed to indemnify the agents against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, or to contribute to payments made in respect of those liabilities. To the extent the total aggregate principal amount of securities offered pursuant to a pricing supplement is not purchased by investors, one or more of our affiliates may agree to purchase the unsold portion and hold such securities for its own investment. We estimate that we will spend approximately \$350,000 for printing, rating agency, trustee and legal fees and other expenses allocable to the offering. Unless otherwise provided in the applicable pricing supplement, we do not intend to apply for the listing of these securities on a national securities exchange. We have been advised by certain agents that they intend to make a market in these securities, as applicable laws and regulations permit. The agents are not obligated to make a market in these securities, however, and the agents may discontinue making a market at any time without notice. No assurance can be given as to the liquidity of any trading market for these securities. LFS and AAI are wholly owned indirect subsidiaries of the Bank. To the extent either or both are named in the applicable pricing supplement, LFS and AAI will conduct each offering of these securities in compliance with the requirements of Rule 2720 of the NASD regarding an NASD member firm's distributing the securities of an affiliate. Following the initial distribution of these securities, LFS and AAI may offer and sell those securities in the course of their businesses as broker-dealers. LFS and AAI may act as principal or agent in those transactions and will make any sales at varying prices related to prevailing market prices at the time of sale or otherwise. LFS and AAI may use this prospectus supplement in connection with any of those transactions. Neither LFS or AAI is obligated to make a market in any of these securities and each may discontinue any market-making activities at any time without notice. In addition, we may, at our sole option, extend the offering period for securities offered pursuant to a pricing supplement. One or more of our or Holding's affiliates may agree to purchase, for its own investment, any securities that are not sold during the extended offering period. During an extended offering period, securities will be offered at prevailing market prices which may be above or below the initial issue price set forth in the applicable pricing S-34 supplement. Our affiliates will not make a market in those securities during that period, and are not obligated to do so after the distribution is complete. Neither of the agents nor any dealer utilized in the initial offering of these securities will confirm sales to accounts over which it exercises discretionary authority without the prior specific written approval of its customer. In order to facilitate the offering of these securities, the agents may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of these securities or of any other securities the prices of which may be used to determine payments on these securities. Specifically, the agents may sell more securities than they are obligated to purchase in connection with the offering, creating a short position in these securities for its own accounts. A short sale is covered if the short position is no greater than the number or amount of securities available for purchase by the agent under any over-allotment option. The agents can close out a covered short sale by exercising an over-allotment option or purchasing these securities in the open market. In determining the source of securities to close out a covered short sale, the agents will consider, among other things, the open market price of these securities compared to the price available under the over-allotment option. The agents may also sell these securities or any other securities in excess of the over-allotment option, creating a naked short position. The agents must close out any naked short position by purchasing securities in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the agents are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of these securities in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering. As an additional means of facilitating the offering, the agents may bid for, and purchase, these securities or any other securities in the open market to stabilize the price of these securities or of any other securities. Finally, in any offering of the securities through a syndicate of underwriters, the underwriting syndicate may also reclaim selling concessions allowed to an underwriter or a dealer for distributing these securities in the offering if the syndicate repurchases previously distributed securities to cover syndicate short positions or to stabilize the price of these securities. Any of these activities may raise or maintain the market price of these securities above independent market levels or prevent or retard a decline in the market price of these securities. The agents are not required to engage in these activities, and may end any of these activities at any time. Other selling group members include broker-dealers and other securities firms that have executed dealer agreements with LFS and/or AAI. In the dealer agreements, the selling group members have agreed to market and sell notes in accordance with the terms of those agreements and all applicable laws and regulations. S-35 LEGAL MATTERS Davis Polk & Wardwell will pass upon the validity of the offered securities with respect to United States Federal and New York law. Clifford Chance Limited Liability Partnership will pass upon the validity of the offered securities with respect to Dutch law. Davis

Polk & Wardwell has in the past represented ABN AMRO Holding N.V. and its affiliates, including us, and continues to represent ABN AMRO Holding N.V. and its affiliates on a regular basis and in a variety of matters. S-36 PROSPECTUS DEBT SECURITIES ABN AMRO BANK N.V. FULLY AND UNCONDITIONALLY GUARANTEED BY ABN AMRO HOLDING N.V. We, ABN AMRO Bank N.V., may offer from time to time debt securities that are fully and unconditionally guaranteed by ABN AMRO Holding N.V. This prospectus describes the general terms of these securities and the general manner in which we will offer these securities. The specific terms of any securities we offer will be included in a supplement to this prospectus. The prospectus supplement will also describe the specific manner in which we will offer the securities. THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION AND STATE SECURITIES REGULATORS HAVE NOT APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED THESE SECURITIES, OR DETERMINED IF THIS PROSPECTUS IS TRUTHFUL OR COMPLETE. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE. The securities are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other federal agency. SEPTEMBER 29, 2006 TABLE OF CONTENTS

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ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS This prospectus is part of a Registration Statement that we, ABN AMRO Holding N.V. and LaSalle Funding LLC filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") utilizing a "shelf" registration process. Under this shelf process, we and Holding may, from time to time, sell the debt securities and related guarantees described in the prospectus in one or more offerings in U.S. dollars, foreign currencies or foreign currency units. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the debt securities and the related guarantees. Each time we and Holding sell securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of the offering. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with additional information described under the heading "Where You Can Find Additional Information" beginning on page 2 of this prospectus. Following the initial distribution of an offering of securities, certain affiliates of ours and Holding may offer and sell those securities in the course of their businesses as broker-dealers. Such affiliates may act as principal or agent in these transactions. This prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement will also be used in connection with those transactions. Sales in any of those transactions will be made at varying prices related to prevailing market prices and other circumstances at the time of sale. The debt securities may not be offered or sold anywhere in the world except in compliance with the requirements of the Dutch Securities Market Supervision Act 1995 (WET TOEZICHT EFFECTENVERKEER). As used in this prospectus, the "Bank," "we," "us," and "our" refer to ABN AMRO Bank N.V. and "Holding" refers to ABN AMRO Holding N.V. **1 WHERE YOU CAN FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** Holding is subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and in accordance therewith, Holding files reports and other information with the Commission. You may read and copy these documents at the SEC Headquarters Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20549 (tel: 202-551-8090). Copies of this material can also be obtained from the Public Reference Room of the SEC at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20549 at prescribed rates. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information about the Public Reference Room. The SEC also maintains an Internet website that contains reports and other information regarding Holding that are filed through the SEC's Electronic Data Gathering, Analysis and Retrieval (EDGAR) System. This website can be accessed at www.sec.gov. You can find information Holding has filed with the SEC by reference to file number 1-14624. This prospectus is part of a registration statement we, Holding and LaSalle Funding LLC filed with the SEC. This prospectus omits some information contained in the registration statement in accordance with SEC rules and regulations. You should review the information and exhibits in the registration statement for further information on us and Holding and the securities we and Holding are offering. Statements in this prospectus concerning any document

we and Holding filed as an exhibit to the registration statement or that Holding otherwise filed with the SEC are not intended to be comprehensive and are qualified by reference to these filings. You should review the complete document to evaluate these statements. The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference much of the information Holding files with it, which means that we and Holding can disclose important information to you by referring you to those publicly available documents. The information that we and Holding incorporate by reference in this prospectus is considered to be part of this prospectus. Because we and Holding are incorporating by reference future filings with the SEC, this prospectus is continually updated and those future filings may modify or supersede some of the information included or incorporated in this prospectus. This means that you must look at all of the SEC filings that we and Holding incorporate by reference to determine if any of the statements in this prospectus or in any document previously incorporated by reference have been modified or superseded. This prospectus incorporates by reference the documents listed below, all subsequent Annual Reports filed on Form 20-F and any future filings we or Holding make with the SEC (including any Form 6-Ks Holding subsequently files with the SEC and specifically incorporates by reference into this prospectus) under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are identified in such filing as being specifically incorporated by reference into the Registration Statement of which this prospectus is a part until we and Holding complete our offering of the securities to be issued under the registration statement or, if later, the date on which any of our affiliates cease offering and selling these securities: (a) Annual Report on Form 20-F of ABN AMRO Holding N.V. for the year ended December 31, 2005, filed on April 3, 2006; and (b) Reports on Form 6-K of ABN AMRO Holding N.V. dated April 26, 2006 (2 filings: (i) ABN AMRO first quarter results and consolidated ratio of earnings to fixed charges, and (ii) ABN AMRO pro-forma 2005 results under new structure), June 12, 2006, June 30, 2006, August 2, 2006, August 9, 2006 (ABN AMRO first half-year results and consolidated ratio of earnings to fixed charges), August 15, 2006 (ABN AMRO to start buying back its own shares in line with earlier announcement), September 13, 2006 and September 14, 2006. You may request, at no cost to you, a copy of these documents (other than exhibits not specifically incorporated by reference) by writing or telephoning us at: ABN AMRO Bank N.V. ABN AMRO Investor Relations Department Gustav Mahlerlaan 10 P.O. Box 283 1000 EA Amsterdam, The Netherlands (31-20) 6 28 78 35 2 CAUTIONARY STATEMENT ON FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS Certain statements included in this prospectus are forward-looking statements. We also may make forward-looking statements in other documents filed with the SEC that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus. Forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "believe", "expect", "may", "intend", "will", "should", "anticipate", "Value-at-Risk", or by the use of similar expressions or variations on such expressions, or by the discussion of strategy or objectives. Forward-looking statements are based on current plans, estimates and projections, and are subject to inherent risks, uncertainties and other factors which could cause actual results to differ materially from the future results expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. In particular, this prospectus and certain documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus include forward-looking statements relating but not limited to management objectives, implementation of our strategic initiatives, trends in results of operations, margins, costs, return on equity, and risk management, including our potential exposure to various types of risk including market risk, such as interest rate risk, currency risk and equity risk. For example, certain of the market risk disclosures are dependent on choices about key model characteristics, assumptions and estimates, and are subject to various limitations. By their nature, certain market risk disclosures are only estimates and could be materially different from what actually occurs in the future. Some of the risks inherent in forward-looking statements are identified in "Item 3. Key Information - D. Risk factors" in Holding's annual report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2005. Other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those estimated by the forward-looking statements in this prospectus include, but are not limited to: o general economic and business conditions in the Netherlands, Italy, the European Union, the United States, Brazil and other countries or territories in which we operate; o changes in applicable laws and regulations, including taxes; o regulations and monetary, interest rate and other policies of central banks, particularly the Dutch Central Bank, the Bank of Italy, the European Central Bank, the US Federal Reserve Board and the Brazilian Central Bank; o changes or volatility in interest rates, foreign exchange rates (including the Euro-US dollar rate), asset prices, equity markets, commodity prices, inflation or deflation; o the effects of competition and consolidation in the markets in which we operate, which may be influenced by regulation, deregulation or enforcement policies; o changes in consumer spending and savings habits, including changes in government policies which may influence investment decisions; o our ability to hedge certain risks economically; o our success in managing the risks involved in the

foregoing, which depends, among other things, on our ability to anticipate events that cannot be captured by the statistical models we use; and o force majeure and other events beyond our control. Other factors could also adversely affect our results or the accuracy of forward-looking statements in this prospectus, and you should not consider the factors discussed here or in Item 3 of Holding's annual report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2005 to be a complete set of all potential risks or uncertainties. We have economic, financial market, credit, legal and other specialists who monitor economic and market conditions and government policies and actions. However, because it is difficult to predict with accuracy any changes in economic or market conditions or in governmental policies and actions, it is difficult for us to anticipate the effects that such changes could have on our financial performance and business operations. The forward-looking statements made in this prospectus speak only as of the date of this prospectus. We do not intend to publicly update or revise these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this prospectus, and we do not assume any responsibility to do so. You should, however, consult any further disclosures of a forward-looking nature we made in other documents filed with the SEC that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus. This discussion is provided as permitted by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

3 CONSOLIDATED RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The following table sets forth Holding's consolidated ratios of earnings to fixed charges for the periods indicated under U.S. GAAP. YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, ----- 2005 2004 2003 2002 2001

----- Excluding Interest on Deposits(1) 1.49 1.46 2.66 1.89 1.45 Including Interest on Deposits(1) 1.15 1.13 1.36 1.21 1.08 ----- (1) Deposits include bank and total customer accounts. See the consolidated financial statements incorporated by reference herein.

4 ABN AMRO BANK N.V. We are a prominent international banking group offering a wide range of banking products and financial services on a global basis through our network of 3,557 offices and branches in 58 countries and territories as of year-end 2005. We are one of the largest banking groups in the world, with total consolidated assets of (euro) 880.8 billion at December 31, 2005. We are the largest banking group in the Netherlands and we have a substantial presence in Brazil and the Midwestern United States. We are one of the largest foreign banking groups in the United States, based on total assets held as of December 31, 2005. Our principal executive offices are at Gustav Mahlerlaan 10, 1082 PP Amsterdam, The Netherlands, and our telephone number is (31-20) 628 9393. 5 ABN AMRO HOLDING N.V. ABN AMRO Holding N.V. is incorporated under the laws of The Netherlands by deed of May 30, 1990 as the holding company of the Bank. The Articles of Association of Holding were last amended by a notarial deed executed by Mr. van Helden, civil law notary in Amsterdam, on June 9, 2005. Holding's main purpose is to own the Bank and its subsidiaries. Holding owns 100 percent of the shares of the Bank and is jointly and severally liable for all liabilities of the Bank. Holding is listed on Euronext and the New York Stock Exchange. All of the securities issued by the Bank hereunder after the date hereof will be fully and unconditionally guaranteed by Holding. Holding's principal executive offices are at Gustav Mahlerlaan 10, 1082 PP Amsterdam, The Netherlands, and Holding's telephone number is (31-20) 628 9393. 6 USE OF PROCEEDS Unless the applicable prospectus supplement states otherwise, we will use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities we offer by this prospectus for general corporate purposes. General corporate purposes may include additions to working capital, investments in or extensions of credit to our subsidiaries and the repayment of indebtedness. 7 DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES The following description of debt securities sets forth the material terms and provisions of the debt securities to which any prospectus supplement may relate. Our senior debt securities would be issued under a senior indenture dated September 15, 2006 among us, Wilmington Trust Company, as trustee, Citibank, N.A., as securities administrator, and Holding, as guarantor, a copy of which has been filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. Our subordinated debt securities would be issued under a subordinated indenture between us, a trustee and a securities administrator, each to be named in the applicable prospectus supplement. The subordinated indenture, a form of which has been filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, will be executed at the time we issue any debt securities thereunder. Any supplemental indentures will be filed with the SEC on a Form 6-K or by a post-effective amendment to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. All of the indentures are sometimes referred to in this prospectus collectively as the "indentures" and each, individually, as an "indenture." The senior indenture is sometimes referred to in this prospectus as the "senior indenture." The subordinated indenture is sometimes referred to in this prospectus as the "subordinated indenture." The particular terms of the debt securities offered by any prospectus supplement, and the extent to which the general provisions described below may apply to the offered debt securities, will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. The indentures will be qualified under the Trust

Indenture Act of 1939, as amended. The terms of the debt securities will include those stated in the indentures and those made part of the indentures by reference to the Trust Indenture Act. Because the following summaries of the material terms and provisions of the indentures and the related debt securities are not complete, you should refer to the forms of the indentures and the debt securities for complete information on some of the terms and provisions of the indentures, including definitions of some of the terms used below, and the debt securities. The senior indenture and subordinated indenture are substantially identical to one another, except for specific provisions relating to subordination contained in the subordinated indenture. **GENERAL** The senior debt securities will be our direct, unsecured and unsubordinated general obligations and will have the same rank in liquidation as all of our other unsecured and unsubordinated debt. The subordinated debt securities will be our unsecured obligations, subordinated in right of payment to the prior payment in full of all our senior indebtedness with respect to such series, as described below under "Subordination of the Subordinated Debt Securities" and in the applicable prospectus supplement. **GUARANTEE** Holding will fully and unconditionally guarantee payment in full to the holders of our debt securities. The guarantee is set forth in, and forms part of, the indenture under which our debt securities will be issued. If, for any reason, we do not make any required payment in respect of our debt securities when due, the guarantor will cause the payment to be made to or to the order of the applicable trustee. The guarantee will be on a senior basis when the guaranteed debt securities are issued under the senior indenture, and on a subordinated basis to the extent the guaranteed debt securities are issued under the subordinated indenture. The extent to which the guarantee is subordinated to other indebtedness of Holding will be substantially the same as the extent to which our subordinated debt is subordinated to our other indebtedness as described below under "--Subordination of the Subordinated Debt Securities." Holders of our debt securities may sue Holding to enforce its rights under the guarantee without first suing us or any other person or entity. Holding may, without the consent of the holders of the debt securities, assume all of our rights and obligations under the debt securities and upon such assumption, we will be released from our liabilities under the Indenture and the debt securities. **PAYMENTS** We may issue debt securities from time to time in one or more series. The provisions of the indentures allow us to "reopen" a previous issue of a series of debt securities and issue additional debt securities of that series. The debt securities may be denominated and payable in U.S. dollars or foreign currencies. We may also issue debt securities from time to time with the principal amount or interest payable on any relevant payment date to be determined by reference to one or more currency exchange rates, securities or baskets of securities, commodity prices or indices. Holders of these types of debt securities will receive payments of principal or interest that depend upon the value of the applicable currency, security or basket of securities, commodity or index on the relevant payment dates. Debt securities may bear interest at a fixed rate, which may be zero, a floating rate, or a rate which varies during the lifetime of the debt security. Debt securities bearing no interest or interest at a rate that at the time of issuance is below the prevailing market rate may be sold at a discount below their stated principal amount. **TERMS SPECIFIED IN THE APPLICABLE PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT** The applicable prospectus supplement will contain, where applicable, the following terms of and other information relating to any offered debt securities: o the specific designation; o the aggregate principal amount, purchase price and denomination; o the currency in which the debt securities are denominated and/or in which principal, premium, if any, and/or interest, if any, is payable; o the date of maturity; o the interest rate or rates or the method by which the calculation agent will determine the interest rate or rates, if any; o the interest payment dates, if any; o the place or places for payment of the principal of and any premium and/or interest on the debt securities; o any repayment, redemption, prepayment or sinking fund provisions, including any redemption notice provisions; o whether we will issue the debt securities in definitive form and under what terms and conditions; o the terms on which holders of the debt securities may convert or exchange these securities into or for stock or other securities of an entity unaffiliated with us, any specific terms relating to the adjustment of the conversion or exchange feature and the period during which the holders may make the conversion or exchange; o information as to the methods for determining the amount of principal or interest payable on any date and/or the currencies, securities or baskets of securities, commodities or indices to which the amount payable on that date is linked; o any agents for the debt securities, including applicable trustees, depositories, authenticating or paying agents, transfer agents or registrars; o certain United States federal income tax consequences and Netherlands income tax consequences; o whether certain payments on the debt securities will be guaranteed under a financial insurance guaranty policy and the terms of that guaranty; o any applicable selling restrictions; and o any other specific terms of the debt securities, including any modifications to or additional events of default, covenants or modified or eliminated acceleration rights, and any terms required by or

advisable 9 under applicable laws or regulations, including laws and regulations relating to attributes required for the debt securities to be afforded certain capital treatment for bank regulatory or other purposes. Some of the debt securities may be issued as original issue discount debt securities. Original issue discount securities bear no interest or are issued at a price which represents a discount to their principal amount. The applicable prospectus supplement will contain information relating to federal income tax, accounting, and other special considerations applicable to original issue discount securities. REGISTRATION AND TRANSFER OF DEBT SECURITIES Holders may present debt securities for exchange, and holders of registered debt securities may present these securities for transfer, in the manner, at the places and subject to the restrictions stated in the debt securities and described in the applicable prospectus supplement. We will provide these services without charge except for any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection with these services and subject to any limitations or requirements provided in the applicable indenture or the supplemental indenture or issuer order under which that series of debt securities is issued. If any of the securities are held in global form, the procedures for transfer of interests in those securities will depend upon the procedures of the depository for those global securities. See "Forms of Securities."

COVENANT RESTRICTING MERGERS AND OTHER SIGNIFICANT CORPORATE ACTIONS The indentures provide that neither we nor Holding will merge or consolidate with any other person and will not sell, lease or convey all or substantially all of its assets to any other person, unless: o we or Holding, as applicable, will be the continuing legal entity; or o the successor legal entity or person that acquires all or substantially all of our or Holding's assets, as applicable (i) will expressly assume all of our or Holding's obligations, as applicable, under the applicable indenture and the debt securities issued under such indenture, and (ii) will be incorporated and existing under the laws of the Netherlands, or a member state of the European Union or the Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development, or, provided no adverse U.S. tax consequences to U.S. holders result therefrom, any other jurisdiction; and o immediately after the merger, consolidation, sale, lease or conveyance, that person or that successor legal entity will not be in default in the performance of the applicable covenants and conditions of the applicable indenture.

ABSENCE OF PROTECTIONS AGAINST ALL POTENTIAL ACTIONS OF THE BANK OR HOLDING There are no covenants or other provisions in the indentures that would afford holders of debt securities additional protection in the event of a recapitalization transaction, a change of control of us or Holding or a highly leveraged transaction. The merger covenant described above would only apply if the recapitalization transaction, change of control or highly leveraged transaction were structured to include a merger or consolidation of us or Holding or a sale, lease or conveyance of all or substantially all of our or Holding's, as the case may be, assets. However, we may provide specific protections, such as a put right or increased interest, for particular debt securities, which we would describe in the applicable prospectus supplement.

EVENTS OF DEFAULT Each indenture provides holders of debt securities with remedies if we or Holding, as the case may be, fail to perform specific obligations, such as making payments on our debt securities, or if we or Holding, as the case may be, become bankrupt. Holders should review these provisions and understand which of our or Holding's actions trigger an event of default and which actions do not. Each indenture permits the issuance of debt securities in one or more series, and, in many cases, whether an event of default has occurred is determined on a series-by-series basis. An event of default is defined under each indenture, with respect to any series of debt securities issued under that indenture, as any one or more of the following events, subject to modification in a supplemental indenture, each of which we refer to in this prospectus as an event of default, having occurred and be continuing: 10 o default is made for more than 30 days in the payment of interest, premium or principal in respect of the securities; o we or Holding, as the case may be, fail to perform or observe any other obligations applicable to us or Holding, respectively, under the securities, and such failure has continued for a period of 60 days next following the service on us and Holding of notice requiring the same to be remedied except that the failure to file with the applicable Trustee certain information required to be filed with such Trustee pursuant to the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, shall not constitute an event of default and does not give a right under the applicable indenture to accelerate or declare any security issued under such indenture due and payable. Although the Trustee may bring suit to enforce such filing obligation, the applicable indenture would not provide for a remedy of acceleration in that circumstance. o we or Holding, as the case may be, are declared bankrupt, or a declaration in respect of us or Holding is made under Chapter X of the Act on the Supervision of the Credit System (WET TOEZICHT KREDIETWEZEN 1992) of The Netherlands; o an order is made or an effective resolution is passed for our or Holding's winding up or liquidation, as the case may be, unless this is done in compliance with the "Covenant Restricting Mergers and Other Significant Corporate Actions" described above; or o any other event of default

provided in the supplemental indenture or issuer order, if any, under which that series of debt securities is issued.

ACCELERATION OF DEBT SECURITIES UPON AN EVENT OF DEFAULT Each indenture provides that, unless otherwise set forth in a supplemental indenture: o if an event of default occurs due to the default in payment of principal of, or any premium or interest on, any series of debt securities issued under such indenture, or due to the default in the performance or breach of any other covenant or warranty of us or Holding, as the case may be, applicable to that series of debt securities but not applicable to all outstanding debt securities issued under that indenture, other than a covenant for which the applicable indenture specifies that violation thereof does not give a right to accelerate or declare due and payable any security issued under such indenture, occurs and is continuing, either the applicable trustee or the holders of not less than 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of each affected series issued under that indenture, voting as one class, by notice in writing to us, may declare the principal of and accrued interest on the debt securities of such affected series (but not any other debt securities issued under that indenture) to be due and payable immediately; and o if an event of default occurs due to specified events of bankruptcy of us or Holding or due to an order or effective resolution for our or Holding's liquidation or winding up, as the case may be, or due to a default in the performance of any other of the covenants or agreements in such indenture applicable to all outstanding debt securities issued under that indenture, other than a covenant or agreement for which the applicable indenture specifies that violation thereof does not give a right to accelerate or declare due and payable any security issued under such indenture, occurs and is continuing, either the applicable trustee or the holders of not less than 25% in aggregate principal amount of all outstanding debt securities issued under that indenture for which any applicable supplemental indenture does not prevent acceleration under the relevant circumstances, voting as one class, by notice in writing to us, may declare the principal of all debt securities issued under that indenture and interest accrued on those debt securities to be due and payable immediately.

ANNULMENT OF ACCELERATION AND WAIVER OF DEFAULTS In some circumstances, if any and all events of default under the applicable indenture, other than the non-payment of the principal of the securities that has become due as a result of an acceleration, have been cured, waived or otherwise remedied, then the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of all series of affected outstanding 11 debt securities issued under that indenture, voting as one class, may annul past declarations of acceleration or waive past defaults of the debt securities.

INDEMNIFICATION OF TRUSTEE FOR ACTIONS TAKEN ON YOUR BEHALF Each indenture provides that the applicable trustee shall not be liable with respect to any action taken or omitted to be taken by it in good faith in accordance with the direction of the holders of debt securities issued under that indenture relating to the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee, or exercising any trust or power conferred upon the trustee. In addition, each indenture contains a provision entitling the applicable trustee, subject to the duty of the trustee to act with the required standard of care during a default, to be indemnified by the holders of debt securities issued under the indenture before proceeding to exercise any right or power at the request of holders. Subject to these provisions and specified other limitations, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of each series of outstanding debt securities of each affected series, voting as one class, may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee, or exercising any trust or power conferred on the trustee.

LIMITATION ON ACTIONS BY YOU AS AN INDIVIDUAL HOLDER Each indenture provides that no individual holder of debt securities may institute any action against us or Holding under that indenture, except actions for payment of overdue principal and interest, unless the following actions have occurred: o the holder must have previously given written notice to the applicable trustee of the continuing default; o the holders of not less than 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of each affected series issued under that indenture, treated as one class, must have: o requested the applicable trustee to institute that action, and o offered the applicable trustee reasonable indemnity; o the applicable trustee must have failed to institute that action within 60 days after receipt of the request referred to above; and o the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of each affected series issued under that indenture, voting as one class, must not have given directions to the applicable trustee inconsistent with those of the holders referred to above. Each indenture contains a covenant that we will file annually with the applicable trustee a certificate of no default or a certificate specifying any default that exists.

DISCHARGE, DEFEASANCE AND COVENANT DEFEASANCE We and Holding each have the ability to eliminate most or all of our obligations on any series of debt securities prior to maturity if we or Holding, as applicable, comply with the following provisions: **DISCHARGE OF INDENTURE.** We or Holding may discharge all of our obligations, other than as to transfer and exchanges, under the applicable indenture after we have or it has, as

applicable: o paid or caused to be paid the principal of and interest on all of the outstanding debt securities issued under that indenture in accordance with their terms; o delivered to the applicable securities administrator or applicable trustee for cancellation all of the outstanding debt securities issued under that indenture; or o irrevocably deposited with the applicable securities administrator or applicable trustee cash or, in the case of a series of debt securities payable only in U.S. dollars, U.S. government obligations in trust for the benefit of the holders of any series of debt securities issued under the applicable indenture that have either 12 become due and payable, or are by their terms due and payable, or are scheduled for redemption, within one year, in an amount certified to be sufficient to pay on each date that they become due and payable, the principal of and interest on, and any mandatory sinking fund payments for, those debt securities. However, the deposit of cash or U.S. government obligations for the benefit of holders of a series of debt securities that are due and payable, or are scheduled for redemption, within one year will discharge obligations under the applicable indenture relating only to that series of debt securities. **DEFEASANCE OF A SERIES OF SECURITIES AT ANY TIME.** We or Holding may also discharge all of our obligations, other than as to transfers and exchanges, under any series of debt securities at any time, which we refer to as defeasance in this prospectus. We and Holding may be released with respect to any outstanding series of debt securities from the obligations imposed by the covenants described above limiting consolidations, mergers, asset sales and leases, and elect not to comply with those sections without creating an event of default. Discharge under those procedures is called covenant defeasance. Defeasance or covenant defeasance may be effected only if, among other things: o we or Holding irrevocably deposit with the relevant applicable trustee or securities administrator cash or, in the case of debt securities payable only in U.S. dollars, U.S. government obligations, as trust funds in an amount certified to be sufficient to pay on each date that they become due and payable, the principal of and interest on, and any mandatory sinking fund payments for, all outstanding debt securities of the series being defeased; and o we or Holding deliver to the relevant applicable trustee an opinion of counsel to the effect that: o the holders of the series of debt securities being defeased will not recognize income, gain or loss for United States federal income tax purposes as a result of the defeasance or covenant defeasance; and o the defeasance or covenant defeasance will not otherwise alter those holders' United States federal income tax treatment of principal and interest payments on the series of debt securities being defeased; in the case of a defeasance, this opinion must be based on a ruling of the Internal Revenue Service or a change in United States federal income tax law occurring after the date of this prospectus, since that result would not occur under current tax law. **REDEMPTIONS AND REPURCHASES OF DEBT SECURITIES OPTIONAL**

REDEMPTION. The prospectus supplement will indicate the terms of our option to redeem the debt securities, if any. Unless otherwise provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will mail a notice of redemption by first-class mail, postage prepaid, at least 30 days and not more than 60 days prior to the date fixed for redemption, or within the redemption notice period designated in the applicable prospectus supplement, to the depository, as holder of the global debt securities. The debt securities will not be subject to any sinking fund. **REPAYMENT AT OPTION OF HOLDER.** If applicable, the prospectus supplement relating to a debt security will indicate that the holder has the option to have us repay that debt security on a date or dates specified prior to its maturity date. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the repayment price will be equal to 100% of the principal amount of the debt security, together with accrued interest to the date of repayment. For debt securities issued with original issue discount, the prospectus supplement will specify the amount payable upon repayment. Unless otherwise provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, for us to repay a debt security, the paying agent must receive the following at least 15 days but not more than 30 days prior to the repayment date: o the debt security with the form entitled "Option to Elect Repayment" on the reverse of the debt security duly completed; or o a telegram, telex, facsimile transmission or a letter from a member of a national securities exchange, or the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. or a commercial bank or trust company in the United States setting forth the name of the holder of the debt security, the principal amount of the debt security, the principal amount of the debt security to be repaid, the certificate number or a description of the tenor and 13 terms of the debt security, a statement that the option to elect repayment is being exercised and a guarantee that the debt security to be repaid, together with the duly completed form entitled "Option to Elect Repayment" on the reverse of the debt security, will be received by the paying agent not later than the fifth business day after the date of that telegram, telex, facsimile transmission or letter. However, the telegram, telex, facsimile transmission or letter will only be effective if that debt security and form duly completed are received by the paying agent by the fifth business day after the date of that telegram, telex, facsimile transmission or letter. Exercise of the repayment option by the holder of a debt security will be irrevocable. Unless

otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the holder may exercise the repayment option for less than the entire principal amount of the debt security but, in that event, the principal amount of the debt security remaining outstanding after repayment must be an authorized denomination. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR OPTIONAL REPAYMENT OF GLOBAL DEBT SECURITIES. If a debt security is represented by a global debt security, the depositary or the depositary's nominee will be the holder of the debt security and therefore will be the only entity that can exercise a right to repayment. In order to ensure that the depositary's nominee will timely exercise a right to repayment of a particular debt security, the beneficial owner of the debt security must instruct the broker or other direct or indirect participant through which it holds an interest in the debt security to notify the depositary of its desire to exercise a right to repayment. Different firms have different cut-off times for accepting instructions from their customers and, accordingly, each beneficial owner should consult the broker or other direct or indirect participant through which it holds an interest in a debt security in order to ascertain the cut-off time by which an instruction must be given in order for timely notice to be delivered to the depositary. OPEN MARKET PURCHASES. We may purchase debt securities at any price in the open market or otherwise. Debt securities so purchased by us may, at our discretion, be held or resold or surrendered to the relevant applicable trustee for cancellation. MODIFICATION OF THE INDENTURES MODIFICATION WITHOUT CONSENT OF HOLDERS. We, Holding and the relevant applicable trustee may enter into supplemental indentures without the consent of the holders of debt securities issued under the applicable indenture to: o secure any debt securities issued under that indenture; o evidence the assumption by a successor corporation of our or Holding's, as the case may be, obligations under that indenture; o add covenants for the protection of the holders of debt securities issued under that indenture; o cure any ambiguity or correct any inconsistency; o establish the forms or terms of debt securities of any series to be issued under that indenture; or o evidence the acceptance of appointment by a successor applicable trustee. MODIFICATION WITH CONSENT OF HOLDERS. We, Holding and the applicable trustee, with the consent of the holders of not less than a majority in aggregate principal amount of each affected series of outstanding debt securities issued under the applicable indenture, voting as one class, may add any provisions to, or change in any manner or eliminate any of the provisions of, that indenture or modify in any manner the rights of the holders of those debt securities. However, we, Holding and the applicable trustee may not make any of the following changes to any outstanding debt security issued under the applicable indenture without the consent of each holder of debt securities issued under that indenture that would be affected by the change: o extend the final maturity of the security; o reduce the principal amount; 14 o reduce the rate or extend the time of payment of interest; o reduce any amount payable on redemption; o change the currency in which the principal, including any amount of original issue discount, premium, or interest on the security is payable; o modify or amend the provisions for conversion of any currency into another currency; o reduce the amount of any original issue discount security payable upon acceleration or provable in bankruptcy; o alter the terms on which holders of the debt securities issued under that indenture may convert or exchange those debt securities for stock or other securities or for other property or the cash value of the property, other than in accordance with the antidilution provisions or other similar adjustment provisions included in the terms of those debt securities; o impair the right of any holder of debt securities issued under that indenture to institute suit for the enforcement of any payment on any such debt security or the guarantee when due; or o reduce the percentage of debt securities issued under that indenture the consent of whose holders is required for modification of that Indenture. SUBORDINATION OF THE SUBORDINATED DEBT SECURITIES Our subordinated debt securities will, to the extent set forth in the applicable subordinated indenture, be subordinate in right of payment to the prior payment in full of all our senior indebtedness, whether outstanding at the date of the subordinated indenture or incurred after that date. In the event of: o our insolvency or bankruptcy case or proceeding, or any receivership, liquidation, reorganization or other similar case or proceeding in connection therewith, or relative to our creditors, as such, or to our assets; or o our voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or other winding up, whether or not involving insolvency or bankruptcy; or o any assignment for the benefit of creditors or any other marshalling of our assets and liabilities, then the holders of our senior indebtedness will be entitled to receive payment in full of all amounts due or to become due on or in respect of all our senior indebtedness, or provision will be made for the payment in cash, before the holders of our subordinated debt securities are entitled to receive or retain any payment on account of principal of, or any premium or interest on, or any additional amounts with respect to, the subordinated debt securities. The holders of our senior indebtedness will be entitled to receive, for application to the payment of the senior indebtedness, any payment or distribution of any kind or character, whether in cash, property or securities, including any payment or distribution which may be payable

or deliverable by reason of the payment of any of our other indebtedness being subordinated to the payment of our subordinated debt securities. This payment may be payable or deliverable in respect of our subordinated debt securities in any case, proceeding, dissolution, liquidation or other winding up event. By reason of subordination, in the event of our liquidation or insolvency, holders of our senior indebtedness and holders of our other obligations that are not subordinated to our senior indebtedness may recover more ratably than the holders of our subordinated debt securities. Subject to the payment in full of all our senior indebtedness, the rights of the holders of our subordinated debt securities will be subrogated to the rights of the holders of our senior indebtedness to receive payments or distributions of cash, our property or securities applicable to our senior indebtedness until the principal of, any premium and interest on, and any additional amounts with respect to, our subordinated debt securities have been paid in full. 16 No payment of principal, including redemption and sinking fund payments, of, or any premium or interest on, or any additional amounts with respect to our subordinated debt securities, or payments to acquire these securities, other than pursuant to their conversion, may be made: o if any of our senior indebtedness is not paid when due and any applicable grace period with respect to the default has ended and the default has not been cured or waived or ceased to exist, or o if the maturity of any of our senior indebtedness has been accelerated because of a default. The subordinated indentures do not limit or prohibit us from incurring additional senior indebtedness, which may include indebtedness that is senior to our subordinated debt securities, but subordinate to our other obligations. The subordinated indentures provide that these subordination provisions, insofar as they relate to any particular issue of our subordinated debt securities, may be changed prior to the issuance. Any change would be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. **REPLACEMENT OF DEBT SECURITIES** At the expense of the holder, we will replace any debt securities that become mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen or are apparently destroyed, lost or stolen. The mutilated debt securities must be delivered to the applicable securities administrator or agent or satisfactory evidence of the destruction, loss or theft of the debt securities must be delivered to us, Holding, the applicable securities administrator and trustee and any agent. At the expense of the holder, an indemnity that is satisfactory to us and our agents, Holding, the applicable securities administrator and trustee and any agent may be required before a replacement note will be issued. **NOTICES** Notices to holders of the securities will be given by mailing such notices to each holder by first class mail, postage prepaid, or by overnight delivery, courier or facsimile, at the respective address of each holder as that address appears upon our books. Notices given to the Depository, as holder of the registered debt securities, will be passed on to the beneficial owners of the securities in accordance with the standard rules and procedures of the Depository and its direct and indirect participants. **TAX REDEMPTION** Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, if we are obligated to pay additional amounts under the applicable indenture as set forth below, we may redeem, in whole but not in part, any of our debt securities issued under that indenture at our option at any time prior to maturity, upon the giving of a notice of redemption as described below, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of those debt securities (or if the debt securities are issued with original issue discount, a portion of the principal, as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement) together with accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption and any additional amounts (as defined below), or at any redemption price otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, if we determine that, as a result of any change in or amendment to the laws affecting taxation after the date of the relevant prospectus supplement or, if applicable, pricing supplement relating thereto (or any regulations or rulings promulgated thereunder) of The Netherlands or of any political subdivision or taxing authority thereof or therein (or the jurisdiction of residence or incorporation of any successor corporation), or any change in official position regarding the application or interpretation of those laws, regulations or rulings, which change or amendment becomes effective on or after the date of the applicable prospectus supplement or, if applicable, pricing supplement relating thereto, we have or will become obligated to pay additional amounts (as defined below under "-- Payment of Additional Amounts") with respect to any of those debt securities as described below under "-- Payment of Additional Amounts." Prior to the giving of any notice of redemption pursuant to this paragraph, we shall deliver to the applicable trustee and the applicable securities administrator: o a certificate stating that we are entitled to effect the redemption and setting forth a statement of facts showing that the conditions precedent to our right to so redeem have occurred; and 16 o an opinion of independent counsel reasonably satisfactory to the applicable trustee and the applicable securities administrator to the effect that we are entitled to effect the redemption based on the statement of facts set forth in the certificate. Notice of redemption will be given not less than 30 nor more than 60 days prior to the date fixed for redemption, which date and the applicable redemption price will be specified in the notice; **PROVIDED** that no notice of redemption shall be

given earlier than 60 days prior to the earliest date on which we would be obligated to pay the additional amounts if a payment in respect of those debt securities were then due. Notice will be given in accordance with "-- Notices" above.

PAYMENT OF ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS Except to the extent otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will, with respect to any of our debt securities and subject to certain exceptions and limitations set forth below, pay such additional amounts (the "additional amounts") to holders of the debt securities as may be necessary in order that the net payment of the principal of the securities and any other amounts payable on the debt securities, after withholding for or on account of any present or future tax, assessment or governmental charge imposed upon or as a result of such payment by The Netherlands, or the jurisdiction of residence or incorporation of any successor corporation, or any political subdivision or taxing authority thereof or therein (a "relevant jurisdiction"), will not be less than the amount provided for in the debt securities to be then due and payable. We will not, however, be required to make any payment of additional amounts for or on account of: o any such tax, assessment or other governmental charge that would not have been so imposed but for (i) the existence of any present or former connection between such holder (or between a fiduciary, settlor, beneficiary, member or shareholder, if such holder is an estate, a trust, a partnership or a corporation) and The Netherlands and its possessions or any other relevant jurisdiction, including, without limitation, such holder (or such fiduciary, settlor, beneficiary, member or shareholder) being or having been a citizen or resident thereof, being or having been engaged in a trade or business or present therein or having, or having had, a permanent establishment therein, or (ii) the presentation, where presentation is required, by the holder of a debt security for payment on a date more than 30 days after the date on which such payment became due and payable or the date on which payment thereof is duly provided for, whichever occurs later; o any capital gain, estate, inheritance, gift, sales, transfer or personal property tax or any similar tax, assessment or governmental charge; o any tax, assessment or other governmental charge that is payable otherwise than by withholding from payments on or in respect of the debt securities; o any tax, assessment or other governmental charge that is imposed on a payment to an individual and that is required to be made pursuant to European Council Directive 2003/48/EC or any other directive implementing the conclusions of the ECOFIN Council meeting of November 26-27, 2000 on the taxation of savings income, or any law implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to, such directives; o any tax, assessment or other governmental charge required to be withheld by any paying agent from any payment of principal or other amounts payable, or interest on the debt securities, to the extent that such payment can be made without such withholding by presentation of the debt securities to any other paying agent; o any tax, assessment or other governmental charge that would not have been imposed but for a holder's failure to comply with a request addressed to the holder or, if different, the direct nominee of a beneficiary of the payment, to comply with certification, information or other reporting requirements concerning the nationality, residence or identity of the holder or beneficial owner of securities, if such compliance is required by statute or by regulation of the relevant jurisdiction, as a precondition to relief or exemption from such tax, assessment or other governmental charge; or 17 o any combination of the items listed above; nor shall we pay additional amounts with respect to any payment on the debt securities to a holder who is a fiduciary, an entity treated as a partnership or any other person that is not the sole beneficial owner of such debt security to the extent such payment would be required by the laws of the relevant jurisdiction to be included in the income, for tax purposes, of a beneficiary or settlor with respect to such fiduciary or a member of such partnership or a beneficial owner who would not have been entitled to the additional amounts had such beneficiary, settlor, member or beneficial owner been the holder of the debt securities.

NEW YORK LAW TO GOVERN The indentures and the debt securities will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York.

INFORMATION CONCERNING THE APPLICABLE TRUSTEE Information about the applicable indenture trustee for the subordinated indenture will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. The trustee under one indenture may also serve as trustee under the other indenture. We and our subsidiaries maintain ordinary banking relationships and custodial facilities with the trustee under the senior indenture and affiliates of the trustee.

18 FORMS OF SECURITIES Each debt security will be represented either by a certificate issued in definitive form to a particular investor or by one or more global securities representing the entire issuance of securities. Both certificated securities in definitive form and global securities may be issued in registered form, where our and Holding's obligation runs to the holder of the security named on the face of the security. Definitive securities name you or your nominee as the owner of the security and, in order to transfer or exchange these securities or to receive payments other than interest or other interim payments, you or your nominee must physically deliver the securities to the applicable trustee, registrar, paying agent or other agent, as applicable. Global securities name a

depository or its nominee as the owner of the debt securities represented by these global securities. The depository maintains a computerized system that will reflect each investor's beneficial ownership of the securities through an account maintained by the investor with its broker/dealer, bank, trust company or other representative, as we explain more fully below under "--Global Securities." Our obligations, as well as the obligations of the applicable trustee under any indenture and the obligations, if any, of any agents of ours or any agents of such trustee run only to the persons or entities named as holders of the securities in the relevant security register. Neither we nor any applicable trustee, other agent of ours or agent of such trustee have obligations to investors who hold beneficial interest in global securities, in street name or by any other indirect means. Upon making a payment or giving a notice to the holder as required by the terms of that security, we will have no further responsibility for that payment or notice even if that holder is required, under agreements with depository participants or customers or by law, to pass it along to the indirect owners of beneficial interests in that security but does not do so. Similarly, if we want to obtain the approval or consent of the holders of any securities for any purpose, we would seek the approval only from the holders, and not the indirect owners, of the relevant securities. Whether and how the holders contact the indirect owners would be governed by the agreements between such holders and the indirect owners. References to "you" in this prospectus refer to those who invest in the securities being offered by this prospectus, whether they are the direct holders or only indirect owners of beneficial interests in those securities.

REGISTERED GLOBAL SECURITIES We may issue the registered debt securities in the form of one or more fully registered global securities that will be deposited with a depository or its nominee identified in the applicable prospectus supplement and registered in the name of that depository or its nominee. In those cases, one or more registered global securities will be issued in a denomination or aggregate denominations equal to the portion of the aggregate principal or face amount of the securities to be represented by registered global securities. Unless and until it is exchanged in whole for securities in definitive registered form, a registered global security may not be transferred except as a whole by and among the depository for the registered global security, the nominees of the depository or any successors of the depository or those nominees. We anticipate that the provisions described under "The Depository" below will apply to all depository arrangements, unless otherwise described in the prospectus supplement relating to those securities.

19 THE DEPOSITORY The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York will be designated as the depository for any registered global security. Each registered global security will be registered in the name of Cede & Co., the depository's nominee. The depository is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a "banking organization" within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a "clearing agency" registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The depository holds securities deposited with it by its direct participants, and it facilitates the settlement of transactions among its direct participants in those securities through electronic computerized book-entry changes in participants' accounts, eliminating the need for physical movement of securities certificates. The depository's direct participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, including the agents, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and other organizations, some of whom and/or their representatives own the depository. Access to the depository's book-entry system is also available to others, such as both U.S. and non-U.S. brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies and clearing corporations, such as the Euroclear operator and Clearstream, Luxembourg, that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a participant, either directly or indirectly. The rules applicable to the depository and its participants are on file with the SEC. Purchases of the securities under the depository's system must be made by or through its direct participants, which will receive a credit for the securities on the depository's records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each security (the "beneficial owner") is in turn to be recorded on the records of direct and indirect participants. Beneficial owners will not receive written confirmation from the depository of their purchase, but beneficial owners are expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the direct or indirect participants through which the beneficial owner entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the securities are to be made by entries on the books of direct and indirect participants acting on behalf of beneficial owners. Beneficial owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in securities, except in the event that use of the book-entry system for the securities is discontinued. To facilitate subsequent transfers, all securities deposited with the depository are registered in the name of the depository's partnership nominee, Cede & Co, or such other name as may be requested by the depository. The deposit of securities with the depository and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or

such other nominee of the depositary do not effect any change in beneficial ownership. The depositary has no knowledge of the actual beneficial owners of the securities; the depositary's records reflect only the identity of the direct participants to whose accounts the securities are credited, which may or may not be the beneficial owners. The participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers. Conveyance of notices and other communications by the depositary to direct participants, by direct participants to indirect participants, and by direct participants and indirect participants to beneficial owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Neither the depositary nor Cede & Co. (nor such other nominee of the depositary) will consent or vote with respect to the securities unless authorized by a direct participant in accordance with the depositary's procedures. Under its usual procedures, the depositary mails an omnibus proxy to us as soon as possible after the applicable record date. The omnibus proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those direct participants identified in a listing attached to the omnibus proxy to whose accounts the securities are credited on the record date. Redemption proceeds, distributions, and dividend payments on the securities will be made to Cede & Co or such other nominee as may be requested by the depositary. The depositary's practice is to credit direct participants' accounts upon the depositary's receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from us or any agent of ours, on the date payable in accordance with their respective holdings shown on the depositary's records. Payments by participants to beneficial owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name," and will be the responsibility of such participant and not of the depositary or its nominee, the applicable trustee, any agent of ours, or us, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payments of 20 redemption proceeds, distributions, and dividend payments to Cede & Co. or such other nominee as may be requested by the depositary is the responsibility of us or of any paying agent of ours, disbursement of such payments to direct participants will be the responsibility of the depositary, and disbursement of such payments to the beneficial owners will be the responsibility of direct and indirect participants. The depositary may discontinue providing its services as depositary with respect to the securities at any time by giving reasonable notice to us or our agent. Under such circumstances, in the event that a successor depositary is not obtained by us within 90 days, security certificates are required to be printed and delivered. In addition, under the terms of the indentures, we may at any time and in our sole discretion decide not to have any of the securities represented by one or more registered global securities. We understand, however, that, under current industry practices, the depositary would notify its participants of our request, but will only withdraw beneficial interests from a global security at the request of each participant. We would issue definitive certificates in exchange for any such interests withdrawn. Any securities issued in definitive form in exchange for a registered global security will be registered in the name or names that the depositary gives to the relevant trustee, warrant agent, unit agent or other relevant agent of ours or theirs. It is expected that the depositary's instructions will be based upon directions received by the depositary from participants with respect to ownership of beneficial interests in the registered global security that had been held by the depositary. According to the depositary, the foregoing information relating to the depositary has been provided to the financial community for informational purposes only and is not intended to serve as a representation, warranty or contract modification of any kind. The information in this section concerning the depositary and depositary's book-entry system has been obtained from sources we believe to be reliable, but we take no responsibility for the accuracy thereof. The depositary may change or discontinue the foregoing procedures at any time.

21 PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION We and Holding may sell the securities being offered by this prospectus in four ways: (1) through selling agents, (2) through underwriters, (3) through dealers and/or (4) directly to purchasers. Any of these selling agents, underwriters or dealers in the United States or outside the United States may include affiliates of ours. We and Holding are offering the securities through LaSalle Financial Services, Inc. and ABN AMRO Incorporated to the extent either or both of them are named in the applicable prospectus supplement. We may designate selling agents from time to time to solicit offers to purchase these securities. We will name any such agent, who may be deemed to be an underwriter as that term is defined in the Securities Act, and state any commissions we are to pay to that agent in the applicable prospectus supplement. That agent will be acting on a reasonable efforts basis for the period of its appointment or, if indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, on a firm commitment basis. If we use any underwriters to offer and sell these securities, we and Holding will enter into an underwriting agreement with those underwriters when we and they determine the offering price of the securities, and we will include the names of the underwriters and the terms of the transaction in the applicable prospectus supplement. If we use a dealer

to offer and sell these securities, we will sell the securities to the dealer, as principal, and will name the dealer in the applicable prospectus supplement. The dealer may then resell the securities to the public at varying prices to be determined by that dealer at the time of resale. Our net proceeds will be the purchase price in the case of sales to a dealer, the public offering price less discount in the case of sales to an underwriter or the purchase price less commission in the case of sales through a selling agent -- in each case, less other expenses attributable to issuance and distribution. Offers to purchase securities may be solicited directly by us and the sale of those securities may be made by us directly to institutional investors or others, who may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933 with respect to any resale of those securities. The terms of any sales of this type will be described in the related prospectus supplement. One or more firms, referred to as "remarketing firms," may also offer or sell the securities, if the prospectus supplement so indicates, in connection with a remarketing arrangement upon their purchase. Remarketing firms will act as principals for their own accounts or as agents for Holding, us or any of our subsidiaries. These remarketing firms will offer or sell the securities in accordance with a redemption or repayment pursuant to the terms of the securities. The prospectus supplement will identify any remarketing firm and the terms of its agreement, if any, with Holding, us or any of our subsidiaries and will describe the remarketing firm's compensation. Remarketing firms may be deemed to be underwriters in connection with the securities they remarket. In order to facilitate the offering of these securities, the underwriters may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of these securities or any other securities the prices of which may be used to determine payments on these securities. Specifically, the underwriters may sell more securities than they are obligated to purchase in connection with the offering, creating a short position for their own accounts. A short sale is covered if the short position is no greater than the number or amount of securities available for purchase by the underwriters under any over-allotment option. The underwriters can close out a covered short sale by exercising the over-allotment option or purchasing these securities in the open market. In determining the source of securities to close out a covered short sale, the underwriters will consider, among other things, the open market price of these securities compared to the price available under the over-allotment option. The underwriters may also sell these securities or any other securities in excess of the over-allotment option, creating a naked short position. The underwriters must close out any naked short position by purchasing securities in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of these securities in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering. As an additional means of facilitating the offering, the underwriters may bid for, and purchase, these securities or any other securities in the open market to stabilize the price of these securities or of any other securities. Finally, in any offering of the securities through a syndicate of underwriters, the underwriting syndicate may also reclaim selling concessions allowed to an underwriter or a dealer for distributing these securities in the offering, if the syndicate repurchases previously distributed securities to cover syndicate short positions or to stabilize the price of these securities. Any of these activities may raise or maintain the market price of these securities above independent market levels or prevent or retard a decline in the market price of these securities. The underwriters are not required to engage in these activities, and may end any of these activities at any time. Selling agents, underwriters, dealers and remarketing firms may be entitled under agreements with us to indemnification by us against some civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, and may be customers of, engage in transactions with or perform services for us in the ordinary course of business. If so indicated in the prospectus supplement, we will authorize selling agents, underwriters or dealers to solicit offers by some purchasers to purchase debt securities from us at the public offering price stated in the prospectus supplement under delayed delivery contracts providing for payment and delivery on a specified date in the future. These contracts will be subject only to those conditions described in the prospectus supplement, and the prospectus supplement will state the commission payable for solicitation of these offers. Any underwriter, selling agent or dealer utilized in the initial offering of securities will not confirm sales to accounts over which it exercises discretionary authority without the prior specific written approval of its customer. To the extent an initial offering of the securities will be distributed by an affiliate of ours each such offering of securities will be conducted in compliance with the requirements of Rule 2720 of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc., which is commonly referred to as the NASD, regarding a NASD member firm's distribution of securities of an affiliate. Following the initial distribution of any of these securities, affiliates of ours may offer and sell these securities in the course of their businesses as broker-dealers. Such affiliates may act as principals or agents in these transactions and may make any sales at varying prices related to prevailing market prices at the time of sale or otherwise. Such

affiliates may also use this prospectus in connection with these transactions. None of our affiliates is obligated to make a market in any of these securities and may discontinue any market-making activities at any time without notice. Underwriting discounts and commissions on securities sold in the initial distribution will not exceed 8% of the offering proceeds. **SELLING RESTRICTIONS EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA SECURITIES THAT QUALIFY AS SECURITIES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE PROSPECTUS DIRECTIVE.** To the extent that the debt securities qualify as securities within the meaning of the Prospectus Directive, the following selling restriction shall apply: In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a "Relevant Member State"), with effect from and including the date on which the Prospectus Directive is implemented in that Relevant Member State (the "Relevant Implementation Date") the debt securities will be offered to the public in that Relevant Member State of the European Economic Area, except that the debt securities may, with effect from and including the Relevant Implementation Date, be offered to the public in that Relevant Member State: (a) in (or in Germany, where the offer starts within) the period beginning on the date of publication of a prospectus in relation to those debt securities which has been approved by the competent authority in that Relevant Member State or, where appropriate, approved in another Relevant Member State and notified to the competent authority in that Relevant Member State, all in accordance with the Prospectus Directive and ending on the date which is 12 months after the date of such publication; (b) at any time to legal entities which are authorised or regulated to operate in the financial markets or, if not so authorised or regulated, whose corporate purpose is solely to invest in securities; 23 (c) at any time to any legal entity which has two or more of (1) an average of at least 250 employees during the last financial year; (2) a total balance sheet of more than (euro)43,000,000 and (3) an annual net turnover of more than (euro)50,000,000, as shown in its last annual or consolidated accounts; or (d) at any time in any other circumstances which do not require the publication by us of a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive. For the purposes of this provision, the expression "an offer of debt securities to the public" in relation to any debt securities in any Relevant Member State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the debt securities to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe the debt securities, as the same may be varied in that Relevant Member State by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that Member State and the expression "Prospectus Directive" means Directive 2003/71/EC and includes any relevant implementing measure in each Relevant Member State. **SECURITIES THAT DO NOT QUALIFY AS SECURITIES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE PROSPECTUS DIRECTIVE.** To the extent that the debt securities do not qualify as securities within the meaning of the Prospectus Directive, the following selling restriction shall apply: The debt securities are offered exclusively to individuals and legal entities who or which: (1) are professional investors (which includes, without limitation, banks, securities firms, insurance companies, pension funds, investment institutions, central governments, large international and supranational organisations, other institutional investors and other parties, including treasury departments of commercial enterprises, which as an ancillary activity regularly trade or invest in securities, hereafter "Professional Investors") situated in The Netherlands; or (2) are established, domiciled or have their residence (collectively, "are resident") outside the Netherlands; provided that (A) the offer, the applicable prospectus supplement and pricing supplement and each announcement of the offer states that the offer is and will only be made to persons or entities who are professional investors situated in The Netherlands or who are not resident in The Netherlands, (B) the offer, the prospectus, the applicable prospectus supplement and pricing supplement and each announcement of the offer comply with the laws and regulations of any state where persons to whom the offer is made are resident and (C) a statement by us that those laws and regulations are complied with is submitted to the Netherlands Authority for the Financial Markets (STICHTING AUTORITEIT FINANCIËLE MARKTEN; the "AFM") before the offer is made and is included in the applicable prospectus supplement and pricing supplement and each such announcement. 24 **LEGAL MATTERS** Davis Polk & Wardwell will pass upon the validity of the offered securities with respect to United States Federal and New York law. Clifford Chance Limited Liability Partnership will pass upon the validity of the offered securities with respect to Dutch law. Davis Polk & Wardwell has in the past represented Holding and its affiliates, including us, and continues to represent Holding and its affiliates on a regular basis and in a variety of matters. 25 **EXPERTS** The consolidated financial statements and the related financial statement schedules of Holding incorporated in this prospectus by reference to the Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2005 have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of Ernst & Young, independent registered public accounting firm, given on the authority of the firm as experts in accounting and auditing. 26 **BENEFIT PLAN INVESTOR**

CONSIDERATIONS A fiduciary of a pension, profit-sharing or other employee benefit plan subject to the Employment Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"), including entities such as collective investment funds, partnerships and separate accounts whose underlying assets include the assets of such plans (collectively, "ERISA Plans") should consider the fiduciary standards of ERISA in the context of the ERISA Plans' particular circumstances before authorizing an investment in the debt securities. Among other factors, the fiduciary should consider whether the investment would satisfy the prudence and diversification requirements of ERISA and would be consistent with the documents and instruments governing the ERISA Plan. Section 406 of ERISA and Section 4975 of the Code prohibit ERISA Plans, as well as individual retirement accounts and Keogh plans subject to Section 4975 of the Code (together with ERISA Plans, "Plans"), from engaging in certain transactions involving the "plan assets" with persons who are "parties in interest" under ERISA or "disqualified persons" under the Code ("Parties in Interest") with respect to such Plans. As a result of our business, we and/or certain of our affiliates are each a Party in Interest with respect to many Plans. Where we are a Party in Interest with respect to a Plan (either directly or by reason of ownership of our subsidiaries), the purchase and holding of the debt securities by or on behalf of the Plan would be a prohibited transaction under Section 406(a)(1) of ERISA and Section 4975(c)(1) of the Code, unless exemptive relief were available under an applicable administrative exemption (as described below). Accordingly, the debt securities may not be purchased or held by any Plan, any entity whose underlying assets include "plan assets" by reason of any Plan's investment in the entity (a "Plan Asset Entity") or any person investing "plan assets" of any Plan, unless such purchaser or holder is eligible for the exemptive relief available under Prohibited Transaction Class Exemption ("PTCE") 96-23, 95-60, 91-38, 90-1 or 84-14 issued by the U.S. Department of Labor or the service provider exemption provided by new Section 408(b)(17) of ERISA and Section 4975(d)(20) of the Code. Unless the applicable prospectus supplement explicitly provides otherwise, each purchaser or holder of the debt securities or any interest therein will be deemed to have represented by its purchase of the debt securities that (a) its purchase and holding of the debt securities is not made on behalf of or with "plan assets" of any Plan or (b) its purchase and holding of the debt securities will not result in a prohibited transaction under Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code. Employee benefit plans that are governmental plans (as defined in Section 3(32) of ERISA), certain church plans (as defined in Section 3(33) of ERISA) and non-U.S. plans (as described in Section 4(b)(4) of ERISA) are not subject to these "prohibited transaction" rules of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code, but may be subject to similar rules under other applicable laws or documents ("Similar Laws"). Accordingly, each purchaser or holder of the debt securities shall be required to represent (and deemed to constitute a representation) that such purchase and holding is not prohibited under applicable Similar Laws. Due to the complexity of the applicable rules, it is particularly important that fiduciaries or other persons considering purchasing the debt securities on behalf of or with "plan assets" of any Plan consult with their counsel regarding the relevant provisions of ERISA, the Code or any Similar Laws and the availability of exemptive relief under PTCE 96-23, 95-60, 91-38, 90-1 or 84-14 or the service provider exemption under Section 408(b)(17) of ERISA and Section 4975(d)(20) of the Code. Each purchaser and holder of the debt securities has exclusive responsibility for ensuring that its purchase and holding of the debt securities does not violate the fiduciary or prohibited transaction rules of ERISA, the Code or any Similar Laws. The sale of any debt securities to any Plan is in no respect a representation by us or any of our affiliates or representatives that such an investment meets all relevant legal requirements with respect to investments by Plans generally or any particular Plan, or that such an investment is appropriate for Plans generally or any particular Plan. 27

ENFORCEMENT OF CIVIL LIABILITIES We and Holding are organized under the laws of The Netherlands and the members of our and Holding's Supervisory Board, with two exceptions, and our and Holding's Managing Board are residents of The Netherlands or other countries outside the United States. Although we and some of our affiliates, including LaSalle Bank, have substantial assets in the United States, substantially all of our and Holding's assets and the assets of the members of the respective Supervisory Boards and Managing Boards are located outside the United States. As a result, it may not be possible for investors to effect service of process within the United States upon us, Holding or these persons or to enforce against us, Holding or these persons judgments of U.S. courts predicated upon the civil liability provisions of U.S. securities laws. The United States and The Netherlands do not currently have a treaty providing for reciprocal recognition and enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters. Therefore, a final judgment for the payment of money rendered by any federal or state court in the United States based on civil liability, whether or not predicated solely upon U.S. federal securities laws, would not be enforceable in The Netherlands. However, if the party in whose favor such judgment is rendered brings a new suit in a competent court in

The Netherlands, that party may submit to a Dutch court the final judgment which has been rendered in the United States, in which case the Dutch court may give such effect to this judgment as it deems appropriate. If the Dutch court finds that the jurisdiction of the federal or state court in the United States has been based on grounds that are internationally acceptable and that the final judgment concerned results from proceedings compatible with Dutch concepts of due process, to the extent that the Dutch court is of the opinion that reasonableness and fairness so require, the Dutch court would, in principle, under current practice, recognize the final judgment that has been rendered in the United States and generally grant the same claim without relitigation on the merits, unless the consequences of the recognition of such judgment contravene public policy in The Netherlands or conflicts with an existing Dutch judgment. 28

===== YOU SHOULD RELY ONLY ON THE INFORMATION CONTAINED OR INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE IN THIS PRICING SUPPLEMENT, THE PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT AND THE PROSPECTUS. WE HAVE NOT AUTHORIZED ANYONE ELSE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH DIFFERENT OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. WE ARE OFFERING TO SELL THESE SECURITIES AND SEEKING OFFERS TO BUY THESE SECURITIES ONLY IN JURISDICTIONS WHERE OFFERS AND SALES ARE PERMITTED. NEITHER THE DELIVERY OF THIS PRICING SUPPLEMENT OR THE ACCOMPANYING PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT AND PROSPECTUS, NOR ANY SALE MADE HEREUNDER AND THEREUNDER SHALL, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, CREATE ANY IMPLICATION THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN THE AFFAIRS OF ABN AMRO BANK N.V. OR ABN AMRO HOLDING N.V. SINCE THE DATE HEREOF OR THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED OR INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE HEREIN IS CORRECT AS OF ANY TIME SUBSEQUENT TO THE DATE OF SUCH INFORMATION.

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===== ABN AMRO BANK N.V. FULLY AND UNCONDITIONALLY GUARANTEED BY ABN AMRO HOLDING N.V. NINE (9) OFFERINGS OF KNOCK-IN REVERSE EXCHANGEABLE SECURITIES DUE APRIL 30, 2008 PRICING SUPPLEMENT (TO PROSPECTUS DATED SEPTEMBER 29, 2006 AND PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT DATED SEPTEMBER 29, 2006) ABN AMRO INCORPORATED