

## OFFERING CIRCULAR



**SWEDISH MATCH AB (publ)**  
(incorporated with limited liability in Sweden)

**€1,500,000,000**

## **Global Medium Term Note Programme**

Under this €1,500,000,000 Global Medium Term Note Programme (the **Programme**), Swedish Match AB (publ) (**Swedish Match** or the **Issuer**) may from time to time issue notes (the **Notes**) denominated in any currency agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer (as defined below).

Notes may be issued in bearer or registered form (respectively **Bearer Notes** and **Registered Notes**). The maximum aggregate nominal amount of all Notes from time to time outstanding under the Programme will not exceed €1,500,000,000 (or its equivalent in other currencies calculated as described in the Programme Agreement as described herein), subject to increase as described herein.

The Notes may be issued on a continuing basis to one or more of the Dealers specified under “*Description of the Programme*” and any additional Dealer appointed under the Programme from time to time by the Issuer (each a **Dealer** and together the **Dealers**), which appointment may be for a specific issue or on an ongoing basis.

References in this Offering Circular to the **relevant Dealer** shall, in the case of an issue of Notes being (or intended to be) subscribed by more than one Dealer, be to all Dealers agreeing to purchase such Notes.

**An investment in Notes issued under the Programme involves certain risks. For a discussion of these risks see “Risk Factors”.**

Application has been made to the Financial Conduct Authority in its capacity as competent authority (the **UK Listing Authority**) for Notes (other than Exempt Notes, as defined below) issued during the period of 12 months from the date of this Offering Circular to be admitted to the official list of the UK Listing Authority (the **Official List**) and to the London Stock Exchange plc (the **London Stock Exchange**) for such Notes to be admitted to trading on the London Stock Exchange’s Regulated Market. References in this Offering Circular to Notes being **listed** (and all related references) shall mean that such Notes have been admitted to trading on the London Stock Exchange’s Regulated Market and have been admitted to the Official List. The London Stock Exchange’s Regulated Market is a regulated market for the purposes of the Markets in Financial Instruments Directive (Directive 2004/39/EC).

The requirement to publish a prospectus under the Prospectus Directive only applies to Notes which are to be admitted to trading on a regulated market in the European Economic Area and/or offered to the public in the European Economic Area other than in circumstances where an exemption is available under Article 3.2 of the Prospectus Directive (as implemented in the relevant Member State(s)). References in this Offering Circular to **Exempt Notes** are to Notes for which no prospectus is required to be published under the Prospectus Directive. The UK Listing Authority has neither approved nor reviewed information contained in this Offering Circular in connection with Exempt Notes.

Notice of the aggregate nominal amount of Notes, interest (if any) payable in respect of Notes, the issue price of Notes and certain other information which is applicable to each Tranche (as defined under “*Terms and Conditions of the Notes*”) of Notes will (other than in the case of Exempt Notes) be set out in a final terms document (the **Final Terms**) which, with respect to Notes to be listed on the London Stock Exchange, will be delivered to the UK Listing Authority and the London Stock Exchange. Copies of Final Terms in relation to Notes to be listed on the London Stock Exchange will also be published on the website of the London Stock Exchange through a regulatory information service. In the case of Exempt Notes, notice of the aggregate nominal amount of Notes, interest (if any) payable in respect of Notes, the issue price of Notes and certain other information which is applicable to each Tranche will be set forth in a pricing supplement document (the **Pricing Supplement**).

The Programme provides that Exempt Notes may be listed or admitted to trading, as the case may be, on such other or further stock exchanges or markets as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer. The Issuer may also issue unlisted Exempt Notes and/or Exempt Notes not admitted to trading on any market. Application may also be made to have certain Series of Exempt Notes accepted for trading in the Private Offerings, Resales and Trading through Automated Linkages System (**PORTAL**) of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority.

The Notes have not been and will not be registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the **Securities Act**) or any U.S. State securities laws and may not be offered or sold in the United States or to, or for the benefit of, U.S. persons unless an exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act is available in accordance with all applicable securities laws of any state of the United States and any other jurisdiction. See “*Form of the Notes*” for a description of the manner in which Notes will be issued. Registered Notes are subject to certain restrictions on transfer, see “*Subscription and Sale and Transfer and Selling Restrictions*”.

The Issuer has been rated Baa2 by Moody’s Investors Service Ltd (**Moody’s**) and BBB by Standard & Poor’s Credit Market Services Europe Limited (**S&P**). The Programme has been rated Baa2 by Moody’s and BBB by S&P. Each of Moody’s and S&P is established in the European Union and is registered under Regulation (EC) No. 1060/2009 (as amended) (the **CRA Regulation**). Notes issued under the Programme may be rated or unrated by either of the rating agencies referred to above. Where a Tranche of Notes is rated, such rating will be disclosed in the applicable Final Terms (or applicable Pricing Supplement, in the case of Exempt Notes) and will not necessarily be the same as the rating assigned to the Programme by the relevant rating agency. A security rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be subject to suspension, reduction or withdrawal at any time by the assigning rating agency.

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*Arranger*

**The Royal Bank of Scotland**

*Dealers*

**BNP PARIBAS**

**Nordea**

**Deutsche Bank**

**SEB**

**The Royal Bank of Scotland**

The date of this Offering Circular is 11 September 2015

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This Offering Circular comprises a base prospectus in respect of all Notes other than Exempt Notes issued under the Programme for the purposes of Article 5.4 of Directive 2003/71/EC (as amended, including by Directive 2010/73/EU), and includes any relevant implementing measure in a relevant Member State of the European Economic Area (the Prospectus Directive).

The Issuer accepts responsibility for the information contained in this Offering Circular, the Final Terms and the Pricing Supplement for each Tranche of Notes issued under the Programme. To the best of the knowledge of the Issuer (having taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case) the information contained in this Offering Circular is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information. Certain information identified as such in this Offering Circular has been extracted from independent sources identified in this Offering Circular. The Issuer confirms that such information has been accurately reproduced and that, so far as it is aware and is able to ascertain from information published by the relevant sources, no facts have been omitted which would render the reproduced information inaccurate or misleading.

Copies of Final Terms and the Pricing Supplement will be available from the registered office of the Issuer and the specified office set out below of each of the Paying Agents (as defined below). In addition, copies of each Final Terms relating to Notes which are either admitted to trading on the London Stock Exchange's Regulated Market or offered in the United Kingdom in circumstances where a prospectus is required to be published under the Prospectus Directive will be available at the website of the Regulatory News Service operated by the London Stock Exchange.

This Offering Circular is to be read in conjunction with all documents which are deemed to be incorporated herein by reference (see "*Documents Incorporated by Reference*"). This Offering Circular shall be read and construed on the basis that such documents are incorporated and form part of this Offering Circular.

The Dealers have not independently verified the information contained herein. Accordingly, no representation, warranty or undertaking, express or implied, is made and no responsibility or liability is accepted by the Dealers as to the accuracy or completeness of the information contained or incorporated in this Offering Circular or any other information provided by the Issuer in connection with the Programme. No Dealer accepts any liability in relation to the information contained or incorporated by reference in this Offering Circular or any other information provided by the Issuer in connection with the Programme.

No person is or has been authorised by the Issuer to give any information or to make any representation not contained in or not consistent with this Offering Circular or any other information supplied in connection with the Programme or the Notes and, if given or made, such information or representation must not be relied upon as having been authorised by the Issuer or any of the Dealers.

Neither this Offering Circular nor any other information supplied in connection with the Programme or any Notes (i) is intended to provide the basis of any credit or other evaluation or (ii) should be considered as a recommendation by the Issuer or any of the Dealers that any recipient of this Offering Circular or any other information supplied in connection with the Programme or any Notes should purchase any Notes. Each investor contemplating purchasing any Notes should make its own independent investigation of the financial condition and affairs, and its own appraisal of the creditworthiness, of the Issuer. Neither this Offering Circular nor any other information supplied in connection with the Programme or the issue of any Notes constitutes an offer or invitation by or on behalf of the Issuer or any of the Dealers to any person to subscribe for or to purchase any Notes.

Neither the delivery of this Offering Circular nor the offering, sale or delivery of any Notes shall in any circumstances imply that the information contained herein concerning the Issuer is correct at any time subsequent to the date hereof or that any other information supplied in connection with the Programme is correct as of any time subsequent to the date indicated in the document containing the same. The Dealers expressly do not undertake to review the financial condition or affairs of the Issuer during the life of the Programme or to advise any investor in the Notes of any information coming to their attention.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION RELATING TO THE USE OF THIS OFFERING CIRCULAR AND OFFERS OF NOTES GENERALLY

This Offering Circular does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any Notes in any jurisdiction to any person to whom it is unlawful to make the offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction. The distribution of this Offering Circular and the offer or sale of Notes may be restricted by law in certain jurisdictions. The Issuer and the Dealers do not represent that this Offering Circular may be lawfully distributed, or that any Notes may be lawfully offered, in compliance with any applicable registration or other requirements in any such jurisdiction, or pursuant to an exemption available thereunder, or assume any responsibility for facilitating any such distribution or offering. In particular, no action has been taken by the Issuer or the Dealers which is intended to permit a public offering of any Notes or distribution of this Offering Circular in any jurisdiction where action for that purpose is required. Accordingly, no Notes may be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, and neither this Offering Circular nor any advertisement or other offering material may be distributed or published in any jurisdiction, except under circumstances that will result in compliance with any applicable laws and regulations. Persons into whose possession this Offering Circular or any Notes may come must inform themselves about, and observe, any such restrictions on the distribution of this Offering Circular and the offering and sale of Notes. In particular, there are restrictions on the distribution of this Offering Circular and the offer or sale of Notes in the United States, the European Economic Area (including the United Kingdom, Italy and Sweden) and Japan, see “*Subscription and Sale and Transfer and Selling Restrictions*”.

This Offering Circular has been prepared on a basis that would permit an offer of Notes with a denomination of less than €100,000 (or its equivalent in any other currency) only in circumstances where there is an exemption from the obligation under the Prospectus Directive to publish a prospectus. As a result, any offer of Notes in any Member State of the European Economic Area which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a Relevant Member State) must be made pursuant to an exemption under the Prospectus Directive, as implemented in that Relevant Member State, from the requirement to publish a prospectus for offers of Notes. Accordingly any person making or intending to make an offer of Notes in that Relevant Member State may only do so in circumstances in which no obligation arises for the Issuer or any Dealer to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive, in each case, in relation to such offer. Neither the Issuer nor any Dealer have authorised, nor do they authorise, the making of any offer of Notes in circumstances in which an obligation arises for the Issuer or any Dealer to publish or supplement a prospectus for such offer.

In making an investment decision, investors must rely on their own examination of the Issuer and the terms of the Notes being offered, including the merits and risks involved. The Notes have not been approved or disapproved by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or any other securities commission or other regulatory authority in the United States, nor have the foregoing authorities approved this Offering Circular or confirmed the accuracy or determined the adequacy of the information contained in this Offering Circular. Any representation to the contrary is unlawful.

None of the Dealers or the Issuer makes any representation to any investor in the Notes regarding the legality of its investment under any applicable laws. Any investor in the Notes should be able to bear the economic risk of an investment in the Notes for an indefinite period of time.

The Notes may not be a suitable investment for all investors. Each potential investor in the Notes must determine the suitability of that investment in light of its own circumstances. In particular, each potential investor may wish to consider, either on its own or with the help of its financial and other professional advisers, whether it:

- (i) has sufficient knowledge and experience to make a meaningful evaluation of the Notes, the merits and risks of investing in the Notes and the information contained or incorporated by reference in this Offering Circular or any applicable supplement;

- (ii) has access to, and knowledge of, appropriate analytical tools to evaluate, in the context of its particular financial situation, an investment in the Notes and the impact the Notes will have on its overall investment portfolio;
- (iii) has sufficient financial resources and liquidity to bear all of the risks of an investment in the Notes, including Notes where the currency for principal or interest payments is different from the potential investor's currency;
- (iv) understands thoroughly the terms of the Notes and is familiar with the behaviour of financial markets; and
- (v) is able to evaluate possible scenarios for economic, interest rate and other factors that may affect its investment and its ability to bear the applicable risks.

Legal investment considerations may restrict certain investments. The investment activities of certain investors are subject to legal investment laws and regulations, or review or regulation by certain authorities. Each potential investor should consult its legal advisers to determine whether and to what extent (1) Notes are legal investments for it, (2) Notes can be used as collateral for various types of borrowing and (3) other restrictions apply to its purchase or pledge of any Notes. Financial institutions should consult their legal advisors or the appropriate regulators to determine the appropriate treatment of Notes under any applicable risk-based capital or similar rules.

#### U.S. INFORMATION

This Offering Circular is being submitted on a confidential basis in the United States to a limited number of QIBs or Institutional Accredited Investors (each as defined under “*Form of the Notes*”) for informational use solely in connection with the consideration of the purchase of certain Notes issued under the Programme. Its use for any other purpose in the United States is not authorised. It may not be copied or reproduced in whole or in part nor may it be distributed or any of its contents disclosed to anyone other than the prospective investors to whom it is originally submitted.

The Notes in bearer form are subject to U.S. tax law requirements and may not be offered, sold or delivered to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons, or within the United States or its possessions or to United States persons, except in certain transactions permitted by U.S. tax regulations. Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them by the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

Registered Notes may be offered or sold within the United States only to QIBs or to Institutional Accredited Investors, in either case in transactions exempt from registration under the Securities Act in reliance on Rule 144A under the Securities Act (Rule 144A) or any other applicable exemption.

Each U.S. purchaser of Registered Notes is hereby notified that the offer and sale of any Registered Notes to it may be being made in reliance upon the exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act provided by Rule 144A. Prospective purchasers are hereby notified that sellers of the Notes may be relying on the exemption from the provisions of Section 5 of the Securities Act provided by Rule 144A.

Purchasers of Definitive IAI Registered Notes will be required to execute and deliver an IAI Investment Letter (as defined under “*Terms and Conditions of the Notes*”). Each purchaser or holder of Definitive IAI Registered Notes, Notes represented by a Rule 144A Global Note or any Notes issued in registered form in exchange or substitution therefor (together Legended Notes) will be deemed, by its acceptance or purchase of any such Legended Notes, to have made certain representations and agreements intended to restrict the resale or other transfer of such Notes as set out in “*Subscription and Sale and Transfer and Selling Restrictions*”. Unless otherwise stated, terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them in “*Form of the Notes*”.

## NOTICE TO NEW HAMPSHIRE RESIDENTS

NEITHER THE FACT THAT A REGISTRATION STATEMENT OR AN APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE HAS BEEN FILED UNDER CHAPTER 421-B OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE REVISED STATUTES WITH THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE NOR THE FACT THAT A SECURITY IS EFFECTIVELY REGISTERED OR A PERSON IS LICENSED IN THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE CONSTITUTES A FINDING BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE THAT ANY DOCUMENT FILED UNDER CHAPTER 421-B IS TRUE, COMPLETE AND NOT MISLEADING. NEITHER ANY SUCH FACT NOR THE FACT THAT AN EXEMPTION OR EXCEPTION IS AVAILABLE FOR A SECURITY OR A TRANSACTION MEANS THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE HAS PASSED IN ANY WAY UPON THE MERITS OR QUALIFICATIONS OF, OR RECOMMENDED OR GIVEN APPROVAL TO, ANY PERSON, SECURITY OR TRANSACTION. IT IS UNLAWFUL TO MAKE, CAUSE TO BE MADE, TO ANY PROSPECTIVE PURCHASER, CUSTOMER OR CLIENT ANY REPRESENTATION INCONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

## AVAILABLE INFORMATION

To permit compliance with Rule 144A in connection with any resales or other transfers of Notes that are “restricted securities” within the meaning of the Securities Act, the Issuer has undertaken in a deed poll dated 7 October 2011 (the Deed Poll) to furnish, upon the request of a holder of such Notes or any beneficial interest therein, to such holder or to a prospective purchaser designated by him, the information required to be delivered under Rule 144A(d)(4) under the Securities Act if, at the time of the request, any of the Notes remain outstanding as “restricted securities” within the meaning of Rule 144(a)(3) of the Securities Act, the Issuer is neither a reporting company under Section 13 or 15(d) of the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, (the Exchange Act) nor exempt from reporting pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) thereunder.

## SERVICE OF PROCESS AND ENFORCEMENT OF CIVIL LIABILITIES

The Issuer is a corporation organised under the laws of Sweden. All of the officers and directors named herein reside outside the United States and all or a substantial portion of the assets of the Issuer and of such officers and directors are located outside the United States. As a result, it may not be possible for investors to effect service of process outside Sweden upon the Issuer or such persons, or to enforce judgments against them obtained in courts outside Sweden predicated upon civil liabilities of the Issuer or such directors and officers under laws other than Swedish law, including any judgment predicated upon United States federal securities laws. The Issuer has been advised by Mannheimer Swartling, its counsel, that there is doubt as to the enforceability in Sweden in original actions or in actions for enforcement of judgments of United States courts of civil liabilities predicated solely upon the federal securities laws of the United States.

## PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The Issuer maintains its financial books and records and prepares its financial statements in Swedish krona in accordance with IFRS.

All references in this document to SEK refer to Swedish krona, to DKK refer to Danish krone, to Sterling and £ refer to pounds sterling, to USD, U.S. dollars and U.S.\$ refer to United States dollars and to euro and € refer to the currency introduced at the start of the third stage of European economic and monetary union pursuant to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, as amended.

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### STABILISATION

**In connection with the issue of any Tranche of Notes, one or more relevant Dealers acting as stabilisation manager (the Stabilisation Manager(s)) (or persons acting on behalf of any Stabilisation Manager(s)) may over-allot Notes or effect transactions with a view to supporting the market price of the Notes at a level higher than that which might otherwise prevail. However, there is no assurance that the Stabilisation Manager(s) (or persons acting on behalf of a Stabilisation Manager) will undertake stabilisation action. Any stabilisation action or over-allotment may begin on or after the date on which adequate public disclosure of the terms of the offer of the relevant Tranche of Notes is made and, if begun, may be ended at any time, but it must end no later than the earlier of 30 days after the issue date of the relevant Tranche of Notes and 60 days after the date of the allotment of the relevant Tranche of Notes. Any stabilisation action or over-allotment must be conducted by the relevant Stabilisation Manager(s) (or persons acting on behalf of any Stabilisation Manager(s)) in accordance with all applicable laws and rules.**

## DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAMME

*The following overview does not purport to be complete and is taken from, and is qualified in its entirety by, the remainder of this Offering Circular and, in relation to the terms and conditions of any particular Tranche of Notes, the applicable Final Terms (or applicable Pricing Supplement, in the case of Exempt Notes).*

*This Description constitutes a general description of the Programme for the purposes of Article 22.5(3) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 809/2004 implementing the Prospective Directive (the **Prospectus Regulation**).*

*Words and expressions defined in “Form of the Notes” and “Terms and Conditions of the Notes” below shall have the same meanings in this overview.*

**Issuer:** Swedish Match AB (publ).

**Description:** Global Medium Term Note Programme.

**Arranger:** The Royal Bank of Scotland plc.

**Dealers:** BNP Paribas  
Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch  
Nordea Bank AB (publ)  
Nordea Bank Danmark A/S  
Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken AB (publ)  
The Royal Bank of Scotland plc

and any other Dealers appointed in accordance with the Programme Agreement.

**Certain Restrictions:** Each issue of Notes denominated in a currency in respect of which particular laws, guidelines, regulations, restrictions or reporting requirements apply will only be issued in circumstances which comply with such laws, guidelines, regulations, restrictions or reporting requirements from time to time (see “*Subscription and Sale and Transfer and Selling Restrictions*”) including the following restrictions applicable at the date of this Offering Circular.

**Notes having a maturity of less than one year**

Notes having a maturity of less than one year will, if the proceeds of the issue are accepted in the United Kingdom, constitute deposits for the purposes of the prohibition on accepting deposits contained in section 19 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 unless they are issued to a limited class of professional investors and have a denomination of at least £100,000 or its equivalent (see “*Subscription and Sale and Transfer and Selling Restrictions*”).

**Issuing and Principal Paying Agent:** Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch.

**Registrars:** Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas and Deutsche Bank Luxembourg S.A.

**Programme Size:** Up to €1,500,000,000 (or its equivalent in other currencies calculated as described in the Programme Agreement) outstanding at any time. The Issuer may increase the amount of the Programme in accordance with the terms of the Programme Agreement.

<b>Distribution:</b>	Notes may be distributed by way of private or public placement and in each case on a syndicated or non-syndicated basis.
<b>Currencies:</b>	Subject to any applicable legal or regulatory restrictions, any currency agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer.
<b>Maturities:</b>	Such maturities as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer, subject to such minimum or maximum maturities as may be allowed or required from time to time by the relevant central bank (or equivalent body) or any laws or regulations applicable to the Issuer or the relevant Specified Currency.
<b>Issue Price:</b>	Notes will be issued on a fully-paid basis and at an issue price which is at par or at a discount to, or premium over, par.
<b>Form of Notes:</b>	The Notes will be issued in bearer or registered form as described in “ <i>Form of the Notes</i> ”. Registered Notes will not be exchangeable for Bearer Notes and <i>vice versa</i> .
<b>Fixed Rate Notes:</b>	Fixed interest will be payable on such date or dates as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer and on redemption and will be calculated on the basis of such Day Count Fraction as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer.
<b>Floating Rate Notes:</b>	<p>Floating Rate Notes will bear interest at a rate determined</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) on the same basis as the floating rate under a notional interest rate swap transaction in the relevant Specified Currency governed by an agreement incorporating the 2006 ISDA Definitions as published by the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc., and as amended and updated as at the Issue Date of the first Tranche of the Notes of the relevant Series; or</li> <li>(ii) on the basis of a reference rate set out in the applicable Final Terms (or, in the case of Exempt Notes, the applicable Pricing Supplement).</li> </ul> <p>The margin (if any) relating to such floating rate will be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer for each Series of Floating Rate Notes.</p> <p>Floating Rate Notes may also have a maximum interest rate, a minimum interest rate or both.</p> <p>Interest on Floating Rate Notes in respect of each Interest Period, as agreed prior to issue by the Issuer and the relevant Dealer, will be payable on such Interest Payment Dates, and will be calculated on the basis of such Day Count Fraction, as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer.</p>
<b>Zero Coupon Notes:</b>	Zero Coupon Notes will be offered and sold at a discount to their nominal amount and will not bear interest.
<b>Exempt Notes:</b>	The Issuer may agree with any Dealer that Exempt Notes may be issued in a form not contemplated by the Terms and Conditions of the Notes, in which event the relevant provisions will be included in the applicable Pricing Supplement.



**Redemption:** The applicable Final Terms (or applicable Pricing Supplement, in the case of Exempt Notes) will indicate either that the relevant Notes cannot be redeemed prior to their stated maturity (other than for taxation reasons or following an Event of Default) or that such Notes will be redeemable at the option of the Issuer and/or the Noteholders upon giving notice to the Noteholders or the Issuer, as the case may be, on a date or dates specified prior to such stated maturity and at a price or prices and on such other terms as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer.

In addition, if Change of Control Put is specified as being applicable in the applicable Final Terms (or applicable Pricing Supplement, in the case of Exempt Notes), the Notes may be redeemed before their stated maturity at the option of the Noteholders in the circumstances described in Condition 7(d)(ii).

Notes having a maturity of less than one year are subject to restrictions on their denomination and distribution, see “*Certain Restrictions – Notes having a maturity of less than one year*”.

**Denomination of Notes:** Notes will be issued in such denominations as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer save that the minimum denomination of each Note will be such amount as may be allowed or required from time to time by the relevant central bank (or equivalent body) or any laws or regulations applicable to the relevant Specified Currency, see “*Certain Restrictions – Notes having a maturity of less than one year*”, and save that the minimum denomination of each Note admitted to trading on a regulated market within the European Economic Area or offered to the public in a Member State of the European Economic Area in circumstances which would otherwise require the publication of a prospectus under the Prospectus Directive will be €100,000 (or, if the Notes are denominated in a currency other than euro, the equivalent amount in such currency).

Unless otherwise stated in the applicable Final Terms (or applicable Pricing Supplement, in the case of Exempt Notes), the minimum denomination of each Definitive IAI Registered Note will be U.S.\$500,000 or its approximate equivalent in other Specified Currencies.

**Taxation:** All payments in respect of the Notes will be made without deduction for or on account of withholding taxes imposed within any Tax Jurisdiction, subject as provided in Condition 8. In the event that any such deduction is made, the Issuer will, save in certain limited circumstances provided in Condition 8, be required to pay additional amounts to cover the amounts so deducted.

**Negative Pledge:** The terms of the Notes will contain a negative pledge provision as further described in Condition 4.

**Cross Default:** The terms of the Notes will contain a cross default provision as further described in Condition 10.

**Status of the Notes:** The Notes will constitute direct, unconditional, unsubordinated and, subject to the provisions of Condition 4, unsecured obligations of the Issuer and will rank *pari passu* among themselves and (save for certain obligations required to be preferred by law) equally with all other unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the Issuer, including, for the avoidance of doubt, any unsubordinated and unsecured guarantee provided by the Issuer, from time to time outstanding.

- Rating:** Series of Notes issued under the Programme may be rated or unrated. Where a Series of Notes is rated, such rating will be disclosed in the applicable Final Terms (or applicable Pricing Supplement, in the case of Exempt Notes) and will not necessarily be the same as the ratings assigned to the Programme. A security rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be subject to suspension, reduction or withdrawal at any time by the assigning rating agency.
- Listing:** Application has been made for Notes (other than Exempt Notes) issued under the Programme to be listed on the London Stock Exchange. Exempt Notes may be listed or admitted to trading, as the case may be, on other or further stock exchanges or markets agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer in relation to each Series.
- Exempt Notes which are neither listed nor admitted to trading on any market may also be issued.
- The applicable Final Terms (or applicable Pricing Supplement, in the case of Exempt Notes) will state whether or not the relevant Notes are to be listed and, if so, on which stock exchange(s).
- Governing Law:** The Notes and any non-contractual obligations arising out of or in connection with the Notes will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, English law.
- Selling Restrictions:** There are restrictions on the offer, sale and transfer of the Notes in the United States, the European Economic Area (including the United Kingdom, Italy and Sweden), Japan and such other restrictions as may be required in connection with the offering and sale of a particular Tranche of Notes, see “*Subscription and Sale and Transfer and Selling Restrictions*”.

## **RISK FACTORS**

*The Issuer believes that the following factors may affect its ability to fulfil its obligations under Notes issued under the Programme. All of these factors are contingencies which may or may not occur and the Issuer is not in a position to express a view on the likelihood of any such contingency occurring.*

*In addition, factors which are material for the purpose of assessing the market risks associated with Notes issued under the Programme are also described below.*

*The Issuer believes that the factors described below represent the principal risks inherent in investing in Notes issued under the Programme, but the inability of the Issuer to pay interest, principal or other amounts on or in connection with any Notes may occur for other reasons which may not be considered significant risks by the Issuer based on information currently available to it or which it may not currently be able to anticipate. Prospective investors should also read the detailed information set out elsewhere in this Offering Circular and reach their own views prior to making any investment decision.*

### **Factors that may affect the Issuer's ability to fulfil its obligations under Notes issued under the Programme**

#### ***The markets for the Issuer's products are highly competitive***

The Issuer faces intense competition in all of its markets and for each of its products and such competition may increase in the future. In order to be successful it must develop products and brands that resonate with changing customer trends, and price and promote its brands competitively. Restrictions on advertising and promotion may, however, make it more difficult to counteract loss of consumer loyalty. Competitors may develop and promote new products which could be successful, and could thereby have an adverse effect on the Issuer's results of operations.

#### ***Some of the Issuer's businesses are subject to volume decline***

Developed markets for some tobacco products have been generally declining in the past decades. Increasing health concerns related to tobacco smoking followed by increasingly severe restrictions on smoking in public places and in the workplace is evident in many countries. The Issuer's smoking tobacco business is, in large, limited to its U.S. cigar business, but the Issuer is also indirectly subject to this risk through its 49 per cent. ownership in Scandinavian Tobacco Group (STG).

#### ***The Issuer is exposed to changes in regulations, taxes and developments within the political and economic environment***

Tobacco products are subject to substantial taxes in most countries where the Issuer has significant sales. In many of those countries, the taxes on tobacco are generally increasing but the rate of increase varies between different types of tobacco products. Increased excise taxes or changes in relative tax rates for different tobacco products may impact overall sales volumes for the Issuer's products. The Issuer also has operations in emerging or developing markets such as Brazil, the Dominican Republic, Indonesia and the Philippines. The Issuer's results of operations and financial condition are indirectly influenced by the economic, regulatory and geopolitical situations in the countries in which it has operations, which can be unpredictable and are outside of the control of the Issuer.

Regulatory and fiscal changes related to tobacco and other taxes, as well as to the marketing, sale and consumption of tobacco products, in the countries where the Group is operating may have an adverse effect on the Issuer's results of operations.

Authorities in many countries have implemented, and continue to implement, various forms of restrictions on sales, marketing and usage of tobacco products. Currently in the U.S., the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (the **FDA**) is granted the regulatory authority over all tobacco products. The FDA has started regulating cigarettes, roll your own and smokeless tobacco products, but its regulation of cigars is being developed and is currently not in force. In the EU, a new Tobacco Products Directive was approved in 2014 and shall be

implemented into Member State's national law during 2016. Such regulations, and any future increases in the regulation of the tobacco industry in the U.S., the EU or elsewhere, could affect the Issuer negatively.

***The Issuer is exposed to certain financial, exchange rate and interest rate risks***

The Issuer has a substantial part of its production and sales in the U.S. and also operations in the Dominican Republic, Brazil, Norway and European Monetary Union member countries. Consequently, changes in the exchange rates of the euro, Norwegian krona, Brazilian real, the Dominican Peso and, in particular, the U.S. dollar may adversely affect the Issuer's results of operations, cash flow, financial condition or relative price competitiveness in the future.

Such effects may occur both in local currencies and when such local currencies are translated into Swedish currency for purposes of financial reporting.

The Issuer applies a cautious and conservative policy towards exposures to financial risks, which is updated yearly by its Board of Directors.

Refinancing risk is the risk of not being able to meet the need for future funding. To avoid this risk all the Group's maturing loans shall be able to be repaid by the operating cash flow and undrawn committed credit facility. Furthermore there shall be a liquidity reserve consisting of available cash and cash equivalents as well as unutilised committed credit facilities. The aim of the Group is to have an even maturity structure of its debt portfolio and the objective for interest rate fixing periods is to achieve an even and low cost of interest. Since the proportion of loans with variable interest rates is approximately 6 per cent. of the total debt portfolio, the cash-flow interest rate risk is considered to be low. Interest rate swaps and currency swaps are used mainly to convert the Group's borrowing into SEK and fixed interest rates.

The Issuer aims to limit credit risk through transactions only to be made for derivative instruments with counterparties having high credit ratings. The Issuer's exposure to credit risks in customer related receivables is low considering the diverse customer portfolio.

***Legal Risk***

The Issuer is involved in legal and regulatory proceedings including pending lawsuits related to alleged injuries caused by tobacco products. There can be no assurance that the Issuer's defences will be successful in trial and substantial costs may be incurred in defending lawsuits. Although management cannot in any meaningful way estimate the damages that might be awarded, if any, in any ongoing or anticipated disputes, such lawsuits individually or in the aggregate, could have an adverse effect on the Issuer's results of operations.

***Risks inherent in calculating the Issuer's provision for pensions and similar obligations***

As of 31 December 2014 the Issuer had provision for pensions and similar obligations net of SEK 1,815 million before taxes. Calculating pension and similar obligations requires management to make various assumptions, such as assumptions on discount rate, expected return on plan assets and rate of compensation increase. Actual results could differ from the assumptions made and assumptions may change in future reporting. This could cause the calculated obligations to increase and could have a negative effect on the Issuer's result of operations. The Issuer may also be required to contribute additional amounts to its post-employment benefit schemes which would affect the Issuer's cash flow negatively.

**Factors which are material for the purpose of assessing the market risks associated with Notes issued under the Programme**

***Risks related to the structure of a particular issue of Notes***

A range of Notes may be issued under the Programme. A number of these Notes may have features which contain particular risks for potential investors. Set out below is a description of the most common such features:

*If the Issuer has the right to redeem any Notes at its option, this may limit the market value of the Notes concerned and an investor may not be able to reinvest the redemption proceeds in a manner which achieves a similar effective return*

An optional redemption feature is likely to limit the market value of Notes. During any period when the Issuer may elect to redeem Notes, the market value of those Notes generally will not rise substantially above the price at which they can be redeemed. This also may be true prior to any redemption period.

The Issuer may be expected to redeem Notes when its cost of borrowing is lower than the interest rate on the Notes. At those times, an investor generally would not be able to reinvest the redemption proceeds at an effective interest rate as high as the interest rate on the Notes being redeemed and may only be able to do so at a significantly lower rate. Potential investors should consider reinvestment risk in the light of other investments available at that time.

*If the Issuer has the right to convert the interest rate on any Notes from a fixed rate to a floating rate, or vice versa, this may affect the secondary market and the market value of the Notes concerned*

Fixed/Floating Rate Notes are Notes which may bear interest at a rate that converts from a fixed rate to a floating rate, or from a floating rate to a fixed rate. Where the Issuer has the right to effect such a conversion, this will affect the secondary market and the market value of the Notes since the Issuer may be expected to convert the rate when it is likely to produce a lower overall cost of borrowing. If the Issuer converts from a fixed rate to a floating rate in such circumstances, the spread on the Fixed/Floating Rate Notes may be less favourable than then prevailing spreads on comparable Floating Rate Notes tied to the same reference rate. In addition, the new floating rate at any time may be lower than the rates on other Notes. If the Issuer converts from a floating rate to a fixed rate in such circumstances, the fixed rate may be lower than then prevailing market rates.

*Notes which are issued at a substantial discount or premium may experience price volatility in response to changes in market interest rates*

The market values of securities issued at a substantial discount (such as Zero Coupon Notes) or premium to their principal amount tend to fluctuate more in relation to general changes in interest rates than do prices for more conventional interest-bearing securities. Generally, the longer the remaining term of such securities, the greater the price volatility as compared to more conventional interest-bearing securities with comparable maturities.

### ***Risks related to Notes generally***

Set out below is a description of material risks relating to the Notes generally:

*The conditions of the Notes contain provisions which may permit their modification without the consent of all investors*

The conditions of the Notes contain provisions for calling meetings of Noteholders to consider matters affecting their interests generally. These provisions permit defined majorities to bind all Noteholders including Noteholders who did not attend and vote at the relevant meeting and Noteholders who voted in a manner contrary to the majority.

The conditions of the Notes also provide that the Agent and the Issuer may agree, without the consent of the Noteholders or Couponholders, to:

- (a) certain modifications of the Agency Agreement which are not prejudicial to the interests of the Noteholders; or
- (b) any modification of the Notes, the Coupons or the Agency Agreement which is of a formal, minor or technical nature or is made to correct a manifest or proven error or to comply with mandatory provisions of the law.

Any such modification shall be binding on the Noteholders and the Couponholders.

*The Notes may be subject to withholding taxes in circumstances where the Issuer is not obliged to make gross up payments and this would result in holders receiving less interest than expected and could significantly adversely affect their return on the Notes*

Under Council Directive 2003/48/EC on the taxation of savings income in the form of interest payments (the **Savings Directive**), EU Member States are required to provide to the tax authorities of other EU Member States details of certain payments of interest or similar income paid or secured by a person established in an EU Member State to or for the benefit of an individual resident in another EU Member State or certain limited types of entities established in another EU Member State.

For a transitional period, Austria is instead required (unless during that period it elects otherwise) to operate a withholding system in relation to such payments (subject to a procedure whereby, on meeting certain conditions, the beneficial owner of the interest or other income may request that no tax be withheld). The end of the transitional period is dependent upon the conclusion of certain other agreements relating to information exchange with certain other countries. A number of non-EU countries and territories including Switzerland have adopted similar measures (a withholding system in the case of Switzerland).

On 24 March 2014, the Council of the European Union adopted a Council Directive (the **Amending Directive**) amending and broadening the scope of the requirements described above. The Amending Directive requires EU Member States to apply these new requirements from 1 January 2017 and if they were to take effect the changes would expand the range of payments covered by the Savings Directive, in particular to include additional types of income payable on securities. They would also expand the circumstances in which payments must be reported or subject to withholding. This approach would apply to payments made to, or secured for, persons, entities or legal arrangements (including trusts) where certain conditions are satisfied, and may in some cases apply where the person, entity or arrangement is established or effectively managed outside of the European Union.

However, the European Commission has proposed the repeal of the Savings Directive from 1 January 2017 in the case of Austria and from 1 January 2016 in the case of all other EU Member States (subject to on-going requirements to fulfil administrative obligations such as the reporting and exchange of information relating to, and accounting for withholding taxes on, payments made before those dates). This is to prevent overlap between the Savings Directive and a new automatic exchange of information regime to be implemented under Council Directive 2011/16/EU on Administrative Cooperation in the field of Taxation (as amended by Council Directive 2014/107/EU). The new regime under Council Directive 2011/16/EU (as amended) is in accordance with the Global Standard released by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development in July 2014. Council Directive 2011/16/EU (as amended) is generally broader in scope than the Savings Directive, although it does not impose withholding taxes. The proposal also provides that, if it proceeds, EU Member States will not be required to apply the new requirements of the Amending Directive.

If a payment were to be made or collected through an EU Member State which has opted for a withholding system and an amount of, or in respect of, tax were to be withheld from that payment, neither the Issuer nor any Paying Agent (as defined in the Conditions of the Notes) nor any other person would be obliged to pay additional amounts with respect to any Note as a result of the imposition of such withholding tax. The Issuer is required to maintain a Paying Agent in an EU Member State that is not obliged to withhold or deduct tax pursuant to the Savings Directive.

#### *U.S. Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act Withholding*

Whilst the Notes are in global form and held within Euroclear Bank SA/NV or Clearstream Banking, société anonyme (together the **ICSDs**), in all but the most remote circumstances, it is not expected that the new reporting regime and potential withholding tax imposed by sections 1471 through 1474 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (**FATCA**) will affect the amount of any payment received by the ICSDs (see *Taxation – Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act*). However, FATCA may affect payments made to custodians or intermediaries in the subsequent payment chain leading to the ultimate investor if any such custodian or intermediary generally is unable to receive payments free of FATCA withholding. It also may affect payment to any ultimate investor that is a financial institution that is not entitled to receive payments free of withholding under FATCA, or an ultimate investor that fails to provide its broker (or other custodian or intermediary from which it receives payment) with any information, forms, other documentation or consents that may be necessary

for the payments to be made free of FATCA withholding. Investors should choose the custodians or intermediaries with care (to ensure each is compliant with FATCA or other laws or agreements related to FATCA) and provide each custodian or intermediary with any information, forms, other documentation or consents that may be necessary for such custodian or intermediary to make a payment free of FATCA withholding. Investors should consult their own tax adviser to obtain a more detailed explanation of FATCA and how FATCA may affect them. The Issuer's obligations under the Notes are discharged once it has made payment to, or to the order of, the common depositary or common safekeeper for the ICSDs (as bearer of the Notes) and the Issuer has therefore no responsibility for any amount thereafter transmitted through the ICSDs and custodians or intermediaries. Further, foreign financial institutions in a jurisdiction which has entered into an intergovernmental agreement with the United States (an **IGA**) are generally not expected to be required to withhold under FATCA or an IGA (or any law implementing an IGA) from payments they make.

*The value of the Notes could be adversely affected by a change in English law or administrative practice*

The conditions of the Notes are based on English law in effect as at the date of this Offering Circular. No assurance can be given as to the impact of any possible judicial decision or change to English law or administrative practice after the date of this Offering Circular and any such change could materially adversely impact the value of any Notes affected by it.

*Investors who hold less than the minimum Specified Denomination may be unable to sell their Notes and may be adversely affected if definitive Notes are subsequently required to be issued*

In relation to any issue of Notes which have denominations consisting of a minimum Specified Denomination plus one or more higher integral multiples of another smaller amount, it is possible that such Notes may be traded in amounts in excess of the minimum Specified Denomination that are not integral multiples of such minimum Specified Denomination. In such a case a holder who, as a result of trading such amounts, holds an amount which is less than the minimum Specified Denomination in his account with the relevant clearing system would not be able to sell the remainder of such holding without first purchasing a principal amount of Notes at or in excess of the minimum Specified Denomination such that its holding amounts to a Specified Denomination. Further, a holder who, as a result of trading such amounts, holds an amount which is less than the minimum Specified Denomination in his account with the relevant clearing system at the relevant time may not receive a definitive Note in respect of such holding (should definitive Notes be printed) and would need to purchase a principal amount of Notes at or in excess of the minimum Specified Denomination such that its holding amounts to a Specified Denomination.

If such Notes in definitive form are issued, holders should be aware that definitive Notes which have a denomination that is not an integral multiple of the minimum Specified Denomination may be illiquid and difficult to trade.

### ***Risks related to the market generally***

Set out below is a description of material market risks, including liquidity risk, exchange rate risk, interest rate risk and credit risk:

*An active secondary market in respect of the Notes may never be established or may be illiquid and this would adversely affect the value at which an investor could sell his Notes*

Notes may have no established trading market when issued, and one may never develop. If a market does develop, it may not be very liquid. Therefore, investors may not be able to sell their Notes easily or at prices that will provide them with a yield comparable to similar investments that have a developed secondary market. This is particularly the case for Notes that are especially sensitive to interest rate, currency or market risks, are designed for specific investment objectives or strategies or have been structured to meet the investment requirements of limited categories of investors. These types of Notes generally would have a more limited secondary market and more price volatility than conventional debt securities. Illiquidity may have a severely adverse effect on the market value of Notes.

*If an investor holds Notes which are not denominated in the investor's home currency, he will be exposed to movements in exchange rates adversely affecting the value of his holding. In addition, the imposition of exchange controls in relation to any Notes could result in an investor not receiving payments on those Notes*

The Issuer will pay principal and interest on the Notes in the Specified Currency. This presents certain risks relating to currency conversions if an investor's financial activities are denominated principally in a currency or currency unit (the **Investor's Currency**) other than the Specified Currency. These include the risk that exchange rates may significantly change (including changes due to devaluation of the Specified Currency or revaluation of the Investor's Currency) and the risk that authorities with jurisdiction over the Investor's Currency may impose or modify exchange controls. An appreciation in the value of the Investor's Currency relative to the Specified Currency would decrease (1) the Investor's Currency equivalent yield on the Notes, (2) the Investor's Currency equivalent value of the principal payable on the Notes and (3) the Investor's Currency equivalent market value of the Notes.

Government and monetary authorities may impose (as some have done in the past) exchange controls that could adversely affect an applicable exchange rate or the ability of the Issuer to make payments in respect of the Notes. As a result, investors may receive less interest or principal than expected, or no interest or principal.

*The value of Fixed Rate Notes may be adversely affected by movements in market interest rates*

Investment in Fixed Rate Notes involves the risk that if market interest rates subsequently increase above the rate paid on the Fixed Rate Notes, this will adversely affect the value of the Fixed Rate Notes.

*Credit ratings assigned to the Issuer or any Notes may not reflect all the risks associated with an investment in those Notes*

One or more independent credit rating agencies may assign credit ratings to the Issuer or the Notes. The ratings may not reflect the potential impact of all risks related to structure, market, additional factors discussed above, and other factors that may affect the value of the Notes. A credit rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be revised, suspended or withdrawn by the rating agency at any time.

In general, European regulated investors are restricted under the CRA Regulation from using credit ratings for regulatory purposes, unless such ratings are issued by a credit rating agency established in the European Union (the **EU**) and registered under the CRA Regulation (and such registration has not been withdrawn or suspended), subject to transitional provisions that apply in certain circumstances whilst the registration application is pending. Such general restriction will also apply in the case of credit ratings issued by non- EU credit rating agencies, unless the relevant credit ratings are endorsed by an EU-registered credit rating agency or the relevant non-EU rating agency is certified in accordance with the CRA Regulation (and such endorsement action or certification, as the case may be, has not been withdrawn or suspended). Certain information with respect to the credit rating agencies and ratings is set out on the cover of this Offering Circular.



## DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

The following documents, which have previously been filed with the Financial Conduct Authority, shall be incorporated in, and form part of, this Offering Circular:

- (i) the auditors' report and audited consolidated annual financial statements of the Issuer for the financial years ended 31 December 2013 and 31 December 2014;
- (ii) the unaudited consolidated interim financial statements of the Issuer for the six months ended 30 June 2015, as set out at pages 14 to 23 (both pages inclusive) of the Q2 2015 Half Year Report; and
- (iii) the Terms and Conditions of the Notes contained in the previous Offering Circulars dated 19 April 2010 (at pages 33 to 59 (both inclusive)), 7 October 2011 (at pages 34 to 60 (both inclusive)), 7 November 2012 (at pages 28 to 54 (both inclusive)) and 26 August 2014 (at pages 37 to 64 (both inclusive)).

Following the publication of this Offering Circular a supplement may be prepared by the Issuer and approved by the UK Listing Authority in accordance with Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive. Statements contained in any such supplement (or contained in any document incorporated by reference therein) shall, to the extent applicable (whether expressly, by implication or otherwise), be deemed to modify or supersede statements contained in this Offering Circular or in a document which is incorporated by reference in this Offering Circular. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not, except as so modified or superseded, constitute a part of this Offering Circular.

Copies of documents incorporated by reference in this Offering Circular can be obtained from the registered office of the Issuer, from the specified office of the Paying Agent for the time being in London and at the website of the Regulatory News Service operated by the London Stock Exchange at [www.londonstockexchange.com/exchange/news/market-news/market-news-home.html](http://www.londonstockexchange.com/exchange/news/market-news/market-news-home.html).

Any documents themselves incorporated by reference in the documents incorporated by reference in this Offering Circular shall not form part of this Offering Circular.

The Issuer will, in the event of any significant new factor, material mistake or inaccuracy relating to information included in this Offering Circular which is capable of affecting the assessment of any Notes, prepare a supplement to this Offering Circular or publish a new Offering Circular for use in connection with any subsequent issue of Notes.

Any non-incorporated parts of a document referred to herein are either deemed not relevant for an investor or are otherwise covered elsewhere in this Offering Circular.

## FORM OF THE NOTES

*Any reference in this section to “applicable Final Terms” shall be deemed to include a reference to “applicable Pricing Supplement” where relevant.*

The Notes of each Series will be in either bearer form, with or without interest coupons attached, or registered form, without coupons attached. Bearer Notes will be issued outside the United States in reliance on Regulation S under the Securities Act (**Regulation S**) and Registered Notes will be issued both outside the United States in reliance on the exemption from registration provided by Regulation S and within the United States in reliance on Rule 144A or Regulation D under the Securities Act or otherwise in private transactions that are exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act.

### **Bearer Notes**

Each Tranche of Bearer Notes will be initially issued in the form of either a temporary global note (a **Temporary Bearer Global Note**) or a permanent global note (a **Permanent Bearer Global Note**) as indicated in the applicable Final Terms, which, in either case, will be delivered on or prior to the original issue date of the Tranche to a common depository (the **Common Depository**) for Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. (**Euroclear**) and Clearstream Banking, société anonyme (**Clearstream, Luxembourg**). Whilst any Bearer Note is represented by a Temporary Bearer Global Note, payments of principal, interest (if any) and any other amount payable in respect of the Notes due prior to the Exchange Date (as defined below) will be made against presentation of the Temporary Bearer Global Note only to the extent that certification (in a form to be provided) to the effect that the beneficial owners of interests in such Bearer Note are not U.S. persons or persons who have purchased for resale to any U.S. person, as required by U.S. Treasury regulations, has been received by Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg, as applicable, has given a like certification (based on the certifications it has received) to the Principal Paying Agent.

On and after the date (the **Exchange Date**) which is 40 days after a Temporary Bearer Global Note is issued, interests in such Temporary Bearer Global Note will be exchangeable (free of charge) upon a request as described therein either for (i) interests in a Permanent Bearer Global Note of the same Series or (ii) definitive Bearer Notes of the same Series with, where applicable, interest coupons and talons attached (as indicated in the applicable Final Terms and subject, in the case of definitive Bearer Notes, to such notice period as is specified in the applicable Final Terms), in each case against certification of beneficial ownership as described above unless such certification has already been given, provided that purchasers in the United States and certain U.S. persons will not be able to receive definitive Bearer Notes. The holder of a Temporary Bearer Global Note will not be entitled to collect any payment of interest, principal or other amount due on or after the Exchange Date unless, upon due certification, exchange of the Temporary Bearer Global Note for an interest in a Permanent Bearer Global Note or for definitive Bearer Notes is improperly withheld or refused. The Bearer Notes will be subject to certain restrictions on transfer set forth therein or will bear a legend regarding such restrictions.

Payments of principal, interest (if any) or any other amounts on a Permanent Bearer Global Note will be made through Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg against presentation or surrender (as the case may be) of the Permanent Bearer Global Note without any requirement for certification.

The applicable Final Terms will specify that a Permanent Bearer Global Note will be exchangeable (free of charge), in whole but not in part, for definitive Bearer Notes with, where applicable, interest coupons and talons attached upon either (i) not less than 60 days' written notice from Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg (acting on the instructions of any holder of an interest in such Permanent Bearer Global Note) to the Principal Paying Agent as described therein or (ii) only upon the occurrence of an Exchange Event. For these purposes, **Exchange Event** means that (i) an Event of Default (as defined in Condition 10) has occurred and is continuing, (ii) the Issuer has been notified that both Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg have been closed for business for a continuous period of 14 days (other than by reason of holiday, statutory or otherwise) or have announced an intention permanently to cease business or have in fact done so and no alternative clearing system is available or (iii) the Issuer has or will become obliged to pay additional amounts as provided for or referred to in Condition 8 which would not be required were the Notes represented by the Permanent Bearer Global Note in definitive form. The Issuer will promptly give notice to Noteholders in accordance with Condition 14 if an Exchange Event occurs. In the event of the occurrence of an Exchange Event, Euroclear and/or Clearstream,

Luxembourg (acting on the instructions of any holder of an interest in such Permanent Bearer Global Note) may give notice to the Principal Paying Agent requesting exchange and, in the event of the occurrence of an Exchange Event as described in (iii) above, the Issuer may also give notice to the Principal Paying Agent requesting exchange. Any such exchange shall occur not later than 45 days after the date of receipt of the first relevant notice by the Principal Paying Agent.

The exchange of a Permanent Bearer Global Note for definitive Bearer Notes upon notice from Euroclear and/or Clearstream (acting on the instructions of any holder) or at any time at the request of the Issuer should not be expressed to be applicable in the applicable Final Terms if the Notes are issued with a minimum Specified Denomination such as €100,000 (or its equivalent in another currency) plus one or more higher integral multiples of another smaller amount such as €1,000 (or its equivalent in another currency). Furthermore, such Specified Denomination construction is not permitted in relation to any issue of Notes which is to be represented on issue by a Temporary Bearer Global Note exchangeable for definitive Bearer Notes.

The following legend will appear on all Bearer Notes (other than Temporary Bearer Global Notes) and interest coupons relating to such Notes where TEFRA D is specified in the applicable Final Terms:

“ANY UNITED STATES PERSON WHO HOLDS THIS OBLIGATION WILL BE SUBJECT TO LIMITATIONS UNDER THE UNITED STATES INCOME TAX LAWS, INCLUDING THE LIMITATIONS PROVIDED IN SECTIONS 165(j) AND 1287(a) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.”

The sections referred to provide that United States holders, with certain exceptions, will not be entitled to deduct any loss on Bearer Notes, receipts or interest coupons and will not be entitled to capital gains treatment in respect of any gain on any sale, disposition, redemption or payment of principal in respect of such Notes or interest coupons.

Notes which are represented by a Bearer Global Note will only be transferable in accordance with the rules and procedures for the time being of Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg, as the case may be.

### **Registered Notes**

The Registered Notes of each Tranche offered and sold in reliance on Regulation S, which will be sold to non-U.S. persons outside the United States, will initially be represented by a global note in registered form (a **Regulation S Global Note**) which will be deposited with a custodian for, and registered in the name of a nominee of, DTC for the accounts of Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg. Prior to expiry of the distribution compliance period (as defined in Regulation S) applicable to each Tranche of Notes, beneficial interests in a Regulation S Global Note may not be offered or sold to, or for the account or benefit of, a U.S. person save as otherwise provided in Condition 2 and may not be held otherwise than through Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg and such Regulation S Global Note will bear a legend regarding such restrictions on transfer.

The Registered Notes of each Tranche may only be offered and sold in the United States or to U.S. persons in private transactions (i) to **qualified institutional buyers** within the meaning of Rule 144A under the Securities Act (**QIBs**) or (ii) to **accredited investors** (as defined in Rule 501(a)(1), (2), (3) or (7) under the Securities Act) that are institutions (**Institutional Accredited Investors**) and who execute and deliver an IAI Investment Letter (as defined in the “*Terms and Conditions of the Notes*”) in which they agree to purchase the Notes for their own account and not with a view to the distribution thereof. The Registered Notes of each Tranche sold to QIBs will be represented by a global note in registered form (a **Rule 144A Global Note** and, together with a Regulation S Global Note, the **Registered Global Notes**). Registered Global Notes will either (i) be deposited with a custodian for, and registered in the name of a nominee of, the Depository Trust Company (**DTC**) for its own account or for the accounts of Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg or (ii) be deposited with a common depository for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg, and registered in the name of a common nominee of, Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg, as specified in the applicable Final Terms.

Persons holding beneficial interests in Registered Global Notes will be entitled or required, as the case may be, under the circumstances described below, to receive physical delivery of definitive Notes in fully registered form.

The Registered Notes of each Tranche sold to Institutional Accredited Investors will be in definitive form, registered in the name of the holder thereof (**Definitive IAI Registered Notes**). Unless otherwise set forth in the applicable Final Terms, Definitive IAI Registered Notes will be issued only in minimum denominations of U.S.\$500,000 and integral multiples of U.S.\$1,000 in excess thereof (or the approximate equivalents in the applicable Specified Currency). Definitive IAI Registered Notes will be subject to the restrictions on transfer set forth therein and will bear the restrictive legend described under “*Subscription and Sale and Transfer and Selling Restrictions*”. Institutional Accredited Investors that hold Definitive IAI Registered Notes may not elect to hold such Notes through DTC, Euroclear or Clearstream Luxembourg, but transferees acquiring the Notes in transactions exempt from Securities Act registration pursuant to Regulation S or Rule 144A under the Securities Act (if available) may do so upon satisfaction of the requirements applicable to such transfer as described under “*Subscription and Sale and Transfer and Selling Restrictions*”. The Registered Global Notes and the Definitive IAI Registered Notes will be subject to certain restrictions on transfer set forth therein and will bear a legend regarding such restrictions.

Payments of principal, interest and any other amount in respect of the Registered Global Notes will, in the absence of provision to the contrary, be made to the person shown on the Register (as defined in Condition 6(d)) as the registered holder of the Registered Global Notes. None of the Issuer, any Paying Agent or the Registrar will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to or payments or deliveries made on account of beneficial ownership interests in the Registered Global Notes or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to such beneficial ownership interests.

Payments of principal, interest or any other amount in respect of the Registered Notes in definitive form will, in the absence of provision to the contrary, be made to the persons shown on the Register on the relevant Record Date (as defined in Condition 6(d)) immediately preceding the due date for payment in the manner provided in that Condition.

Interests in a Registered Global Note will be exchangeable (free of charge), in whole but not in part, for definitive Registered Notes without interest coupons or talons attached only upon the occurrence of an Exchange Event. For these purposes, **Exchange Event** means that (i) an Event of Default has occurred and is continuing, (ii) in the case of Notes registered in the name of a nominee for DTC, either DTC has notified the Issuer that it is unwilling or unable to continue to act as depository for the Notes and no alternative clearing system is available or DTC has ceased to constitute a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act, (iii) in the case of Notes registered in the name of a nominee for a common depository of Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg, the Issuer has been notified that both Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg have been closed for business for a continuous period of 14 days (other than by reason of holiday, statutory or otherwise) or have announced an intention permanently to cease business or have in fact done so and, in any such case, no alternative clearing system is available or (iv) the Issuer has or will become obliged to pay additional amounts as provided for or referred to in Condition 8 which would not be required were the Notes represented by the Registered Global Note in definitive form. The Issuer will promptly give notice to Noteholders in accordance with Condition 14 if an Exchange Event occurs. In the event of the occurrence of an Exchange Event, DTC, Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg (acting on the instructions of any holder of an interest in such Registered Global Note) may give notice to the Registrar requesting exchange and, in the event of the occurrence of an Exchange Event as described above, the Issuer may also give notice to the Registrar requesting exchange. Any such exchange shall occur not later than 10 days after the date of receipt of the first relevant notice by the Registrar.

### **Transfer of Interests**

Interests in a Registered Global Note may, subject to compliance with all applicable restrictions, be transferred to a person who wishes to hold such interest in another Registered Global Note or in the form of a Definitive IAI Registered Note and Definitive IAI Registered Notes may, subject to compliance with all applicable restrictions, be transferred to a person who wishes to hold such Notes in the form of an interest in a Registered Global Note. No beneficial owner of an interest in a Registered Global Note will be able to transfer such interest, except in accordance with the applicable procedures of DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg, in each case to the extent applicable. **Registered Notes are also subject to the restrictions on transfer set forth therein and will bear a legend regarding such restrictions – see “*Subscription and Sale and Transfer and Selling Restrictions*”.**

## General

Pursuant to the Agency Agreement (as defined under “*Terms and Conditions of the Notes*”), the Principal Paying Agent shall arrange that, where a further Tranche of Notes is issued which is intended to form a single Series with an existing Tranche of Notes at a point after the Issue Date of the further Tranche, the Notes of such further Tranche shall be assigned a common code and ISIN and, where applicable, a CUSIP and CINS number which are different from the common code, ISIN, CUSIP and CINS assigned to Notes of any other Tranche of the same Series until such time as the Tranches are consolidated and form a single Series, which shall not be prior to the expiry of the distribution compliance period applicable to the Notes of such Tranche. For so long as any of the Notes is represented by a Global Note held on behalf of Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg each person (other than Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg) who is for the time being shown in the records of Euroclear or of Clearstream, Luxembourg as the holder of a particular nominal amount of such Notes (in which regard any certificate or other document issued by Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg as to the nominal amount of such Notes standing to the account of any person shall be conclusive and binding for all purposes save in the case of manifest error) shall be treated by the Issuer and its agents as the holder of such nominal amount of such Notes for all purposes other than with respect to the payment of principal or interest on such nominal amount of such Notes, for which purpose the bearer of the relevant Global Note shall be treated by the Issuer and its agents as the holder of such nominal amount of such Notes in accordance with and subject to the terms of the relevant Global Note and the expressions **Noteholder** and **holder of Notes** and related expressions shall be construed accordingly.

So long as DTC or its nominee is the registered owner or holder of a Registered Global Note, DTC or such nominee, as the case may be, will be considered the sole owner or holder of the Notes represented by such Registered Global Note for all purposes under the Agency Agreement and such Notes except to the extent that in accordance with DTC’s published rules and procedures any ownership rights may be exercised by its participants or beneficial owners through participants.

Any reference herein to Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and/or DTC shall, whenever the context so permits, be deemed to include a reference to any additional or alternative clearing system specified in the applicable Final Terms.

A Note may be accelerated by the holder thereof in certain circumstances and in the manner described in Condition 10. In such circumstances, where any Note is still represented by a Global Note and the Global Note (or any part thereof) has become due and repayable in accordance with the Terms and Conditions of such Notes and payment in full of the amount due has not been made in accordance with the provisions of the Global Note then, unless within the period of seven days commencing on the relevant due date payment in full of the amount due in respect of the Global Note is received by the bearer or the registered holder, as the case may be, in accordance with the provisions of the Global Note, the Global Note will become void at 8.00 p.m. (London time) on such day. At the same time, holders of interests in such Global Note credited to their accounts with Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and/or DTC, as the case may be, will become entitled to proceed directly against the Issuer on the basis of statements of account provided by Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg and DTC on and subject to the terms of a deed of covenant (the **Deed of Covenant**) dated 11 September 2015 and executed by the Issuer. In addition, holders of interests in such Global Note credited to their accounts with DTC may require DTC to deliver Definitive Notes in registered form in exchange for their interest in such Global Note in accordance with DTC’s standard operating procedures.

The Issuer may agree with any Dealer that Notes may be issued in a form not contemplated by the Terms and Conditions of the Notes, in which event, other than where such Notes are Exempt Notes, a new Offering Circular will be made available which will describe the effect of the agreement reached in relation to such Notes.

## APPLICABLE FINAL TERMS

Set out below is the form of Final Terms which will be completed for each Tranche of Notes (other than Exempt Notes) issued under the Programme.

[ ]

### SWEDISH MATCH AB (publ)

Issue of [Aggregate Nominal Amount of Tranche] [Title of Notes]  
under the €1,500,000,000  
Global Medium Term Note Programme

### PART A – CONTRACTUAL TERMS

[Terms used herein shall be deemed to be defined as such for the purposes of the Conditions set forth in the Offering Circular dated 11 September 2015 [and the supplement[s] to it dated [ ] [and [ ]] (the **Offering Circular**) which [together] constitute[s] a base prospectus for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive. This document constitutes the Final Terms of the Notes described herein for the purposes of Article 5.4 of the Prospectus Directive and must be read in conjunction with the Offering Circular. Full information on the Issuer and the offer of the Notes is only available on the basis of the combination of these Final Terms and the Offering Circular. The Offering Circular has been published on the website of the London Stock Exchange through a regulatory information service ([www.londonstockexchange.com/exchange/news/market-news/market-news-home.html](http://www.londonstockexchange.com/exchange/news/market-news/market-news-home.html)).]

[Terms used herein shall be deemed to be defined as such for the purpose of the Conditions (the **Conditions**) set forth in the Offering Circular dated [ ] which are incorporated by reference in the Offering Circular dated 11 September 2015. This document constitutes the Final Terms of the Notes described herein for the purposes of Article 5.4 of the Prospectus Directive and must be read in conjunction with the Offering Circular dated 11 September 2015 [and the supplement[s] to it dated [ ] [and [ ]] (the **Offering Circular**) which [together] constitute[s] a base prospectus for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive, including the Conditions incorporated by reference in the Offering Circular. Full information on the Issuer and the offer of the Notes is only available on the basis of the combination of these Final Terms and the Offering Circular. The Offering Circular has been published on the website of the London Stock Exchange through a regulatory information service ([www.londonstockexchange.com/exchange/news/market-news/market-news-home.html](http://www.londonstockexchange.com/exchange/news/market-news/market-news-home.html)).]

- |    |  |   |
|----|--|---|
| 1. | Issuer:  | Swedish Match AB (publ)   |
| 2. | (i) Series Number:   | [ ]   |
|    | (ii) Tranche Number:   | [ ]   |
|    | (iii) Date on which the Notes will be consolidated and form a single Series: | [The Notes will be consolidated and form a single Series with [ ] on [the Issue Date/exchange of the Temporary Bearer Global Note for interests in the Permanent Bearer Global Note, as referred to in paragraph 22 below, which is expected to occur on or about [ ]] [Not Applicable] |
| 3. | Specified Currency or Currencies:  | [ ]   |
| 4. | Aggregate Nominal Amount:  |   |
|    | (i) Tranche:   | [ ]   |
|    | (ii) Series:   | [ ]   |

5. Issue Price of Tranche: [ ] per cent. of the Aggregate Nominal Amount  
[plus accrued interest from [ ]]
6. (i) Specified Denominations: [ ]  
(ii) Calculation Amount: [ ]
7. (i) Issue Date: [ ]  
(ii) Interest Commencement Date: [ ][Issue Date][Not Applicable]
8. Maturity Date: [ ][Interest Payment Date falling in or nearest to  
[ ]]
9. Interest Basis: [[ ] per cent. Fixed Rate]  
[[ ] +/- [ ] per cent. Floating Rate]  
[Zero Coupon]  
(see paragraph [14/15/16] below)
10. Redemption Basis: Subject to any purchase and cancellation or early redemption, the Notes will be redeemed on the Maturity Date at [100][ ] per cent. of their nominal amount
11. Change of Interest Basis: [ ][Not Applicable]
12. Put/Call Options: [Not Applicable]  
[Change of Control Put]  
[Investor Put]  
[Issuer Call]  
[(see paragraph [17/18/19] below)]
13. Date [Board] approval for issuance of Notes obtained: [ ][Not Applicable]

**PROVISIONS RELATING TO INTEREST (IF ANY) PAYABLE**

14. Fixed Rate Note Provisions [Applicable/Not Applicable]
- (i) Rate(s) of Interest: [ ] per cent. per annum payable in arrear on each Interest Payment Date
- (ii) Interest Payment Date(s): [ ] in each year up to and including the Maturity Date
- (iii) Fixed Coupon Amount(s): [ ] per Calculation Amount
- (iv) Broken Amount(s): [[ ] per Calculation Amount, payable on the Interest Payment Date falling [in/on] [ ][Not Applicable]
- (v) Day Count Fraction: [30/360][Actual/Actual (ICMA)]
- (vi) Determination Date(s): [[ ] in each year][Not Applicable]
15. Floating Rate Note Provisions [Applicable/Not Applicable]

- (i) Specified Period(s)/Specified Interest Payment Dates: [ ] [ , subject to adjustment in accordance with the Business Day Convention set out in (ii) below/, not subject to adjustment, as the Business Day Convention in (ii) below is specified to be Not Applicable]
- (ii) Business Day Convention: [Floating Rate Convention/Following Business Day Convention/Modified Following Business Day Convention/Preceding Business Day Convention] [Not Applicable]
- (iii) Additional Business Centre(s): [ ]
- (iv) Manner in which the Rate of Interest and Interest Amount is to be determined: [Screen Rate Determination][ISDA Determination]
- (v) Party responsible for calculating the Rate of Interest and Interest Amount (if not the Principal Paying Agent): [ ]
- (vi) Screen Rate Determination:
- Reference Rate and Relevant Financial Centre: Reference Rate [ ] month [LIBOR/EURIBOR/[ ]] Relevant Financial Centre: [London/Brussels/[ ]]
  - Interest Determination Date(s) [ ]
  - Relevant Screen Page: [ ]
- (vii) ISDA Determination:
- Floating Rate Option: [ ]
  - Designated Maturity: [ ]
  - Reset Date: [ ]
- (viii) Linear Interpolation: [Not Applicable/Applicable – the Rate of interest for the [long/short] [first/last] Interest Period shall be calculated using Linear Interpolation (*specify for each short or long interest period*)]
- (ix) Margin(s) [+/-] [ ] per cent. per annum
- (x) Minimum Rate of Interest [ ] per cent. per annum
- (xi) Maximum Rate of Interest [ ] per cent. per annum
- (xii) Day Count Fraction [Actual/Actual (ISDA)][Actual/Actual] [Actual/365 (Fixed)] [Actual/365 (Sterling)] [Actual/360] [30/360][360/360][Bond Basis] [30E/360][Eurobond Basis] [30E/360 (ISDA)]



16. Zero Coupon Note Provisions [Applicable/Not Applicable]
- (i) Accrual Yield [ ] per cent. per annum
- (ii) Reference Price [ ]
- (iii) Day Count Fraction in relation to Early Redemption Amounts [30/360]  
[Actual/360]  
[Actual/365]

#### PROVISIONS RELATING TO REDEMPTION

17. Issuer Call [Applicable/Not Applicable]
- (i) Optional Redemption Date(s): [ ]
- (ii) Optional Redemption Amount [ ] per Calculation Amount
- (iii) If redeemable in part [Applicable/Not Applicable]
- (a) Minimum Redemption Amount [ ]
- (b) Maximum Redemption Amount [ ]
18. Investor Put [Applicable/Not Applicable]
- (i) Optional Redemption Date(s) [ ]
- (ii) Optional Redemption Amount [ ] per Calculation Amount
19. Change of Control Put [Applicable/Not Applicable]
20. Final Redemption Amount [ ] per Calculation Amount
21. Early Redemption Amount of each Note payable on redemption for taxation reasons or on event of default: [ ] per Calculation Amount

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO THE NOTES

22. Form of Notes [Bearer Notes]
- [Temporary Bearer Global Note exchangeable for a Permanent Bearer Global Bearer Note which is exchangeable for definitive Bearer Notes [on 60 days' notice given at any time/only upon an Exchange Event].]
- [Temporary Bearer Global Note exchangeable for definitive Bearer Notes on and after the Exchange Date.]
- [Permanent Bearer Global Note exchangeable for definitive Bearer Notes [on 60 days' notice given at any time/only upon an Exchange Event]]

[Registered Notes

Regulation S Global Note (U.S.\$[ ] nominal amount) registered in the name of a nominee for [DTC/a common depository for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg]/Rule 144A Global Note (U.S.\$[ ] nominal amount) registered in the name of a nominee for [DTC/a common depository for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg]/Definitive IAI Registered Notes]

[Notes shall not be physically delivered in Belgium, except to a clearing system, a depository or other institution for the purpose of their immobilisation in accordance with article 4 of the Belgian Law of 14 December 2005.]

23. Additional Financial Centre(s) [Not Applicable][ ]
24. Talons for future Coupons to be attached to Definitive Bearer Notes: [Yes, as the Notes have more than 27 coupon payments, Talons may be required if, on exchange into definitive form, more than 27 coupon payments are still to be made/No]

### THIRD PARTY INFORMATION

[[ ] has been extracted from [ ]. The Issuer confirms that such information has been accurately reproduced and that, so far as it is aware and is able to ascertain from information published by [ ], no facts have been omitted which would render the reproduced information inaccurate or misleading.]

Signed on behalf of Swedish Match AB (publ):

By: .....  
*Duly authorised*

## PART B – OTHER INFORMATION

### 1. LISTING AND ADMISSION TO TRADING

- (i) Listing and Admission to trading: [Application has been made by the Issuer (or on its behalf) for the Notes to be admitted to trading on the London Stock Exchange’s regulated market and listing on the Official List of the UK Listing Authority with effect from [ ].] [Application is expected to be made by the Issuer (or on its behalf) for the Notes to be admitted to trading on the London Stock Exchange’s regulated market and listing on the Official List of the UK Listing Authority with effect from [ ].]
- (ii) Estimate of total expenses related to admission to trading: [ ]

### 2. RATINGS

Ratings [The Notes to be issued [[have been]/[are expected to be]] rated:[The following rating[s] reflect[s] ratings assigned to Notes of this type issued under the Programme generally:]

[Moody’s Investors Service Ltd: [ ]]

[Standard & Poor’s Credit Market Services Europe Limited: [ ]]

[ ] is established in the European Union and is registered under Regulation (EC) No. 1060/2009 (as amended).

### 3. INTERESTS OF NATURAL AND LEGAL PERSONS INVOLVED IN THE ISSUE

[Save for any fees payable to [[ ] (the **Managers**)/the Dealers], so far as the Issuer is aware, no person involved in the issue of the Notes has an interest material to the offer. The [Managers/Dealers] and their affiliates have engaged, and may in the future engage, in investment banking and/or commercial banking transactions with, and may perform other services for, the Issuer and its affiliates in the ordinary course of business.]

### 4. YIELD

Indication of yield: [ ]

The yield is calculated at the Issue Date on the basis of the Issue Price. It is not an indication of future yield.

### 5. OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

- (i) ISIN: [ ]
- (ii) Common Code: [ ]

(iii) Any clearing system(s) other than DTC, Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. and Clearstream Banking, société anonyme and the relevant identification number(s): [Not Applicable][ ]

(iv) Names and addresses of additional Paying Agent(s) (if any): [ ]

(v) Registrar: [Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas/  
Deutsche Bank Luxembourg S.A./Not Applicable]

## **6. DISTRIBUTION**

U.S. Selling Restrictions: [Reg. S Compliance Category 2; TEFRA D/TEFRA C/TEFRA not applicable]

## APPLICABLE PRICING SUPPLEMENT

*Set out below is the form of Pricing Supplement which will be completed for each Tranche of Exempt Notes, whatever the denomination of those Notes, issued under the Programme.*

**NO PROSPECTUS IS REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH DIRECTIVE 2003/71/EC FOR THE ISSUE OF NOTES DESCRIBED BELOW. THE UK LISTING AUTHORITY HAS NEITHER APPROVED NOR REVIEWED THIS PRICING SUPPLEMENT.**

[ ]

### SWEDISH MATCH AB (publ)

**Issue of [Aggregate Nominal Amount of Tranche] [Title of Notes]  
under the €1,500,000,000  
Global Medium Term Note Programme**

### PART A – CONTRACTUAL TERMS

Any person making or intending to make an offer of the Notes may only do so in circumstances in which no obligation arises for the Issuer or any Dealer to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive or to supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive, in each case, in relation to such offer.

This document constitutes the Pricing Supplement for the Notes described herein. This document must be read in conjunction with the Offering Circular dated 11 September 2015 [as supplemented by the supplement[s] dated [date[s]]] (the **Offering Circular**). Full information on the Issuer and the offer of the Notes is only available on the basis of the combination of this Pricing Supplement and the Offering Circular. Copies of the Offering Circular may be obtained from [address].

Terms used herein shall be deemed to be defined as such for the purposes of the Conditions (the **Conditions**) set forth in the Offering Circular [dated [original date]] which are incorporated by reference in the Offering Circular.

*[Include whichever of the following apply or specify as “Not Applicable”. Note that the numbering should remain as set out below, even if “Not Applicable” is indicated for individual paragraphs or subparagraphs. Italics denote directions for completing the Pricing Supplement.]*

*[If the Notes must be redeemed before the first anniversary of their date of issue, the minimum denomination may need to be £100,000 or its equivalent in any other currency.]*

- |    |  |   |
|----|--|---|
| 1. | Issuer   | Swedish Match AB (publ)   |
| 2. | (i) Series Number  | [ ]   |
|    | (ii) Tranche Number  | [ ]   |
|    | (iii) Date on which the Notes will be consolidated and form a single Series: | [The Notes will be consolidated and form a single Series with [identify earlier Tranches] on [the Issue Date/exchange of the Temporary Bearer Global Note for interests in the Permanent Bearer Global Note, as referred to in paragraph 22 below, which is expected to occur on or about [date]][Not Applicable] |
| 3. | Specified Currency or Currencies:  | [ ]   |

4. Aggregate Nominal Amount:
- (i) Series: [ ]
- (ii) Tranche: [ ]
5. Issue Price of Tranche: [ ] per cent. of the Aggregate Nominal Amount [plus accrued interest from *[insert date]* (if applicable)]
6. (i) Specified Denominations: [ ]
- (ii) Calculation Amount [ ]  
*(If only one Specified Denomination, insert the Specified Denomination. If more than one Specified Denomination, insert the highest common factor. Note: There must be a common factor in the case of two or more Specified Denominations.)*
7. (i) Issue Date: [ ]
- (ii) Interest Commencement Date: *[specify][Issue Date][Not Applicable]*  
*(N.B. An Interest Commencement Date will not be relevant for certain Notes, for example Zero Coupon Notes.)*
8. Maturity Date: *[Fixed rate — specify date][Floating rate — Interest Payment Date falling in or nearest to [specify month]]*
9. Interest Basis: [[ ] per cent. Fixed Rate]  
 [[ ] +/- [ ] per cent. Floating Rate]  
 [Zero Coupon]  
 (see paragraph [14][15][16] below)
10. Redemption/Payment Basis Subject to any purchase and cancellation or early redemption, the Notes will be redeemed on the Maturity Date at [100] [ ] per cent. of their nominal amount
11. Change of Interest Basis *[Specify the date when any fixed to floating rate change occurs or cross refer to paragraphs 14 and 15 below and identify there] [Not Applicable]*
12. Put/Call Options [Not Applicable]  
 [Change of Control Put]  
 [Investor Put]  
 [Issuer Call]  
 [(see paragraph [17] [18] [19] below)]
13. Date [Board] approval for issuance of Notes obtained [ ] [Not Applicable]  
*(N.B. Only relevant where Board (or similar) authorisation is required for the particular tranche of Notes)*

## PROVISIONS RELATING TO INTEREST (IF ANY) PAYABLE

14. Fixed Rate Note Provisions [Applicable/Not Applicable]  
*(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)*
- (i) Rate(s) of Interest [ ] per cent. per annum payable in arrear on each Interest Payment Date
- (ii) Interest Payment Date(s) [ ] in each year up to and including the Maturity Date  
*(NB: Amend appropriately in the case of irregular coupons)*
- (iii) Fixed Coupon Amount(s): [ ] per Calculation Amount  
*(Applicable to Notes in Definitive form)*
- (iv) Broken Amount(s): [ ] per Calculation Amount, payable on the Interest Payment Date falling [in/on] [ ]  
*(Applicable to Notes in Definitive form)*  
[Not Applicable]
- (v) Day Count Fraction [30/360][Actual/Actual (ICMA)][specify other]
- (vi) Determination Date(s) [ ] in each year [Not Applicable]  
*(Only relevant where Day Count Fraction is Actual/Actual (ICMA). In such a case, insert regular interest payment dates, ignoring issue date or maturity date in the case of a long or short first or last coupon)*
15. Floating Rate Note Provisions [Applicable/Not Applicable]  
*(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)*
- (i) Specified Period(s)/Specified Interest Payment Dates: [ ], subject to adjustment in accordance with the Business Day Convention set out in (ii) below/, not subject to any adjustment, as the Business Day Convention in (ii) below is specified to be Not Applicable]
- (ii) Business Day Convention: [Floating Rate Convention/Following Business Day Convention/Modified Following Business Day Convention/Preceding Business Day Convention][Not Applicable]
- (iii) Additional Business Centre(s): [ ]
- (iv) Manner in which the Rate of Interest and Interest Amount is to be determined: [Screen Rate Determination/ISDA Determination]
- (v) Party responsible for calculating the Rate of Interest and Interest Amount (if not the Agent): [ ]
- (vi) Screen Rate Determination:

- Reference Rate and Relevant Financial Centre: Reference Rate: [ ] month [LIBOR/ EURIBOR/[ ]]  
Relevant Financial Centre: [London/ Brussels/[ ]]
  - Interest Determination Date(s): [ ]  
(Second London business day prior to the start of each Interest Period if LIBOR (other than Sterling or euro LIBOR), first day of each Interest Period if Sterling LIBOR and the second day on which the TARGET2 System is open prior to the start of each Interest Period if EURIBOR or euro LIBOR)
  - Relevant Screen Page: [ ]  
(In the case of EURIBOR, if not Reuters EURIBOR 01 ensure it is a page which shows a composite rate or amend the fallback provisions appropriately)
- (vii) ISDA Determination:
- Floating Rate Option: [ ]
  - Designated Maturity: [ ]
  - Reset Date: [ ]  
(In the case of a LIBOR or EURIBOR based option, the first day of the interest period)
- (viii) Linear Interpolation: [Not Applicable/Applicable - the Rate of Interest for the [long/short] [first/last] Interest Period shall be calculated using Linear Interpolation (specify for each short or long interest period)]
- (ix) Margin(s): [+/-][ ]per cent. per annum
- (x) Minimum Rate of Interest: [ ]per cent. per annum
- (xi) Maximum Rate of Interest: [ ]per cent. per annum
- (xii) Day Count Fraction: [Actual/Actual (ISDA)][Actual/Actual]  
[Actual/365 (Fixed)]  
[Actual/365 (Sterling)]  
[Actual/360]  
[30/360][360/360][Bond Basis]  
[30E/360][Eurobond Basis]  
[30E/360 (ISDA)]
- (xiii) Fallback provisions, rounding provisions and any other terms relating to the method of calculating interest on Floating Rate Notes which are Exempt Notes, if different from those set out in the Conditions: [ ]
16. Zero Coupon Note Provisions [Applicable/Not Applicable]  
(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)



- (i) Accrual Yield: [ ] per cent. per annum
- (ii) Reference Price: [ ]
- (iii) Any other formula/basis of determining amount payable for Zero Coupon Notes which are Exempt Notes: [ ]
- (iv) Day Count Fraction in relation to Early Redemption Amounts: [30/360]  
[Actual/360]  
[Actual/365]

#### PROVISIONS RELATING TO REDEMPTION

- 17. Issuer Call: [Applicable/Not Applicable]  
*(If not applicable, delete the remaining subparagraphs of this paragraph)*
  - (i) Optional Redemption Date(s): [ ]
  - (ii) Optional Redemption Amount: [ ] per Calculation Amount
  - (iii) If redeemable in part: [Applicable/Not Applicable]
    - (a) Minimum Redemption Amount: [ ]
    - (b) Maximum Redemption Amount: [ ]
- 18. Investor Put: [Applicable/Not Applicable]  
*(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)*
  - (i) Optional Redemption Date(s): [ ]
  - (ii) Optional Redemption Amount: [ ] per Calculation Amount
- 19. Change of Control Put: [Applicable/Not Applicable]  
*(If not applicable, delete remaining sub-paragraphs or this paragraph)*
- 20. Final Redemption Amount: [ ] per Calculation Amount
- 21. Early Redemption Amount of each Note payable on redemption for taxation reasons or on event of default: [ ] per Calculation Amount

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO THE NOTES

- 22. Form of Notes: [Bearer Notes:
  - (i) Form: [Temporary Bearer Global Note exchangeable for a Permanent Bearer Global Note which is exchangeable for definitive Bearer Notes [on 60 days' notice given

at any time/only upon an Exchange Event]

[Temporary Bearer Global Note exchangeable for definitive Bearer Notes on and after the Exchange Date.]

[Permanent Bearer Global Note exchangeable for definitive Bearer Notes [on 60 days' notice given at any time/only upon an Exchange Event]]

[Registered Notes:

Regulation S Global Note (U.S.\$[ ] nominal amount) registered in the name of a nominee for [DTC/a common depository for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg]/Rule 144A Global Note (U.S.\$[ ] nominal amount) registered in the name of a nominee for [DTC/a common depository for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg]/Definitive IAI Registered Notes]

[Notes shall not be physically delivered in Belgium, except to a clearing system, a depository or other institution for the purpose of their immobilisation in accordance with article 4 of the Belgian Law of 14 December 2005.]

23. Additional Financial Centre(s):

[Not Applicable/*give details*]

*(Note that this paragraph relates to the place of payment and not Interest Period end dates to which sub-paragraph 15(iii) relates)*

24. Talons for future Coupons to be attached to definitive Bearer Notes:

[Yes, as the Notes have more than 27 coupon payments, Talons may be required if, on exchange into definitive form, more than 27 coupon payments are still to be made/No.]

## RESPONSIBILITY

The Issuer accepts responsibility for the information contained in this Pricing Supplement. [*Relevant third party information*] has been extracted from [*specify source*]. The Issuer confirms that such information has been accurately reproduced and that, so far as it is aware and is able to ascertain from information published by [*specify source*], no facts have been omitted which would render the reproduced information inaccurate or misleading.]

Signed on behalf of Swedish Match AB (publ):

By: .....  
*Duly authorised*

## PART B – OTHER INFORMATION

### 1. LISTING AND ADMISSION TO TRADING

Listing and Admission to Trading: [Application [has been made/is expected to be made] by the Issuer (or on its behalf) for the Notes to be listed on [specify market - note this should not be a regulated market] with effect from[ ].] [Not Applicable]

### 2. RATINGS

Ratings [The Notes to be issued [[have been]/[are expected to be]] rated [insert details] by [insert the legal name of the relevant credit rating agency entity(ies)].]

[[Insert the legal name of the relevant credit rating agency entity] is established in the European Union and is registered under Regulation (EC) No. 1060/2009 (as amended).]

*(The above disclosure should reflect the rating allocated to Notes of the type being issued under the Programme generally or, where the issue has been specifically rated, that rating.)*

### 3. INTERESTS OF NATURAL AND LEGAL PERSONS INVOLVED IN THE ISSUE

[Save for any fees payable to the [[ ] (the **Managers**)/the Dealers], so far as the Issuer is aware, no person involved in the issue of the Notes has an interest material to the offer. The [Managers/Dealers] and their affiliates have engaged, and may in the future engage, in investment banking and/or commercial banking transactions with, and may perform other services for, the Issuer and its affiliates in the ordinary course of business. – Amend as appropriate if there are other interests]

### 4. OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

- (i) ISIN: [ ]
- (ii) Common Code: [ ]
- (iii) Any clearing system(s) other than DTC, Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. and Clearstream Banking, société anonyme and the relevant identification number(s) [Not Applicable/give name(s) and number(s)]
- (iv) Names and addresses of additional Paying Agent(s) (if any): [ ]
- (v) Registrar: [Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas/ Deutsche Bank Luxembourg S.A./Not Applicable]
- (vi) Intended to be held in a manner which would allow Eurosystem eligibility: [Yes. Note that the designation “yes” simply means that the Notes are intended upon issue to be deposited with one of the ICSDs as common

safekeeper and does not necessarily mean that the Notes will be recognised as eligible collateral for Eurosystem monetary policy and intra day credit operations by the Eurosystem either upon issue or at any or all times during their life. Such recognition will depend upon the ECB being satisfied that Eurosystem eligibility criteria have been met.]/

[No. Whilst the designation is specified as “no” at the date of this Pricing Supplement, should the Eurosystem eligibility criteria be amended in the future such that the Notes are capable of meeting them the Notes may then be deposited with one of the ICSDs as common safekeeper. Note that this does not necessarily mean that the Notes will then be recognised as eligible collateral for Eurosystem monetary policy and intra day credit operations by the Eurosystem at any time during their life. Such recognition will depend upon the ECB being satisfied that Eurosystem eligibility criteria have been met.]]

## 5. DISTRIBUTION

- |       |   |  |
|-------|---|--|
| (i)   | Method of distribution:                     | [Syndicated/Non-syndicated]  |
| (ii)  | If syndicated, names of Managers:           | [Not Applicable/give names]  |
| (iii) | Date of [Syndication] Agreement:            | [ ]  |
| (iv)  | Stabilisation Manager(s) (if any):          | [Not Applicable/give names]  |
| (v)   | If non-syndicated, name of relevant Dealer: | [Not Applicable/give names]  |
| (vi)  | U.S. Selling Restrictions:                  | [Reg. S Compliance Category 2; TEFRA D/TEFRA C/TEFRA not applicable] |

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE NOTES

*The following are the Terms and Conditions of the Notes which will be incorporated by reference into each Global Note (as defined below) and each definitive Note, in the latter case only if permitted by the relevant stock exchange (if any) and agreed by the Issuer and the relevant Dealer at the time of issue but, if not so permitted and agreed, such definitive Note will have endorsed thereon or attached thereto such Terms and Conditions. The applicable Pricing Supplement in relation to any Tranche of Exempt Notes may specify other terms and conditions which shall, to the extent so specified or to the extent inconsistent with the following Terms and Conditions, replace or modify the following Terms and Conditions for the purpose of such Notes. The applicable Final Terms (or the relevant provisions thereof) will be endorsed upon, or attached to, each Global Note and definitive Note. Reference should be made to “Applicable Final Terms” (or, in the case of a Tranche of Exempt Notes, to “Applicable Pricing Supplement”) for a description of the content of Final Terms (or Pricing Supplement, as applicable) which will specify which of such terms are to apply in relation to the relevant Notes.*

This Note is one of a Series (as defined below) of Notes issued by Swedish Match AB (publ) (the **Issuer**) pursuant to the Agency Agreement (as defined below).

References herein to the **Notes** shall be references to the Notes of this Series and shall mean:

- (i) in relation to any Notes represented by a global Note (a **Global Note**), units of each Specified Denomination in the Specified Currency;
- (ii) any Global Note;
- (iii) any definitive Notes in bearer form (**Bearer Notes**) issued in exchange for a Global Note in bearer form; and
- (iv) any definitive Notes in registered form (**Registered Notes**) (whether or not issued in exchange for a Global Note in registered form).

The Notes and the Coupons (as defined below) have the benefit of an Amended and Restated Agency Agreement (such Amended and Restated Agency Agreement as further amended and/or supplemented and/or restated from time to time, the **Agency Agreement**) dated 11 September 2015 and made between the Issuer, Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch as issuing and principal agent and agent bank (the **Principal Paying Agent**, which expression shall include any successor principal paying agent) and the other paying agents named therein (together with the Principal Paying Agent, the **Paying Agents**, which expression shall include any additional or successor paying agents), Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas as exchange agent (the **Exchange Agent**, which expression shall include any successor exchange agent) and a registrar and a transfer agent, Deutsche Bank Luxembourg S.A. as a registrar (together with Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas in its capacity as a registrar, the **Registrars** and each a **Registrar**, which expression shall include any additional or successor registrar) and a transfer agent, and the other transfer agents named therein (together with the Registrars, the **Transfer Agents**, which expression shall include any additional or successor transfer agents). Any reference to the **relevant Registrar** is to the Registrar (if applicable) specified in the Final Terms attached to or endorsed on this Note.

Interest bearing definitive Bearer Notes (unless otherwise indicated in the applicable Final Terms) have interest coupons (**Coupons**) and, in the case of Notes which, when issued in definitive form, have more than 27 interest payments remaining, talons for further Coupons (**Talons**) attached on issue. Any reference herein to Coupons or coupons shall, unless the context otherwise requires, be deemed to include a reference to Talons or talons. Registered Notes and Global Notes do not have Coupons or Talons attached on issue.

The final terms for this Note (or the relevant provisions thereof) are set out in Part A of the Final Terms attached to or endorsed on this Note which supplement these Terms and Conditions or, if this Note is a Note which is neither admitted to trading on a regulated market in the European Economic Area nor offered in the European Economic Area in circumstances where a prospectus is required to be published under the Prospectus Directive (an **Exempt Note**), the final terms (or the relevant provisions thereof) are set out in Part A of the Pricing Supplement and may specify other terms and conditions which shall, to the extent so specified or to the extent

inconsistent with the Conditions, replace or modify the Conditions for the purposes of this Note. References to the **applicable Final Terms** are, unless otherwise stated, to Part A of the Final Terms (or the relevant provisions thereof) attached to or endorsed on this Note. Any reference in the Conditions to **applicable Final Terms** shall be deemed to include a reference to **applicable Pricing Supplement** where relevant. The expression **Prospectus Directive** means Directive 2003/71/EC (and amendments thereto, including the 2010 PD Amending Directive) to the extent implemented in the relevant Member State of the European Economic Area and includes any relevant implementing measure in the relevant Member State and the expressions **2010 PD Amending Directive** means Directive 2010/73/EU.

Any reference to **Noteholders** or **holders** in relation to any Notes shall mean (in the case of Bearer Notes) the holders of the Notes and (in the case of Registered Notes) the persons in whose name the Notes are registered and shall, in relation to any Notes represented by a Global Note, be construed as provided below. Any reference herein to **Couponholders** shall mean the holders of the Coupons and shall, unless the context otherwise requires, include the holders of the Talons.

As used herein, **Tranche** means Notes which are identical in all respects (including as to listing and admission to trading) and **Series** means a Tranche of Notes together with any further Tranche or Tranches of Notes which (i) are expressed to be consolidated and form a single series and (ii) have the same terms and conditions or terms and conditions which are the same in all respects save for the amount and date of the first payment of interest thereon and the date from which interest starts to accrue.

The Noteholders and the Couponholders are entitled to the benefit of the Deed of Covenant (such Deed of Covenant as modified and/or supplemented and/or restated from time to time, the **Deed of Covenant**) dated 11 September 2015 and made by the Issuer. The original of the Deed of Covenant is held by the common depositary for Euroclear (as defined below) and Clearstream, Luxembourg (as defined below).

Copies of the Agency Agreement, a deed poll (such deed poll as modified and/or supplemented and/or restated from time to time, the **Deed Poll**) dated 7 October 2011 and made by the Issuer and the Deed of Covenant are available for inspection during normal business hours at the specified office of each of the Principal Paying Agent, the Registrars and the other Paying Agents and Transfer Agents (such agents and the Registrars being together referred to as the **Agents**). If the Notes are to be admitted to trading on the regulated market of the London Stock Exchange the applicable Final Terms will be published on the website of the London Stock Exchange through a regulatory information service. If this Note is an Exempt Note, the applicable Pricing Supplement will only be obtainable by a Noteholder holding one or more Notes and such Noteholder must produce evidence satisfactory to the Issuer and the relevant Paying Agent as to its holding of such Notes and identity. If this Note is neither admitted to trading on a regulated market in the European Economic Area nor offered in the European Economic Area in circumstances where a prospectus is required to be published under the Prospectus Directive, the applicable Final Terms will only be available for inspection by a Noteholder holding one or more Notes and such Noteholder must produce evidence satisfactory to the relevant Agent as to its holding of such Notes and identity. The Noteholders and the Couponholders are deemed to have notice of, and are entitled to the benefit of, all the provisions of the Agency Agreement, the Deed Poll, the Deed of Covenant and the applicable Final Terms which are applicable to them. The statements in these Terms and Conditions include summaries of, and are subject to, the detailed provisions of the Agency Agreement.

Words and expressions defined in the Agency Agreement or used in the applicable Final Terms shall have the same meanings where used in these Terms and Conditions unless the context otherwise requires or unless otherwise stated and provided that, in the event of inconsistency between the Agency Agreement and the applicable Final Terms, the applicable Final Terms will prevail.

In these Terms and Conditions, **euro** means the currency introduced at the start of the third stage of European economic and monetary union pursuant to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, as amended.

## 1. FORM, DENOMINATION AND TITLE

The Notes are in bearer form or in registered form as specified in the applicable Final Terms and, in the case of definitive Notes, serially numbered, in the currency (the **Specified Currency**) and the denominations (the **Specified Denomination(s)**) specified in the applicable Final Terms. Notes of one Specified Denomination may not be exchanged for Notes of another Specified Denomination and Bearer Notes may not be exchanged for Registered Notes and *vice versa*.

This Note may be a Fixed Rate Note, a Floating Rate Note or a Zero Coupon Note or a combination of any of the foregoing, depending upon the Interest Basis shown in the applicable Final Terms.

Definitive Bearer Notes are issued with Coupons attached, unless they are Zero Coupon Notes in which case references to Coupons and Couponholders in these Terms and Conditions are not applicable.

Subject as set out below, title to the Bearer Notes and Coupons will pass by delivery and title to the Registered Notes will pass upon registration of transfers in accordance with the provisions of the Agency Agreement. The Issuer and any Agent will (except as otherwise required by law) deem and treat the bearer of any Bearer Note or Coupon and the registered holder of any Registered Note as the absolute owner thereof (whether or not overdue and notwithstanding any notice of ownership or writing thereon or notice of any previous loss or theft thereof) for all purposes but, in the case of any Global Note, without prejudice to the provisions set out in the next succeeding paragraph.

For so long as any of the Notes is represented by a Global Note held on behalf of Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. (**Euroclear**) and/or Clearstream Banking, société anonyme (**Clearstream, Luxembourg**), each person (other than Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg) who is for the time being shown in the records of Euroclear or of Clearstream, Luxembourg as the holder of a particular nominal amount of such Notes (in which regard any certificate or other document issued by Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg as to the nominal amount of such Notes standing to the account of any person shall be conclusive and binding for all purposes save in the case of manifest error) shall be treated by the Issuer and the Agents as the holder of such nominal amount of such Notes for all purposes other than with respect to the payment of principal or interest on such nominal amount of such Notes, for which purpose the bearer of the relevant Bearer Global Note or the registered holder of the relevant Registered Global Note shall be treated by the Issuer and any Agent as the holder of such nominal amount of such Notes in accordance with and subject to the terms of the relevant Global Note and the expressions **Noteholder** and **holder of Notes** and related expressions shall be construed accordingly.

For so long as the Depository Trust Company (**DTC**) or its nominee is the registered owner or holder of a Registered Global Note, DTC or such nominee, as the case may be, will be considered the sole owner or holder of the Notes represented by such Registered Global Note for all purposes under the Agency Agreement and the Notes except to the extent that in accordance with DTC's published rules and procedures any ownership rights may be exercised by its participants or beneficial owners through participants.

Notes which are represented by a Global Note will be transferable only in accordance with the rules and procedures for the time being of DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg as the case may be.

References to DTC, Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg shall, whenever the context so permits, be deemed to include a reference to any additional or alternative clearing system specified in Part B of the applicable Final Terms.

## 2. TRANSFER OF REGISTERED NOTES

### (a) *Transfers of interests in Registered Global Notes*

Transfers of beneficial interests in Registered Global Notes will be effected by DTC, Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg, as the case may be, and, in turn, by other participants and, if appropriate, indirect participants in such clearing systems acting on behalf of beneficial transferors and transferees of such interests. A beneficial interest in a Registered Global Note will, subject to compliance with all applicable legal and regulatory restrictions, be transferable for Notes in definitive form or for a

beneficial interest in another Registered Global Note only in the authorised denominations set out in the applicable Final Terms and only in accordance with the rules and operating procedures for the time being of DTC, Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg, as the case may be and in accordance with the terms and conditions specified in the Agency Agreement. Transfers of a Registered Global Note shall be limited to transfers of such Registered Global Note, in whole but not in part, to a nominee of DTC or to a successor of DTC or such successor's nominee.

(b) *Transfers of Registered Notes in definitive form*

Subject as provided in paragraphs (e), (f) and (g) below, upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Agency Agreement, a Registered Note in definitive form may be transferred in whole or in part (in the authorised denominations set out in the applicable Final Terms). In order to effect any such transfer (i) the holder or holders must (A) surrender the Registered Note for registration of the transfer of the Registered Note (or the relevant part of the Registered Note) at the specified office of the relevant Registrar or any Transfer Agent, with the form of transfer thereon duly executed by the holder or holders thereof or his or their attorney or attorneys duly authorised in writing and (B) complete and deposit such other certifications as may be required by the relevant Registrar or, as the case may be, the relevant Transfer Agent and (ii) the relevant Registrar or, as the case may be, the relevant Transfer Agent must, after due and careful enquiry, be satisfied with the documents of title and the identity of the person making the request. Any such transfer will be subject to such reasonable regulations as the Issuer and the relevant Registrar may from time to time prescribe (the initial such regulations being set out in Schedule 10 to the Agency Agreement). Subject as provided above, the relevant Registrar or, as the case may be, the relevant Transfer Agent will, within three business days (being for this purpose a day on which banks are open for business in the city where the specified office of the relevant Registrar or, as the case may be, the relevant Transfer Agent is located) of the request (or such longer period as may be required to comply with any applicable fiscal or other laws or regulations) authenticate and deliver, or procure the authentication and delivery of, at its specified office to the transferee or (at the risk of the transferee) send by uninsured mail to such address as the transferee may request, a new Registered Note in definitive form of a like aggregate nominal amount to the Registered Note (or the relevant part of the Registered Note) transferred. In the case of the transfer of part only of a Registered Note in definitive form, a new Registered Note in definitive form in respect of the balance of the Registered Note not transferred will be so authenticated and delivered or (at the risk of the transferor) sent to the transferor.

(c) *Registration of transfer upon partial redemption*

In the event of a partial redemption of Notes under Condition 7, the Issuer shall not be required to register the transfer of any Registered Note, or part of a Registered Note, called for partial redemption.

(d) *Costs of registration*

Noteholders will not be required to bear the costs and expenses of effecting any registration of transfer as provided above, except for any costs or expenses of delivery other than by regular uninsured mail and except that the Issuer may require the payment of a sum sufficient to cover any stamp duty, tax or other governmental charge that may be imposed in relation to the registration.

(e) *Transfers of interests in Regulation S Global Notes*

Prior to expiry of the applicable Distribution Compliance Period, transfers by the holder of, or of a beneficial interest in, a Regulation S Global Note to a transferee in the United States or who is a U.S. person will only be made:

- (i) upon receipt by the relevant Registrar of a written certification substantially in the form set out in the Agency Agreement, amended as appropriate (a **Transfer Certificate**), copies of which are available from the specified office of the Registrars or any Transfer Agent, from the transferor of the Note or beneficial interest therein to the effect that such transfer is being made:



- (A) to a person whom the transferor reasonably believes is a QIB in a transaction meeting the requirements of Rule 144A; or
- (B) to a person who is an Institutional Accredited Investor,

together with, in the case of (B), a duly executed investment letter from the relevant transferee substantially in the form set out in the Agency Agreement (an **IAI Investment Letter**); or

- (ii) otherwise pursuant to the Securities Act or an exemption therefrom, subject to receipt by the Issuer of such satisfactory evidence as the Issuer may reasonably require, which may include an opinion of U.S. counsel, that such transfer is in compliance with any applicable securities laws of any State of the United States,

and, in each case, in accordance with any applicable securities laws of any State of the United States or any other jurisdiction.

In the case of (A) above, such transferee may take delivery through a Legended Note in global or definitive form and, in the case of (B) above, such transferee may take delivery only through a Legended Note in definitive form. After expiry of the applicable Distribution Compliance Period (i) beneficial interests in Regulation S Global Notes may be held through DTC directly, by a participant in DTC, or indirectly through a participant in DTC and (ii) such certification requirements will no longer apply to such transfers.

(f) *Transfers of interests in Legended Notes*

Transfers of Legended Notes or beneficial interests therein may be made:

- (i) to a transferee who takes delivery of such interest through a Regulation S Global Note, upon receipt by the relevant Registrar of a duly completed Transfer Certificate from the transferor to the effect that such transfer is being made in accordance with Regulation S and that, if such transfer is being made prior to expiry of the applicable Distribution Compliance Period, the interests in the Notes being transferred will be held immediately thereafter through Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg; or
- (ii) to a transferee who takes delivery of such interest through a Legended Note:
  - (A) where the transferee is a person whom the transferor reasonably believes is a QIB in a transaction meeting the requirements of Rule 144A, without certification; or
  - (B) where the transferee is an Institutional Accredited Investor, subject to delivery to the relevant Registrar of a Transfer Certificate from the transferor to the effect that such transfer is being made to an Institutional Accredited Investor, together with a duly executed IAI Investment Letter from the relevant transferee; or
- (iii) otherwise pursuant to the Securities Act or an exemption therefrom, subject to receipt by the Issuer of such satisfactory evidence as the Issuer may reasonably require, which may include an opinion of U.S. counsel, that such transfer is in compliance with any applicable securities laws of any State of the United States,

and, in each case, in accordance with any applicable securities laws of any State of the United States or any other jurisdiction.

Notes transferred by Institutional Accredited Investors to QIBs pursuant to Rule 144A or outside the United States pursuant to Regulation S will be eligible to be held by such QIBs or non-U.S. investors through DTC, Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg, as applicable, and the relevant Registrar will arrange for any Notes which are the subject of such a transfer to be represented by the appropriate Registered Global Note, where applicable.

Upon the transfer, exchange or replacement of Legended Notes, or upon specific request for removal of the Legend, the relevant Registrar shall deliver only Legended Notes or refuse to remove the Legend, as the case may be, unless there is delivered to the Issuer such satisfactory evidence as may reasonably be required by the Issuer, which may include an opinion of U.S. counsel, that neither the Legend nor the restrictions on transfer set forth therein are required to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Securities Act.

(g) *Exchanges and transfers of Registered Notes generally*

Holders of Registered Notes in definitive form, other than Institutional Accredited Investors, may exchange such Notes for interests in a Registered Global Note of the same type at any time.

(h) *Definitions*

In this Condition, the following expressions shall have the following meanings:

**Distribution Compliance Period** means the period that ends 40 days after the completion of the distribution of each Tranche of Notes, as certified by the relevant Dealer (in the case of a non-syndicated issue) or the relevant Lead Manager (in the case of a syndicated issue);

**Institutional Accredited Investor** means **accredited investors** (as defined in Rule 501(a)(1), (2), (3) or (7) under the Securities Act) that are institutions;

**Legended Note** means Registered Notes in definitive form that are issued to Institutional Accredited Investors and Registered Notes (whether in definitive form or represented by a Registered Global Note) sold in private transactions to QIBs in accordance with the requirements of Rule 144A which bear a legend specifying certain restrictions on transfer (a **Legend**);

**QIB** means a **qualified institutional buyer** within the meaning of Rule 144A;

**Regulation S** means Regulation S under the Securities Act;

**Regulation S Global Note** means a Registered Global Note representing Notes sold outside the United States in reliance on Regulation S;

**Rule 144A** means Rule 144A under the Securities Act; and

**Securities Act** means the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

**3. STATUS OF THE NOTES**

The Notes and any relative Coupons are direct, unconditional, unsubordinated and (subject to the provisions of Condition 4) unsecured obligations of the Issuer and rank *pari passu* among themselves and (save for certain obligations required to be preferred by law) equally with all other unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the Issuer, including, for the avoidance of doubt, any unsubordinated and unsecured guarantee provided by the Issuer, from time to time outstanding.

**4. NEGATIVE PLEDGE**

So long as any of the Notes remain outstanding (as defined in the Agency Agreement), the Issuer will not secure, and shall procure that none of its Subsidiaries will secure, any existing or future Debt Obligations or guarantees of Debt Obligations by means of a mortgage, pledge, lien or other security upon, or with respect to, any of its present or future undertaking, revenues or assets (including any uncalled capital) unless all amounts payable by it under the Notes and the Coupons are (i) secured equally and rateably by the same mortgage, pledge, lien or other security, or (ii) secured by such other mortgage, pledge, lien or other security as shall be approved by an Extraordinary Resolution (as defined in the Agency Agreement) of the Noteholders.

**Debt Obligations** means any indebtedness which is in the form of or represented by notes, bonds or other securities which are, or are to be, quoted, listed or dealt in or on any stock exchange or over-the-counter market.

## 5. INTEREST

### (a) *Interest on Fixed Rate Notes*

Each Fixed Rate Note bears interest from (and including) the Interest Commencement Date to (but excluding) the Maturity Date at the rate(s) per annum equal to the Rate(s) of Interest payable in arrear on the Interest Payment Date(s) in each year up to (and including) the Maturity Date.

If the Notes are in definitive form, except as provided in the applicable Final Terms, the amount of interest payable on each Interest Payment Date in respect of the Fixed Interest Period ending on (but excluding) such date will amount to the Fixed Coupon Amount. Payments of interest on any Interest Payment will, if so specified in the applicable Final Terms, amount to the Broken Amount so specified.

As used in these Terms and Conditions, **Fixed Interest Period** means the period from (and including) an Interest Payment Date (or the Interest Commencement Date) to (but excluding) the next (or first) Interest Payment Date.

Except in the case of Notes in definitive form where an applicable Fixed Coupon Amount or Broken Amount is specified in the applicable Final Terms, interest shall be calculated in respect of any period by applying the Rate of Interest to:

- (i) in the case of Fixed Rate Notes which are represented by a Global Note, the aggregate outstanding nominal amount of the Fixed Rate Notes represented by such Global Note; or
- (ii) in the case of Fixed Rate Notes in definitive form, the Calculation Amount;

and, in each case, multiplying such sum by the applicable Day Count Fraction, and rounding the resultant figure to the nearest sub-unit of the relevant Specified Currency, half of any such sub-unit being rounded upwards or otherwise in accordance with applicable market convention. Where the Specified Denomination of a Fixed Rate Note in definitive form is a multiple of the Calculation Amount, the amount of interest payable in respect of such Fixed Rate Note shall be the product of the amount (determined in the manner provided above) for the Calculation Amount and the amount by which the Calculation Amount is multiplied to reach the Specified Denomination, without any further rounding.

**Day Count Fraction** means, in respect of the calculation of an amount of interest, in accordance with this Condition 5(a):

- (i) if **Actual/Actual (ICMA)** is specified in the applicable Final Terms:
  - (a) in the case of Notes where the number of days in the relevant period from (and including) the most recent Interest Payment Date (or, if none, the Interest Commencement Date) to (but excluding) the relevant payment date (the **Accrual Period**) is equal to or shorter than the Determination Period during which the Accrual Period ends, the number of days in such Accrual Period divided by the product of (1) the number of days in such Determination Period and (2) the number of Determination Dates (as specified in the applicable Final Terms) that would occur in one calendar year; or
  - (b) in the case of Notes where the Accrual Period is longer than the Determination Period during which the Accrual Period ends, the sum of:
    - (1) the number of days in such Accrual Period falling in the Determination Period in which the Accrual Period begins divided by the product of (x) the

number of days in such Determination Period and (y) the number of Determination Dates that would occur in one calendar year; and

- (2) the number of days in such Accrual Period falling in the next Determination Period divided by the product of (x) the number of days in such Determination Period and (y) the number of Determination Dates that would occur in one calendar year; and
- (ii) if **30/360** is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the number of days in the period from (and including) the most recent Interest Payment Date (or, if none, the Interest Commencement Date) to (but excluding) the relevant payment date (such number of days being calculated on the basis of a year of 360 days with 12 30-day months) divided by 360.

In these Terms and Conditions:

**Determination Period** means each period from (and including) a Determination Date to but excluding the next Determination Date (including, where either the Interest Commencement Date or the final Interest Payment Date is not a Determination Date, the period commencing on the first Determination Date prior to, and ending on the first Determination Date falling after, such date); and

**sub-unit** means, with respect to any currency other than euro, the lowest amount of such currency that is available as legal tender in the country of such currency and, with respect to euro, one cent.

(b) *Interest on Floating Rate Notes*

(i) Interest Payment Dates

Each Floating Rate Note bears interest from (and including) the Interest Commencement Date and such interest will be payable in arrear on either:

- (A) the Specified Interest Payment Date(s) (each an **Interest Payment Date**) in each year specified in the applicable Final Terms; or
- (B) if no Specified Interest Payment Date(s) is/are specified in the applicable Final Terms, each date (each an **Interest Payment Date**) which falls the number of months or other period specified as the Specified Period in the applicable Final Terms after the preceding Interest Payment Date or, in the case of the first Interest Payment Date, after the Interest Commencement Date.

Such interest will be payable in respect of each Interest Period. In these Terms and Conditions, **Interest Period** means the period from (and including) an Interest Payment Date (or the Interest Commencement Date) to (but excluding) the next (or first) Interest Payment Date.

If a Business Day Convention is specified in the applicable Final Terms and (x) if there is no numerically corresponding day in the calendar month in which an Interest Payment Date should occur or (y) if any Interest Payment Date would otherwise fall on a day which is not a Business Day, then, if the Business Day Convention specified is:

- (1) in any case where Specified Periods are specified in accordance with Condition 5(b)(i)(B) above, the Floating Rate Convention, such Interest Payment Date (i) in the case of (x) above, shall be the last day that is a Business Day in the relevant month and the provisions of (B) below shall apply *mutatis mutandis* or (ii) in the case of (y) above, shall be postponed to the next day which is a Business Day unless it would thereby fall into the next calendar month, in which event (A) such Interest Payment Date shall be brought forward to the immediately preceding

Business Day and (B) each subsequent Interest Payment Date shall be the last Business Day in the month which falls the Specified Period after the preceding applicable Interest Payment Date occurred; or

- (2) the Following Business Day Convention, such Interest Payment Date shall be postponed to the next day which is a Business Day; or
- (3) the Modified Following Business Day Convention, such Interest Payment Date shall be postponed to the next day which is a Business Day unless it would thereby fall into the next calendar month, in which event such Interest Payment Date shall be brought forward to the immediately preceding Business Day; or
- (4) the Preceding Business Day Convention, such Interest Payment Date shall be brought forward to the immediately preceding Business Day.

In these Terms and Conditions, **Business Day** means a day which is both:

- (A) a day on which commercial banks and foreign exchange markets settle payments and are open for general business (including dealing in foreign exchange and foreign currency deposits) in London and each Additional Business Centre specified in the applicable Final Terms; and
- (B) either (1) in relation to any sum payable in a Specified Currency other than euro, a day on which commercial banks and foreign exchange markets settle payments and are open for general business (including dealing in foreign exchange and foreign currency deposits) in the principal financial centre of the country of the relevant Specified Currency (which if the Specified Currency is Australian dollars or New Zealand dollars shall be Sydney and Auckland, respectively) or (2) in relation to any sum payable in euro, a day on which the TARGET2 System is open. As used in these Terms and Conditions, **TARGET2 System** means the Trans-European Automated Real-Time Gross Settlement Express Transfer (TARGET2) System.

(ii) Rate of Interest

The Rate of Interest payable from time to time in respect of Floating Rate Notes will be determined in the manner specified in the applicable Final Terms.

(A) ISDA Determination for Floating Rate Notes

Where ISDA Determination is specified in the applicable Final Terms as the manner in which the Rate of Interest is to be determined, the Rate of Interest for each Interest Period will be the relevant ISDA Rate plus or minus (as indicated in the applicable Final Terms) the Margin (if any). For the purposes of this subparagraph (A), **ISDA Rate** for an Interest Period means a rate equal to the Floating Rate that would be determined by the Principal Paying Agent under an interest rate swap transaction if the Principal Paying Agent were acting as Calculation Agent for that swap transaction under the terms of an agreement incorporating the 2006 ISDA Definitions as published by the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. and as amended and updated as at the Issue Date of the first Tranche of the Notes (the **ISDA Definitions**) and under which:

- (1) the Floating Rate Option is as specified in the applicable Final Terms;
- (2) the Designated Maturity is a period specified in the applicable Final Terms; and
- (3) the relevant Reset Date is the day specified in the applicable Final Terms.

For the purposes of this sub-paragraph (A), **Floating Rate, Calculation Agent, Floating Rate Option, Designated Maturity** and **Reset Date** have the meanings given to those terms in the ISDA Definitions.

(B) Screen Rate Determination for Floating Rate Notes

Where Screen Rate Determination is specified in the applicable Final Terms as the manner in which the Rate of Interest is to be determined, the Rate of Interest for each Interest Period will, subject as provided below, be either:

- (1) the offered quotation; or
- (2) the arithmetic mean (rounded if necessary to the fifth decimal place, with 0.000005 being rounded upwards) of the offered quotations,

(expressed as a percentage rate per annum) for the Reference Rate which appears or appear, as the case may be, on the Relevant Screen Page (or each replacement page on that service which displays the information) as at 11.00 a.m. (Relevant Financial Centre time) on the Interest Determination Date in question plus or minus (as indicated in the applicable Final Terms) the Margin (if any), all as determined by the Principal Paying Agent. If five or more of such offered quotations are available on the Relevant Screen Page, the highest (or, if there is more than one such highest quotation, one only of such quotations) and the lowest (or, if there is more than one such lowest quotation, one only of such quotations) shall be disregarded by the Principal Paying Agent for the purpose of determining the arithmetic mean (rounded as provided above) of such offered quotations.

The Agency Agreement contains provisions for determining the Rate of Interest in the event that the Relevant Screen Page is not available or if, in the case of (1) above, no such offered quotation appears or, in the case of (2) above, fewer than three such offered quotations appear, in each case as at the time specified in the preceding paragraph.

(iii) Minimum Rate of Interest and/or Maximum Rate of Interest

If the applicable Final Terms specifies a Minimum Rate of Interest for any Interest Period, then, in the event that the Rate of Interest in respect of such Interest Period determined in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (ii) above is less than such Minimum Rate of Interest, the Rate of Interest for such Interest Period shall be such Minimum Rate of Interest.

If the applicable Final Terms specifies a Maximum Rate of Interest for any Interest Period, then, in the event that the Rate of Interest in respect of such Interest Period determined in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (ii) above is greater than such Maximum Rate of Interest, the Rate of Interest for such Interest Period shall be such Maximum Rate of Interest.

(iv) Determination of Rate of Interest and calculation of Interest Amounts

The Principal Paying Agent will at or as soon as practicable after each time at which the Rate of Interest is to be determined, determine the Rate of Interest for the relevant Interest Period.

The Principal Paying Agent will calculate the amount of interest (the **Interest Amount**) payable on the Floating Rate Notes for the relevant Interest Period by applying the Rate of Interest to:

- (A) in the case of Floating Rate Notes which are represented by a Global Note, the aggregate outstanding nominal amount of the Notes represented by such Global Note; or

(B) in the case of Floating Rate Notes in definitive form, the Calculation Amount;

and in each case, multiplying such sum by the applicable Day Count Fraction, and rounding the resultant figure to the nearest sub-unit of the relevant Specified Currency, half of any such sub-unit being rounded upwards or otherwise in accordance with applicable market convention. Where the Specified Denomination of a Floating Rate Note in definitive form is a multiple of the Calculation Amount, the Interest Amount payable in respect of such Note shall be the product of the amount (determined in the manner provided above) for the Calculation Amount and the amount by which the Calculation Amount is multiplied to reach the Specified Denomination, without any further rounding.

**Day Count Fraction** means, in respect of the calculation of an amount of interest for any Interest Period:

- (i) if **Actual/Actual (ISDA)** or **Actual/Actual** is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the actual number of days in the Interest Period divided by 365 (or, if any portion of that Interest Period falls in a leap year, the sum of (A) the actual number of days in that portion of the Interest Period falling in a leap year divided by 366 and (B) the actual number of days in that portion of the Interest Period falling in a non-leap year divided by 365);
- (ii) if **Actual/365 (Fixed)** is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the actual number of days in the Interest Period divided by 365;
- (iii) if **Actual/365 (Sterling)** is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the actual number of days in the Interest Period divided by 365 or, in the case of an Interest Payment Date falling in a leap year, 366;
- (iv) if **Actual/360** is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the actual number of days in the Interest Period divided by 360;
- (v) if **30/360**, **360/360** or **Bond Basis** is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the number of days in the Interest Period divided by 360, calculated on a formula basis as follows:

$$\text{Day Count Fraction} = \frac{[360 \times (Y_2 - Y_1)] + [30 \times (M_2 - M_1)] + (D_2 - D_1)}{360}$$

where:

“Y<sub>1</sub>” is the year, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Interest Period falls;

“Y<sub>2</sub>” is the year, expressed as a number, in which the day immediately following the last day of the Interest Period falls;

“M<sub>1</sub>” is the calendar month, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Interest Period falls;

“M<sub>2</sub>” is the calendar month, expressed as a number, in which the day immediately following the last day of the Interest Period falls;

“D<sub>1</sub>” is the first calendar day, expressed as a number, of the Interest Period, unless such number is 31, in which case D<sub>1</sub> will be 30; and

“D<sub>2</sub>” is the calendar day, expressed as a number, immediately following the last day included in the Interest Period, unless such number would be 31 and D<sub>1</sub> is greater than 29, in which case D<sub>2</sub> will be 30;

- (vi) if **30E/360** or **Eurobond Basis** is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the number of days in the Interest Period divided by 360, calculated on a formula basis as follows:

$$\text{Day Count Fraction} = \frac{[360 \times (Y_2 - Y_1)] + [30 \times (M_2 - M_1)] + (D_2 - D_1)}{360}$$

where:

“Y<sub>1</sub>” is the year, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Interest Period falls;

“Y<sub>2</sub>” is the year, expressed as a number, in which the day immediately following the last day of the Interest Period falls;

“M<sub>1</sub>” is the calendar month, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Interest Period falls;

“M<sub>2</sub>” is the calendar month, expressed as a number, in which the day immediately following the last day of the Interest Period falls;

“D<sub>1</sub>” is the first calendar day, expressed as a number, of the Interest Period, unless such number would be 31, in which case D1 will be 30; and

“D<sub>2</sub>” is the calendar day, expressed as a number, immediately following the last day included in the Interest Period, unless such number would be 31, in which case D2 will be 30; and

- (vii) if **30E/360 (ISDA)** is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the number of days in the Interest Period divided by 360, calculated on a formula basis as follows:

$$\text{Day Count Fraction} = \frac{[360 \times (Y_2 - Y_1)] + [30 \times (M_2 - M_1)] + (D_2 - D_1)}{360}$$

where:

“Y<sub>1</sub>” is the year, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Interest Period falls;

“Y<sub>2</sub>” is the year, expressed as a number, in which the day immediately following the last day of the Interest Period falls;

“M<sub>1</sub>” is the calendar month, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Interest Period falls;

“M<sub>2</sub>” is the calendar month, expressed as a number, in which the day immediately following the last day of the Interest Period falls;

“D<sub>1</sub>” is the first calendar day, expressed as a number, of the Interest Period, unless (i) that day is the last day of February or (ii) such number would be 31, in which case D1 will be 30; and

“D<sub>2</sub>” is the calendar day, expressed as a number, immediately following the last day included in the Interest Period, unless (i) that day is the last day of February but not the Maturity Date or (ii) such number would be 31, in which case D2 will be 30.

- (v) Linear Interpolation



Where Linear Interpolation is specified as applicable in respect of an Interest Period in the applicable Final Terms, the Rate of Interest for such Interest Period shall be calculated by the Agent by straight line linear interpolation by reference to two rates based on the relevant Reference Rate (where Screen Rate Determination is specified as applicable in the applicable Final Terms) or the relevant Floating Rate Option (where ISDA Determination is specified as applicable in the applicable Final Terms), one of which shall be determined as if the Designated Maturity were the period of time for which rates are available next shorter than the length of the relevant Interest Period and the other of which shall be determined as if the Designated Maturity were the period of time for which rates are available next longer than the length of the relevant Interest Period provided however that if there is no rate available for a period of time next shorter or, as the case may be, next longer, then the Agent in consultation with the Issuer shall determine such rate at such time and by reference to such sources as both determine appropriate. **Designated Maturity** means, in relation to Screen Rate Determination, the period of time designated in the Reference Rate.

(vi) Notification of Rate of Interest and Interest Amounts

The Principal Paying Agent will cause the Rate of Interest and each Interest Amount for each Interest Period and the relevant Interest Payment Date to be notified to the Issuer and any stock exchange on which the relevant Floating Rate Notes are for the time being listed and notice thereof to be published in accordance with Condition 14 as soon as possible after their determination but in no event later than the fourth London Business Day thereafter. Each Interest Amount and Interest Payment Date so notified may subsequently be amended (or appropriate alternative arrangements made by way of adjustment) without prior notice in the event of an extension or shortening of the Interest Period. Any such amendment will be promptly notified to each stock exchange on which the relevant Floating Rate Notes are for the time being listed and to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 14. For the purposes of this paragraph, the expression **London Business Day** means a day (other than a Saturday or a Sunday) on which banks and foreign exchange markets are open for business in London.

(vii) Certificates to be final

All certificates, communications, opinions, determinations, calculations, quotations and decisions given, expressed, made or obtained for the purposes of the provisions of this Condition 5(b) by the Principal Paying Agent shall (in the absence of wilful default, bad faith or manifest error) be binding on the Issuer, the Principal Paying Agent, the other Agents and all Noteholders and Couponholders and (in the absence of wilful default or bad faith) no liability to the Issuer, the Noteholders or the Couponholders shall attach to the Principal Paying Agent in connection with the exercise or non-exercise by it of its powers, duties and discretions pursuant to such provisions.

(c) *Accrual of interest*

Each Note (or in the case of the redemption of part only of a Note, that part only of such Note) will cease to bear interest (if any) from (but excluding) the date for its redemption unless, upon due presentation thereof, payment of principal is improperly withheld or refused. In such event, interest will continue to accrue until whichever is the earlier of:

- (1) the date on which all amounts due in respect of such Note have been paid; and
- (2) five days after the date on which the full amount of the moneys payable has been received by the Principal Paying Agent or the relevant Registrar, as the case may be, and notice to that effect has been given in accordance with Condition 14.

## 6. PAYMENTS

### (a) *Method of payment*

Subject as provided below:

- (i) payments in a Specified Currency other than euro will be made by credit or transfer to an account in the relevant Specified Currency maintained by the payee with, or, at the option of the payee, by a cheque in such Specified Currency drawn on, a bank in the principal financial centre of the country of such Specified Currency (which, if the Specified Currency is Australian dollars or New Zealand dollars, shall be Sydney and Auckland, respectively); and
- (ii) payments will be made in euro by credit or transfer to a euro account (or any other account to which euro may be credited or transferred) specified by the payee or, at the option of the payee, by a euro cheque.

Payments will be subject in all cases (i) to any fiscal or other laws and regulations applicable thereto in the place of payment, but without prejudice to the provisions of Condition 8 and (ii) any withholding or deduction required pursuant to an agreement described in Section 1471(b) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the **Code**) or otherwise imposed pursuant to Sections 1471 through 1474 of the Code, any regulations or agreements thereunder, ANY official interpretations thereof, or (without prejudice to the provisions of Condition 8) any law implementing an intergovernmental approach thereto.

### (b) *Presentation of definitive Bearer Notes and Coupons*

Payments of principal in respect of definitive Bearer Notes will (subject as provided below) be made in the manner provided in paragraph (a) above only against presentation and surrender (or, in the case of part payment of any sum due, endorsement) of definitive Bearer Notes, and payments of interest in respect of definitive Bearer Notes will (subject as provided below) be made as aforesaid only against presentation and surrender (or, in the case of part payment of any sum due, endorsement) of Coupons, in each case at the specified office of any Paying Agent outside the United States (which expression, as used herein, means the United States of America (including the States and the District of Columbia and its possessions)).

Fixed Rate Notes in definitive bearer form (other than Long Maturity Notes (as defined below)) should be presented for payment together with all unexpired Coupons appertaining thereto (which expression shall for this purpose include Coupons falling to be issued on exchange of matured Talons), failing which the amount of any missing unexpired Coupon (or, in the case of payment not being made in full, the same proportion of the amount of such missing unexpired Coupon as the sum so paid bears to the sum due) will be deducted from the sum due for payment. Each amount of principal so deducted will be paid in the manner mentioned above against surrender of the relative missing Coupon at any time before the expiry of 10 years after the Relevant Date (as defined in Condition 8) in respect of such principal (whether or not such Coupon would otherwise have become void under Condition 9) or, if later, five years from the date on which such Coupon would otherwise have become due, but in no event thereafter.

Upon any Fixed Rate Note in definitive bearer form becoming due and repayable prior to its Maturity Date, all unexpired Talons (if any) appertaining thereto will become void and no further Coupons will be issued in respect thereof.

Upon the date on which any Floating Rate Note or Long Maturity Note in definitive bearer form becomes due and repayable, unexpired Coupons and Talons (if any) relating thereto (whether or not attached) shall become void and no payment or, as the case may be, exchange for further Coupons shall be made in respect thereof. A **Long Maturity Note** is a Fixed Rate Note (other than a Fixed Rate Note which on issue had a Talon attached) whose nominal amount on issue is less than the aggregate interest payable thereon provided that such Note shall cease to be a Long Maturity Note on the Interest Payment Date on which the aggregate amount of interest remaining to be paid after that date is less than the nominal amount of such Note.

If the due date for redemption of any definitive Bearer Note is not an Interest Payment Date, interest (if any) accrued in respect of such Note from (and including) the preceding Interest Payment Date or, as the case may be, the Interest Commencement Date shall be payable only against surrender of the relevant definitive Bearer Note.

(c) *Payments in respect of Bearer Global Notes*

Payments of principal and interest (if any) in respect of Notes represented by any Global Note in bearer form will (subject as provided below) be made in the manner specified above in relation to definitive Bearer Notes and otherwise in the manner specified in the relevant Global Note against presentation or surrender, as the case may be, of such Global Note at the specified office of any Paying Agent outside the United States. A record of each payment made against presentation or surrender of any Global Note in bearer form, distinguishing between any payment of principal and any payment of interest, will be made on such Global Note by the Paying Agent to which it was presented and such record shall be *prima facie* evidence that the payment in question has been made.

(d) *Payments in respect of Registered Notes*

Payments of principal in respect of each Registered Note (whether or not in global form) will be made against presentation and surrender (or, in the case of part payment of any sum due, endorsement) of the Registered Note at the specified office of the relevant Registrar or any of the Paying Agents. Such payments will be made by transfer to the Designated Account (as defined below) of the holder (or the first named of joint holders) of the Registered Note appearing in the register of holders of the Registered Notes maintained by the relevant Registrar (the **Register**) (i) where in global form, at the close of the business day (being for this purpose a day on which Euroclear and Clearstream Luxembourg are open for business) before the relevant due date, and (ii) where in definitive form, at the close of business on the third business day (being for this purpose a day on which banks are open for business in the city where the specified office of the relevant Registrar is located) before the relevant due date. Notwithstanding the previous sentence, if (i) a holder does not have a Designated Account or (ii) the principal amount of the Notes held by a holder is less than U.S.\$250,000 (or its approximate equivalent in any other Specified Currency), payment will instead be made by a cheque in the Specified Currency drawn on a Designated Bank (as defined below). For these purposes, **Designated Account** means the account (which, in the case of a payment in Japanese yen to a non-resident of Japan, shall be a non-resident account) maintained by a holder with a Designated Bank and identified as such in the Register and **Designated Bank** means (in the case of payment in a Specified Currency other than euro) a bank in the principal financial centre of the country of such Specified Currency (which, if the Specified Currency is Australian dollars or New Zealand dollars, shall be Sydney and Auckland, respectively) and (in the case of a payment in euro) any bank which processes payments in euro.

Payments of interest in respect of each Registered Note (whether or not in global form) will be made by a cheque in the Specified Currency drawn on a Designated Bank and mailed by uninsured mail on the business day in the city where the specified office of the relevant Registrar is located immediately preceding the relevant due date to the holder (or the first named of joint holders) of the Registered Note appearing in the Register (i) where in global form, at the close of the business day (being for this purpose a day on which Euroclear and Clearstream Luxembourg are open for business) before the relevant due date, and (ii) where in definitive form, at the close of business on the fifteenth day (whether or not such fifteenth day is a business day) before the relevant due date (the **Record Date**) at his address shown in the Register on the Record Date and at his risk. Upon application of the holder to the specified office of the relevant Registrar not less than three business days in the city where the specified office of the relevant Registrar is located before the due date for any payment of interest in respect of a Registered Note, the payment may be made by transfer on the due date in the manner provided in the preceding paragraph. Any such application for transfer shall be deemed to relate to all future payments of interest (other than interest due on redemption) in respect of the Registered Notes which become payable to the holder who has made the initial application until such time as the relevant Registrar is notified in writing to the contrary by such holder. Payment of the interest due in respect of each Registered Note on redemption will be made in the same manner as payment of the principal amount of such Registered Note.

Holders of Registered Notes will not be entitled to any interest or other payment for any delay in receiving any amount due in respect of any Registered Note as a result of a cheque posted in accordance with this Condition arriving after the due date for payment or being lost in the post. No commissions or expenses shall be charged to such holders by the relevant Registrar in respect of any payments of principal or interest in respect of the Registered Notes.

All amounts payable to DTC or its nominee as registered holder of a Registered Global Note in respect of Notes denominated in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars shall be paid by transfer by the relevant Registrar to an account in the relevant Specified Currency of the Exchange Agent on behalf of DTC or its nominee for conversion into any payment in U.S. dollars in accordance with the provisions of the Agency Agreement.

None of the Issuer or the Agents will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to, or payments made on account of, beneficial ownership interests in the Registered Global Notes or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to such beneficial ownership interests.

(e) *General provisions applicable to payments*

The holder of a Global Note shall be the only person entitled to receive payments in respect of Notes represented by such Global Note and the Issuer will be discharged by payment to, or to the order of, the holder of such Global Note in respect of each amount so paid. Each of the persons shown in the records of Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg or DTC as the beneficial holder of a particular nominal amount of Notes represented by such Global Note must look solely to Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg or DTC, as the case may be, for his share of each payment so made by the Issuer to, or to the order of, the holder of such Global Note.

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Condition, if any amount of principal and/or interest in respect of Bearer Notes is payable in U.S. dollars, such U.S. dollar payments of principal and/or interest in respect of such Notes will be made at the specified office of a Paying Agent in the United States if:

- (i) the Issuer has appointed Paying Agents with specified offices outside the United States with the reasonable expectation that such Paying Agents would be able to make payment in U.S. dollars at such specified offices outside the United States of the full amount of principal and interest on the Bearer Notes in the manner provided above when due;
- (ii) payment of the full amount of such principal and interest at all such specified offices outside the United States is illegal or effectively precluded by exchange controls or other similar restrictions on the full payment or receipt of principal and interest in U.S. dollars; and
- (iii) such payment is then permitted under United States law without involving, in the opinion of the Issuer, adverse tax consequences to the Issuer.

(f) *Payment Day*

If the date for payment of any amount in respect of any Note or Coupon is not a Payment Day, the holder thereof shall not be entitled to payment until the next following Payment Day in the relevant place and shall not be entitled to further interest or other payment in respect of such delay. For these purposes, **Payment Day** means any day which (subject to Condition 9) is:

- (i) a day on which commercial banks and foreign exchange markets settle payments and are open for general business (including dealing in foreign exchange and foreign currency deposits) in:
  - (A) in the case of Notes in definitive form only, the relevant place of presentation; and
  - (B) each Additional Financial Centre specified in the applicable Final Terms;

- (ii) either (1) in relation to any sum payable in a Specified Currency other than euro, a day on which commercial banks and foreign exchange markets settle payments and are open for general business (including dealing in foreign exchange and foreign currency deposits) in the principal financial centre of the country of the relevant Specified Currency (which if the Specified Currency is Australian dollars or New Zealand dollars shall be Sydney and Auckland, respectively) or (2) in relation to any sum payable in euro, a day on which the TARGET2 System is open; and
- (iii) in the case of any payment in respect of a Registered Global Note denominated in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars and registered in the name of DTC or its nominee and in respect of which an accountholder of DTC (with an interest in such Registered Global Note) has elected to receive any part of such payment in U.S. dollars, a day on which commercial banks are not authorised or required by law or regulation to be closed in New York City.

(g) *Interpretation of principal and interest*

Any reference in these Terms and Conditions to principal in respect of the Notes shall be deemed to include, as applicable: (i) any additional amounts which may be payable with respect to principal under Condition 8; (ii) the Final Redemption Amount of the Notes; (iii) the Early Redemption Amount of the Notes; (iv) the Optional Redemption Amount(s) (if any) of the Notes; (v) in relation to Zero Coupon Notes, the Amortised Face Amount (as defined in Condition 7(e)); and (vi) any premium and any other amounts which may be payable by the Issuer under or in respect of the Notes.

Any reference in these Terms and Conditions to interest in respect of the Notes shall be deemed to include, as applicable, any additional amounts which may be payable with respect to interest under Condition 8.

**7. REDEMPTION AND PURCHASE**

(a) *Redemption at maturity*

Unless previously redeemed or purchased and cancelled as specified below, each Note will be redeemed by the Issuer at its Final Redemption Amount specified in the applicable Final Terms in the relevant Specified Currency on the Maturity Date specified in the applicable Final Terms.

(b) *Redemption for tax reasons*

Subject to Condition 7(e), the Notes may be redeemed at the option of the Issuer in whole, but not in part, at any time (if this Note is not a Floating Rate Note) or on any Interest Payment Date (if this Note is a Floating Rate Note), on giving not less than 30 nor more than 60 days' notice to the Principal Paying Agent and, in accordance with Condition 14, the Noteholders (which notice shall be irrevocable), if:

- (i) on the occasion of the next payment due under the Notes, the Issuer has or will become obliged to pay additional amounts as provided or referred to in Condition 8 as a result of any change in, or amendment to, the laws or regulations of a Tax Jurisdiction (as defined in Condition 8) or any political subdivision of, or any authority in, or of, a Tax Jurisdiction having power to tax, or any change in the application or official interpretation of such laws or regulations, which change or amendment becomes effective on or after the date on which agreement is reached to issue the first Tranche of the Notes; and
- (ii) such obligation cannot be avoided by the Issuer taking reasonable measures available to it,

provided that no such notice of redemption shall be given earlier than 90 days prior to the earliest date on which the Issuer would be obliged to pay such additional amounts were a payment in respect of the Notes then due.

Prior to the publication of any notice of redemption pursuant to this Condition, the Issuer shall deliver to the Principal Paying Agent to make available at its specified office to the Noteholders (i) a certificate signed by two Directors of the Issuer stating that the Issuer is entitled to effect such redemption and setting forth a statement of facts showing that the conditions precedent to the right of the Issuer so to redeem have occurred, and (ii) an opinion of independent legal advisers of recognised standing to the effect that the Issuer has or will become obliged to pay such additional amounts as a result of such change or amendment.

Each Note redeemed pursuant to this Condition 7(b) will be redeemed at its Early Redemption Amount referred to in paragraph (e) below together (if appropriate) with interest accrued to (but excluding) the date of redemption.

(c) *Redemption at the option of the Issuer (Issuer Call)*

If Issuer Call is specified as being applicable in the applicable Final Terms, the Issuer may, having given not less than 15 nor more than 30 days' notice to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 14 (which notice shall be irrevocable and shall specify the date fixed for redemption), redeem all or some only of the Notes then outstanding on any Optional Redemption Date(s) and at the Optional Redemption Amount(s) specified in the applicable Final Terms together, if appropriate, with interest accrued to (but excluding) the relevant Optional Redemption Date. Any such redemption must be of a nominal amount not less than the Minimum Redemption Amount and not more than the Maximum Redemption Amount, in each case as may be specified in the applicable Final Terms.

In the case of a partial redemption of Notes, the Notes to be redeemed (**Redeemed Notes**) will be selected individually by lot, in the case of Redeemed Notes represented by definitive Notes, and in accordance with the rules of Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg (to be reflected in the records of Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg as either a pool factor or a reduction in nominal amount, at their discretion) and/or DTC, in the case of Redeemed Notes represented by a Global Note, not more than 30 days prior to the date fixed for redemption (such date of selection being hereinafter called the **Selection Date**). In the case of Redeemed Notes represented by definitive Notes, a list of the serial numbers of such Redeemed Notes will be published in accordance with Condition 14 not less than 15 days prior to the date fixed for redemption. No exchange of the relevant Global Note will be permitted during the period from (and including) the Selection Date to (and including) the date fixed for redemption pursuant to this paragraph (c) and notice to that effect shall be given by the Issuer to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 14 at least five days prior to the Selection Date.

(d) *Redemption at the option of the Noteholders*

(i) Investor Put

If Investor Put is specified as being applicable in the applicable Final Terms, upon the holder of any Note giving to the Issuer in accordance with Condition 14 not less than 15 nor more than 30 days' notice, the Issuer will, upon the expiry of such notice, redeem in whole (but not, in the case of a Bearer Note in definitive form, in part), such Note on the Optional Redemption Date and at the Optional Redemption Amount together, if appropriate, with interest accrued to (but excluding) the Optional Redemption Date. Registered Notes may be redeemed under this Condition 7(d)(i) in any multiple of their lowest Specified Denomination.

To exercise the right to require redemption of this Note the holder of this Note must, if this Note is in definitive form and held outside Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg and DTC, deliver, at the specified office of any Paying Agent (in the case of Bearer Notes) or the relevant Registrar (in the case of Registered Notes) at any time during normal business hours of such Paying Agent or, as the case may be, the relevant Registrar falling within the notice period, a duly completed and signed notice of exercise in the form (for the time being current) obtainable from any specified office of any Paying Agent or, as the case may be, the relevant Registrar (a **Put Notice**) and in which the holder must specify a bank account (or, if payment is required to be made by cheque, an address) to which payment is to be made under this Condition 7(d)(i) and, in the case of Registered Notes, the nominal amount thereof to be

redeemed and, if less than the full nominal amount of the Registered Notes so surrendered is to be redeemed, an address to which a new Registered Note in respect of the balance of such Registered Notes is to be sent subject to and in accordance with the provisions of Condition 2(b). If this Note is in definitive form, the Put Notice must be accompanied by this Note or evidence satisfactory to the Paying Agent concerned that this Note will, following delivery of the Put Notice, be held to its order or under its control.

If this Note is represented by a Global Note or is in definitive form and held through Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg or DTC, to exercise the right to require redemption of this Note the holder of this Note must, within the notice period, give notice to the Principal Paying Agent of such exercise in accordance with the standard procedures of Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg and DTC (which may include notice being given on his instruction by Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg, DTC or any depositary for them to the Principal Paying Agent by electronic means) in a form acceptable to Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg and DTC from time to time.

Any Put Notice given by a holder of any Note pursuant to this Condition 7(d)(i) shall be irrevocable except where prior to the due date of redemption an Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing in which event such holder, at its option, may elect by notice to the Issuer to withdraw the notice given pursuant to this Condition 7(d)(i) and instead to declare such Note forthwith due and payable pursuant to Condition 10.

(ii) Change of Control Put

If Change of Control Put is specified as being applicable in the applicable Final Terms, this Condition 7(d)(ii) shall apply.

(A) If at any time while any Note remains outstanding:

- (a) there occurs a Change of Control; and
- (b) within the Change of Control Period, a Rating Downgrade occurs as a result of that Change of Control or as a result of a Potential Change of Control (a **Put Event**),

the holder of each Note will have the option (unless, prior to the giving of the Put Event Notice (as defined below) and where applicable, the Issuer gives notice of its intention to redeem the Notes (i) under Condition 7(b) or (ii) pursuant to the provisions of Condition 7(c)) to require the Issuer to redeem or, at the Issuer's option, to purchase (or procure the purchase of) that Note on the Optional Redemption Date (Put) (as defined below) at its principal amount together with (or, where purchased, together with an amount equal to) accrued interest to but excluding the Optional Redemption Date (Put). Registered Notes may be redeemed or purchased under this Condition 7(d)(ii) in any multiple of their lowest Specified Denomination.

(B) For the purposes of this Condition 7(d)(ii):

a **Change of Control** shall be deemed to have occurred at each time (whether or not approved by the board of directors or senior management of the Issuer) that any person (**Relevant Person**) or persons acting in concert, or any person or persons acting on behalf of any such person(s), at any time directly or indirectly acquire (a) more than 50 per cent. of the issued ordinary share capital of the Issuer or (b) such number of the shares in the capital of the Issuer carrying more than 50 per cent. of the voting rights normally exercisable at a general meeting of the Issuer, provided that a Change of Control shall not be deemed to have occurred if the shareholders of the Relevant Person are also, or immediately prior to the event which would otherwise constitute a Change of Control were, all of the shareholders of the Issuer;

**Change of Control Period** means:

- (a) the period commencing on the date of the first public announcement of the relevant Change of Control and ending on the date which is 180 days thereafter (inclusive) provided that:
  - (1) a Rating Downgrade occurs during that period; and
  - (2) such Rating Downgrade results from a Change of Control; or
- (b) the period commencing 180 days prior to the date of the first public announcement of the relevant Change of Control and ending on the date of such announcement (inclusive) provided that:
  - (1) a Rating Downgrade occurs during that period; and
  - (2) such Rating Downgrade results from a Potential Change of Control;

**Investment Grade Rating** means a rating of BBB- by Standard & Poor's Credit Market Services Europe Limited (**S&P**) or its equivalent for the time being, or better;

**Potential Change of Control** means any public announcement or statement by the Issuer or any actual or potential bidder relating to any potential Change of Control;

**Rating Agency** means S&P and its successors or any other rating agency of equivalent international standing requested from time to time by the Issuer to assign a rating to the Notes; and

a **Rating Downgrade** shall be deemed to have occurred as a result of a Change of Control or as a result of a Potential Change of Control if within the Change of Control Period the rating previously assigned to the Notes by any Rating Agency is (i) withdrawn, (ii) changed from an Investment Grade Rating to a non-Investment Grade Rating (for example, from BBB- to BB+ by S&P, or its equivalent for the time being, or worse) or (iii) (if the rating previously assigned to the Notes by any Rating Agency was below an Investment Grade Rating) lowered one full rating category (for example, from BB+ to BB by S&P or such similar lower or equivalent rating), provided that a Rating Downgrade otherwise arising by virtue of a particular change in rating shall only be deemed to have occurred as a result of a particular Change of Control or Potential Change of Control, as the case may be, if in making the relevant change in rating referred to above, the relevant Rating Agency publicly announces or publicly confirms or confirms in writing to the Issuer that such change in rating resulted, in whole or in part, from the occurrence of the Change of Control or the Potential Change of Control, as the case may be.

- (C) Promptly upon the Issuer becoming aware that a Put Event has occurred, the Issuer shall give notice (a **Put Event Notice**) to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 14 specifying the nature of the Put Event and the circumstances giving rise to it and the procedure for exercising the option contained in this Condition 7(d)(ii).
- (D) To exercise the option to require redemption or, as the case may be, purchase of this Note under this Condition 7(d)(ii) the holder of this Note must, if this Note is in definitive form and held outside Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg and DTC, deliver this Note, on any Payment Day (as defined in Condition 6) in the city of the specified office of the relevant Paying Agent (in the case of Bearer Notes) or Registrar (in the case of Registered Notes) falling within the period (the **Put Period**) of 45 days after a Put Event Notice is given, at the specified office of any Paying Agent (in the case of Bearer Notes) or the Registrar (in the case of Registered Notes),



accompanied by a duly completed and signed notice of exercise in the form (for the time being current) obtainable from the specified office of any Paying Agent or, as the case may be, the Registrar (a **Put Option Notice**) and in which the holder must specify a bank account (or, if payment is required to be made by cheque, an address) to which payment is to be made under this Condition 7(d)(ii) and, in the case of Registered Notes, the nominal amount thereof to be redeemed or, as the case may be, purchased and, if less than the full nominal amount of the Registered Notes so surrendered is to be redeemed or purchased, an address to which a new Registered Note in respect of the balance of such Registered Notes is to be sent subject to and in accordance with the provisions of Condition 2(b). This Note should be delivered together with all Coupons appertaining hereto maturing after the date (the **Optional Redemption Date (Put)**) which is the seventh day after the last day of the Put Period, failing which an amount will be deducted from the payment to be made by the Issuer on redemption or, as the case may be, purchase of this Note corresponding to the aggregate amount payable in respect of such missing Coupons.

If this Note is represented by a Global Note or is in definitive form and held through Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg or DTC, to exercise the right to require redemption or, as the case may be, purchase of this Note under this Condition 7(d)(ii) the holder of this Note must, within the Put Period, give notice to the Principal Paying Agent of such exercise in accordance with the standard procedures of Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg and DTC (which may include notice being given on his instruction by Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg, DTC or any depository for them to the Principal Paying Agent by electronic means) in a form acceptable to Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg and DTC from time to time and, if this Note is represented by a Global Note, at the same time present or procure the presentation of the relevant Global Note to the Principal Paying Agent for notation accordingly.

- (E) The Paying Agent or the Registrar (as the case may be) to which such Note and Put Option Notice are delivered will issue to the holder concerned a non-transferable receipt (a **Put Option Receipt**) in respect of the Note so delivered or, in the case of a Global Note or Note in definitive form held through Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg or DTC, notice so received. The Issuer shall redeem or at the option of the Issuer purchase (or procure the purchase of) the Notes in respect of which Put Option Receipts have been issued on the Optional Redemption Date (Put), unless previously redeemed and purchased. Payment in respect of any Note so delivered will be made, if the holder duly specified a bank account in the Put Option Notice to which payment is to be made, on the Optional Redemption Date (Put) by transfer to that bank account and in every other case on or after the Optional Redemption Date (Put), in each case against presentation and surrender or (as the case may be) endorsement of such Put Option Receipt at the specified office of any Paying Agent (in the case of Bearer Notes) or the Registrar (in the case of Registered Notes) in accordance with the provisions of this Condition 7(d)(ii).

(e) *Early Redemption Amounts*

For the purpose of paragraph (b) above and Condition 10, each Note will be redeemed at its Early Redemption Amount calculated as follows:

- (i) in the case of a Note with a Final Redemption Amount equal to the Issue Price, at the Final Redemption Amount thereof;
- (ii) in the case of a Note (other than a Zero Coupon Note) with a Final Redemption Amount which is or may be less or greater than the Issue Price or which is payable in a Specified Currency other than that in which the Notes are denominated, at the amount specified in the applicable Final Terms or, if no such amount or manner is so specified in the applicable Final Terms, at its nominal amount; or

- (iii) in the case of a Zero Coupon Note, at an amount (the **Amortised Face Amount**) calculated as follows:

$$\text{Early Redemption Amount} = \text{RP} \times (1 + \text{AY})^y$$

where:

**RP** means the Reference Price;

**AY** means the Accrual Yield expressed as a decimal; and

**y** is the Day Count Fraction specified in the applicable Final Terms which will be either (i) 30/360 (in which case the numerator will be equal to the number of days (calculated on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of 12 months of 30 days each) from (and including) the Issue Date of the first Tranche of the Notes to (but excluding) the date fixed for redemption or (as the case may be) the date upon which such Note becomes due and repayable and the denominator of which will be 360) or (ii) Actual/360 (in which case the numerator will be equal to the actual number of days from (and including) the Issue Date of the first Tranche of the Notes to (but excluding) the date fixed for redemption or (as the case may be) the date upon which such Note becomes due and repayable and the denominator will be 360) or (iii) Actual/365 (in which case the numerator will be equal to the actual number of days from (and including) the Issue Date of the first Tranche of the Notes to (but excluding) the date fixed for redemption or (as the case may be) the date upon which such Note becomes due and repayable and the denominator will be 365).

(f) *Purchases*

The Issuer or any of its Subsidiaries may at any time purchase Notes (provided that, in the case of definitive Bearer Notes, all unmatured Coupons and Talons appertaining thereto are purchased therewith) at any price in the open market or otherwise. Such Notes may be held, reissued, resold or, at the option of the Issuer, surrendered to any Paying Agent and/or the Registrar for cancellation.

(g) *Cancellation*

All Notes which are redeemed will forthwith be cancelled (together with all unmatured Coupons and Talons attached thereto or surrendered therewith at the time of redemption). All Notes so cancelled and the Notes purchased and cancelled pursuant to paragraph (f) above (together with all unmatured Coupons and Talons cancelled therewith) shall be forwarded to the Principal Paying Agent and cannot be reissued or resold.

(h) *Late payment on Zero Coupon Notes*

If the amount payable in respect of any Zero Coupon Note upon redemption of such Zero Coupon Note pursuant to paragraph (a), (b), (c) or (d) above or upon its becoming due and repayable as provided in Condition 10 is improperly withheld or refused, the amount due and repayable in respect of such Zero Coupon Note shall be the amount calculated as provided in paragraph (e)(iii) above as though the references therein to the date fixed for the redemption or the date upon which such Zero Coupon Note becomes due and payable were replaced by references to the date which is the earlier of:

- (i) the date on which all amounts due in respect of such Zero Coupon Note have been paid; and
- (ii) five days after the date on which the full amount of the moneys payable in respect of such Zero Coupon Notes has been received by the Principal Paying Agent or the relevant Registrar and notice to that effect has been given to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 14.

## 8. TAXATION

All payments of principal and interest in respect of the Notes and Coupons by the Issuer will be made without withholding or deduction for or on account of any present or future taxes or duties of whatever nature imposed or levied by or on behalf of any Tax Jurisdiction unless such withholding or deduction is required by law. In such event, the Issuer will pay such additional amounts as shall be necessary in order that the net amounts received by the holders of the Notes or Coupons after such withholding or deduction shall equal the respective amounts of principal and interest which would otherwise have been receivable in respect of the Notes or Coupons, as the case may be, in the absence of such withholding or deduction; except that no such additional amounts shall be payable with respect to any Note or Coupon:

- (i) presented for payment by or on behalf of a holder who is liable for such taxes or duties in respect of such Note or Coupon by reason of his having some connection with a Tax Jurisdiction other than the mere holding of such Note or Coupon;
- (ii) presented for payment by or on behalf of a holder who is able to avoid such withholding or deduction by making a declaration of non-residence or other similar claims for exemption to the relevant tax authority;
- (iii) presented for payment more than 30 days after the Relevant Date (as defined below) except to the extent that the holder thereof would have been entitled to an additional amount on presenting the same for payment on such thirtieth day assuming that day to have been a Payment Day (as defined in Condition 6(f));
- (iv) where such withholding or deduction is imposed on a payment to an individual and is required to be made pursuant to European Council Directive 2003/48/EC or any law implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to, such Directive; or
- (v) presented for payment by or on behalf of a holder who would be able to avoid such withholding or deduction by presenting the relevant Note or Coupon to another Paying Agent in a Member State of the European Union.

As used herein:

- (A) **Tax Jurisdiction** means Sweden or any political subdivision or any authority thereof or therein having power to tax; and
- (B) the **Relevant Date** means the date on which such payment first becomes due, except that, if the full amount of the moneys payable has not been duly received by the Principal Paying Agent or the relevant Registrar, as the case may be, on or prior to such due date, it means the date on which, the full amount of such moneys having been so received, notice to that effect is duly given to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 14.

## 9. PRESCRIPTION

The Notes (whether in bearer or registered form) and Coupons will become void unless presented for payment within a period of 10 years (in the case of principal) and five years (in the case of interest) after the Relevant Date (as defined in Condition 8) therefor.

There shall not be included in any Coupon sheet issued on exchange of a Talon any Coupon the claim for payment in respect of which would be void pursuant to this Condition or Condition 6(b) or any Talon which would be void pursuant to Condition 6(b).

## 10. EVENTS OF DEFAULT

If any one or more of the following events (each an **Event of Default**) shall occur:

- (i) if default is made in the payment in the Specified Currency of any principal, premium (if any) or interest due in respect of the Notes or any of them and the default continues for a period of five business days in the case of principal or premium (if any) and ten business days in the case of interest; or
- (ii) if the Issuer fails to perform or observe any of its other obligations under these Conditions and (except in any case where the failure is incapable of remedy when no such continuation or notice as is hereinafter mentioned will be required) the failure continues for the period of 30 days next following the service by a Noteholder on the Issuer of notice requiring the same to be remedied; or
- (iii) any relevant indebtedness of the Issuer or any Relevant Subsidiary is not paid when due or any relevant indebtedness of the Issuer or any Relevant Subsidiary is declared to be or otherwise becomes due and payable prior to its specified maturity due to a default thereunder (however described) unless, in the case of any such declaration, such declaration is being contested in good faith by the Issuer or such Relevant Subsidiary on the basis of independent legal advice and such creditor (or creditors) has (or have) not obtained an enforceable judgment against the Issuer or such Relevant Subsidiary in respect of the same and the Issuer or such Relevant Subsidiary has a reasonable prospect of successfully contesting such action (or actions) and has, if such action is adversely determined against the Issuer or such Relevant Subsidiary, sufficient resources to pay the relevant indebtedness. For the purposes of this Condition, **relevant indebtedness** means indebtedness which, when aggregated with all other indebtedness to which any part of this Condition 10(iii) applies, exceeds SEK 50,000,000 (or its equivalent in any other currency); or
- (iv) if any order is made by any competent court or resolution passed for the winding up or dissolution of the Issuer or any Relevant Subsidiary, save for the purposes of reorganisation on terms approved by an Extraordinary Resolution; or
- (v) if the Issuer or the Group ceases or threatens to cease to carry on all or substantially all of its business, save for the purposes of reorganisation on terms approved by an Extraordinary Resolution, or the Issuer or any Relevant Subsidiary stops or threatens to stop payment of, or is unable to, or admits inability to, pay, its debts (or any class of its debts) as they fall due, or is deemed unable to pay its debts pursuant to or for the purposes of any applicable law, or is adjudicated or found bankrupt or insolvent; or
- (vi) if (A) proceedings are initiated against the Issuer or any Relevant Subsidiary under any applicable liquidation, insolvency, composition, reorganisation or other similar laws, or an application is made for the appointment of an administrative or other receiver, manager, administrator or other similar official, or an administrative or other receiver, manager, administrator or other similar official is appointed, in relation to the Issuer or any Relevant Subsidiary or, as the case may be, in relation to the whole or a part of the undertaking or assets of any of them, or an encumbrancer takes possession of the whole or a part of the undertaking or assets of any of them, or a distress, execution, attachment, sequestration or other process is levied, enforced upon, sued out or put in force against the whole or a part of the undertaking or assets of any of them and (B) in any case (other than the appointment of an administrator) is not discharged within 30 days; or
- (vii) if the Issuer or any Relevant Subsidiary initiates or consents to judicial proceedings relating to itself under any applicable liquidation, insolvency, composition, reorganisation or other similar laws or makes a conveyance or assignment for the benefit of, or enters into any composition or other arrangement with, its creditors generally (or any class of its creditors) or any meeting is convened to consider a proposal for an arrangement or composition with its creditors generally (or any class of its creditors),

then any holder of a Note may, by written notice to the Issuer at the specified office of the Principal Paying Agent, effective upon the date of receipt thereof by the Principal Paying Agent, declare any Notes held by the holder to be forthwith due and payable whereupon the same shall become forthwith

due and payable at the Early Redemption Amount (as described in Condition 7(e)), together with accrued interest (if any) to the date of repayment, without presentment, demand, protest or other notice of any kind.

For the purposes of this Condition:

**Group** means the Issuer and its Subsidiaries; and

**Relevant Subsidiary** at any time shall mean a Subsidiary of the Issuer *inter alia*:

- (A) whose sales (consolidated in the case of a Subsidiary which itself has Subsidiaries) or whose total assets (consolidated in the case of a Subsidiary which itself has Subsidiaries) represent not less than ten per cent. of the consolidated sales, or, as the case may be, consolidated total assets, of the Issuer and its Subsidiaries taken as a whole, all as calculated respectively by reference to the then latest audited accounts (consolidated or, as the case may be, unconsolidated) of the Subsidiary and the then latest audited consolidated accounts of the Issuer and its Subsidiaries; or
- (B) to which is transferred the whole or substantially the whole of the undertaking and assets of a Subsidiary of the Issuer which immediately before the transfer is a Relevant Subsidiary,

all as more particularly defined in the Agency Agreement.

A report by an independent firm of accountants that in their opinion a Subsidiary of the Issuer is or is not or was or was not at any particular time or throughout any specified period a Relevant Subsidiary shall, in the absence of manifest error, be conclusive and binding on all parties.

In acting under the Agency Agreement, the Agents act solely as agents of the Issuer and do not assume any obligation to, or relationship of agency or trust with, any Noteholders or Couponholders. The Agency Agreement contains provisions permitting any entity into which any Agent is merged or converted or with which it is consolidated or to which it transfers all or substantially all of its assets to become the successor agent.

## 11. REPLACEMENT OF NOTES, COUPONS AND TALONS

Should any Note, Coupon or Talon be lost, stolen, mutilated, defaced or destroyed, it may be replaced at the specified office of the Principal Paying Agent (in the case of Bearer Notes or Coupons) or the relevant Registrar (in the case of Registered Notes) upon payment by the claimant of such costs and expenses as may be incurred in connection therewith and on such terms as to evidence and indemnity as the Issuer may reasonably require. Mutilated or defaced Notes, Coupons or Talons must be surrendered before replacements will be issued.

## 12. AGENTS

The names of the initial Agents and their initial specified offices are set out below. If any additional Paying Agents are appointed in connection with any Series, the names of such Paying Agents will be specified in Part B of the applicable Final Terms.

The Issuer is entitled to vary or terminate the appointment of any Agent and/or appoint additional or other Agents and/or approve any change in the specified office through which any Agent acts, provided that:

- (i) there will at all times be a Principal Paying Agent and a Registrar (or Registrars);
- (ii) so long as the Notes are listed on any stock exchange, there will at all times be a Paying Agent and a Transfer Agent with a specified office in such place as may be required by the rules and regulations of the relevant stock exchange or any other relevant authority;

- (iii) so long as any of the Registered Global Notes payable in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars are held through DTC or its nominee, there will at all times be an Exchange Agent with a specified office in New York City; and
- (iv) the Issuer undertakes that it will ensure that it maintains a Paying Agent in a Member State of the European Union that is not obliged to withhold or deduct tax pursuant to European Council Directive 2003/48/EC or any law implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to, such Directive.

In addition, the Issuer shall forthwith appoint a Paying Agent having a specified office in New York City in the circumstances described in Condition 6(e). Any variation, termination, appointment or change shall only take effect (other than in the case of insolvency, when it shall be of immediate effect) after not less than 30 nor more than 45 days' prior notice thereof shall have been given to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 14.

In acting under the Agency Agreement, the Agents act solely as agents of the Issuer and do not assume any obligation to, or relationship of agency or trust with, any Noteholders or Couponholders. The Agency Agreement contains provisions permitting any entity into which any agent is merged or converted or with which it is consolidated or to which it transfers all or substantially all of its assets to become the successor agent.

### **13. EXCHANGE OF TALONS**

On and after the Interest Payment Date on which the final Coupon comprised in any Coupon sheet matures, the Talon (if any) forming part of such Coupon sheet may be surrendered at the specified office of the Principal Paying Agent or any other Paying Agent in exchange for a further Coupon sheet including (if such further Coupon sheet does not include Coupons to (and including) the final date for the payment of interest due in respect of the Note to which it appertains) a further Talon, subject to the provisions of Condition 9.

### **14. NOTICES**

All notices regarding the Bearer Notes will be deemed to be validly given if published in a leading English language daily newspaper of general circulation in London. It is expected that such publication will be made in the *Financial Times* in London. The Issuer shall also ensure that notices are duly published in a manner which complies with the rules of any stock exchange or other relevant authority on which the Bearer Notes are for the time being listed or by which they have been admitted to trading. Any such notice will be deemed to have been given on the date of the first publication or, where required to be published in more than one newspaper, on the date of the first publication in all required newspapers.

All notices regarding the Registered Notes will be deemed to be validly given if sent by first class mail or (if posted to an address overseas) by airmail to the holders (or the first named of joint holders) at their respective addresses recorded in the Register and will be deemed to have been given on the fourth day after mailing and, in addition, for so long as any Registered Notes are listed on a stock exchange or are admitted by another relevant authority and the rules of that stock exchange or such other relevant authority so require, such notice will be published in a daily newspaper of general circulation in the place or places required by those rules.

Until such time as any definitive Notes are issued, there may, so long as any Global Notes representing the Notes are held in their entirety on behalf of Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and/or DTC, be substituted for such publication in such newspaper(s) or such mailing the delivery of the relevant notice to Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and/or DTC for communication by them to the holders of the Notes and, in addition, for so long as any Notes are listed on a stock exchange or are admitted by another relevant authority and the rules of that stock exchange or such other relevant authority so require, such notice will be published in a daily newspaper of general circulation in the place or places required by those rules. Any such notice shall be deemed to have been given to the

holders of the Notes on the third day after the day on which the said notice was given to Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and/or DTC.

Notices to be given by any Noteholder shall be in writing and given by lodging the same, together (in the case of any Note in definitive form) with the relative Note or Notes, with the Principal Paying Agent (in the case of Bearer Notes) or the relevant Registrar (in the case of Registered Notes). Whilst any of the Notes are represented by a Global Note, such notice may be given by any holder of a Note to the Principal Paying Agent or the relevant Registrar through Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and/or DTC, as the case may be, in such manner as the Principal Paying Agent, the relevant Registrar and Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and/or DTC, as the case may be, may approve for this purpose.

#### **15. MEETINGS OF NOTEHOLDERS, MODIFICATION AND WAIVER**

The Agency Agreement contains provisions for convening meetings of the Noteholders to consider any matter affecting their interests, including the sanctioning by Extraordinary Resolution of a modification of the Notes, the Coupons or any of the provisions of the Agency Agreement. Such a meeting may be convened by the Issuer and shall be convened by the Issuer if required in writing by Noteholders holding not less than ten per cent. in nominal amount of the Notes for the time being remaining outstanding. The quorum at any such meeting for passing an Extraordinary Resolution is one or more persons holding or representing not less than 50 per cent. in nominal amount of the Notes for the time being outstanding, or at any adjourned meeting one or more persons being or representing Noteholders whatever the nominal amount of the Notes so held or represented, except that at any meeting the business of which includes the modification of certain provisions of the Notes or the Coupons (including modifying the date of maturity of the Notes or any date for payment of interest thereon, reducing or cancelling the amount of principal or the rate of interest payable in respect of the Notes or altering the currency of payment of the Notes or the Coupons), the quorum shall be one or more persons holding or representing not less than two-thirds in nominal amount of the Notes for the time being outstanding, or at any adjourned such meeting one or more persons holding or representing not less than one-third in nominal amount of the Notes for the time being outstanding. An Extraordinary Resolution passed at any meeting of the Noteholders shall be binding on all the Noteholders, whether or not they are present at the meeting, and on all Couponholders.

The Principal Paying Agent and the Issuer may agree, without the consent of the Noteholders or Couponholders, to:

- (i) any modification (except such modifications in respect of which an increased quorum is required as mentioned above) of the Agency Agreement which is not prejudicial to the interests of the Noteholders; or
- (ii) any modification of the Notes, the Coupons or the Agency Agreement which is of a formal, minor or technical nature or is made to correct a manifest error or to comply with mandatory provisions of the law.

Any such modification shall be binding on the Noteholders and the Couponholders and any such modification shall be notified to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 14 as soon as practicable thereafter.

#### **16. FURTHER ISSUES**

The Issuer shall be at liberty from time to time without the consent of the Noteholders or the Couponholders to create and issue further notes having terms and conditions the same as the Notes or the same in all respects save for the amount and date of the first payment of interest thereon and the date from which interest starts to accrue and so that the same shall be consolidated and form a single Series with the outstanding Notes.

**17. CONTRACTS (RIGHTS OF THIRD PARTIES) ACT 1999**

No rights are conferred on any person under the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 to enforce any term of this Note, but this does not affect any right or remedy of any person which exists or is available apart from that Act.

**18. GOVERNING LAW AND SUBMISSION TO JURISDICTION**

*(a) Governing law*

The Agency Agreement, the Deed of Covenant, the Deed Poll, the Notes and the Coupons and any non-contractual obligations arising out of or in connection with the Agency Agreement, the Deed of Covenant, the Deed Poll, the Notes and the Coupons are governed by, and shall be construed in accordance with, English law.

*(b) Submission to jurisdiction*

The Issuer agrees, for the exclusive benefit of the Noteholders and the Couponholders, that the courts of England are to have jurisdiction to settle any disputes which may arise out of or in connection with the Notes and/or the Coupons (including a dispute relating to any non-contractual obligations arising out of or in connection with the Notes and/or the Coupons) and that accordingly any suit, action or proceedings (together referred to as **Proceedings**) arising out of or in connection with the Notes and the Coupons (including any Proceedings relating to any non-contractual obligations arising out of or in connection with the Notes or the Coupons) may be brought in such courts. Without prejudice to the foregoing, the Issuer further irrevocably agrees that any Proceedings may be brought in any New York State or United States Federal Court sitting in New York.

The Issuer hereby irrevocably waives any objection which it may have now or hereafter to the laying of the venue of any such Proceedings in any such court and any claim that any such Proceedings have been brought in an inconvenient forum and hereby further irrevocably agrees that a judgment in any such Proceedings brought in such courts shall be conclusive and binding upon it and may be enforced in the courts of any other jurisdiction.

*(c) Appointment of Process Agent*

The Issuer appoints The Swedish Trade & Invest Council at its registered office at 259-269 Old Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5RA, United Kingdom as its agent for service of process, and undertakes that, in the event of The Swedish Trade & Invest Council ceasing so to act or ceasing to be registered in England, it will appoint another person as its agent for service of process in England in respect of any Proceedings. Nothing herein shall affect the right to serve proceedings in any other manner permitted by law.

*(d) Other documents*

The Issuer has in the Agency Agreement, the Deed of Covenant and the Deed Poll submitted to the jurisdiction of the English courts and appointed an agent for service of process in terms substantially similar to those set out above.



## **USE OF PROCEEDS**

The net proceeds from each issue of Notes will be applied by the Issuer for its general corporate purposes, which include making a profit.

## SWEDISH MATCH AB

### History and Development

Swedish Match AB (publ) (**Swedish Match AB** or the **Company**) was incorporated on 7 December 1917 as a limited liability company. In 1995 the Company changed to a public limited liability company with an indefinite duration under the laws of the Kingdom of Sweden. The Company's principal executive office is located at Sveavägen 44 in Stockholm. Its postal address is 118 85 Stockholm, Sweden, its telephone number is +46 8 658 02 00, its website address is *www.swedishmatch.com* and its corporate registration number is 556015-0756.

References to **Swedish Match** or the **Group** are to Swedish Match AB and its subsidiaries.

Swedish Match is a Swedish-based international group that develops, manufactures and sells market-leading brands in the product areas Snus and moist snuff, Other tobacco products (U.S. mass market cigars and chewing tobacco), and Lights (matches and lighters). The Group sells products across the globe, with production units in six countries. The Group also has an independent distribution company in Sweden.

Scandinavian Tobacco Group (**STG**) was established on 1 October 2010, following a merger between the tobacco activities in Scandinavian Tobacco Group A/S and the European mass market cigar, U.S. premium cigar and pipe tobacco businesses of Swedish Match. The Danish company Skandinavisk Holding A/S holds 51 per cent. of the shares in STG, and the remaining 49 per cent. are held by Swedish Match. STG is a global company with its head office in Copenhagen, Denmark. STG manufactures and sells well-known quality brands within cigars, pipe tobacco and fine-cut tobacco. STG has production units in 8 countries and sells products in more than 100 countries around the world.

At the establishment of STG the shareholders of STG entered into a shareholders agreement which included a standstill agreement which expired on 1 October 2014. The shareholders of STG have agreed that it is in their best interest to continue growing STG in view of a potential future initial public offering.

Sales for STG increased by 3 per cent. to DKK 6,126 million (5,925 million) for the full year 2014 compared to 2013. Reported earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation (**EBITDA**) amounted to DKK 1,183 million. The Swedish Match share of net profit in STG for 2014 amounted, after adjustments, to SEK 334 million.

Following the establishment of STG, Swedish Match will primarily, but not entirely, focus its business on smokeless tobacco products.

Swedish Match and Philip Morris International (**PMI**) have agreed to dissolve the joint venture company, SMPM International AB (owned on a 50/50 basis by Swedish Match and PMI), which was established in 2009 with the aim to commercialise snus outside Scandinavia and the US. Swedish Match will now focus on independent strategies for the commercialisation of snus outside Scandinavia and the US.

Swedish Match's shares are listed on the Nasdaq Stockholm.

### Product areas

*Snus and moist snuff.* Most of the revenues arise from sales in Scandinavia and the United States.

*Other tobacco products.* Revenues arise primarily from sales in the United States.

*Lights.* Revenues arise primarily from sales in Europe, Russia, Latin America and parts of Asia.

*Other operations.* Revenues arise primarily from the distribution of tobacco products in the Swedish market.

### Sales by product area

Set out below is a breakdown of the Group's total revenues by product area.

SEK million	Full year		1 January – 30 June	
	2013	2014	2014	2015
Snus and moist snuff.....	4,868	5,001	2,421	2,461
Other tobacco products.....	2,564	2,832	1,385	1,915
Lights.....	1,332	1,295	614	649
Other operations .....	3,847	4,178	1,932	1,986

### Share structure

During the first six months of 2015, 2.6 million shares in the Company were repurchased for SEK 659 million at an average price of SEK 253.26 per share, following authorisation from the Annual General Meetings held in 2014 and in 2015. During the first six months of 2015 the Company sold 0.7 million treasury shares at an average price of SEK 197.45, totalling SEK 141 million, as a result of option holders exercising options. As at 30 June 2015, since the buyback programme started, shares have been repurchased at an average price of SEK 110.11 per share. In accordance with the resolution at the Annual General Meeting on 23 April 2015, 4 million shares held in treasury have been cancelled. The total number of registered shares in the Company after the cancellation of such shares is 196,500,000 with a quotient value of SEK 1.9823 each. Each share carries one vote.

The Annual General Meeting on 23 April 2015 authorised the Board of Directors to decide on the acquisition, on one or more occasions prior to the next Annual General Meeting, of a maximum of as many shares as may be acquired without the Company's holding at any time exceeding 10 per cent. of all shares in the Company.

As at 30 June 2015, Swedish Match held 2.7 million shares, corresponding to 1.38 per cent. of the total number of shares. The number of shares outstanding, net as at 30 June 2015, amounted to 193.8 million. All options issued by Swedish Match, as part of its former options programme, have been exercised and no further options are outstanding.

### Capital structure

At 31 December 2014, the Group had interest-bearing loans and pension liabilities (net) that exceeded cash and cash equivalents together with other investments, i.e. net debt, by SEK 8,126 million, and as per 30 June 2015, net debt amounted to SEK 8,412 million.

At 31 December 2014, the Group's net debt/EBITA ratio amounted to 2.1, compared with 2.3 at 31 December 2013. The net debt/EBITA ratio amounted to 2.3 at 30 June 2015.

The interest coverage ratio based on EBITA was a multiple of 7.6 at 31 December 2014 (7.0 at 31 December 2013), and 8.5 at 30 June 2015.

For a more detailed description of the Company's financial statements, see our financial statements incorporated by reference in this Offering Circular.

### Dividend and financial policy

The dividend policy of the Company is a pay-out ratio of 40 to 60 per cent. of the earnings per share, subject to adjustments for larger one-time items.

The Board has further determined that the financial policy should be that the Group will strive to maintain a net debt that does not exceed three times EBITA.

The Board continually reviews the financial position of the Company, and the actual level of net debt will be assessed against anticipated future profitability and cash flow, investment and expansion plans, acquisition opportunities as well as the development of interest rates and credit markets. The Board is committed to maintaining an investment grade credit rating.

## **Competitors**

### *Snus (Scandinavia and US)*

The largest competitor in Scandinavia is Imperial Tobacco Group. In May 2015, Imperial Tobacco Group had a market volume share of approximately 15 per cent. in Sweden. Other competitors on the Scandinavian market include British American Tobacco (BAT) and Japan Tobacco International. Imperial Tobacco Group is the largest competitor in Norway, with a market volume share of approximately 41 per cent. In Sweden, the majority of the most competitive brands are positioned in the value-priced segment, while in Norway most competitive brands are premium priced. The largest competitors on the U.S. market are Reynolds American and Altria. Reynolds American is the dominant player with a market share in volume terms of approximately 80 per cent.

Sources for volume market shares: Nielsen report 17 May 2015 (Sweden and Norway), Nielsen report 9 May 2015 (the US).

### *Moist snuff*

The largest competitors in the moist snuff market are Altria (US Smokeless Tobacco Company) and Reynolds American (American Snuff Company). According to Nielsen, Altria and Reynolds American had market volume shares of more than 50 per cent., and close to 40 per cent., respectively. Swedish Match estimates its market share based on industry shipments to be approximately 9 per cent.

Source for volume market shares: Nielsen report 9 May 2015, Swedish Match volume estimates based on industry reported shipments.

### *Mass market cigars (US)*

Swisher International is the largest competitor in the U.S. market for mass market cigars. Other major competitors are Imperial Tobacco Group (Altadis USA), and Altria (Middleton). Swedish Match's market share by volume in this category (excluding little cigars) is more than 20 per cent. according to Nielsen.

Source for volume market shares: Nielsen report 9 May 2015.

### *Chewing tobacco*

Competitors in the U.S. market include Reynolds American (American Snuff Company), National Tobacco, and Swisher International. Reynolds American is the largest competitor, behind Swedish Match.

### *Lights*

Match competition varies widely between markets. Lighter competitors include Bic, Tokai, Flamagas, and a number of other smaller manufacturers.

## **Legal disputes**

The Company is involved in a number of legal proceedings. Although the outcomes of these proceedings cannot be predicted with any certainty, and accordingly, no guarantees can be made, management is of the opinion that obligations attributable to these disputes, if any, should not have any significant impact on the results of operations or the financial position of Swedish Match.

Swedish Match subsidiaries in the U.S. are defendants in cases in which it is claimed that the use of tobacco products caused health problems. Pinkerton Tobacco Company (a subsidiary of Swedish Match North America, Inc.) is named as a defendant in some of the more than 1,200 cases against cigarette manufacturers and other tobacco companies that have been brought before state courts in West Virginia. The cases against Pinkerton, however, have been dismissed in the combined process for these cases and it is unclear whether any of the plaintiffs in these cases intend to pursue their claims separately against Pinkerton. Swedish Match North America, Inc. and Pinkerton Tobacco Company are named as defendants in a lawsuit filed in Florida in

November 2002 against several companies active in the American market for smokeless tobacco and their joint interest association. The claim was originally instituted as a class-action suit, but was changed during 2005 to an individual claim. Although management cannot in any meaningful way estimate the damages that might be awarded, if any, in any ongoing or unasserted disputes of this nature, there are, in the opinion of management, good defences against all claims and each claim will be vigorously defended.

## **Directors and Senior Management**

### *General*

Under the Swedish Companies Act (2005:551), the Board of Directors are charged with the organisation of the Company and the management of the Company's operations. The Board of Directors are obliged to ensure that the Company's organisation in respect of accounting, management of funds, and the Company's financial position in general include satisfactory controls. The Board of Directors' liability and duty to supervise cannot be delegated to any other party. The Company's Articles of Association provide for a Board of Directors elected by its shareholders of not fewer than five nor more than ten directors. Swedish law provides for the appointment of three additional directors (two directors if the Company is active in only one industry) and the same number of deputy directors by the unions representing the Company's employees. Under Swedish law, the managing director and at least one-half of the Board members must be resident in a European Economic Area country unless the Swedish government or an authority appointed by the government in a particular case grants an exemption. All directors, other than union appointees, are elected by resolution of a General Meeting of Shareholders. The term of office of a director elected by the Annual General Meeting is until the following Annual General Meeting, but a director may serve any number of consecutive terms. Directors may be removed from office by a General Meeting of Shareholders at any time, and vacancies on the Board of Directors, except when filled by a deputy director, may only be filled by shareholder resolution. The compensation of the directors elected by the shareholders is decided at each Annual General Meeting.

The Chairman of the Board of Directors is appointed by the General Meeting of Shareholders.

Deputy employee representatives are entitled to be present and express their opinions at meetings of the Board of Directors even when the employee representatives are present. Deputy directors may only vote in substitution for absent directors.

Under Swedish law, a director or a managing director may not deal with matters relating to agreements between him and the company, nor may he deal with matters relating to agreements between the company and third parties if he has a considerable interest in the matter that may be contrary to that of the company.

### ***Board of Directors***

As at 11 September 2015, the Directors of the Company were:

#### *Directors elected by the Annual General Shareholders' Meeting*

**Conny Karlsson.** Born 1955. Chairman since 2007. Board member since 2006. Chairman of the Compensation Committee. Other Board Assignments: Chairman of Cederroth AB, Euroflorist AB and Zeres Capital AB.

**Meg Tivéus.** Born 1943. Board member since 1999. Chairman of the Audit Committee. Other Board Assignments: Chairman of Folktandvården Stockholm AB, Arkitektkopia AB, Björn Axén AB and Solhagagruppen AB. Board member of Endomines AB.

**Andrew Cripps.** Born 1957. Board member since 2006. Deputy Chairman and member of the Audit Committee. Other Board Assignments: Non-Executive Director of the Booker Group Plc, Stock Spirits Group Plc and the 2 Sisters Food Group.

**Jacqueline Hoogerbrugge.** Born 1963. Board member since 2015. Member of the Compensation Committee. Other Board Assignments: Board member of Cederroth Intressenter AB.

**Charles A. Blixt.** Born 1951. Board member since 2015. Member of the Compensation Committee. Other Board Assignments: Non-Executive Director at Targacept Inc., and Krispy Kreme Doughnuts.

**Joakim Westh.** Born 1961. Board member since 2011. Member of the Audit Committee. Other Board Assignments: Board member of Absolent AB, SAAB AB and CGI Group Inc.

**Wenche Rolfsen.** Born 1952. Board member since 2013. Member of the Audit Committee. Other Board Assignments: Chairman of the Board of Index Pharmaceuticals, Vice Chairman of Moberg Pharma. Board member of Stiftelsen Industrifonden, Apotek Produktion & Laboratorier AB (APL), and Sarsia Seed.

#### *Employee representatives*

**Kenneth Ek.** Born 1953. Board member since 1999. Appointed by the Council for Negotiation and Cooperation (PTK) within Swedish Match. Board member of the Swedish Association of Management and Professional Staff (Ledarna) at the snus factories in Gothenburg and Kungälv, Sweden.

**Eva Larsson.** Born 1958. Board member since 1999. Appointed by the Swedish Trade Union Confederation (LO) within Swedish Match Industries. Chairman of the Trade Union Association at the match factory in Tidaholm, Sweden.

**Patrik Engelbrektsson.** Born 1965. Board member since 2013. Appointed by the Swedish Trade Union Confederation (LO) within Swedish Match. Chairman of the Trade Union at the snus factory in Gothenburg, Sweden.

#### *Deputy employee representatives*

**Eva Norlén-Moritz.** Born 1960. Deputy member since 2010. Appointed by the Council for Negotiation and Cooperation (PTK) within Swedish Match.

**Joakim Andersson.** Born 1970. Deputy member since 2013. Appointed by the Swedish Trade Union Confederation (LO) within Swedish Match. Chairman of the Swedish Food Workers' Trade Union Association (Livs) at SMD Logistics in Solna, Sweden.

**Gert-Inge Rang.** Born 1954. Deputy member since 2007. Appointed by the Council for Negotiation and Cooperation (PTK) within Swedish Match Industries.

The Board of Directors has established an Audit Committee and a Compensation Committee. The Audit Committee is responsible for monitoring the Company and its subsidiaries' accounting and financial reporting processes as well as, in respect of the financial reporting, the efficiency of the internal controls, internal audit and risk management. The Audit Committee is also responsible for reviewing and monitoring the impartiality and independence of the auditors and to assist in preparing proposals underlying the General Meeting's resolution regarding election of auditors and auditors' fees. It also keeps itself informed regarding the audit of the annual report and consolidated accounts. In conjunction with the Audit Committee's review of the financial reporting, the members of the Committee also discuss accounting issues relating to the Company's financial reporting. It also establishes guidelines by which services other than auditing may be secured from the Company's auditors. The Audit Committee also discusses other important issues relating to the Company's financial reporting and report its observations to the Board. The duties of the Compensation Committee are, amongst other responsibilities, to prepare and submit to the Board proposals for resolutions relating to remuneration and other terms of employment for the Company's President, principles regarding remuneration to senior executives, which the Board will present to the Annual General Meeting for a resolution and other remuneration and employment term matters which by law or other regulations, such as the Swedish Code of Corporate Governance or established practice, shall be resolved by the General Meeting or the Board of Directors.

All Board members are, as defined in the Swedish Code of Corporate Governance, independent of the Company and its management and of the Company's major shareholders.

### *Executive officers*

As at 11 September 2015, Swedish Match's executive officers, the Group Management Team (**GMT**), included the following individuals:

**Lars Dahlgren.** President and Chief Executive Officer, Swedish Match since 2008. Joined Swedish Match in 1996. Member of GMT since 2004. Born 1970.

**Marie-Louise Heiman.** Senior Vice President, Legal Affairs and General Counsel, Swedish Match since 2015. Joined Swedish Match in 1996. Member of GMT and Secretary to the Board since 2015. Born 1965.

**Joakim Tilly.** President, Scandinavia Division, Swedish Match since 2013. Joined Swedish Match in 1994. Member of GMT since 2008. Born 1970.

**Lars-Olof Löfman.** Chief Innovation Officer, Scandinavia Division, Swedish Match since 2013. Joined Swedish Match in 1987. Member of GMT since 2004. Born 1956.

**Fredrik Lagercrantz.** Senior Vice President, Business Control, Swedish Match since 2013. Joined Swedish Match in 2009. Member of GMT since 2013. Born 1977.

**Richard Flaherty.** President US Division, Swedish Match since 2009. Joined Swedish Match in 2000. Member of GMT since 2008. Born 1958.

**Marlene Forsell.** Senior Vice President, and Chief Financial Officer, Swedish Match since 2013. Joined Swedish Match in 2004. Member of GMT since 2013. Born 1976.

The business address of all of the above board members and executive officers is Swedish Match AB, 118 85 Stockholm, Sweden, with the exception of Richard Flaherty (Swedish Match, US Division, Two James Center, 1021 East Cary Street, Richmond, VA 23219, USA).

There are no potential conflicts of interest between the duties to the Issuer of the persons listed above and their private interests or other duties.

## BOOK-ENTRY CLEARANCE SYSTEMS

*The information set out below is subject to any change in or reinterpretation of the rules, regulations and procedures of DTC, Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg (together, the **Clearing Systems**) currently in effect. The information in this section concerning the Clearing Systems has been obtained from sources that the Issuer believes to be reliable, but none of the Issuer nor any Dealer takes any responsibility for the accuracy thereof. Investors wishing to use the facilities of any of the Clearing Systems are advised to confirm the continued applicability of the rules, regulations and procedures of the relevant Clearing System. None of the Issuer nor any other party to the Agency Agreement will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to, or payments made on account of, beneficial ownership interests in the Notes held through the facilities of any Clearing System or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to such beneficial ownership interests.*

### Book-entry System

#### DTC

Registered Notes sold in reliance on Rule 144A under the Securities Act, whether as part of the initial distribution of the Notes or in the secondary market, are eligible to be held in book-entry form in DTC. DTC has advised the Issuer that it is a limited purpose trust company organised under the New York Banking Law, a “banking organisation” within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a “clearing corporation” within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code and a “clearing agency” registered pursuant to Section 17A of the Exchange Act. DTC holds securities that its participants (**Direct Participants**) deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the settlement among Direct Participants of securities transactions, such as transfers and pledges, in deposited securities through electronic computerised book-entry changes in Direct Participants’ accounts, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organisations. DTC is owned by a number of its Direct Participants and by the New York Stock Exchange, Inc., the American Stock Exchange, Inc. and the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as securities brokers and dealers, banks and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly (**Indirect Participants** and, together with Direct Participants, **Participants**).

Under the rules, regulations and procedures creating and affecting DTC and its operations (the **Rules**), DTC makes book-entry transfers of Registered Notes among Direct Participants on whose behalf it acts with respect to Notes accepted into DTC’s book-entry settlement system (**DTC Notes**) as described below and receives and transmits distributions of principal and interest on DTC Notes. The Rules are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Direct Participants and Indirect Participants with which beneficial owners of DTC Notes (**Owners**) have accounts with respect to the DTC Notes similarly are required to make book-entry transfers and receive and transmit such payments on behalf of their respective Owners. Accordingly, although Owners who hold DTC Notes through Direct Participants or Indirect Participants will not possess Registered Notes, the Rules, by virtue of the requirements described above, provide a mechanism by which Direct Participants will receive payments and will be able to transfer their interest in respect of the DTC Notes.

Purchases of DTC Notes under the DTC system must be made by or through Direct Participants, which will receive a credit for the DTC Notes on DTC’s records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each DTC Note (**Beneficial Owner**) is in turn to be recorded on the Direct and Indirect Participants’ records. Beneficial Owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC 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 Participant through which the Beneficial Owner entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the DTC Notes are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of Participants acting on behalf of Beneficial Owners. Beneficial Owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in DTC Notes, except in the event that use of the book-entry system for the DTC Notes is discontinued.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all DTC Notes deposited by Participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC’s partnership nominee, Cede & Co. The deposit of DTC Notes with DTC and their registration in the



name of Cede & Co. effect no change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual Beneficial Owners of the DTC Notes; DTC's records reflect only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts such DTC Notes 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 DTC 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.

Redemption notices shall be sent to Cede & Co. If less than all of the DTC Notes within an issue are being redeemed, DTC's practice is to determine by lot the amount of the interest of each Direct Participant in such issue to be redeemed.

Neither DTC nor Cede & Co. will consent or vote with respect to DTC Notes. Under its usual procedures, DTC mails an Omnibus Proxy to the Issuer as soon as possible after the record date. The Omnibus Proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those Direct Participants to whose accounts the DTC Notes are credited on the record date (identified in a listing attached to the Omnibus Proxy).

Principal and interest payments on the DTC Notes will be made to DTC. DTC's practice is to credit Direct Participants' accounts on the due date for payment in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records unless DTC has reason to believe that it will not receive payment on the due date. 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 DTC or the Issuer, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of principal and interest to DTC is the responsibility of the Issuer, disbursement of such payments to Direct Participants is the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of such payments to the Beneficial Owners is the responsibility of Direct and Indirect Participants.

Under certain circumstances, including if there is an Event of Default under the Notes, DTC will exchange the DTC Notes for definitive Registered Notes, which it will distribute to its Participants in accordance with their proportionate entitlements and which, if representing interests in a Rule 144A Global Note, will be legended as set forth under "*Subscription and Sale and Transfer and Selling Restrictions*".

Since DTC may only act on behalf of Direct Participants, who in turn act on behalf of Indirect Participants, any Owner desiring to pledge DTC Notes to persons or entities that do not participate in DTC, or otherwise take actions with respect to such DTC Notes, will be required to withdraw its Registered Notes from DTC as described below.

#### *Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg*

Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg each holds securities for its customers and facilitates the clearance and settlement of securities transactions by electronic book-entry transfer between their respective account holders. Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg provide various services including safekeeping, administration, clearance and settlement of internationally traded securities and securities lending and borrowing. Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg also deal with domestic securities markets in several countries through established depository and custodial relationships. Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg have established an electronic bridge between their two systems across which their respective participants may settle trades with each other.

Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg customers are world-wide financial institutions, including underwriters, securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies and clearing corporations. Indirect access to Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg is available to other institutions that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with an account holder of either system.

## **Book-entry Ownership of Notes represented by a Registered Global Note**

The Issuer may apply to DTC in order to have any Tranche of Notes represented by a Registered Global Note accepted in its book-entry settlement system. Upon the issue of any such Registered Global Note, DTC or its custodian will credit, on its internal book-entry system, the respective nominal amounts of the individual beneficial interests represented by such Registered Global Note to the accounts of persons who have accounts with DTC. Such accounts initially will be designated by or on behalf of the relevant Dealer. Ownership of beneficial interests in such a Registered Global Note will be limited to Direct Participants or Indirect Participants, including, in the case of any Regulation S Global Note, the respective depositaries of Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg. Ownership of beneficial interests in a Registered Global Note accepted by DTC will be shown on, and the transfer of such ownership will be effected only through, records maintained by DTC or its nominee (with respect to the interests of Direct Participants) and the records of Direct Participants (with respect to interests of Indirect Participants).

Payments in U.S. dollars of principal and interest in respect of a Registered Global Note registered in the name of DTC's nominee will be made to the order of such nominee as the registered holder of such Note. In the case of any payment in a currency other than U.S. dollars, payment will be made to the Exchange Agent on behalf of DTC's nominee and the Exchange Agent will (in accordance with instructions received by it) remit all or a portion of such payment for credit directly to the beneficial holders of interests in the Registered Global Notes in the currency in which such payment was made and/or cause all or a portion of such payment to be converted into U.S. dollars and credited to the applicable Participants' account.

The Issuer expects DTC to credit accounts of Direct Participants on the applicable payment date in accordance with their respective holdings as shown in the records of DTC unless DTC has reason to believe that it will not receive payment on such payment date. The Issuer also expects that payments by Participants to beneficial owners of Notes will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers, and will be the responsibility of such Participant and not the responsibility of DTC, the Principal Paying Agent, the Registrar or the Issuer. Payments of principal, premium, if any, and interest, if any, on Notes to DTC is the responsibility of the Issuer.

## **Transfers of Notes Represented by Registered Global Notes**

Transfers of any interests in Notes represented by a Registered Global Note will be effected in accordance with the customary rules and operating procedures of DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg, as the case may be. The laws in some States within the United States require that certain persons take physical delivery of securities in definitive form. Consequently, the ability to transfer Notes represented by a Registered Global Note to such persons may depend upon the ability to exchange such Notes for Notes in definitive form. Similarly, because DTC can only act on behalf of Direct Participants in the DTC system who in turn act on behalf of Indirect Participants, the ability of a person having an interest in Notes represented by a Registered Global Note to pledge such Notes to persons or entities that do not participate in the DTC system or to otherwise take action in respect of such Notes may depend upon the ability to exchange such Notes for Notes in definitive form. The ability of any holder of Notes represented by a Registered Global Note to resell, pledge or otherwise transfer such Notes may be impaired if the proposed transferee of such Notes is not eligible to hold such Notes through a direct or indirect participant in the DTC system.

Subject to compliance with the transfer restrictions applicable to the Registered Notes described under "*Subscription and Sale and Transfer and Selling Restrictions*", cross-market transfers between DTC, on the one hand, and directly or indirectly through Clearstream, Luxembourg or Euroclear accountholders, on the other, will be effected by the relevant clearing system in accordance with its rules and through action taken by the Registrar, the Principal Paying Agent and any custodian (**Custodian**) with whom the relevant Registered Global Notes have been deposited.

On or after the Issue Date for any Series, transfers of Notes of such Series between accountholders in Clearstream, Luxembourg and Euroclear and transfers of Notes of such Series between participants in DTC will generally have a settlement date three business days after the trade date (T+3). The customary arrangements for delivery versus payment will apply to such transfers.

Cross-market transfers between accountholders in Clearstream, Luxembourg or Euroclear and DTC participants will need to have an agreed settlement date between the parties to such transfer.

Because there is no direct link between DTC, on the one hand, and Clearstream, Luxembourg and Euroclear, on the other, transfers of interests in the relevant Registered Global Notes will be effected through the Registrar, the Principal Paying Agent and the Custodian receiving instructions (and, where appropriate, certification) from the transferor and arranging for delivery of the interests being transferred to the credit of the designated account for the transferee. In the case of cross-market transfers, settlement between Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg accountholders and DTC participants cannot be made on a delivery versus payment basis. The securities will be delivered on a free delivery basis and arrangements for payment must be made separately.

DTC, Clearstream, Luxembourg and Euroclear have each published rules and operating procedures designed to facilitate transfers of beneficial interests in Registered Global Notes among participants and accountholders of DTC, Clearstream, Luxembourg and Euroclear. However, they are under no obligation to perform or continue to perform such procedures, and such procedures may be discontinued or changed at any time. None of the Issuer, the Agents or any Dealer will be responsible for any performance by DTC, Clearstream, Luxembourg or Euroclear or their respective direct or indirect participants or accountholders of their respective obligations under the rules and procedures governing their operations and none of them will have any liability for any aspect of the records relating to or payments made on account of beneficial interests in the Notes represented by Registered Global Notes or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to such beneficial interests.

## TAXATION

### Swedish Taxation

*The following summary outlines certain Swedish tax consequences to holders, corporations as well as individuals, of Notes who are not tax resident in Sweden (unless otherwise specifically stated). The summary is based on legislation in force as of the date of this Offering Circular and is intended as general information only. The summary does not purport to be a complete analysis of all Swedish tax consequences that may arise as a result of acquiring, holding or disposing of Notes and is neither intended to be, nor should be construed as, legal or tax advice. Prospective investors should consult a tax advisor with respect to Swedish tax consequences that may arise as a result of acquiring, holding or disposing of Notes.*

Under Swedish tax law, payments of principal or any amount that is considered to be interest in respect of the Notes are normally not subject to Swedish income tax, provided that the holder is neither resident in Sweden for tax purposes nor engaged in a trade or business in Sweden through a permanent establishment to which the holding is attributable. The same applies to capital gains on disposal of Notes. Under a specific rule, individuals who are not resident in Sweden for tax purposes may, however, be liable to capital gains taxation in Sweden upon disposal or redemption of certain financial instruments, depending on the classification of the particular financial instrument for Swedish income tax purposes, if they have been resident in Sweden or have lived permanently in Sweden at any time during the calendar year of disposal or redemption or the ten calendar years preceding the year of disposal or redemption. This rule may, however, be limited by tax treaties between Sweden and other countries.

An individual is tax resident in Sweden if the individual (a) is domiciled in Sweden, (b) has a habitual abode in Sweden (i.e., continuously stays in Sweden for more than six months), or (c) has been domiciled in Sweden and maintains essential ties with Sweden after having moved abroad (e.g., has a family or a house in Sweden or is engaged in trade or business in Sweden).

Corporations are generally considered resident in Sweden only if they are incorporated in Sweden under Swedish corporate law.

Holders of Notes are not considered to be tax resident, domiciled or engaged in a trade or business in Sweden through a permanent establishment only because they are holding Notes or receiving income on the Notes.

There is no Swedish withholding tax on payments of principal or interest to a holder that is not tax resident in Sweden, neither is there any stamp duty or transfer tax. However, if amounts that are considered to be interest in respect of the Notes are paid to a private individual (or an estate of a deceased person) that is a tax resident in Sweden, Swedish preliminary tax (*preliminärskatt*) is normally withheld on such payments at a rate of 30 per cent.

### EU Savings Directive

Under Council Directive 2003/48/EC on the taxation of savings income in the form of interest payments (the **Savings Directive**), EU Member States are required to provide to the tax authorities of other EU Member States details of certain payments of interest or similar income paid or secured by a person established in an EU Member State to or for the benefit of an individual resident in another EU Member State or certain limited types of entities established in another EU Member State.

For a transitional period, Austria is instead required (unless during that period it elects otherwise) to operate a withholding system in relation to such payments (subject to a procedure whereby, on meeting certain conditions, the beneficial owner of the interest or other income may request that no tax be withheld). The end of the transitional period is dependent upon the conclusion of certain other agreements relating to information exchange with certain other countries. A number of non-EU countries and territories including Switzerland have adopted similar measures (a withholding system in the case of Switzerland).

On 24 March 2014, the Council of the European Union adopted a Council Directive (the **Amending Directive**) amending and broadening the scope of the requirements described above. The Amending Directive requires EU

Member States to apply these new requirements from 1 January 2017 and if they were to take effect the changes would expand the range of payments covered by the Savings Directive, in particular to include additional types of income payable on securities. They would also expand the circumstances in which payments must be reported or subject to withholding. This approach would apply to payments made to, or secured for, persons, entities or legal arrangements (including trusts) where certain conditions are satisfied, and may in some cases apply where the person, entity or arrangement is established or effectively managed outside of the European Union.

However, the European Commission has proposed the repeal of the Savings Directive from 1 January 2017 in the case of Austria and from 1 January 2016 in the case of all other EU Member States (subject to on-going requirements to fulfil administrative obligations such as the reporting and exchange of information relating to, and accounting for withholding taxes on, payments made before those dates). This is to prevent overlap between the Savings Directive and a new automatic exchange of information regime to be implemented under Council Directive 2011/16/EU on Administrative Cooperation in the field of Taxation (as amended by Council Directive 2014/107/EU). The new regime under Council Directive 2011/16/EU (as amended) is in accordance with the Global Standard released by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development in July 2014. Council Directive 2011/16/EU (as amended) is generally broader in scope than the Savings Directive, although it does not impose withholding taxes. The proposal also provides that, if it proceeds, EU Member States will not be required to apply the new requirements of the Amending Directive.

### **The proposed financial transactions tax**

On 14 February 2013, the European Commission published a proposal (the **Commission's Proposal**) for a Directive for a common financial transactions tax (the **FTT**) in Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia and Slovakia (the **participating Member States**).

The Commission's Proposal has very broad scope and could, if introduced, apply to certain dealings in the Notes (including secondary market transactions) in certain circumstances. The issuance and subscription of Notes should, however, be exempt.

Under the Commission's Proposal the FTT could apply in certain circumstances to persons both within and outside of the participating Member States. Generally, it would apply to certain dealings in Notes where at least one party is a financial institution, and at least one party is established in a participating Member State. A financial institution may be, or be deemed to be, "established" in a participating Member State in a broad range of circumstances, including (a) by transacting with a person established in a participating Member State or (b) where the financial instrument which is subject to the dealings is issued in a participating Member State.

Joint statements issued by participating Member States indicate an intention to implement the FTT by 1 January 2016.

However, the FTT proposal remains subject to negotiation between the participating Member States and the scope of any such tax is uncertain. Additional EU Member States may decide to participate.

Prospective holders of Notes are advised to seek their own professional advice in relation to the FTT.

### **Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act**

Sections 1471 through 1474 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (**FATCA**) impose a new reporting regime and potentially a 30 per cent. withholding tax with respect to certain payments to any non-U.S. financial institution (a "foreign financial institution", or **FFI** (as defined by FATCA)) that does not become a **Participating FFI** by entering into an agreement with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (**IRS**) to provide the IRS with certain information in respect of its account holders and investors or is not otherwise exempt from or in deemed compliance with FATCA. The Issuer may be classified as an FFI.

The new withholding regime is now in effect for payments from sources within the United States and will apply to **foreign passthru payments** (a term not yet defined) no earlier than 1 January 2017. This withholding would potentially apply to payments in respect of (i) any Notes characterised as debt (or which are not otherwise characterised as equity and have a fixed term) for U.S. federal tax purposes that are issued after the

**grandfathering date**, which is the date that is six months after the date on which final U.S. Treasury regulations defining the term foreign passthru payment are filed with the Federal Register, or which are materially modified after the grandfathering date and (ii) any Notes characterised as equity or which do not have a fixed term for U.S. federal tax purposes, whenever issued. If Notes are issued on or before the grandfathering date, and additional Notes of the same series are issued after that date, the additional Notes may not be treated as grandfathered, which may have negative consequences for the existing Notes, including a negative impact on market price.

The United States and a number of other jurisdictions have entered into intergovernmental agreements to facilitate the implementation of FATCA (each, an **IGA**). Pursuant to FATCA and the “Model 1” and “Model 2” IGAs released by the United States, an FFI in an IGA signatory country could be treated as a **Reporting FI** not subject to withholding under FATCA on any payments it receives. Further, an FFI in an IGA jurisdiction would generally not be required to withhold under FATCA or an IGA (or any law implementing an IGA) (any such withholding being **FATCA Withholding**) from payments it makes. Under each Model IGA, a Reporting FI would still be required to report certain information in respect of its account holders and investors to its home government or to the IRS. The United States and Sweden have entered into an agreement (the **US-Sweden IGA**) based largely on the Model 1 IGA.

If the Issuer is treated as a Reporting FI pursuant to the US-Sweden IGA it does not anticipate that it will be obliged to deduct any FATCA Withholding on payments it makes. There can be no assurance, however, that the Issuer will be treated as a Reporting FI, or that it would in the future not be required to deduct FATCA Withholding from payments it makes. The Issuer and financial institutions through which payments on the Notes are made may be required to withhold FATCA Withholding if any FFI through or to which payment on such Notes is made is not a Participating FFI, a Reporting FI, or otherwise exempt from or in deemed compliance with FATCA.

Whilst the Notes are in global form and held within the ICSDs, it is expected that FATCA will not affect the amount of any payments made under, or in respect of, the Notes by the Issuer, any paying agent and the Common Depositary or Common Safekeeper, given that each of the entities in the payment chain between the Issuer and the participants in the ICSDs is a major financial institution whose business is dependent on compliance with FATCA and that any alternative approach introduced under an IGA will be unlikely to affect the Notes. The documentation expressly contemplates the possibility that the Notes may go into definitive form and therefore that they may be taken out of the ICSDs. If this were to happen, then a non-FATCA compliant holder could be subject to FATCA Withholding. However, definitive Notes will only be printed in remote circumstances.

**FATCA is particularly complex and its application is uncertain at this time. The above description is based in part on regulations, official guidance and model IGAs, all of which are subject to change or may be implemented in a materially different form. Prospective investors should consult their tax advisers on how these rules may apply to the Issuer and to payments they may receive in connection with the Notes.**

## SUBSCRIPTION AND SALE AND TRANSFER AND SELLING RESTRICTIONS

The Dealers have in an amended and restated programme agreement (such amended and restated programme agreement as further modified and/or supplemented and/or restated from time to time, the **Programme Agreement**) dated 11 September 2015 agreed with the Issuer a basis upon which they or any of them may from time to time agree to purchase Notes. Any such agreement will extend to those matters stated under “*Form of the Notes*” and “*Terms and Conditions of the Notes*”. In the Programme Agreement, the Issuer has agreed to reimburse the Dealers for certain of their expenses in connection with the update of the Programme and the issue of Notes under the Programme and to indemnify the Dealers against certain liabilities incurred by them in connection therewith.

In order to facilitate the offering of any Tranche of the Notes, certain persons participating in the offering of the Tranche may engage in transactions that stabilise, maintain or otherwise affect the market price of the relevant Notes during and after the offering of the Tranche. Specifically such persons may over-allot or create a short position in the Notes for their own account by selling more Notes than have been sold to them by the Issuer. Such persons may also elect to cover any such short position by purchasing Notes in the open market. In addition, such persons may stabilise or maintain the price of the Notes by bidding for or purchasing Notes in the open market and may impose penalty bids, under which selling concessions allowed to syndicate members or other broker-dealers participating in the offering of the Notes are reclaimed if Notes previously distributed in the offering are repurchased in connection with stabilisation transactions or otherwise. The effect of these transactions may be to stabilise or maintain the market price of the Notes at a level above that which might otherwise prevail in the open market. The imposition of a penalty bid may also affect the price of the Notes to the extent that it discourages resales thereof. No representation is made as to the magnitude or effect of any such stabilising or other transactions. Such transactions, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time. Under UK laws and regulations stabilising activities may only be carried on by the Stabilisation Manager(s) and only for a limited period following the Issue Date of the relevant Tranche of Notes.

### Transfer Restrictions

***As a result of the following restrictions, purchasers of Notes in the United States are advised to consult legal counsel prior to making any purchase, offer, sale, resale or other transfer of such Notes.***

Each purchaser of Registered Notes (other than a person purchasing an interest in a Registered Global Note with a view to holding it in the form of an interest in the same Global Note) or person wishing to transfer an interest from one Registered Global Note to another or from global to definitive form or *vice versa*, will be required to acknowledge, represent and agree, and each person purchasing an interest in a Registered Global Note with a view to holding it in the form of an interest in the same Global Note will be deemed to have acknowledged, represented and agreed, as follows (terms used in this paragraph that are defined in Rule 144A or in Regulation S are used herein as defined therein):

- (i) that either: (a) it is a QIB, purchasing (or holding) the Notes for its own account or for the account of one or more QIBs and it is aware that any sale to it is being made in reliance on Rule 144A or (b) it is an Institutional Accredited Investor which has delivered an IAI Investment Letter or (c) it is outside the United States and is not a U.S. person;
- (ii) that the Notes are being offered and sold in a transaction not involving a public offering in the United States within the meaning of the Securities Act, and that the Notes have not been and will not be registered under the Securities Act or any other applicable U.S. State securities laws and may not be offered or sold within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons except as set forth below;
- (iii) that, unless it holds an interest in a Regulation S Global Note and either is a person located outside the United States or is not a U.S. person, if in the future it decides to resell, pledge or otherwise transfer the Notes or any beneficial interests in the Notes, it will do so, prior to the date which is two years after the later of the last Issue Date for the Series and the last date on which the Issuer or an affiliate of the Issuer was the owner of such Notes, only (a) to the Issuer or any affiliate thereof, (b) inside the United States to a person whom the seller reasonably believes is a QIB purchasing for its own account or for

the account of a QIB in a transaction meeting the requirements of Rule 144A, (c) outside the United States in compliance with Rule 903 or Rule 904 under the Securities Act, (d) pursuant to the exemption from registration provided by Rule 144 under the Securities Act (if available) or (e) pursuant to an effective registration statement under the Securities Act, in each case in accordance with all applicable U.S. State securities laws;

- (iv) it will, and will require each subsequent holder to, notify any purchaser of the Notes from it of the resale restrictions referred to in paragraph (iii) above, if then applicable;
- (v) that Notes initially offered in the United States to QIBs will be represented by one or more Rule 144A Global Notes, that Notes offered to Institutional Accredited Investors will be in the form of Definitive IAI Registered Notes and that Notes offered outside the United States in reliance on Regulation S will be represented by one or more Regulation S Global Notes;
- (vi) that the Notes in registered form, other than the Regulation S Global Notes, will bear a legend to the following effect unless otherwise agreed to by the Issuer:

“THIS SECURITY HAS NOT BEEN AND WILL NOT BE REGISTERED UNDER THE U.S. SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED (THE “SECURITIES ACT”), OR ANY OTHER APPLICABLE U.S. STATE SECURITIES LAWS AND, ACCORDINGLY, MAY NOT BE OFFERED OR SOLD WITHIN THE UNITED STATES OR TO, OR FOR THE ACCOUNT OR BENEFIT OF, U.S. PERSONS EXCEPT AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE. BY ITS ACQUISITION HEREOF, THE HOLDER (A) REPRESENTS THAT (1) IT IS A “QUALIFIED INSTITUTIONAL BUYER” (AS DEFINED IN RULE 144A UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT) PURCHASING THE SECURITIES FOR ITS OWN ACCOUNT OR FOR THE ACCOUNT OF ONE OR MORE QUALIFIED INSTITUTIONAL BUYERS OR (2) IT IS AN INSTITUTIONAL “ACCREDITED INVESTOR” (AS DEFINED IN RULE 501(A)(1), (2), (3) OR (7) UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT) (AN “INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITED INVESTOR”); (B) AGREES THAT IT WILL NOT RESELL OR OTHERWISE TRANSFER THE SECURITIES EXCEPT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AGENCY AGREEMENT AND, PRIOR TO THE DATE WHICH IS TWO YEARS AFTER THE LATER OF THE LAST ISSUE DATE FOR THE SERIES AND THE LAST DATE ON WHICH THE ISSUER OR AN AFFILIATE OF THE ISSUER WAS THE OWNER OF SUCH SECURITIES OTHER THAN (1) TO THE ISSUER OR ANY AFFILIATE THEREOF, (2) INSIDE THE UNITED STATES TO A PERSON WHOM THE SELLER REASONABLY BELIEVES IS A QUALIFIED INSTITUTIONAL BUYER WITHIN THE MEANING OF RULE 144A UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT PURCHASING FOR ITS OWN ACCOUNT OR FOR THE ACCOUNT OF A QUALIFIED INSTITUTIONAL BUYER IN A TRANSACTION MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF RULE 144A, (3) OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES IN COMPLIANCE WITH RULE 903 OR RULE 904 UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT, (4) PURSUANT TO THE EXEMPTION FROM REGISTRATION PROVIDED BY RULE 144 UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT (IF AVAILABLE) OR (5) PURSUANT TO AN EFFECTIVE REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT, IN EACH CASE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ALL APPLICABLE SECURITIES LAWS OF THE STATES OF THE UNITED STATES AND ANY OTHER JURISDICTION; AND (C) IT AGREES THAT IT WILL DELIVER TO EACH PERSON TO WHOM THIS SECURITY IS TRANSFERRED A NOTICE SUBSTANTIALLY TO THE EFFECT OF THIS LEGEND. NO REPRESENTATION CAN BE MADE AS TO THE AVAILABILITY OF THE EXEMPTION PROVIDED BY RULE 144A FOR REALES OF THE SECURITY.

THIS SECURITY AND RELATED DOCUMENTATION (INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, THE AGENCY AGREEMENT REFERRED TO HEREIN) MAY BE AMENDED OR SUPPLEMENTED FROM TIME TO TIME, WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF, BUT UPON NOTICE TO, THE HOLDERS OF SUCH SECURITIES SENT TO THEIR REGISTERED ADDRESSES, TO MODIFY THE RESTRICTIONS ON AND PROCEDURES FOR REALES AND OTHER TRANSFERS OF THIS SECURITY TO REFLECT ANY CHANGE IN APPLICABLE LAW OR REGULATION (OR THE INTERPRETATION THEREOF) OR IN PRACTICES RELATING TO REALES OR OTHER TRANSFERS OF RESTRICTED SECURITIES GENERALLY. THE HOLDER OF THIS SECURITY SHALL BE DEEMED, BY ITS ACCEPTANCE OR PURCHASE HEREOF, TO HAVE AGREED TO ANY SUCH AMENDMENT OR SUPPLEMENT (EACH OF



WHICH SHALL BE CONCLUSIVE AND BINDING ON THE HOLDER HEREOF AND ALL FUTURE HOLDERS OF THIS SECURITY AND ANY SECURITIES ISSUED IN EXCHANGE OR SUBSTITUTION THEREFOR, WHETHER OR NOT ANY NOTATION THEREOF IS MADE HEREON”);

- (vii) if it is outside the United States and is not a U.S. person, that if it should resell or otherwise transfer the Notes prior to the expiration of the distribution compliance period (defined as 40 days after the later of the commencement of the offering and the closing date with respect to the original issuance of the Notes), it will do so only (a)(i) outside the United States in compliance with Rule 903 or 904 under the Securities Act or (ii) to a QIB in compliance with Rule 144A and (b) in accordance with all applicable U.S. State securities laws; and it acknowledges that the Regulation S Global Notes will bear a legend to the following effect unless otherwise agreed to by the Issuer:

“THIS SECURITY HAS NOT BEEN AND WILL NOT BE REGISTERED UNDER THE U.S. SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED (THE “SECURITIES ACT”), OR ANY OTHER APPLICABLE U.S. STATE SECURITIES LAWS AND, ACCORDINGLY, MAY NOT BE OFFERED OR SOLD WITHIN THE UNITED STATES OR TO, OR FOR THE ACCOUNT OR BENEFIT OF, U.S. PERSONS EXCEPT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AGENCY AGREEMENT AND PURSUANT TO AN EXEMPTION FROM REGISTRATION UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OR PURSUANT TO AN EFFECTIVE REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT. THIS LEGEND SHALL CEASE TO APPLY UPON THE EXPIRY OF THE PERIOD OF 40 DAYS AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF ALL THE NOTES OF THE TRANCHE OF WHICH THIS NOTE FORMS PART”); and

- (viii) that the Issuer and others will rely upon the truth and accuracy of the foregoing acknowledgements, representations and agreements and agrees that if any of such acknowledgements, representations or agreements made by it are no longer accurate, it shall promptly notify the Issuer; and if it is acquiring any Notes as a fiduciary or agent for one or more accounts it represents that it has sole investment discretion with respect to each such account and that it has full power to make the foregoing acknowledgements, representations and agreements on behalf of each such account.

Institutional Accredited Investors who purchase Registered Notes in definitive form offered and sold in the United States in reliance upon the exemption from registration provided by the Securities Act are required to execute and deliver to the Registrar an IAI Investment Letter. Upon execution and delivery of an IAI Investment Letter by an Institutional Accredited Investor, Notes will be issued in definitive registered form, – see “*Form of the Notes*”.

The IAI Investment Letter will state, among other things, the following:

- (i) that the Institutional Accredited Investor has received a copy of the Offering Circular and such other information as it deems necessary in order to make its investment decision;
- (ii) that the Institutional Accredited Investor understands that any subsequent transfer of the Notes is subject to certain restrictions and conditions set forth in the Offering Circular and the Notes (including those set out above) and that it agrees to be bound by, and not to resell, pledge or otherwise transfer the Notes except in compliance with, such restrictions and conditions and the Securities Act;
- (iii) that, in the normal course of its business, the Institutional Accredited Investor invests in or purchases securities similar to the Notes;
- (iv) that the Institutional Accredited Investor is an Institutional Accredited Investor within the meaning of Rule 501(a)(1), (2), (3) or (7) of Regulation D under the Securities Act and has such knowledge and experience in financial and business matters as to be capable of evaluating the merits and risks of its investment in the Notes, and it and any accounts for which it is acting are each able to bear the economic risk of its or any such accounts’ investment for an indefinite period of time;
- (v) that the Institutional Accredited Investor is acquiring the Notes purchased by it for its own account or for one or more accounts (each of which is an Institutional Accredited Investor) as to each of which it

exercises sole investment discretion and not with a view to any distribution of the Notes, subject, nevertheless, to the understanding that the disposition of its property shall at all times be and remain within its control; and

- (vi) that, in the event that the Institutional Accredited Investor purchases Notes, it will acquire Notes having a minimum purchase price of at least U.S.\$500,000 (or the approximate equivalent in another Specified Currency).

No sale of Legended Notes in the United States to any one purchaser will be for less than U.S.\$100,000 (or its foreign currency equivalent) principal amount or, in the case of sales to Institutional Accredited Investors, U.S.\$500,000 (or its foreign currency equivalent) principal amount and no Legended Note will be issued in connection with such a sale in a smaller principal amount. If the purchaser is a non-bank fiduciary acting on behalf of others, each person for whom it is acting must purchase at least U.S.\$100,000 (or its foreign currency equivalent) or, in the case of sales to Institutional Accredited Investors, U.S.\$500,000 (or its foreign currency equivalent) principal amount of Registered Notes.

## **Selling Restrictions**

### **United States**

The Notes have not been and will not be registered under the Securities Act and may not be offered or sold within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons except in certain transactions exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act. Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them by Regulation S under the Securities Act.

The Notes in bearer form are subject to U.S. tax law requirements and may not be offered, sold or delivered within the United States or its possessions or to a United States person, except in certain transactions permitted by U.S. Treasury regulations. Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them by the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and Treasury regulations promulgated thereunder. The applicable Final Terms (or applicable Pricing Supplement, in the case of Exempt Notes) will identify whether TEFRA C rules or TEFRA D rules apply or whether TEFRA is not applicable.

In connection with any Notes which are offered or sold outside the United States in reliance on an exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act provided under Regulation S (**Regulation S Notes**), each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that it will not offer, sell or deliver such Regulation S Notes (i) as part of their distribution at any time or (ii) otherwise until 40 days after the completion of the distribution, as determined and certified by the relevant Dealer or, in the case of an issue of Notes on a syndicated basis, the relevant lead manager, of all Notes of the Tranche of which such Regulation S Notes are a part, within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons. Each Dealer has further agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to agree, that it will send to each dealer to which it sells any Regulation S Notes during the distribution compliance period a confirmation or other notice setting forth the restrictions on offers and sales of the Regulation S Notes within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons. Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them by Regulation S under the Securities Act.

Until 40 days after the commencement of the offering of any Series of Notes, an offer or sale of such Notes within the United States by any dealer (whether or not participating in the offering) may violate the registration requirements of the Securities Act if such offer or sale is made otherwise than in accordance with an available exemption from registration under the Securities Act.

Dealers may arrange for the resale of Notes to QIBs pursuant to Rule 144A and each such purchaser of Notes is hereby notified that the Dealers may be relying on the exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act provided by Rule 144A. The minimum aggregate principal amount of Notes which may be purchased by a QIB pursuant to Rule 144A is U.S.\$100,000 (or the approximate equivalent thereof in any other currency). To the extent that the Issuer is not subject to or does not comply with the reporting requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act or the information furnishing requirements of Rule 12g3-2(b)

thereunder, the Issuer has agreed to furnish to holders of Notes and to prospective purchasers designated by such holders, upon request, such information as may be required by Rule 144A(d)(4).

### **Public Offer Selling Restriction under the Prospectus Directive**

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a **Relevant Member State**), each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that with effect from and including the date on which the Prospectus Directive is implemented in that Relevant Member State (the **Relevant Implementation Date**) it has not made and will not make an offer of Notes which are the subject of the offering contemplated by this Offering Circular as completed by the final terms in relation thereto to the public in that Relevant Member State, except that it may, with effect from and including the Relevant Implementation Date, make an offer of such Notes to the public in that Relevant Member State:

- (a) at any time to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Directive;
- (b) at any time to fewer than 150 natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive) subject to obtaining the prior consent of the relevant Dealer or Dealers nominated by the Issuer for any such offer; or
- (c) at any time in any other circumstances falling within Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive,

provided that no such offer of Notes referred to in (a) – (c) above shall require the Issuer or any Dealer to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.

For the purposes of this provision:

- the expression an **offer of Notes to the public** in relation to any Notes 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 Notes to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe the Notes, as the same may be varied in that Member State by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that Member State; and
- the expression **Prospectus Directive** means Directive 2003/71/EC (as amended, including by Directive 2010/73/EU), and includes any implementing measure in the Relevant Member State.

### **United Kingdom**

Each Dealer has represented and agreed and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree that:

- (i) in relation to any Notes which have a maturity of less than one year, (a) it is a person whose ordinary activities involve it in acquiring, holding, managing or disposing of investments (as principal or agent) for the purposes of its business and (b) it has not offered or sold and will not offer or sell any Notes other than to persons whose ordinary activities involve them in acquiring, holding, managing or disposing of investments (as principal or as agent) for the purposes of their businesses or who it is reasonable to expect will acquire, hold, manage or dispose of investments (as principal or agent) for the purposes of their businesses where the issue of the Notes would otherwise constitute a contravention of Section 19 of the FSMA by the Issuer;
- (ii) it has only communicated or caused to be communicated and will only communicate or cause to be communicated an invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of Section 21 of the FSMA) received by it in connection with the issue or sale of any Notes in circumstances in which Section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to the Issuer; and
- (iii) it has complied and will comply with all applicable provisions of the FSMA with respect to anything done by it in relation to any Notes in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom.

## Japan

The Notes have not been and will not be registered under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Act of Japan (Act No. 25 of 1948, as amended, the **FIEA**) and each Dealer has represented and agreed and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to agree that it will not offer or sell any Notes, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to, or for the benefit of, any resident of Japan (as defined under Item 5, Paragraph 1, Article 6 of the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act (Act No. 228 of 1949, as amended)), or to others for re-offering or resale, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to, or for the benefit of, a resident of Japan except pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of, and otherwise in compliance with, the FIEA and any other applicable laws, regulations and ministerial guidelines of Japan.

## Sweden

Each Dealer represents and agrees that it will not, directly or indirectly, offer for subscription or purchase or issue invitations to subscribe for or buy Notes or distribute any draft or definitive document in relation to any such offer, invitation or sale except in circumstances that will not result in a requirement to prepare a prospectus for an offer to the public pursuant to the provisions of the Swedish Financial Instruments Trading Act (*lag (1991: 980) om handel med finansiella instrument*).

## Italy

The offering of the Notes has not been registered pursuant to Italian securities legislation and, accordingly, no Notes may be offered, sold or delivered, nor may copies of the Offering Circular or of any other document relating to the Notes be distributed in the Republic of Italy, except:

- (a) to qualified investors (*investitori qualificati*) as defined pursuant to Article 100 of Legislative Decree No. 58 of 24 February 1998, as amended (the **Financial Services Act**) and Article 34-*ter*, first paragraph, letter (b) of CONSOB Regulation No. 11971 of 14 May 1999, as amended from time to time (**Regulation No. 11971**); or
- (b) in other circumstances which are exempted from the rules on public offerings pursuant to Article 100 of the Financial Services Act and Article 34-*ter* of Regulation No. 11971.

Any offer, sale or delivery of the Notes or distribution of copies of the Offering Circular or any other document relating to the Notes in the Republic of Italy under (a) or (b) above must be:

- (i) made by an investment firm, bank or financial intermediary permitted to conduct such activities in the Republic of Italy in accordance with the Financial Services Act, CONSOB Regulation No. 16190 of 29 October 2007 (as amended from time to time) and Legislative Decree No. 385 of 1 September 1993, as amended, (the **Banking Act**); and
- (ii) in compliance with Article 129 of the Banking Act, as amended and the implementing guidelines of the Bank of Italy, as amended from time to time, pursuant to which the Bank of Italy may request information on the issue or the offer of securities in the Republic of Italy; and
- (iii) in compliance with any other applicable laws and regulations or requirement imposed by CONSOB or other Italian authority.

*Please note that in accordance with Article 100-bis of the Financial Services Act, where no exemption from the rules on public offerings applies under (a) and (b) above, the subsequent distribution of the Notes on the secondary market in Italy must be made in compliance with the public offer and the prospectus requirement rules provided under the Financial Services Act and Regulation No. 11971. Failure to comply with such rules may result in the sale of such Notes being declared null and void and in the liability of the intermediary transferring the financial instruments for any damages suffered by the investors.*

## **General**

Each Dealer has agreed and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to agree that it will (to the best of its knowledge and belief) comply with all applicable securities laws and regulations in force in any jurisdiction in which it purchases, offers, sells or delivers Notes or possesses or distributes this Offering Circular and will obtain any consent, approval or permission required by it for the purchase, offer, sale or delivery by it of Notes under the laws and regulations in force in any jurisdiction to which it is subject or in which it makes such purchases, offers, sales or deliveries and neither the Issuer nor any of the other Dealers shall have any responsibility therefor.

Neither the Issuer nor any of the Dealers represents that Notes may at any time lawfully be sold in compliance with any applicable registration or other requirements in any jurisdiction, or pursuant to any exemption available thereunder, or assumes any responsibility for facilitating such sale.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Authorisation

The update of the Programme and the issue of Notes have been duly authorised by a resolution of the Board of Directors of the Issuer dated 17 February 2015.

### Listing of Notes

It is expected that each Tranche of Notes which is to be admitted to the Official List and to trading on the London Stock Exchange's Regulated Market will be admitted separately as and when issued, subject only to the issue of a Global Note or Notes initially representing the Notes of such Tranche. Application has been made to the UK Listing Authority for Notes issued under the Programme to be admitted to the Official List and to the London Stock Exchange for such Notes to be admitted to trading on the London Stock Exchange's Regulated Market. The renewed listing of the Programme in respect of Notes is expected to be granted on or around 17 September 2015.

### Documents Available

For the period of 12 months following the date of this Offering Circular, copies of the following documents will, when published, be available for inspection from the registered office of the Issuer and from the specified offices of the Paying Agents for the time being in London:

- (i) the constitutional documents (with a direct and accurate English translation thereof) of the Issuer;
- (ii) the consolidated and non-consolidated audited financial statements of the Issuer in respect of the financial years ended 31 December 2013 and 2014 (with a direct and accurate English translation thereof), in each case together with the audit reports prepared in connection therewith;
- (iii) the most recently published consolidated and non-consolidated audited annual financial statements of the Issuer and the most recently published consolidated and non-consolidated unaudited interim financial statements (if any) of the Issuer (in each case with a direct and accurate English translation thereof), in each case together with any audit or review reports prepared in connection therewith;
- (iv) the Programme Agreement, the Agency Agreement, the Deed of Covenant, the Deed Poll and the forms of the Global Notes, the Notes in definitive form, the Coupons and the Talons;
- (v) a copy of this Offering Circular; and
- (vi) any future offering circulars, prospectuses, information memoranda, supplements to this Offering Circular and Final Terms (save that a Final Terms relating to a Note which is neither admitted to trading on a regulated market in the European Economic Area nor offered in the European Economic Area in circumstances where a prospectus is required to be published under the Prospectus Directive will only be available for inspection by a holder of such Note and such holder must produce evidence satisfactory to the Paying Agent as to its holding of Notes and identity) and any other documents incorporated herein or therein by reference.

In addition, copies of this Offering Circular and any supplement to this Offering Circular, any documents incorporated by reference and each Final Terms will also be available on the website of the Regulatory News Service operated by the London Stock Exchange at [www.londonstockexchange.com/exchange/news/market-news/market-news-home.html](http://www.londonstockexchange.com/exchange/news/market-news/market-news-home.html).

Copies of each Pricing Supplement relating to any other Notes will only be available for inspection by a holder of such Notes upon production of evidence satisfactory to the Principal Paying Agency as to the identity of such holder.

## **Clearing Systems**

The Notes in bearer form have been accepted for clearance through Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg (which are the entities in charge of keeping the records). The appropriate Common Code and ISIN for each Tranche of Bearer Notes allocated by Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg will be specified in the applicable Final Terms (or applicable Pricing Supplement, in the case of Exempt Notes). In addition, the Issuer may make an application for any Notes in registered form to be accepted for trading in book-entry form by DTC. The CUSIP and/or CINS numbers for each Tranche of Registered Notes, together with the relevant ISIN and common code, will be specified in the applicable Final Terms (or applicable Pricing Supplement, in the case of Exempt Notes). If the Notes are to clear through an additional or alternative clearing system (including Sicovam) the appropriate information will be specified in the applicable Final Terms (or applicable Pricing Supplement, in the case of Exempt Notes).

The address of Euroclear is Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V., 1 Boulevard du Roi Albert II, B-1210 Brussels, the address of Clearstream, Luxembourg is Clearstream Banking, 42 Avenue JF Kennedy, L-1855 Luxembourg and the address of DTC is 55 Water Street, New York, New York 10041, United States of America.

## **Conditions for determining price**

The price and amount of Notes to be issued under the Programme will be determined by the Issuer and the relevant Dealer at the time of issue in accordance with prevailing market conditions.

## **Significant or Material Change**

There has been no significant change in the financial or trading position of the Issuer or the Group since 30 June 2015, and there has been no material adverse change in the financial position or prospects of the Issuer or the Group since 31 December 2014.

## **Litigation**

There are no governmental, legal or arbitration proceedings (including any such proceedings which are pending or threatened of which the Issuer is aware) which during the 12 months preceding the date of this Offering Circular may have, or have had in the recent past, a significant effect on the financial position or profitability of the Issuer or the Group.

## **Auditors**

The auditors of the Issuer are KPMG AB, member of FAR, the Swedish Institute of Authorised Public Accountants, who have audited the Issuer's consolidated accounts (which have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards), without qualification, in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden for the financial years ended 31 December 2013 and 31 December 2014. The auditors of the Issuer have no material interest in the Issuer.

## **Post-issuance information**

The Issuer does not intend to provide any post-issuance information in relation to any issues of Notes.

## **Dealers transacting with the Issuer**

Certain of the Dealers and their affiliates have engaged, and may in the future engage, in investment banking and/or commercial banking transactions with, and may perform other services for, the Issuer and its affiliates in the ordinary course of business. Certain of the Dealers and their affiliates may have positions, deal or make markets in the Notes issued under the Programme, related derivatives and reference obligations, including (but not limited to) entering into hedging strategies on behalf of the Issuer and its affiliates, investor clients, or as principal in order to manage their exposure, their general market risk, or other trading activities.

In addition, in the ordinary course of their business activities, the Dealers and their affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers. Such investments and securities activities may involve securities and/or instruments of the Issuer or the Issuer's affiliates. Certain of the Dealers or their affiliates that have a lending relationship with the Issuer routinely hedge their credit exposure to the Issuer consistent with their customary risk management policies. Typically, such Dealers and their affiliates would hedge such exposure by entering into transactions which consist of either the purchase of credit default swaps or the creation of short positions in securities, including potentially the Notes issued under the Programme. Any such positions could adversely affect future trading prices of Notes issued under the Programme. The Dealers and their affiliates may also make investment recommendations and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such securities or financial instruments and may hold, or recommend to clients that they acquire, long and/or short positions in such securities and instruments.



**THE ISSUER**

**Swedish Match AB (publ)**  
Västra Trädgårdsgatan 15  
SE-103 88 Stockholm  
Sweden

**PRINCIPAL PAYING AGENT**

**Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch**  
Winchester House  
1 Great Winchester Street  
London EC2N 2DB  
United Kingdom

**REGISTRARS AND PAYING AGENTS**

**Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas**  
60 Wall Street  
New York  
N.Y. 10005  
United States of America

**Deutsche Bank Luxembourg S.A.**  
2 Boulevard Konrad Adenauer  
L-1115 Luxembourg  
Luxembourg

**LEGAL ADVISERS**

*To the Dealers as to English law*

**Allen & Overy LLP**  
One Bishops Square  
London E1 6AD  
United Kingdom

*To the Issuer as to Swedish law*

**Mannheimer Swartling**  
Norrandsgatan 21  
SE-111 87 Stockholm  
Sweden

**AUDITORS**

*To the Issuer*

**KPMG AB**  
Box 16106  
103 23 Stockholm  
Sweden

**DEALERS**

**BNP Paribas**  
10 Harewood Avenue  
London NW1 6AA  
United Kingdom

**Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch**  
Winchester House  
1 Great Winchester Street  
London EC2N 2DB  
United Kingdom

**Nordea Bank AB (publ)**  
Capital Markets  
Hamngatan 10  
SE-105 71 Stockholm  
Sweden

**Nordea Bank Danmark A/S**  
Capital Markets  
Christiansbro  
Strandgade 3  
DK 1401 Copenhagen K  
Denmark

**Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken AB (publ)**  
Kungsträdgårdsgatan 8  
106 40 Stockholm  
Sweden

**The Royal Bank of Scotland plc**  
135 Bishopsgate  
London EC2M 3UR  
United Kingdom