CITIGROUP INC Form 424B2 December 19, 2018

The information in this preliminary pricing supplement is not complete and may be changed. A registration statement relating to these securities has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. This preliminary pricing supplement and the accompanying prospectus supplement and prospectus are not an offer to sell these securities, nor are they soliciting an offer to buy these securities, in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED DECEMBER 19, 2018

December----, 2018

**Medium-Term Senior Notes, Series N** 

Citigroup Global Markets Holdings Inc. Pricing Supplement No. 2018-USNCH1805

Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2)

Registration Statement Nos. 333-216372 and 333-216372-01

Fixed to Floating Rate Notes Linked to the 10-Year Constant Maturity Swap Rate Due December 21, 2028

The notes will bear interest during each quarterly interest period (i) during the first two years: at a fixed rate of 4.5% per annum and (ii) after the second year until maturity: at a floating rate based on the 10-year Constant Maturity Swap Rate ("CMS10") *plus* 0.62% on the interest determination date for that interest period, as described below, subject to the minimum interest rate of 0% per annum. CMS10 is one market-accepted indicator of medium-to-longer term interest rates. The notes are designed for investors who seek fixed interest payments for the first two years of the term of the notes and floating interest payments linked to CMS10 thereafter. The notes are senior unsecured debt obligations of Citigroup Global Markets Holdings Inc. and are guaranteed by Citigroup Inc. All payments due on the notes are subject to the credit risk of Citigroup Global Markets Holdings Inc. and Citigroup Inc.

#### **KEY TERMS**

**Maturity date:** 

Issuer: Citigroup Global Markets Holdings Inc., a wholly owned

subsidiary of Citigroup Inc.

Guarantee: All payments due on the notes are fully and

unconditionally guaranteed by Citigroup Inc.

Aggregate stated principal amount: \$

Stated principal amount:\$1,000 per notePricing date:December 19, 2018Issue date:December 21, 2018

December 21, 2028. If the maturity date is not a business

day, then the payment required to be made on the maturity date will be made on the next succeeding business day with the same force and effect as if it had

been made on the maturity date. No additional interest

will bear interest at a fixed rate of 4.5% per annum.

will accrue as a result of delayed payment.

Payment at maturity: \$1,000 per note *plus* accrued and unpaid interest

Interest:

• During each interest period from and including the issue date to but excluding December 21, 2020, the notes

· During each interest period commencing on or after December 21, 2020, the notes will bear interest at a floating rate equal to CMS10 *plus* 0.62%, as determined on the interest determination date for that interest period, subject to a minimum interest rate of 0% per annum.

The amount of interest you receive on each interest payment date for each note you hold will be equal to (i) \$1,000 *times* the applicable interest rate per annum divided by (ii) 4.

After the first two years of the term of the notes, interest payments will vary based on fluctuations in the CMS10, subject to the minimum interest rate specified above. After the first two years, the notes may pay a below-market rate or no interest at all for an extended period of time, or even throughout the entire remaining term.

On any interest determination date, the 10-year Constant Maturity Swap Rate, as published on Reuters page "ICESWAP1" at 11:00 a.m. (New York City time) on that

date of determination. See "General

Information—Determination of CMS10" and

"—Discontinuance of CMS10" below for further information.

For any interest period commencing on or after December 21, 2020, the second U.S. government securities business day prior to the first day of that

interest period.

Any day that is not a Saturday, a Sunday or a day on which The Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association's U.S. holiday schedule recommends that the fixed income departments of its members be closed for the entire day for purposes of trading in U.S. government

securities.

Each three-month period from and including an interest payment date (or the issue date, in the case of the first interest period) to but excluding the next interest

payment date

Interest on the notes is payable quarterly on the 21st day of each March, June, September and December,

beginning on March 21, 2019 and ending on the maturity date. If any interest payment date is not a business day, then the payment required to be made on that interest payment date will be made on the next succeeding business day with the same force and effect as if it had been made on that interest payment date. No additional interest will accrue as a result of delayed payment.

30/360 Unadjusted

17326YH41 / US17326YH419

The notes will not be listed on any securities exchange and accordingly, may have limited or no liquidity. You

**CMS10:** 

**Interest determination date:** 

**U.S.** government securities business day:

**Interest period:** 

**Interest payment dates:** 

**Day count convention:** 

**CUSIP/ISIN:** 

**Listing:** 

should not invest in the notes unless you are willing to

hold them to maturity.

Citigroup Global Markets Inc. ("CGMI"), an affiliate of the

issuer, acting as principal. See "General

**Underwriter:** Information—Supplemental information regarding plan of

distribution; conflicts of interest" in this pricing

supplement.

Underwriting fee and issue price: Issue price<sup>(1)</sup> Underwriting fee<sup>(2)</sup> Proceeds to issuer<sup>(3)</sup>

**Per note:** \$1,000 \$ \$ **Total:** \$ \$

- (1) Citigroup Global Markets Holdings Inc. currently expects that the estimated value of the notes on the pricing date will be between \$980 and \$990 per note, which will be less than the issue price. The estimated value of the notes is based on CGMI's proprietary pricing models and our internal funding rate. It is not an indication of actual profit to CGMI or other of our affiliates, nor is it an indication of the price, if any, at which CGMI or any other person may be willing to buy the notes from you at any time after issuance. See "Valuation of the Notes" in this pricing supplement.
- (2) CGMI, an affiliate of Citigroup Global Markets Holdings Inc. and the underwriter of the sale of the notes, is acting as principal and if the notes priced today, would receive an underwriting fee of approximately \$10 per note sold in this offering. In no event will the underwriting fee exceed \$10 per note. The total underwriting fee and proceeds to issuer in the table above give effect to the actual total underwriting fee. You should refer to "Risk Factors" and "General Information—Fees and selling concessions" in this pricing supplement for more information. In addition to the underwriting fee, CGMI and its affiliates may profit from expected hedging activity related to this offering, even if the value of the notes declines. See "Use of Proceeds and Hedging" in the accompanying prospectus.
- (3) The per note proceeds to issuer indicated above represent the minimum per note proceeds to issuer for any note, assuming the maximum per note underwriting fee. As noted above, the underwriting fee is variable.

Investing in the notes involves risks not associated with an investment in conventional fixed-rate debt securities. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page PS-2.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the notes or determined that this pricing supplement and the accompanying prospectus supplement and prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

It is important for you to consider the information contained in this pricing supplement together with the information contained in the accompanying prospectus supplement and prospectus, which may be accessed via the hyperlink below.

#### Prospectus Supplement and Prospectus each dated April 7, 2017

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

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Risk Factors

The following is a non-exhaustive list of certain key risk factors for investors in the notes. You should read the risk factors below together with the risk factors included in the accompanying prospectus supplement and in the documents incorporated by reference in the accompanying prospectus, including Citigroup Inc.'s most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and any subsequent Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, which describe risks relating to the business of Citigroup Inc. more generally. We also urge you to consult your investment, legal, tax, accounting and other advisers before you invest in the notes.

After the first two years, the notes will pay interest at a floating rate that may be as low as 0% on one or more interest payment dates. The rate at which the notes will bear interest during each quarterly interest period after the first two years will depend on CMS10 on the interest determination date for that interest period *plus* 0.62%. As a result, the interest payable on the notes will vary with fluctuations in CMS10, subject to the minimum interest rate of 0% per annum. It is impossible to predict whether CMS10 will rise or fall or the amount of interest payable on the notes. After the first two years, you may receive no interest for extended periods of time or even throughout the remaining term of the notes.

An investment in the notes may be more risky than an investment in notes with a shorter term. The notes have a term of seven years. By purchasing notes with a longer term, you will bear greater exposure to fluctuations in market interest rates than if you purchased a note with a shorter term. In particular, if the level of CMS10 does not increase from its current level, you may be holding a long-dated security that pays an interest rate that is less than that which would be payable on a conventional fixed-rate, non-callable debt security of Citigroup Inc. of comparable maturity. In addition, if you tried to sell your notes at such time, the value of your notes in any secondary market transaction would also be adversely affected.

The notes are subject to the credit risk of Citigroup Global Markets Holdings Inc. and Citigroup Inc., and any actual or perceived changes to the creditworthiness of either entity may adversely affect the value of the notes. You are subject to the credit risk of Citigroup Global Markets Holdings Inc. and Citigroup Inc. If Citigroup Global Markets Holdings Inc. defaults on its obligations under the notes and Citigroup Inc. defaults on its guarantee obligations, your investment would be at risk and you could lose some or all of your investment. As a result, the value of the notes will be affected by changes in the market's view of the creditworthiness of Citigroup Global Markets Holdings Inc. or Citigroup Inc. Any decline or anticipated decline in the credit ratings of either entity, or any increase or anticipated increase in the credit spreads of either entity, is likely to adversely affect the value of the notes.

You will be entitled to receive the full principal amount of your notes, subject to the credit risk of Citigroup Global Markets Holdings Inc. and Citigroup Inc., only if you hold the notes to maturity. Because the value of the notes may fluctuate, if you are able to sell your notes in the secondary market prior to maturity, you may receive less than the stated principal amount.

The notes will not be listed on any securities exchange and you may not be able to sell them prior to maturity. The notes will not be listed on any securities exchange. Therefore, there may be little or no secondary market for the notes. CGMI currently intends to make a secondary market in relation to the notes and to provide an indicative bid price for the notes on a daily basis. Any indicative bid price for the notes provided by CGMI will be determined in CGMI's sole discretion, taking into account prevailing market conditions and other relevant factors, and will not be a representation by CGMI that the notes can be sold at that price or at all. CGMI may suspend or terminate making a market and providing indicative bid prices without notice, at any time and for any reason. If CGMI suspends or terminates making a market, there may be no secondary market at all for the notes because it is likely that CGMI will be the only broker-dealer that is willing to buy your notes prior to maturity. Accordingly, an investor must be prepared to hold the notes until maturity.

The estimated value of the notes on the pricing date, based on CGMI's proprietary pricing models and our internal funding rate, will be less than the issue price. The difference is attributable to certain costs associated with selling, structuring and hedging the notes that are included in the issue price. These costs include (i) any selling concessions or other fees paid in connection with the offering of the notes, (ii) hedging and other costs incurred by us and our affiliates in connection with the offering of the notes and (iii) the expected profit (which may be more or less than actual profit) to CGMI or other of our affiliates in connection with hedging our obligations under the notes. These costs adversely affect the economic terms of the notes because, if they were lower, the economic terms of the notes would be more favorable to you. The economic terms of the notes are also likely to be adversely affected by the use of our internal funding rate, rather than our secondary market rate, to price the notes. See "The estimated value of the notes would be lower if it were calculated based on our secondary market rate" below.

#### The estimated value of the notes was determined for us by our affiliate using proprietary pricing models.

CGMI derived the estimated value disclosed on the cover page of this pricing supplement from its proprietary pricing models. In doing so, it may have made discretionary judgments about the inputs to its models, such as the volatility of CMS10 and interest rates. CGMI's views on these inputs and assumptions may differ from your or others' views, and as an underwriter in this offering, CGMI's interests may conflict with yours. Both the models and the inputs to the models may prove to be wrong and therefore not an accurate reflection of the value of the notes. Moreover, the estimated value of the notes set forth on the cover page of this pricing supplement may differ from the value that we or our affiliates may determine for the notes for other purposes, including for accounting purposes. You should not invest in the notes because of the estimated value of the notes. Instead, you should be willing to hold the notes to maturity irrespective of the initial estimated value.

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The estimated value of the notes would be lower if it were calculated based on our secondary market rate. The estimated value of the notes included in this pricing supplement is calculated based on our internal funding rate, which is the rate at which we are willing to borrow funds through the issuance of the notes. Our internal funding rate is generally lower than our secondary market rate, which is the rate that CGMI will use in determining the value of the notes for purposes of any purchases of the notes from you in the secondary market. If the estimated value included in this pricing supplement were based on our secondary market rate, rather than our internal funding rate, it would likely be lower. We determine our internal funding rate based on factors such as the costs associated with the notes, which are generally higher than the costs associated with conventional debt securities, and our liquidity needs and preferences. Our internal funding rate is not the same as the rate at which interest is payable on the notes.

Because there is not an active market for traded instruments referencing our outstanding debt obligations, CGMI determines our secondary market rate based on the market price of traded instruments referencing the debt obligations of Citigroup Inc., our parent company and the guarantor of all payments due on the notes, but subject to adjustments that CGMI makes in its sole discretion. As a result, our secondary market rate is not a market-determined measure of our creditworthiness, but rather reflects the market's perception of our parent company's creditworthiness as adjusted for discretionary factors such as CGMI's preferences with respect to purchasing the notes prior to maturity.

The estimated value of the notes is not an indication of the price, if any, at which CGMI or any other person may be willing to buy the notes from you in the secondary market. Any such secondary market price will fluctuate over the term of the notes based on the market and other factors described in the next risk factor. Moreover, unlike the estimated value included in this pricing supplement, any value of the notes determined for purposes of a secondary market transaction will be based on our secondary market rate, which will likely result in a lower value for the notes than if our internal funding rate were used. In addition, any secondary market price for the notes will be reduced by a bid-ask spread, which may vary depending on the aggregate stated principal amount of the notes to be purchased in the secondary market transaction, and the expected cost of unwinding related hedging transactions. As a result, it is likely that any secondary market price for the notes will be less than the issue price.

The value of the notes prior to maturity will fluctuate based on many unpredictable factors. The value of your notes prior to maturity will fluctuate based on the level and volatility of CMS10, interest and yield rates in the market generally, the time remaining to maturity of the notes and our and Citigroup Inc.'s creditworthiness, as reflected in our secondary market rate. Changes in the level of CMS10 may not result in a comparable change in the value of your notes. You should understand that the value of your notes at any time prior to maturity may be significantly less than the issue price.

Immediately following issuance, any secondary market bid price provided by CGMI, and the value that will be indicated on any brokerage account statements prepared by CGMI or its affiliates, will reflect a temporary upward adjustment. The amount of this temporary upward adjustment will steadily decline to zero over the temporary adjustment period. See "Valuation of the Notes" in this pricing supplement.

•Our offering of the notes does not constitute a recommendation to invest in an instrument linked to CMS10. You should not take our offering of the notes as an expression of our views about how CMS10 will perform in the future or as a recommendation to invest in any instrument linked to CMS10, including the notes. As we are part of a

global financial institution, our affiliates may, and often do, have positions (including short positions), and may publish research or express opinions, that in each case conflict with an investment in the notes. You should undertake an independent determination of whether an investment in the notes is suitable for you in light of your specific investment objectives, risk tolerance and financial resources.

The manner in which CMS rates are calculated may change in the future. The method by which CMS10 is calculated may change in the future, as a result of governmental actions, actions by the publisher of CMS10 or otherwise. We cannot predict whether the method by which CMS10 is calculated will change or what the impact of any such change might be.

Uncertainty about the future of LIBOR may affect CMS10 in a way that adversely affects the return on and the value of the notes. A CMS rate is a market rate for the fixed leg of a fixed-for-floating interest rate swap, where the floating leg is based on 3-month U.S. dollar LIBOR. As a result, CMS10 is significantly influenced by 3-month U.S. dollar LIBOR and expectations about future levels of 3-month U.S. dollar LIBOR. On July 27, 2017, the Chief Executive of the U.K. Financial Conduct Authority (the "FCA"), which regulates LIBOR, announced that the FCA intends to stop persuading or compelling banks to submit rates for the calculation of LIBOR to the LIBOR administrator. The announcement indicates that the continuation of LIBOR on the current basis cannot and will not be guaranteed after 2021. It is impossible to predict whether and to what extent banks will continue to provide LIBOR submissions to the administrator of LIBOR, whether LIBOR rates will cease to be published or supported before or after 2021 or whether any additional reforms to LIBOR may be enacted in the United Kingdom or elsewhere. It is also impossible to predict the impact of any LIBOR-related developments on the method of calculation or the values of CMS10. At this time, no consensus exists as to what rate or rates may become accepted alternatives to LIBOR, including for purposes of the interest rate swaps underlying CMS10, and it is impossible to predict the effect of any such alternatives on the value of securities, such as the notes, that are linked to CMS rates. Any changes to 3-month U.S. dollar LIBOR or the calculation of CMS10, and any uncertainty at what these changes may be, may affect CMS10 in a way that adversely affects your return on and value of the notes.

Hedging and other trading activities by our affiliates may affect the determination of CMS10. CMS rates are determined based on tradable quotes for U.S. dollar fixed-for-floating interest rate swaps of the relevant maturities sourced from electronic trading venues. Our affiliates may engage in trading activities on these electronic trading venues, in order to hedge our obligations

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under the notes, as part of their general business activities or otherwise. These trading activities could affect the level of CMS10 in a way that has a negative effect on the interest rate payable under the notes. They could also result in substantial returns for our affiliates while the value of the notes declines. In engaging in these trading activities, our affiliates will have no obligation to consider your interests as an investor in the notes.

The calculation agent, which is an affiliate of the issuer, will make determinations with respect to the notes. Citibank, N.A., the calculation agent for the notes, is an affiliate of ours. As calculation agent, Citibank, N.A. will determine, among other things, each CMS10 level and will calculate the related interest rate and payment to you on each interest payment date. Any of these determinations or calculations made by Citibank, N.A. in its capacity as calculation agent, including with respect to the calculation of the level of CMS10 in the event of the unavailability of the level of CMS10 and the selection of a successor CMS10 if CMS10 is discontinued, may adversely affect the amount of one or more interest payments to you.

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#### **General Information**

The description of the notes in this pricing supplement supplements, and, to the extent inconsistent with, replaces the general terms of the notes set forth in the accompanying prospectus supplement and prospectus. The accompanying prospectus supplement and prospectus contain important disclosures that are not repeated in this pricing supplement.

# Additional information:

The notes are senior unsecured debt securities issued by Citigroup Global Markets Holdings Inc. under the senior debt indenture described in the accompanying prospectus supplement and prospectus, the payments on which are fully and unconditionally guaranteed by Citigroup Inc. The notes will constitute part of the senior debt of Citigroup Global Markets Holdings Inc. and will rank equally with all other unsecured and unsubordinated debt of Citigroup Global Markets Holdings Inc. The guarantee of payments due on the notes will constitute part of the senior indebtedness of Citigroup Inc. and will rank on an equal basis with all other unsecured debt of Citigroup Inc. other than subordinated debt.

## **Business day:**

Any day that is not a Saturday or Sunday and that, in New York City, is not a day on which banking institutions are authorized or obligated by law or executive order to close.

# Regular record date:

Interest will be payable on each interest payment date to the holders of record of the notes at the close of business on the business day immediately preceding the relevant interest payment date, except that the final interest payment will be made to the persons who hold the notes on the maturity date.

# **Determination** of CMS10:

CMS10 on any date of determination is the rate for U.S. dollar interest rate swaps with a 10-year maturity appearing on Reuters page "ICESWAP1" (or any successor page as determined by the calculation agent) as of 11:00 a.m. (New York City time) on that date of determination.

If, however, a rate for CMS10 is not published on Reuters page "ICESWAP1" (or any successor page as determined by the calculation agent) on that date of determination, then the calculation agent will request mid-market semi-annual swap rate quotations from the principal New York City office of five leading swap dealers in the New York City interbank market (the "reference banks") at approximately 11:00 am, New York City time, on that day. For this purpose, the mid-market semi-annual swap rate means the mean of the bid and offered rates for the semi-annual fixed leg, calculated on a 30/360 day count basis, of a fixed-for-floating U.S. dollar interest rate swap transaction with a 10-year maturity, commencing on that day and in a representative amount with an acknowledged dealer of good credit in the swap market, where the floating leg, calculated on an actual/360 day count basis, is equivalent to U.S. dollar LIBOR with a designated maturity of three months. If at least three quotations are provided, the rate for CMS10 for that day will be the arithmetic mean of the quotations, eliminating the highest quotation (or, in the event of equality, one of the highest) and the lowest quotation (or, in the event of equality, one of the lowest). If fewer than three quotations are provided as requested, a rate for CMS10 will be determined by the calculation agent in good faith and using its reasonable judgment.

CMS10 is calculated by ICE Benchmark Administration Limited based on tradable quotes for U.S. dollar fixed-for-floating interest rate swaps with a 10-year maturity that are sourced from electronic trading venues.

The provisions set forth in this section "—Determination of CMS10" are subject to the discussion in "Discontinuance of CMS10" below.

If the calculation and publication of CMS10 is permanently canceled, then the calculation agent may identify an alternative rate that it determines, in its sole discretion, represents the same or a substantially similar measure or benchmark as CMS10, and the calculation agent may deem that rate (the "successor CMS rate") to be CMS10. Upon the selection of any successor CMS rate by the calculation agent pursuant to this paragraph, references in this pricing supplement to the original CMS10 will no longer be deemed to refer to the original CMS10 and will be deemed instead to refer to that successor CMS rate for all purposes. In such event, the calculation agent will make such adjustments, if any, to any level of CMS10 that is used for purposes of the notes as it determines are appropriate in the circumstances. Upon any selection by the calculation agent of a successor CMS rate, the calculation agent will cause notice to be furnished to us and the trustee.

# Discontinuance of CMS10:

If the calculation and publication of CMS10 is permanently canceled and no successor CMS rate is chosen as described above, then the calculation agent will calculate the level of CMS10 on each subsequent date of determination in good faith and using its reasonable judgment. Such level, as calculated by the calculation agent, will be the relevant rate for CMS10 for all purposes.

Notwithstanding these alternative arrangements, the cancellation of CMS10 may adversely affect

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interest payments on, and the value of, the notes.

U.S. federal income tax considerations:

In the opinion of our counsel, Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, the notes should be treated as "variable rate debt instruments" that provide for a single fixed rate followed by a qualified floating rate ("QFR") for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Under the Treasury Regulations applicable to variable rate debt instruments, the notes may be treated as issued with original issue discount ("OID").

In order to determine the amount of qualified stated interest ("QSI") and OID in respect of the notes, an equivalent fixed rate debt instrument must be constructed. The equivalent fixed rate debt instrument is constructed in the following manner: (i) first, the initial fixed rate is converted to a QFR that would preserve the fair market value of the notes, and (ii) second, each QFR (including the QFR determined under (i) above) is converted to a fixed rate substitute (which will generally be the value of that QFR as of the issue date of the notes). The rules described under "United States Federal Tax Considerations — Tax Consequences to U.S. Holders — Original Issue Discount" in the accompanying prospectus supplement are then applied to the equivalent fixed rate debt instrument for purposes of calculating the amount of OID on the notes. Under these rules, the notes will generally be treated as providing for QSI at a rate equal to the lowest rate of interest in effect at any time under the equivalent fixed rate debt instrument, and any interest in excess of that rate will generally be treated as part of the stated redemption price at maturity and, therefore, as giving rise to OID. Based on the application of these rules to the notes, we will indicate in the final pricing supplement if the notes are issued with OID.

QSI on the notes will generally be taxable to a U.S. Holder (as defined in the accompanying prospectus supplement) as ordinary interest income at the time it accrues or is received in accordance with the U.S. Holder's method of tax accounting. If the notes are issued with OID, a U.S. Holder will be required to include the OID in income for federal income tax purposes as it accrues, in accordance with a constant-yield method based on a compounding of interest. If the notes are not issued with OID, all stated interest on the notes will be treated as QSI and will be taxable to a U.S. Holder as ordinary interest income at the time it accrues or is received in accordance with the U.S. Holder's method of tax accounting. If the amount of interest a U.S. Holder receives on the notes in a calendar year is greater than the interest assumed to be paid or accrued under the equivalent fixed rate debt instrument, the excess is treated as additional QSI taxable to the U.S. Holder as ordinary income. Otherwise, any difference will reduce the amount of QSI the U.S. Holder is treated as receiving and will therefore reduce the amount of ordinary income the U.S. Holder is required to take into income.

Upon the sale or other taxable disposition of a note, a U.S. Holder generally will recognize capital gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized on the disposition (other than any amount attributable to accrued QSI, which will be treated as a payment of interest) and

the U.S. Holder's tax basis in the note. A U.S. Holder's tax basis in a note generally will equal the cost of the note to the U.S. Holder, increased by the amounts of OID (if any) previously included in income by the U.S. Holder with respect to the note and reduced by any payments other than QSI received by the U.S. Holder. Such gain or loss generally will be long-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. Holder has held the note for more than one year at the time of disposition.

Under current law Non-U.S. Holders (as defined in the accompanying prospectus supplement) generally will not be subject to U.S. federal withholding or income tax with respect to interest (or OID, if any) paid on and amounts received on the sale, exchange or retirement of the notes if they comply with applicable certification requirements. Special rules apply to Non-U.S. Holders whose income on the notes is effectively connected with the conduct of a U.S. trade or business or who are individuals present in the United States for 183 days or more in a taxable year.

The discussions herein and in the accompanying prospectus supplement do not address the consequences to taxpayers subject to special tax accounting rules under Section 451(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

**FATCA.** You should review the section entitled "United States Federal Tax Considerations—FATCA" in the accompanying product supplement regarding withholding rules under the "FATCA" regime. The discussion in that section is hereby modified to reflect regulations proposed by the U.S. Treasury Department indicating an intent to eliminate the requirement under FATCA of withholding on gross proceeds of the disposition of affected financial instruments. The U.S. Treasury Department has indicated that taxpayers may rely on these proposed regulations pending their finalization.

You should read the section entitled "United States Federal Tax Considerations" in the accompanying prospectus supplement. The preceding discussion, when read in combination with that section, constitutes the full opinion of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP regarding the material U.S. federal tax consequences of owning and disposing of the