

DEUTSCHE BANK AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT
Form 424B2
November 30, 2017

Pricing Supplement No. 2978B

To underlying supplement No. 1 dated August 17, 2015,

product supplement B dated July 31, 2015,

prospectus supplement dated July 31, 2015 and

prospectus dated April 27, 2016

Registration Statement No. 333-206013

Rule 424(b)(2)

The information in this preliminary pricing supplement is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary pricing supplement and the accompanying underlying supplement, product supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus do not constitute an offer to sell nor do they seek an offer to buy the securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject to Completion. Dated November 30, 2017

Deutsche Bank AG

\$ Capped Buffered Underlying Securities (BUyS) Linked to the S&P 500[®] Index due December 5, 2019

General

The Capped Buffered Underlying Securities (BUyS) Linked to the S&P 500[®] Index due December 5, 2019 (the “**securities**”) are designed for investors who seek a return at maturity of 125.00% of any increase in the level of the S&P 500[®] Index (the “**Underlying**”), up to the Maximum Return of 21.00%. If the Final Level is *less than* the Initial Level by an amount *not greater than* the Buffer Amount of 17.50%, investors will receive a cash payment at maturity equal to the Face Amount per \$1,000 Face Amount of securities. However, if the Final Level is *less than* the Initial Level by an amount *greater than* the Buffer Amount, for each \$1,000 Face Amount of securities, investors will lose 1.21212% of the Face Amount for every 1.00% by which the Final Level is less than the Initial Level by an amount greater than the Buffer Amount. The securities do not pay any coupons or dividends and investors should be willing to lose some or all of their investment if the Final Level is less than the Initial Level by an amount greater than the Buffer Amount. Any payment on the securities is subject to the credit of the Issuer.

Senior unsecured obligations of Deutsche Bank AG due December 5, 2019

· Minimum purchase of \$1,000. Minimum denominations of \$1,000 (the “**Face Amount**”) and integral multiples thereof.

The securities are expected to price on or about November 30, 2017 (the “**Trade Date**”) and are expected to settle on or about December 5, 2017 (the “**Settlement Date**”).

Key Terms

Issuer: Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch

Underlying: S&P 500® Index (Ticker: SPX)

Issue Price: 100% of the Face Amount

· **If the Final Level is greater than or equal to the Initial Level**, you will receive a cash payment at maturity per \$1,000 Face Amount of securities calculated as follows:

$\$1,000 + [\$1,000 \times (\text{the lesser of (i) Underlying Return} \times \text{Upside Leverage Factor and (ii) Maximum Return})]$

· **If the Final Level is less than the Initial Level by an amount not greater than the Buffer Amount**, you will receive a cash payment at maturity equal to the Face Amount per \$1,000 Face Amount of securities.

Payment at

Maturity:

· **If the Final Level is less than the Initial Level by an amount greater than the Buffer Amount**, you will receive a cash payment at maturity per \$1,000 Face Amount of securities calculated as follows:

$\$1,000 + [\$1,000 \times (\text{Underlying Return} + \text{Buffer Amount}) \times \text{Downside Participation Factor}]$

If the Final Level is less than the Initial Level by an amount greater than the Buffer Amount, for each \$1,000 Face Amount of securities, you will lose 1.21212% of the Face Amount for every 1.00% by which the Final Level is less than the Initial Level by an amount greater than the Buffer Amount. In this circumstance, you will lose some or all of your investment at maturity. Any payment at maturity is subject to the credit of the Issuer.

(Key Terms continued on next page)

Investing in the securities involves a number of risks. See “Risk Factors” beginning on page 7 of the accompanying product supplement, page PS-5 of the accompanying prospectus supplement and page 13 of the accompanying prospectus and “Selected Risk Considerations” beginning on page PS-9 of this pricing supplement.

The Issuer’s estimated value of the securities on the Trade Date is approximately \$973.80 to \$993.80 per \$1,000 Face Amount of securities, which is less than the Issue Price. Please see “Issuer’s Estimated Value of the Securities” on page PS–3 of this pricing supplement for additional information.

By acquiring the securities, you will be bound by and deemed irrevocably to consent to the imposition of any Resolution Measure (as defined below) by the competent resolution authority, which may include the write down of all, or a portion, of any payment on the securities or the conversion of the securities into ordinary shares or other instruments of ownership. If any Resolution Measure becomes applicable to us, you may lose some or all of your investment in the securities. Please see “Resolution Measures and Deemed Agreement” on page PS–4 of this pricing supplement for more information.

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

| | Price to Public | Discounts and Commissions⁽¹⁾ | Proceeds to Us |
|---------------------|------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Per Security | \$1,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$1,000.00 |
| Total | \$ | \$ | \$ |

For more detailed information about discounts and commissions, please see “Supplemental Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)” in this pricing supplement. Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. (“**DBSI**”), acting as agent for (1)Deutsche Bank AG, will not receive a selling concession in connection with the sale of the securities. Investors that purchase and hold the securities in fee-based advisory accounts may be charged fees based on the amount of assets held in those accounts, including the securities.

The agent for this offering is our affiliate. For more information, please see “Supplemental Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)” in this pricing supplement.

The securities are not deposits or savings accounts and are not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other U.S. or foreign governmental agency or instrumentality.

Deutsche Bank Securities

November , 2017

(Key Terms continued from previous page)

The performance of the Underlying from the Initial Level to the Final Level, calculated as follows:

Final Level – Initial Level

Underlying Return: Initial Level

The Underlying Return may be positive, zero or negative.

Initial Level: 2,626.07, the closing level of the Underlying on November 29, 2017. **The Initial Level is *not* the closing level of the Underlying on the Trade Date.**

Final Level: The closing level of the Underlying on the Final Valuation Date

Buffer Amount: 17.50%

Upside Leverage Factor: 125.00%

Downside Participation Factor: 121.212%

Maximum Return: 21.00%

Trade Date²: November 30, 2017

Settlement Date²: December 5, 2017

Final Valuation Date^{1, 2}: December 2, 2019

Maturity Date^{1, 2}: December 5, 2019

Listing: The securities will not be listed on any securities exchange.

CUSIP / ISIN: 25155MGD7 / US25155MGD74

¹ Subject to adjustment as described under “Description of Securities — Adjustments to Valuation Dates and Payment Dates” in the accompanying product supplement.

² In the event that we make any changes to the expected Trade Date or Settlement Date, the Final Valuation Date and Maturity Date may be changed so that the stated term of the securities remains the same.

Issuer's Estimated Value of the Securities

The Issuer's estimated value of the securities is equal to the sum of our valuations of the following two components of the securities: (i) a bond and (ii) an embedded derivative(s). The value of the bond component of the securities is calculated based on the present value of the stream of cash payments associated with a conventional bond with a principal amount equal to the Face Amount of securities, discounted at an internal funding rate, which is determined primarily based on our market-based yield curve, adjusted to account for our funding needs and objectives for the period matching the term of the securities. The internal funding rate is typically lower than the rate we would pay when we issue conventional debt securities on equivalent terms. This difference in funding rate, as well as the agent's commissions, if any, and the estimated cost of hedging our obligations under the securities, reduces the economic terms of the securities to you and is expected to adversely affect the price at which you may be able to sell the securities in any secondary market. The value of the embedded derivative(s) is calculated based on our internal pricing models using relevant parameter inputs such as expected interest and dividend rates and mid-market levels of price and volatility of the assets underlying the securities or any futures, options or swaps related to such underlying assets. Our internal pricing models are proprietary and rely in part on certain assumptions about future events, which may prove to be incorrect.

The Issuer's estimated value of the securities on the Trade Date (as disclosed on the cover of this pricing supplement) is less than the Issue Price of the securities. The difference between the Issue Price and the Issuer's estimated value of the securities on the Trade Date is due to the inclusion in the Issue Price of the agent's commissions, if any, and the cost of hedging our obligations under the securities through one or more of our affiliates. Such hedging cost includes our or our affiliates' expected cost of providing such hedge, as well as the profit we or our affiliates expect to realize in consideration for assuming the risks inherent in providing such hedge.

The Issuer's estimated value of the securities on the Trade Date does not represent the price at which we or any of our affiliates would be willing to purchase your securities in the secondary market at any time. Assuming no changes in market conditions or our creditworthiness and other relevant factors, the price, if any, at which we or our affiliates would be willing to purchase the securities from you in secondary market transactions, if at all, would generally be lower than both the Issue Price and the Issuer's estimated value of the securities on the Trade Date. Our purchase price, if any, in secondary market transactions will be based on the estimated value of the securities determined by reference to (i) the then-prevailing internal funding rate (adjusted by a spread) or another appropriate measure of our cost of funds and (ii) our pricing models at that time, less a bid spread determined after taking into account the size of the repurchase, the nature of the assets underlying the securities and then-prevailing market conditions. The price we report to financial reporting services and to distributors of our securities for use on customer account statements would generally be determined on the same basis. However, during the period of approximately three months beginning from the Trade Date, we or our affiliates may, in our sole discretion, increase the purchase price determined as described above by an amount equal to the declining differential between the Issue Price and the Issuer's estimated value of the securities on the Trade Date, prorated over such period on a straight-line basis, for transactions that are individually and in the aggregate of the expected size for ordinary secondary market repurchases.

Resolution Measures and Deemed Agreement

On May 15, 2014, the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union adopted a directive establishing a framework for the recovery and resolution of credit institutions and investment firms (commonly referred to as the “**Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive**”). The Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive required each member state of the European Union to adopt and publish by December 31, 2014 the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with the Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive. Germany adopted the Recovery and Resolution Act (*Sanierungs- und Abwicklungsgesetz*, or the “**Resolution Act**”), which became effective on January 1, 2015. The Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive and the Resolution Act provided national resolution authorities with a set of resolution powers to intervene in the event that a bank is failing or likely to fail and certain other conditions are met. From January 1, 2016, the power to initiate resolution measures applicable to significant banking groups (such as Deutsche Bank Group) in the European Banking Union has been transferred to the European Single Resolution Board which, based on the European Union regulation establishing uniform rules and a uniform procedure for the resolution of credit institutions and certain investment firms in the framework of a Single Resolution Mechanism and a Single Resolution Fund (the “**SRM Regulation**”), works in close cooperation with the European Central Bank, the European Commission and the national resolution authorities. Pursuant to the SRM Regulation, the Resolution Act and other applicable rules and regulations, the securities may be subject to any Resolution Measure by the competent resolution authority if we become, or are deemed by the competent supervisory authority to have become, “non-viable” (as defined under the then applicable law) and are unable to continue our regulated banking activities without a Resolution Measure becoming applicable to us. By acquiring the securities, you will be bound by and deemed irrevocably to consent to the provisions set forth in the accompanying prospectus, which we have summarized below.

By acquiring the securities, you will be bound by and deemed irrevocably to consent to the imposition of any Resolution Measure by the competent resolution authority. Under the relevant resolution laws and regulations as applicable to us from time to time, the securities may be subject to the powers exercised by the competent resolution authority to: (i) write down, including to zero, any payment (or delivery obligations) on the securities; (ii) convert the securities into ordinary shares of (a) the Issuer, (b) any group entity or (c) any bridge bank or other instruments of ownership of such entities qualifying as common equity tier 1 capital; and/or (iii) apply any other resolution measure including, but not limited to, any transfer of the securities to another entity, the amendment, modification or variation of the terms and conditions of the securities or the cancellation of the securities. We refer to each of these measures as a “**Resolution Measure**.” A “group entity” refers to an entity that is included in the corporate group subject to a Resolution Measure. A “bridge bank” refers to a newly chartered German bank that would receive some or all of our assets, liabilities and material contracts, including those attributable to our branches and subsidiaries, in a resolution proceeding.

Furthermore, by acquiring the securities, you:

are deemed irrevocably to have agreed, and you will agree: (i) to be bound by, to acknowledge and to accept any Resolution Measure and any amendment, modification or variation of the terms and conditions of the securities to give effect to any Resolution Measure; (ii) that you will have no claim or other right against us arising out of any Resolution Measure; and (iii) that the imposition of any Resolution Measure will not constitute a default or an event

of default under the securities, under the senior indenture dated November 22, 2006 among us, Law Debenture Trust Company of New York, as trustee, and Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as issuing agent, paying agent, authenticating agent and registrar, as amended and supplemented from time to time (the “**Indenture**”), or for the purposes of, but only to the fullest extent permitted by, the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended (the “**Trust Indenture Act**”);

waive, to the fullest extent permitted by the Trust Indenture Act and applicable law, any and all claims against the trustee and the paying agent, the issuing agent and the registrar (each, an “**indenture agent**”) for, agree not to initiate a suit against the trustee or the indenture agents in respect of, and agree that the trustee and the indenture agents will not be liable for, any action that the trustee or the indenture agents take, or abstain from taking, in either case in accordance with the imposition of a Resolution Measure by the competent resolution authority with respect to the securities; and

- will be deemed irrevocably to have: (i) consented to the imposition of any Resolution Measure as it may be imposed without any prior notice by the competent resolution authority of its decision to exercise such

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power with respect to the securities; (ii) authorized, directed and requested The Depository Trust Company (“DTC”) and any direct participant in DTC or other intermediary through which you hold such securities to take any and all necessary action, if required, to implement the imposition of any Resolution Measure with respect to the securities as it may be imposed, without any further action or direction on your part or on the part of the trustee or the indenture agents; and (iii) acknowledged and accepted that the Resolution Measure provisions described herein and in the “Resolution Measures” section of the accompanying prospectus are exhaustive on the matters described herein and therein to the exclusion of any other agreements, arrangements or understandings between you and the Issuer relating to the terms and conditions of the securities.

This is only a summary, for more information please see the accompanying prospectus dated April 27, 2016, including the risk factors beginning on page 13 of such prospectus.

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Additional Terms Specific to the Securities

You should read this pricing supplement together with underlying supplement No. 1 dated August 17, 2015, product supplement B dated July 31, 2015, the prospectus supplement dated July 31, 2015 relating to our Series A global notes of which these securities are a part and the prospectus dated April 27, 2016. Delaware Trust Company, which acquired the corporate trust business of Law Debenture Trust Company of New York, is the successor trustee of the securities. When you read the accompanying underlying supplement, product supplement and prospectus supplement, please note that all references in such supplements to the prospectus dated July 31, 2015, or to any sections therein, should refer instead to the accompanying prospectus dated April 27, 2016 or to the corresponding sections of such prospectus, as applicable, unless otherwise specified or the context otherwise requires. You may access these documents on the website of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) at www.sec.gov as follows (or if such address has changed, by reviewing our filings for the relevant date on the SEC website):

- Underlying supplement No. 1 dated August 17, 2015:

https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1159508/000095010315006546/crt_dp58829-424b2.pdf

- Product supplement B dated July 31, 2015:

https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1159508/000095010315006059/crt_dp58181-424b2.pdf

- Prospectus supplement dated July 31, 2015:

https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1159508/000095010315006048/crt-dp58161_424b2.pdf

- Prospectus dated April 27, 2016:

<https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1159508/000119312516559607/d181910d424b21.pdf>

Our Central Index Key, or CIK, on the SEC website is 0001159508. As used in this pricing supplement, “we,” “us” or “our” refers to Deutsche Bank AG, including, as the context requires, acting through one of its branches.

This pricing supplement, together with the documents listed above, contains the terms of the securities and supersedes all other prior or contemporaneous oral statements as well as any other written materials including preliminary or indicative pricing terms, correspondence, trade ideas, structures for implementation, sample structures, brochures or other educational materials of ours. You should carefully consider, among other things, the matters set forth in this

pricing supplement and in “Risk Factors” in the accompanying product supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus, as the securities involve risks not associated with conventional debt securities. We urge you to consult your investment, legal, tax, accounting and other advisers before deciding to invest in the securities.

You may revoke your offer to purchase the securities at any time prior to the time at which we accept such offer by notifying the applicable agent. We reserve the right to change the terms of, or reject any offer to purchase, the securities prior to their issuance. We will notify you in the event of any changes to the terms of the securities and you will be asked to accept such changes in connection with your purchase of any securities. You may choose to reject such changes, in which case we may reject your offer to purchase the securities.

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Hypothetical Examples

The following table illustrates a range of hypothetical payments at maturity on the securities. The table and the hypothetical examples below reflect the Maximum Return of 21.00%, the Upside Leverage Factor of 125.00%, the Downside Participation Factor of 121.212% and the Buffer Amount of 17.50%. The table and hypothetical examples set forth below are for illustrative purposes only. The actual return applicable to a purchaser of the securities will be based on the Underlying Return, determined using the closing level of the Underlying on the Final Valuation Date. The numbers appearing in the table and hypothetical examples below may have been rounded for ease of analysis. You should consider carefully whether the securities are suitable to your investment goals.

| <i>Hypothetical Underlying Return</i> (%) | <i>Hypothetical Payment at Maturity</i> (\$) | <i>Hypothetical Return on the Securities</i> (%) |
|--|---|---|
| 100.00% | \$1,210.00 | 21.00% |
| 75.00% | \$1,210.00 | 21.00% |
| 50.00% | \$1,210.00 | 21.00% |
| 40.00% | \$1,210.00 | 21.00% |
| 30.00% | \$1,210.00 | 21.00% |
| 20.00% | \$1,210.00 | 21.00% |
| 16.80% | \$1,210.00 | 21.00% |
| 15.00% | \$1,187.50 | 18.75% |
| 10.00% | \$1,125.00 | 12.50% |
| 5.00% | \$1,062.50 | 6.25% |
| 0.00% | \$1,000.00 | 0.00% |
| -5.00% | \$1,000.00 | 0.00% |
| -10.00% | \$1,000.00 | 0.00% |
| -15.00% | \$1,000.00 | 0.00% |
| -17.50% | \$1,000.00 | 0.00% |
| -18.00% | \$993.94 | -0.61% |
| -20.00% | \$969.70 | -3.03% |
| -30.00% | \$848.48 | -15.15% |
| -40.00% | \$727.27 | -27.27% |
| -50.00% | \$606.06 | -39.39% |
| -75.00% | \$303.03 | -69.70% |
| -100.00% | \$0.00 | -100.00% |

Hypothetical Examples of Amounts Payable at Maturity

The following hypothetical examples illustrate how the payments on the securities at maturity set forth in the table above are calculated.

Example 1: The Final Level is *greater than* the Initial Level, resulting in an Underlying Return of 30.00%.

Because the Final Level is greater than the Initial Level and the Underlying Return multiplied by the Upside Leverage Factor is greater than the Maximum Return, the investor receives a Payment at Maturity of \$1,210.00 per \$1,000 Face Amount of securities, the maximum payment on the securities, calculated as follows:

$$\$1,000 + [\$1,000 \times (\text{the } \textit{lesser of} \text{ (i) Underlying Return} \times \text{Upside Leverage Factor and (ii) Maximum Return})]$$

$$\$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times 21.00\%) = \$1,210.00$$

Example 2: The Final Level is *greater than* the Initial Level, resulting in an Underlying Return of 5.00%.

Because the Final Level is greater than the Initial Level and the Underlying Return multiplied by the Upside Leverage Factor is less than the Maximum Return, the investor receives a Payment at Maturity of \$1,062.50 per \$1,000 Face Amount of securities, calculated as follows:

$$\$1,000 + [\$1,000 \times (\text{the } \textit{lesser of} \text{ (i) Underlying Return} \times \text{Upside Leverage Factor and (ii) Maximum Return})]$$

$$\$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times 5.00\% \times 125.00\%) = \$1,062.50$$

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Example 3: The Final Level is less than the Initial Level by an amount not greater than the Buffer Amount, resulting in an Underlying Return of -5.00%. Because the Final Level is less than the Initial Level by an amount not greater than the Buffer Amount, the investor receives a Payment at Maturity of \$1,000.00 per \$1,000 Face Amount of securities.

Example 4: The Final Level is less than the Initial Level by an amount greater than the Buffer Amount, resulting in an Underlying Return of -50.00%. Because the Final Level is less than the Initial Level by an amount greater than the Buffer Amount, the investor receives a Payment at Maturity of \$606.06 per \$1,000 Face Amount of securities, calculated as follows:

$\$1,000 + [\$1,000 \times (\text{Underlying Return} + \text{Buffer Amount}) \times \text{Downside Participation Factor}]$

$\$1,000 + [\$1,000 \times (-50.00\% + 17.50\%) \times 121.212\%] = \606.06

Selected Purchase Considerations

CAPPED APPRECIATION POTENTIAL — The securities provide upside leveraged exposure to any increase in the level of the Underlying up to the Maximum Return of 21.00%. Consequently, the maximum Payment at Maturity is \$1,210.00 for each \$1,000 Face Amount of securities you hold. **Any payment on the securities is subject to our ability to satisfy our obligations as they become due.**

LIMITED PROTECTION AGAINST LOSS — If the Final Level is less than the Initial Level by an amount not greater than the Buffer Amount, you will receive a cash payment at maturity equal to the Face Amount per \$1,000 Face Amount of securities. However, if the Final Level is less than the Initial Level by an amount greater than the Buffer Amount, for each \$1,000 Face Amount of securities, you will lose 1.21212% of the Face Amount for every 1.00% by which the Final Level is less than the Initial Level by an amount greater than the Buffer Amount. In this circumstance, you will lose some or all of your investment in the securities.

RETURN LINKED TO THE PERFORMANCE OF THE S&P 500® INDEX — The return on the securities, which may be positive, zero or negative, is linked to the performance of the S&P 500® Index as described herein. The S&P 500® Index is intended to provide a performance benchmark for the U.S. equity markets. The calculation of the level of the S&P 500® Index is based on the relative value of the aggregate market value of the shares of 500 companies as of a particular time as compared to the aggregate average market value of the shares of 500 similar companies during the base period of the years 1941 through 1943. In addition, as of July 31, 2017, the securities of companies with multiple share class structures are no longer eligible to be added to the S&P 500® Index. This change does not affect securities that were already included in the S&P 500® Index as of July 31, 2017 or any new public company spun off from such a constituent. *This is only a summary of the S&P 500® Index. For more information on the S&P 500® Index, including information concerning its composition, calculation methodology and adjustment policy, please see the section entitled “The S&P Dow Jones Indices — The S&P 500 Index” in the accompanying underlying supplement No. 1 dated August 17, 2015.*

TAX CONSEQUENCES — In the opinion of our special tax counsel, Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, which is based on prevailing market conditions, it is more likely than not that the securities will be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes as prepaid financial contracts that are not debt. Generally, if this treatment is respected, (i) you should not recognize taxable income or loss prior to the maturity or other taxable disposition of your securities and (ii) the gain or loss on your securities should be capital gain or loss and should be long-term capital gain or loss if you have held the securities for more than one year. The Internal Revenue Service (the “**IRS**”) or a court might not agree with this treatment, however, in which case the timing and character of income or loss on your securities could be materially and adversely affected.

In 2007, the U.S. Treasury Department and the IRS released a notice requesting comments on various issues regarding the U.S. federal income tax treatment of “prepaid forward contracts” and similar instruments. The notice focuses in particular on whether beneficial owners of these instruments should be required to accrue income over the term of their investment. It also asks for comments on a number of related topics, including the character of income or loss with respect to these instruments; the relevance of factors such as the nature of the underlying property to which the instruments are linked; the degree, if any, to which income (including any mandated accruals) realized by non-U.S. persons should be subject to withholding tax; and whether these instruments are or should be subject to the “constructive ownership” regime, which very generally can operate to recharacterize certain long-term capital gain as ordinary

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income and impose a notional interest charge. While the notice requests comments on appropriate transition rules and effective dates, any Treasury regulations or other guidance promulgated after consideration of these issues could materially and adversely affect the tax consequences of an investment in the securities, possibly with retroactive effect.

Withholding under legislation commonly referred to as “FATCA” might (if the securities were recharacterized as debt instruments) apply to amounts treated as interest paid with respect to the securities, as well as to the payment of gross proceeds of a taxable disposition, including redemption at maturity, of a securities. However, under a recent IRS notice, this regime will not apply to payments of gross proceeds (other than any amount treated as interest) with respect to dispositions occurring before January 1, 2019. You should consult your tax adviser regarding the potential application of FATCA to the securities.

Section 871(m) of the Code and Treasury regulations promulgated thereunder (“**Section 871(m)**”) generally impose a 30% withholding tax (unless an income tax treaty applies) on dividend equivalents paid or deemed paid to non-U.S. holders with respect to certain financial instruments linked to U.S. equities or indices that include U.S. equities. Section 871(m) provides certain exceptions to this withholding regime, including for instruments linked to certain broad-based indices that meet requirements set forth in the applicable Treasury regulations (such an index, a “**Qualified Index**”). Additionally, the applicable regulations exclude from the scope of Section 871(m) instruments issued in 2017 that do not have a delta of one with respect to underlying securities that could pay U.S.-source dividends for U.S. federal income tax purposes (each an “**Underlying Security**”). Based on certain determinations made by us, we expect that Section 871(m) will not apply to the securities with regard to non-U.S. holders. Our determination is not binding on the IRS, and the IRS may disagree with this determination. Section 871(m) is complex and its application may depend on your particular circumstances, including whether you enter into other transactions with respect to an Underlying Security. If necessary, further information regarding the potential application of Section 871(m) will be provided in the pricing supplement for the securities. You should consult your tax adviser regarding the potential application of Section 871(m) to the securities.

You should review carefully the section of the accompanying product supplement entitled “U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences.” The preceding discussion, when read in combination with that section, constitutes the full opinion of our special tax counsel regarding the material U.S. federal income tax consequences of owning and disposing of the securities.

Under current law, the United Kingdom will not impose withholding tax on payments made with respect to the securities.

For a discussion of certain German tax considerations relating to the securities, you should refer to the section in the accompanying prospectus supplement entitled “Taxation by Germany of Non-Resident Holders.”

You should consult your tax adviser regarding the U.S. federal tax consequences of an investment in the securities (including possible alternative treatments and the issues presented by the 2007 notice), as well as tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local or non-U.S. taxing jurisdiction.

Selected Risk Considerations

An investment in the securities involves significant risks. Investing in the securities is not equivalent to investing directly in the stocks composing the Underlying. In addition to these selected risk considerations, you should review the “Risk Factors” sections of the accompanying product supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus.

YOUR INVESTMENT IN THE SECURITIES MAY RESULT IN A LOSS — The securities do not guarantee any return of your investment. The return on the securities at maturity is linked to the performance of the Underlying and will depend on whether, and the extent to which, the Underlying Return is positive, zero or negative. If the Final Level is less than the Initial Level by an amount greater than the Buffer Amount, for each \$1,000 Face Amount of securities, you will lose 1.21212% of the Face Amount for every 1.00% by which the Final Level is less than the Initial Level by an amount greater than the Buffer Amount. **In this**

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circumstance, you will lose some or all of your investment at maturity. Any payment on the securities is subject to our ability to satisfy our obligations as they become due.

THE RETURN ON THE SECURITIES IS LIMITED BY THE MAXIMUM RETURN — If the Final Level is greater than or equal to the Initial Level, for each \$1,000 Face Amount of securities, you will receive at maturity \$1,000 *plus* an amount equal to \$1,000 *multiplied by* the lesser of (i) the Underlying Return times the Upside Leverage Factor and (ii) the Maximum Return of 21.00%. Consequently, the maximum Payment at Maturity will be \$1,210.00 for each \$1,000 Face Amount of securities you hold, regardless of any further increase in the level of the Underlying, which may be significant.

THE SECURITIES DO NOT PAY ANY COUPONS — Unlike ordinary debt securities, the securities do not pay any coupons and do not guarantee any return of your investment at maturity.

THE SECURITIES ARE SUBJECT TO THE CREDIT OF DEUTSCHE BANK AG — The securities are senior unsecured obligations of Deutsche Bank AG and are not, either directly or indirectly, an obligation of any third party. Any payment(s) to be made on the securities depends on the ability of Deutsche Bank AG to satisfy its obligations as they become due. An actual or anticipated downgrade in Deutsche Bank AG's credit rating or increase in the credit spreads charged by the market for taking Deutsche Bank AG's credit risk will likely have an adverse effect on the value of the securities. As a result, the actual and perceived creditworthiness of Deutsche Bank AG will affect the value of the securities and, in the event Deutsche Bank AG were to default on its obligations or become subject to a Resolution Measure, you might not receive any amount(s) owed to you under the terms of the securities and you could lose your entire investment.

THE SECURITIES MAY BE WRITTEN DOWN, BE CONVERTED INTO ORDINARY SHARES OR OTHER INSTRUMENTS OF OWNERSHIP OR BECOME SUBJECT TO OTHER RESOLUTION MEASURES. YOU MAY LOSE SOME OR ALL OF YOUR INVESTMENT IF ANY SUCH MEASURE BECOMES APPLICABLE TO US — Pursuant to the SRM Regulation, the Resolution Act and other applicable rules and regulations described above under "Resolution Measures and Deemed Agreement," the securities are subject to the powers exercised by the competent resolution authority to impose Resolution Measures on us, which may include: writing down, including to zero, any claim for payment on the securities; converting the securities into ordinary shares of (i) the Issuer, (ii) any group entity or (iii) any bridge bank or other instruments of ownership of such entities qualifying as common equity tier 1 capital; or applying any other resolution measure including, but not limited to, transferring the securities to another entity, amending, modifying or varying the terms and conditions of the securities or cancelling the securities. The competent resolution authority may apply Resolution Measures individually or in any combination.

The German law on the mechanism for the resolution of banks of November 2, 2015 (*Abwicklungsmechanismusetz*, or the "**Resolution Mechanism Act**") provides that, in a German insolvency proceeding of the Issuer, certain specifically defined senior unsecured debt instruments would rank junior to, without constituting subordinated debt, all other outstanding unsecured unsubordinated obligations of the Issuer and be satisfied *only if* all such other senior unsecured obligations of the Issuer have been paid in full. This prioritization would also be given effect if Resolution Measures are imposed on the Issuer, so that obligations under debt instruments that rank junior in insolvency as described above would be written down or converted into common equity tier 1 instruments before any other senior unsecured obligations of the Issuer are written down or converted. A

large portion of our liabilities consist of senior unsecured obligations that either fall outside the statutory definition of debt instruments that rank junior to other senior unsecured obligations according to the Resolution Mechanism Act or are expressly exempted from such definition.

Among those unsecured unsubordinated obligations that are expressly exempted are money market instruments and senior unsecured debt instruments whose terms provide that (i) the repayment or the amount of the repayment depends on the occurrence or non-occurrence of an event which is uncertain at the point in time when the senior unsecured debt instruments are issued or is settled in a way other than by monetary payment, or (ii) the payment of interest or the amount of the interest payments depends on the occurrence or non-occurrence of an event which is uncertain at the point in time when the senior unsecured debt instruments are issued unless the payment of interest or the amount of the interest payments solely depends on a fixed or floating reference interest rate and is settled by monetary payment. This order of priority introduced by the Resolution Mechanism Act would apply in German insolvency proceedings instituted, or when Resolution Measures are imposed, on or after January 1, 2017 with effect

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for debt instruments of the Issuer outstanding at that time. In a German insolvency proceeding or in the event of the imposition of Resolution Measures with respect to the Issuer, the competent regulatory authority or court would determine which of our senior debt securities issued under the prospectus have the terms described in clauses (i) or (ii) above, referred to herein as the “**Structured Debt Securities**,” and which do not, referred to herein as the “**Non-Structured Debt Securities**.” We expect the securities offered herein to be classified as Structured Debt Securities, but the competent regulatory authority or court may classify the securities differently. In a German insolvency proceeding or in the event of the imposition of Resolution Measures with respect to the Issuer, the Structured Debt Securities are expected to be among the unsecured unsubordinated obligations that would bear losses after the Non-Structured Debt Securities as described above. **Nevertheless, you may lose some or all of your investment in the securities if a Resolution Measure becomes applicable to us.** Imposition of a Resolution Measure would likely occur if we become, or are deemed by the competent supervisory authority to have become, “non-viable” (as defined under the then applicable law) and are unable to continue our regulated banking activities without a Resolution Measure becoming applicable to us. The Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive and the Resolution Act are intended to eliminate the need for public support of troubled banks, and you should be aware that public support, if any, would only potentially be used by the competent supervisory authority as a last resort after having assessed and exploited, to the maximum extent practicable, the resolution tools, including the bail-in tool.

By acquiring the securities, you would have no claim or other right against us arising out of any Resolution Measure and we would have no obligation to make payments under the securities following the imposition of a Resolution Measure. In particular, the imposition of any Resolution Measure will not constitute a default or an event of default under the securities, under the Indenture or for the purposes of, but only to the fullest extent permitted by, the Trust Indenture Act. Furthermore, because the securities are subject to any Resolution Measure, secondary market trading in the securities may not follow the trading behavior associated with similar types of securities issued by other financial institutions which may be or have been subject to a Resolution Measure.

In addition, by your acquisition of the securities, you waive, to the fullest extent permitted by the Trust Indenture Act and applicable law, any and all claims against the trustee and the indenture agents for, agree not to initiate a suit against the trustee or the indenture agents in respect of, and agree that the trustee and the indenture agents will not be liable for, any action that the trustee or the indenture agents take, or abstain from taking, in either case in accordance with the imposition of a Resolution Measure by the competent resolution authority with respect to the securities. **Accordingly, you may have limited or circumscribed rights to challenge any decision of the competent resolution authority to impose any Resolution Measure.**

· THE ISSUER’S ESTIMATED VALUE OF THE SECURITIES ON THE TRADE DATE WILL BE LESS THAN THE ISSUE PRICE OF THE SECURITIES — The Issuer’s estimated value of the securities on the Trade Date (as disclosed on the cover of this pricing supplement) is less than the Issue Price of the securities. The difference between the Issue Price and the Issuer’s estimated value of the securities on the Trade Date is due to the inclusion in the Issue Price of the agent’s commissions, if any, and the cost of hedging our obligations under the securities through one or more of our affiliates. Such hedging cost includes our or our affiliates’ expected cost of providing such hedge, as well as the profit we or our affiliates expect to realize in consideration for assuming the risks inherent in providing such hedge. The Issuer’s estimated value of the securities is determined by reference to an internal funding rate and our pricing models. The internal funding rate is typically lower than the rate we would pay when we issue conventional debt securities on equivalent terms. This difference in funding rate, as well as the agent’s commissions, if any, and the estimated cost of hedging our obligations under the securities, reduces the economic terms of the

securities to you and is expected to adversely affect the price at which you may be able to sell the securities in any secondary market. In addition, our internal pricing models are proprietary and rely in part on certain assumptions about future events, which may prove to be incorrect. If at any time a third party dealer were to quote a price to purchase your securities or otherwise value your securities, that price or value may differ materially from the estimated value of the securities determined by reference to our internal funding rate and pricing models. This difference is due to, among other things, any difference in funding rates, pricing models or assumptions used by any dealer who may purchase the securities in the secondary market.

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INVESTING IN THE SECURITIES IS NOT THE SAME AS INVESTING IN THE STOCKS COMPOSING THE UNDERLYING — The return on the securities may not reflect the return you would have realized if you had directly invested in the stocks composing the Underlying. For instance, your return on the securities is limited to the Maximum Return, regardless of any potential increase in the level of the Underlying, which could be significant.

IF THE LEVEL OF THE UNDERLYING CHANGES, THE VALUE OF YOUR SECURITIES MAY NOT CHANGE IN THE SAME MANNER — Your securities may trade quite differently from the level of the Underlying. Changes in the level of the Underlying may not result in comparable changes in the value of your securities.

NO DIVIDEND PAYMENTS OR VOTING RIGHTS — As a holder of the securities, you will not have any voting rights or rights to receive cash dividends or other distributions or other rights that holders of the stocks composing the Underlying would have.

THE UNDERLYING REFLECTS THE PRICE RETURN OF THE STOCKS COMPOSING THE UNDERLYING, NOT THEIR TOTAL RETURN INCLUDING ALL DIVIDENDS AND OTHER DISTRIBUTIONS — The Underlying reflects the changes in the market prices of the stocks composing the Underlying. The Underlying is not, however, a “total return” index, which, in addition to reflecting those price returns, would also reflect the reinvestment of all dividends and other distributions paid on the stocks composing the Underlying.

THE SPONSOR OF THE UNDERLYING MAY ADJUST THE UNDERLYING IN WAYS THAT AFFECT THE LEVEL OF THE UNDERLYING AND HAS NO OBLIGATION TO CONSIDER YOUR INTERESTS — The sponsor of the Underlying (the “**Index Sponsor**”) is responsible for calculating and maintaining the Underlying. The Index Sponsor can add, delete or substitute the components of the Underlying or make other methodological changes that could change the level of the Underlying. You should realize that the changing of such Underlying components may affect the Underlying, as a newly added component may perform significantly better or worse than the component it replaces. Additionally, the Index Sponsor may alter, discontinue or suspend calculation or dissemination of the Underlying. Any of these actions could adversely affect the level of the Underlying and, thus, the value of, and your return on, the securities. The Index Sponsor has no obligation to consider your interests in calculating or revising the Underlying.

PAST PERFORMANCE OF THE UNDERLYING IS NO GUIDE TO FUTURE PERFORMANCE — The actual performance of the Underlying over the term of the securities may bear little relation to the historical closing levels of the Underlying and/or the hypothetical examples set forth elsewhere in this pricing supplement. We cannot predict the future performance of the Underlying or whether the performance of the Underlying will result in the return of any of your investment.

ASSUMING NO CHANGES IN MARKET CONDITIONS AND OTHER RELEVANT FACTORS, THE PRICE YOU MAY RECEIVE FOR YOUR SECURITIES IN SECONDARY MARKET TRANSACTIONS WOULD GENERALLY BE LOWER THAN BOTH THE ISSUE PRICE AND THE ISSUER’S ESTIMATED VALUE OF THE SECURITIES ON THE TRADE DATE — While the payment(s) on the securities described in this pricing supplement is based on the full Face Amount of securities, the Issuer’s estimated value of the securities on the Trade Date (as disclosed on the cover of this pricing supplement) is less than the Issue Price of the securities. The Issuer’s estimated value of the securities on the Trade Date does not represent the price at which we or any of our

affiliates would be willing to purchase your securities in the secondary market at any time. Assuming no changes in market conditions or our creditworthiness and other relevant factors, the price, if any, at which we or our affiliates would be willing to purchase the securities from you in secondary market transactions, if at all, would generally be lower than both the Issue Price and the Issuer's estimated value of the securities on the Trade Date. Our purchase price, if any, in secondary market transactions would be based on the estimated value of the securities determined by reference to (i) the then-prevailing internal funding rate (adjusted by a spread) or another appropriate measure of our cost of funds and (ii) our pricing models at that time, less a bid spread determined after taking into account the size of the repurchase, the nature of the assets underlying the securities and then-prevailing market conditions. The price we report to financial reporting services and to distributors of our securities for use on customer account statements would generally be determined on the same basis. However, during the period of approximately three months beginning from the Trade Date, we or our affiliates may, in our sole discretion, increase the purchase price determined as described above by an

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amount equal to the declining differential between the Issue Price and the Issuer's estimated value of the securities on the Trade Date, prorated over such period on a straight-line basis, for transactions that are individually and in the aggregate of the expected size for ordinary secondary market repurchases.

In addition to the factors discussed above, the value of the securities and our purchase price in secondary market transactions after the Trade Date, if any, will vary based on many economic and market factors, including our creditworthiness, and cannot be predicted with accuracy. These changes may adversely affect the value of your securities, including the price you may receive in any secondary market transactions. Any sale prior to the Maturity Date could result in a substantial loss to you. The securities are not designed to be short-term trading instruments. Accordingly, you should be able and willing to hold your securities to maturity.

THE SECURITIES WILL NOT BE LISTED AND THERE WILL LIKELY BE LIMITED LIQUIDITY — The securities will not be listed on any securities exchange. There may be little or no secondary market for the securities. We or our affiliates intend to act as market makers for the securities but are not required to do so and may cease such market making activities at any time. Even if there is a secondary market, it may not provide enough liquidity to allow you to sell the securities when you wish to do so or at a price advantageous to you. Because we do not expect other dealers to make a secondary market for the securities, the price at which you may be able to sell your securities is likely to depend on the price, if any, at which we or our affiliates are willing to buy the securities. If, at any time, we or our affiliates do not act as market makers, it is likely that there would be little or no secondary market in the securities. If you have to sell your securities prior to maturity, you may not be able to do so or you may have to sell them at a substantial loss, even in cases where the level of the Underlying has increased since the Trade Date.

MANY ECONOMIC AND MARKET FACTORS WILL AFFECT THE VALUE OF THE SECURITIES — While we expect that, generally, the level of the Underlying will affect the value of the securities more than any other single factor, the value of the securities prior to maturity will also be affected by a number of other factors that may either offset or magnify each other, including:

- o the expected volatility of the Underlying;
- o the time remaining to the maturity of the securities;
- o the market prices and dividend rates of the stocks composing the Underlying;
- o the composition of the Underlying;
- o interest rates and yields in the markets generally;

o geopolitical conditions and economic, financial, political, regulatory or judicial events that affect the Underlying or the markets generally;

- o supply and demand for the securities; and

- o our creditworthiness, including actual or anticipated downgrades in our credit ratings.

During the term of the securities, it is possible that their value may decline significantly due to the factors described above even if the level of the Underlying remains unchanged from the Initial Level, and any sale prior to the Maturity Date could result in a substantial loss to you. You must hold the securities to maturity to receive the stated payout from the Issuer.

TRADING AND OTHER TRANSACTIONS BY US OR OUR AFFILIATES IN THE EQUITY AND EQUITY DERIVATIVE MARKETS MAY IMPAIR THE VALUE OF THE SECURITIES — We or our affiliates expect to hedge our exposure from the securities by entering into equity and equity derivative transactions, such as over-the-counter options, futures or exchange-traded instruments. We or our affiliates may also engage in trading in instruments linked or related to the Underlying on a regular basis as part of our or their general broker-dealer and other businesses, for proprietary accounts, for other accounts under management or to facilitate transactions for customers, including block transactions. Such trading and hedging activities may adversely affect the level of the Underlying and, therefore, make it less likely that you will receive a positive return on your investment in the securities. It is possible that we or our affiliates could receive substantial returns from these hedging and trading activities while the value of the securities declines. We or our

affiliates may also issue or underwrite other securities or financial or derivative instruments with returns linked or related to the Underlying. To the extent that we or our affiliates serve as issuer, agent or underwriter for such securities or financial or derivative instruments, our or our affiliates' interests with respect to such products may be adverse to those of the holders of the securities. Introducing competing products into the marketplace in this manner could adversely affect the level of the Underlying and the value of the securities. Any of the foregoing activities described in this paragraph may reflect trading strategies that differ from, or are in direct opposition to, investors' trading and investment strategies related to the securities. Furthermore, because DBSI or one of its affiliates is expected to conduct trading and hedging activities for us in connection with the securities, DBSI or such affiliate may profit in connection with such trading and hedging activities and such profit, if any, will be in addition to any compensation that DBSI receives for the sale of the securities to you. You should be aware that the potential to earn a profit in connection with hedging activities may create a further incentive for DBSI to sell the securities to you in addition to any compensation they would receive for the sale of the securities.

WE OR OUR AFFILIATES MAY PUBLISH RESEARCH, EXPRESS OPINIONS OR PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT ARE INCONSISTENT WITH INVESTING IN OR HOLDING THE SECURITIES. ANY SUCH RESEARCH, OPINIONS OR RECOMMENDATIONS COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE LEVEL OF THE UNDERLYING AND THE VALUE OF THE SECURITIES — We or our affiliates may publish research from time to time on financial markets and other matters that could adversely affect the level of the Underlying and the value of the securities or express opinions or provide recommendations that are inconsistent with purchasing or holding the securities. Any research, opinions or recommendations expressed by us or our affiliates may not be consistent with each other and may be modified from time to time without notice. You should make your own independent investigation of the merits of investing in the securities and the Underlying.

POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST — We and our affiliates play a variety of roles in connection with the issuance of the securities, including acting as calculation agent, hedging our obligations under the securities and determining the Issuer's estimated value of the securities on the Trade Date and the price, if any, at which we or our affiliates would be willing to purchase the securities from you in secondary market transactions. In performing these roles, our economic interests and those of our affiliates are potentially adverse to your interests as an investor in the securities. The calculation agent will determine, among other things, all values, prices and levels required to be determined for the purposes of the securities on any relevant date or time. The calculation agent will also be responsible for determining whether a market disruption event has occurred. Any determination by the calculation agent could adversely affect the return on the securities.

THE U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES OF AN INVESTMENT IN THE SECURITIES ARE UNCERTAIN — There is no direct legal authority regarding the proper U.S. federal income tax treatment of the securities, and we do not plan to request a ruling from the IRS. Consequently, significant aspects of the tax treatment of the securities are uncertain, and the IRS or a court might not agree with the treatment of the securities as prepaid financial contracts that are not debt. If the IRS were successful in asserting an alternative treatment for the securities, the tax consequences of ownership and disposition of the securities could be materially and adversely affected. In addition, as described above under "Tax Consequences," in 2007 the U.S. Treasury Department and the IRS released a notice requesting comments on various issues regarding the U.S. federal income tax treatment of "prepaid forward contracts" and similar instruments. Any Treasury regulations or other guidance promulgated after consideration of these issues could materially and adversely affect the tax consequences of an investment in the securities, possibly with retroactive effect. You should review carefully the section of the accompanying product supplement entitled "U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences," and consult your tax adviser regarding the U.S. federal tax consequences of an investment in the securities (including possible alternative treatments and the issues presented by the 2007 notice),

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as well as tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local or non-U.S. taxing jurisdiction.

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Historical Information

The following graph sets forth the historical performance of the S&P 500® Index based on its daily closing levels from November 29, 2012 through November 29, 2017. The Initial Level is 2,626.07, equal to the closing level of the Underlying on November 29, 2017. The graph below also indicates by a broken line the closing level of the Underlying that would result in a percentage decline from the Initial Level that is equal to the Buffer Amount of 17.50%. We obtained the historical closing levels of the Underlying below from Bloomberg L.P. and we have not participated in the preparation of, or verified, such information. **The historical closing levels of the Underlying should not be taken as an indication of future performance and no assurance can be given as to the closing level of the Underlying on the Final Valuation Date. We cannot give you assurance that the performance of the Underlying will result in the return of any of your investment.**

Supplemental Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)

DBSI, acting as agent for Deutsche Bank AG, will not receive a selling concession in connection with the sale of the securities.

DBSI, the agent for this offering, is our affiliate. Because DBSI is both our affiliate and a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (“**FINRA**”), the underwriting arrangement for this offering must comply with the requirements of FINRA Rule 5121 regarding a FINRA member firm’s distribution of the securities of an affiliate and related conflicts of interest. In accordance with FINRA Rule 5121, DBSI may not make sales in offerings of the securities to any of its discretionary accounts without the prior written approval of the customer. See “Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)” in the accompanying product supplement.

Settlement

We expect to deliver the securities against payment for the securities on the Settlement Date indicated above, which is expected to be a day that is greater than two business days following the Trade Date. Under Rule 15c6-1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, trades in the secondary market generally are required to settle in two business days, unless the parties to a trade expressly agree otherwise. Accordingly, if the Settlement Date is more than two business days after the Trade Date, purchasers who wish to transact in the securities more

than two business days prior to the Settlement Date will be required to specify alternative settlement arrangements to prevent a failed settlement.

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