

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

THE ATTACHED BASE PROSPECTUS IS AVAILABLE ONLY TO INVESTORS WHO ARE EITHER: (1) QIBs (AS DEFINED BELOW); OR (2) NON-U.S. PERSONS (AS DEFINED IN REGULATION S (AS DEFINED BELOW)) OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED STATES.

**IMPORTANT: You must read the following before continuing.** The following applies to the attached base prospectus (the "**Base Prospectus**") and you are therefore advised to read this carefully before reading, accessing or making any other use of the Base Prospectus. In accessing the Base Prospectus, you agree to be bound by the following terms and conditions, including any modifications to them any time you receive any information from the Issuer, the Arranger and the Dealers (each as defined in the Base Prospectus) as a result of such access.

NOTHING IN THIS ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION CONSTITUTES AN OFFER TO SELL OR A SOLICITATION OF AN OFFER TO BUY THE SECURITIES IN THE UNITED STATES OR IN ANY JURISDICTION WHERE IT IS UNLAWFUL TO DO SO. THE SECURITIES DESCRIBED IN THE BASE PROSPECTUS HAVE NOT BEEN, AND WILL NOT BE, REGISTERED UNDER THE U.S. SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED (THE "**SECURITIES ACT**"), OR THE SECURITIES LAWS OF ANY STATE OF THE UNITED STATES OR OTHER JURISDICTIONS, NOR MAY THEY BE OFFERED OR SOLD WITHIN THE UNITED STATES OR TO, OR FOR THE ACCOUNT OR BENEFIT OF, U.S. PERSONS (AS DEFINED IN REGULATION S UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT ("**REGULATION S**")), EXCEPT PURSUANT TO AN EXEMPTION FROM, OR IN A TRANSACTION NOT SUBJECT TO, THE REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS OF THE SECURITIES ACT AND APPLICABLE STATE OR LOCAL SECURITIES LAWS.

THE BASE PROSPECTUS IS NOT BEING DISTRIBUTED TO, AND MUST NOT BE PASSED ON TO, THE GENERAL PUBLIC IN THE UNITED KINGDOM. RATHER, THE COMMUNICATION OF THE BASE PROSPECTUS AS A FINANCIAL PROMOTION IS ONLY BEING MADE TO THOSE PERSONS WHO HAVE PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE IN MATTERS RELATING TO INVESTMENTS FALLING WITHIN ARTICLE 19(5) OF THE FINANCIAL SERVICES AND MARKETS ACT 2000 (FINANCIAL PROMOTION) ORDER 2005 (THE "**ORDER**") OR HIGH NET WORTH ENTITIES AND OTHER PERSONS TO WHOM IT MAY LAWFULLY BE COMMUNICATED FALLING WITHIN ARTICLE 49(2)(A) TO (D) OF THE ORDER (EACH SUCH PERSON BEING REFERRED TO AS A "**RELEVANT PERSON**"). THIS COMMUNICATION IS BEING DIRECTED ONLY AT RELEVANT PERSONS AND ANY INVESTMENT OR INVESTMENT ACTIVITY TO WHICH THIS COMMUNICATION RELATES WILL BE ENGAGED IN ONLY WITH RELEVANT PERSONS. NO PERSON OTHER THAN A RELEVANT PERSON SHOULD RELY ON IT.

THE BASE PROSPECTUS MAY NOT BE FORWARDED OR DISTRIBUTED TO ANY OTHER PERSON AND MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED IN ANY MANNER WHATSOEVER. ANY FORWARDING, DISTRIBUTION OR REPRODUCTION OF THE BASE PROSPECTUS IN WHOLE OR IN PART IS UNAUTHORISED. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS DIRECTIVE MAY RESULT IN A VIOLATION OF THE SECURITIES ACT OR THE APPLICABLE LAWS OF OTHER JURISDICTIONS. IF YOU HAVE GAINED ACCESS TO THIS TRANSMISSION CONTRARY TO ANY OF THE FOREGOING RESTRICTIONS, YOU ARE NOT AUTHORISED, AND WILL NOT BE ABLE, TO PURCHASE ANY OF THE SECURITIES DESCRIBED THEREIN.

**CONFIRMATION OF YOUR REPRESENTATION:** In order to be eligible to view the Base Prospectus or make an investment decision with respect to the Notes (as defined in the Base Prospectus), an investor must be: (i) a person that is outside the United States and is not a U.S. person (within the meaning of Regulation S); or (ii) a person that is a "qualified institutional buyer" ("**QIBs**") (within the meaning of Rule 144A under the Securities Act ("**Rule 144A**")). The Base Prospectus is being sent at your request and by accepting the e-mail and accessing the Base Prospectus, you shall be deemed to have represented to us that: (a) you and any customers you represent are either: (1) non-U.S. persons (within the meaning of Regulation S) outside the United States; or (2) QIBs; (b) you are a person who is permitted under applicable law and regulation to receive the Base Prospectus; and (c) you consent to delivery of the Base Prospectus and any amendments or supplements thereto by electronic transmission.

By accessing the Base Prospectus you further confirm to us that: (i) you understand and agree to the terms set out herein; (ii) you will not transmit the Base Prospectus (or any copy of it or part thereof) or disclose,

whether orally or in writing, any of its contents to any other person; and (iii) you acknowledge that you will make your own assessment regarding any credit, investment, legal, taxation or other economic considerations with respect to your decision to subscribe or purchase any of the Notes.

You are reminded that the Base Prospectus has been delivered to you on the basis that you are a person into whose possession the Base Prospectus may be lawfully delivered in accordance with the laws of the jurisdiction in which you are located and you may not, nor are you authorised to, deliver the Base Prospectus to any other person. Failure to comply with this directive may result in a violation of the Securities Act or the applicable laws of other jurisdictions.

The Base Prospectus does not constitute, and may not be used in connection with, an offer or solicitation in any place where offers or solicitations are not permitted by law. If a jurisdiction requires that an offering of securities described herein be made by a licensed broker or dealer and the Arranger and Dealers or any affiliate of the Arranger or Dealers is a licensed broker or dealer in that jurisdiction, the offering shall be deemed to be made by such Arranger or Dealer or such affiliate on behalf of the relevant Issuer or holders of the applicable securities in such jurisdiction.

Under no circumstances shall the Base Prospectus constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy nor shall there be any sale of the securities described herein in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful. Recipients of the Base Prospectus who intend to subscribe for or purchase the Notes are reminded that any subscription or purchase may only be made on the basis of the information contained in the Base Prospectus as completed by the applicable Final Terms and/or supplement(s) to the Base Prospectus (if any). The Base Prospectus may only be communicated to persons in the United Kingdom in circumstances where Section 21(1) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, as amended does not apply.

The distribution of the Base Prospectus in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law. Persons into whose possession the Base Prospectus comes are required by the Issuer, the Arranger and the Dealers to inform themselves about, and to observe, any such restrictions.

The Base Prospectus has been sent to you in an electronic form. You are reminded that documents transmitted via this medium may be altered or changed during the process of electronic transmission and consequently neither the Issuer, the Arranger and Dealers nor any person who controls them nor any director, officer, employee nor agent of them or affiliate of any such person accepts any liability or responsibility whatsoever in respect of any difference between the Base Prospectus distributed to you in electronic format and the hard copy version available to you on request from the Issuer, the Arranger and the Dealers. Please ensure that your copy is complete. If you received the Base Prospectus by e-mail, you should not reply by e-mail to this announcement. Any reply e-mail communications, including those you generate by using the "reply" function on your e-mail software, will be ignored or rejected. You are responsible for protecting against viruses and other destructive items. Your use of this e-mail is at your own risk, and it is your responsibility to take precautions to ensure that it is free from viruses and other items of a destructive nature.



## ABU DHABI COMMERCIAL BANK PJSC

(incorporated with limited liability in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates)

### U.S.\$15,000,000,000

### Global Medium Term Note Programme

Under this U.S.\$15,000,000,000 Global Medium Term Note Programme (the "**Programme**"), Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank PJSC ("**ADCB**", the "**Bank**" or the "**Issuer**") may from time to time issue notes (the "**Notes**") denominated in any currency agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer (as defined below).

Notes may be issued in bearer or registered form (respectively "**Bearer Notes**" and "**Registered Notes**"). The maximum aggregate nominal amount of all Notes from time to time outstanding under the Programme will not exceed U.S.\$15,000,000,000 (or its equivalent in other currencies calculated as described in the Programme Agreement described herein), subject to any increase as described herein.

The Notes may be issued on a continuing basis to one or more of the Dealers specified under "*Description of the Programme*" and any additional Dealer appointed under the Programme from time to time by the Issuer (each a "**Dealer**" and together the "**Dealers**"), which appointment may be for a specific issue or on an ongoing basis. References in this Base Prospectus to the relevant Dealer shall, in the case of an issue of Notes being (or intended to be) subscribed by more than one Dealer, be to all Dealers agreeing to subscribe such Notes.

**An investment in Notes issued under the Programme involves certain risks, see "*Risk Factors*" on page 1.**

This Base Prospectus has been approved by the Luxembourg Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier (the "**CSSF**"), which is the Luxembourg competent authority under Regulation (EU) 2017/1129 (the "**Prospectus Regulation**"), as a base prospectus issued in compliance with the Prospectus Regulation for the purpose of giving information with regard to the issue of notes ("**Notes**") issued under the Programme described in this Base Prospectus during the period of 12 months after the date hereof. The CSSF has only approved the Base Prospectus as meeting the standards of completeness, comprehensibility and consistency imposed by the Prospectus Regulation. Such an approval should not be considered as an endorsement of the Issuer nor as an endorsement of the quality of any Notes that are the subject of this Base Prospectus. Investors should make their own assessment as to the suitability of investing in such Notes. This Base Prospectus is valid for a period of 12 months from the date of approval. Application has been made to (i) the Luxembourg Stock Exchange for the Notes issued under the Programme during the period of 12 months from the date of this Base Prospectus to be admitted to listing on the official list of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange (the "**Official List**") and to trading on its regulated market (the "**Regulated Market**") and (ii) the Irish Stock Exchange plc trading as Euronext Dublin ("**Euronext Dublin**") for the Notes issued under the Programme during the period of 12 months from the date of this Base Prospectus to be admitted to listing on the official list of Euronext Dublin and to trading on its regulated market. The Regulated Market and the regulated market of Euronext Dublin are regulated markets for the purposes of Directive 2014/65/EU (as amended, "**MiFID II**"). Such approval relates only to the Notes which are to be admitted to trading on a regulated market for the purposes of MiFID II and/or which are to be offered to the public in any member state of the European Economic Area (the "**EEA**").

References in this Base Prospectus to Notes being "**listed**" (and all related references) shall mean that such Notes have been (i) admitted to the Official List and to trading on the Regulated Market; (ii) admitted to the official list of Euronext Dublin and to trading on the regulated market of Euronext Dublin; or (iii) have been admitted to trading on such further stock exchanges or markets as may be specified in the applicable Final Terms (as defined below).

Notice of the aggregate nominal amount of Notes, interest (if any) payable in respect of Notes and the issue price of Notes will be set out in a final terms document (the "**Final Terms**") which, with respect to Notes to be listed, will be delivered to the relevant stock exchange or market as may be specified in the applicable Final Terms.

The Programme provides that Notes may be listed or admitted to trading, as the case may be, on such other or further stock exchanges or markets as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer. The Issuer may also issue unlisted Notes and/or Notes not admitted to trading on any market.

The Notes have not been, and will not be, registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "**Securities Act**") or any U.S. state securities laws and the Notes may not be offered or sold in the United States or to, or for the account or the benefit of, U.S. persons unless an exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act is available and the offer or sale is made in accordance with all applicable securities laws of any state of the United States and any other jurisdiction. The Notes are being offered and sold outside the United States to persons that are not U.S. persons in reliance on Regulation S ("**Regulation S**") under the Securities Act and within the United States only to persons who are "qualified institutional buyers" ("**QIBs**") in reliance on Rule 144A ("**Rule 144A**") under the Securities Act. See "*Form of the Notes*" for a description of the manner in which Notes will be issued. Registered Notes are subject to certain restrictions on transfer, see "*Subscription and Sale and Transfer and Selling Restrictions*".

The Issuer may agree with any Dealer that Notes may be issued in a form not contemplated by the Terms and Conditions of the Notes (the "**Conditions**") herein, in which event a new Base Prospectus, in the case of listed Notes only, if appropriate, will be made available, which will describe the effect of the agreement reached in relation to such Notes.

The rating of certain Series of Notes to be issued under the Programme and the credit rating agency issuing such rating may be specified in the applicable Final Terms. ADCB has been assigned long term ratings of A with a "negative outlook" by S&P Global Ratings Europe Limited ("**Standard & Poor's**") and A+ with a "stable outlook" by Fitch Ratings Limited ("**Fitch**"). The Emirate of Abu Dhabi has been assigned a rating of AA by Fitch, Aa2 by Moody's Investors Service Ltd ("**Moody's**") and AA by Standard & Poor's, each with a stable outlook. The United Arab Emirates (the "**UAE**") has been assigned a credit rating of Aa2 with a stable outlook by Moody's Investors Service Singapore Pte. Ltd.

Moody's Investors Service Singapore Pte. Ltd. is not established in the European Union and has not applied for registration under Regulation (EC) No. 1060/2009 (as amended) (the "**CRA Regulation**"). The rating has been endorsed by Moody's in accordance with the CRA Regulation. Each of Fitch and Moody's is established in the United Kingdom and Standard & Poor's is established in the European Union and each of Fitch, Moody's and Standard & Poor's is registered under the CRA Regulation. As such, each of Fitch, Moody's and Standard & Poor's is included in the list of credit rating agencies published by the European Securities and Markets Authority on its website in accordance with the CRA Regulation. Where an issue of Notes is rated, its rating will not necessarily be the same as the rating applicable to the Programme. A rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be subject to suspension, change or withdrawal at any time by the assigning rating agency.

#### Arranger

**BofA Securities**

#### Dealers

**Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank  
BofA Securities  
ING**

**Barclays  
Citigroup  
J.P. Morgan  
Standard Chartered Bank**

**BNP PARIBAS  
Deutsche Bank  
Morgan Stanley**

**This Base Prospectus comprises a base prospectus for the purposes of Article 8 of the Prospectus Regulation.**

**The Issuer accepts responsibility for the information contained in this Base Prospectus. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the Issuer, the information contained in this Base Prospectus is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information.**

**This Base Prospectus is to be read in conjunction with any amendments or supplements hereto and with any documents incorporated herein by reference (see "*Documents Incorporated by Reference*") and, in relation to any Tranche of Notes, should be read in conjunction with the applicable Final Terms.**

**No representation, warranty or undertaking, express or implied, is made and no responsibility or liability is accepted by the Arranger or the Dealers as to the accuracy or completeness of the information contained or incorporated by reference in this Base Prospectus or any other information provided by the Issuer in connection with the Programme, the Notes or their distribution. None of the Arranger or the Dealers accepts any liability in relation to the information contained or incorporated by reference in this Base Prospectus or any other information provided by the Issuer in connection with the Programme, the Notes or their distribution.**

**The only persons authorised to use this Base Prospectus in connection with an offer of Notes are the persons named in the relevant subscription agreement as the relevant Dealer or the Managers, as the case may be.**

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

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

**Neither the delivery of this Base Prospectus nor the offering, sale or delivery of any Notes shall in any circumstances imply that the information contained herein concerning the Issuer is correct at any time subsequent to the date hereof or that any other information supplied in connection with the Programme is correct as of any time subsequent to the date indicated in the document containing the same or that there has been no adverse change, or any event reasonably likely to involve any adverse change, in the condition (financial or otherwise) of the Issuer since the date of this Base Prospectus. The Arranger and the Dealers expressly do not undertake to review the financial condition or affairs of the Issuer during the life of the Programme or to advise any investor in the Notes of any information coming to their attention.**

**Notes issued under the Programme have not been, and will not, be registered under the Securities Act or any U.S. State securities laws and may not be offered or sold in the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons (as defined in the Securities Act) except in certain transactions exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act.**

**NEITHER THE PROGRAMME NOR THE NOTES HAVE BEEN APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED BY THE U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (THE "SEC"), ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION IN THE UNITED STATES OR ANY OTHER U.S. REGULATORY AUTHORITY, NOR HAS ANY OF THE FOREGOING AUTHORITIES PASSED UPON OR ENDORSED THE MERITS OF ANY OFFERING OF NOTES OR THE ACCURACY**

**OR ADEQUACY OF THIS BASE PROSPECTUS. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENCE IN THE UNITED STATES.**

All applicable provisions of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, as amended (the "FSMA"), and all secondary legislation made pursuant to it, must be complied with. Accordingly, no offer or sale of, and no communication of any invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of Section 21 of the FSMA) in respect of any Notes is being made hereby except in circumstances where the prohibition on financial promotion set out at Section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply whether by reason of the application of the exemptions to such prohibition set out in the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion Order) 2005 (the "Promotions Order") or otherwise. In the United Kingdom, this Base Prospectus is only being distributed and made available to, and is only directed at, persons who have professional experience in matters relating to investments falling within Article 19(5) of the Promotions Order or high net worth entities and other persons to whom it may lawfully be communicated falling within Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Promotions Order (each such person being referred to as a "relevant person") and any other person into whose possession this Base Prospectus comes must not and should not take any action in respect of matters set out herein in respect to the Notes or otherwise. In the United Kingdom, any person other than a relevant person should not rely on this Base Prospectus.

This Base Prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any Notes in any jurisdiction to any person to whom it is unlawful to make the offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction. The distribution of this Base Prospectus and the offer or sale of Notes may be restricted by law in certain jurisdictions. The Issuer, the Arranger and the Dealers do not represent that this Base Prospectus may be lawfully distributed, or that any Notes may be lawfully offered, in compliance with any applicable registration or other requirements in any such jurisdiction, or pursuant to an exemption available thereunder, or assume any responsibility for facilitating any such distribution or offering. In particular, no action has been taken by the Issuer, the Arranger or the Dealers which is intended to permit a public offering of any Notes or distribution of this Base Prospectus in any jurisdiction where action for that purpose is required. Accordingly, no Notes may be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, and neither this Base Prospectus nor any advertisement or other offering material may be distributed or published in any jurisdiction, except under circumstances that will result in compliance with any applicable laws and regulations. Persons into whose possession this Base Prospectus or any Notes may come must inform themselves about, and observe, any such restrictions on the distribution of this Base Prospectus and the offering and sale of Notes. In particular, there are restrictions on the distribution of this Base Prospectus and the offer or sale of Notes in the United States, the United Kingdom (the "UK"), the EEA, Japan, the UAE (excluding the Dubai International Financial Centre), the Dubai International Financial Centre, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Kingdom of Bahrain, the State of Qatar (excluding the Qatar Financial Centre), Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia, the State of Kuwait and the People's Republic of China (the "PRC") (which, for the purposes of this Base Prospectus, excludes the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the PRC, the Macau Special Administrative Region of the PRC and Taiwan) see "*Subscription and Sale and Transfer and Selling Restrictions*".

This Base Prospectus has been prepared on the basis that any offer of Notes in any Member State of the EEA or the UK (each, a "Relevant State") will be made pursuant to an exemption under the Prospectus Regulation from the requirement to publish a prospectus for offers of Notes. Accordingly, any person making or intending to make an offer in that Relevant State of Notes which are the subject of an offering contemplated in this Base Prospectus as completed by final terms in relation to the offer of those Notes may only do so in circumstances in which no obligation arises for the Issuer or any Dealer to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Regulation or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 23 of the Prospectus Regulation, in each case, in relation to such offer.

None of the Issuer, the Arranger or any Dealer has authorised, nor does it authorise, the making of any offer of Notes in circumstances in which an obligation arises for the Issuer or any Dealer to publish or supplement a prospectus for such offer.

In making an investment decision, investors must rely on their own examination of the Issuer and the terms of the Notes being offered, including the merits and risks involved. The Notes have not been approved or disapproved by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or any other securities commission or other regulatory authority in the United States, nor have the foregoing

authorities approved this Base Prospectus or confirmed the accuracy or determined the adequacy of the information contained or incorporated by reference in this Base Prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is unlawful.

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

The Notes may not be a suitable investment for all investors. Each potential investor in the Notes must determine the suitability of that investment in light of its own circumstances. In particular, each potential investor should:

- have sufficient knowledge and experience to make a meaningful evaluation of the Notes, the merits and risks of investing in the Notes and the information contained or incorporated by reference in this Base Prospectus or any applicable supplement;
- have access to, and knowledge of, appropriate analytical tools to evaluate, in the context of its particular financial situation, an investment in the Notes and the impact the Notes will have on its overall investment portfolio;
- have sufficient financial resources and liquidity to bear all of the risks of an investment in the Notes, including Notes with principal or interest payable in one or more currencies, or where the currency for principal or interest payments is different from the potential investor's currency;
- understand thoroughly the terms of the Notes and be familiar with the behaviour of any relevant indices and financial markets; and
- be able to evaluate (either alone or with the help of a financial adviser) possible scenarios for economic, interest rate and other factors that may affect its investment and its ability to bear the applicable risks.

Some Notes may be complex financial instruments. Sophisticated institutional investors generally do not purchase complex financial instruments as stand-alone investments. They purchase complex financial instruments as a way to reduce risk or enhance yield with an understood, measured, appropriate addition of risk to their overall portfolios. A potential investor should not invest in Notes which are complex financial instruments unless it has the expertise (either alone or with a financial adviser) to evaluate how the Notes will perform under changing conditions, the resulting effects on the value of the Notes and the impact this investment will have on the potential investor's overall investment portfolio.

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

## U.S. INFORMATION

This Base Prospectus is being submitted on a confidential basis in the United States to a limited number of QIBs for informational use solely in connection with the consideration of the purchase of the Notes being offered hereby. Its use for any other purpose in the United States is not authorised. It may not be copied or reproduced in whole or in part nor may it be distributed or any of its contents disclosed to anyone other than the prospective investors to whom it is originally submitted.

The Bearer Notes are subject to U.S. tax law requirements and may not be offered, sold or delivered within the United States or its possessions or to United States persons, subject to certain exceptions. Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them by the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended and the U.S. Treasury regulations promulgated thereunder.

Registered Notes may be offered or sold within the United States only to persons who are QIBs in transactions exempt from registration under the Securities Act in reliance on Rule 144A or any other applicable exemption. Prospective purchasers are hereby notified that sellers of Registered Notes may be relying on the exemption from the provisions of Section 5 of the Securities Act provided by Rule 144A.

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

#### AVAILABLE INFORMATION

To permit compliance with Rule 144A in connection with any resales or other transfers of Notes that are "restricted securities" within the meaning of Rule 144(a)(3) of the Securities Act, the Issuer has undertaken in a deed poll dated 4 June 2020 (the "**Deed Poll**") to furnish, upon the request of a holder of such Notes or any beneficial interest therein, to such holder or to a prospective purchaser designated by him, the information required to be delivered under Rule 144A(d)(4) under the Securities Act if, at the time of the request, any of the Notes remain outstanding as "restricted securities" within the meaning of Rule 144(a)(3) of the Securities Act and the Issuer is neither a reporting company under Section 13 or 15(d) of the United States Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, (the "**Exchange Act**") nor exempt from reporting requirements pursuant to and in compliance with Rule 12g3-2(b) thereunder.

#### SERVICE OF PROCESS AND ENFORCEMENT OF CIVIL LIABILITIES

ADCB is a corporation organised under the laws of the UAE. All of the officers and directors of the Issuer named herein reside outside the United States and all or a substantial portion of the assets of the Issuer and its officers and directors are located outside the United States. As a result, it may not be possible for investors to effect service of process outside the UAE upon ADCB or its officers and directors, or to enforce judgments against them predicated upon United States federal securities laws.

The Notes are governed by English law and disputes in respect of them may be settled by arbitration under the Arbitration Rules of the London Court of International Arbitration (the "**LCIA Rules**") in London, England. In addition, actions in respect of the Notes may be brought in the English courts.

In the absence of any bilateral treaty for the reciprocal enforcement of foreign judgments, the Abu Dhabi courts are unlikely to enforce an English judgment without re-examining the merits of the claim and may not observe the choice by the parties of English law as the governing law of the Notes. Investors may have difficulties in enforcing any English judgments or arbitration awards against the Issuer in the courts of Abu Dhabi, see "*Risk Factors – Risks relating to enforcement – Investors may experience difficulties in enforcing arbitration awards and foreign judgments in the UAE*".

#### NOTICE TO RESIDENTS OF THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN

In relation to investors in the Kingdom of Bahrain, Notes issued in connection with this Base Prospectus and related offering documents may only be offered in registered form to existing accountholders and accredited investors as defined by the Central Bank of Bahrain ("**CBB**") in the Kingdom of Bahrain where such investors make a minimum investment of at least U.S.\$100,000 or the equivalent amount in any other currency or such other amount as the CBB may determine.

This Base Prospectus does not constitute an offer of securities in the Kingdom of Bahrain pursuant to the terms of Article (81) of the Central Bank and Financial Institutions Law 2006 (decree Law No. 64 of 2006). This Base Prospectus and any related offering documents have not been and will not be registered as a prospectus with the CBB. Accordingly, no securities may be offered, sold or made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase nor will this Base Prospectus or any other related document or material be used in connection with any offer, sale or invitation to subscribe or purchase securities, whether directly or indirectly, to persons in the Kingdom of Bahrain, other than to accredited investors (as such term is defined by the CBB) for an offer outside the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The CBB has not reviewed, approved or registered this Base Prospectus or any related offering documents and it has not in any way considered the merits of the Notes to be offered for investment, whether in or outside the Kingdom of Bahrain. Therefore, the CBB assumes no responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of the statements and information contained in this Base Prospectus and expressly disclaims any liability whatsoever for any loss howsoever arising from reliance upon the whole or any part of the content of this Base Prospectus. No offer of securities will be made to the public in the Kingdom of Bahrain and this Base Prospectus must be read by the addressee only and must not be issued, passed to, or made available to the public generally.

#### **NOTICE TO RESIDENTS OF THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA**

This Base Prospectus may not be distributed in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia except to such persons as are permitted under the Rules on the Offer of Securities and Continuing Obligations issued by the Capital Market Authority of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (the "**Capital Market Authority**").

The Capital Market Authority does not make any representations as to the accuracy or completeness of this Base Prospectus, and expressly disclaims any liability whatsoever for any loss arising from, or incurred in reliance upon, any part of this Base Prospectus. Prospective purchasers of the Notes should conduct their own due diligence on the accuracy of the information relating to the Notes. If a prospective purchaser does not understand the contents of this Base Prospectus he or she should consult an authorised financial adviser.

#### **NOTICE TO RESIDENTS OF THE STATE OF QATAR**

The Notes will not be offered, sold or delivered, at any time, directly or indirectly, in the State of Qatar (including the Qatar Financial Centre) in a manner that would constitute a public offering. This Base Prospectus has not been and will not be reviewed or approved by or registered with the Qatar Central Bank, the Qatar Stock Exchange, the Qatar Financial Centre Regulatory Authority or the Qatar Financial Markets Authority in accordance with their regulations or any other regulations in the State of Qatar (including the Qatar Financial Centre). The Notes are not and will not be traded on the Qatar Stock Exchange.

#### **IMPORTANT – EEA AND UK RETAIL INVESTORS**

**If the applicable Final Terms in respect of any Series of Notes includes a legend entitled "Prohibition of Sales to EEA and UK Retail Investors", the Notes are not intended to be offered, sold or otherwise made available to, and should not be offered, sold or otherwise made available to, any retail investor in the EEA or in the UK. For these purposes, a "retail investor" means a person who is one (or more) of: (i) a retail client as defined in point (11) of Article 4(1) of Directive 2014/65/EU (as amended, "MiFID II"); (ii) a customer within the meaning of Directive (EU) 2016/97, where that customer would not qualify as a professional client as defined in point (10) of Article 4(1) of MiFID II; or (iii) not a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Regulation. Consequently, no key information document required by Regulation (EU) No 1286/2014 (as amended, the "PRIIPs Regulation") for offering or selling the Notes or otherwise making them available to retail investors in the EEA or in the UK has been prepared and therefore offering or selling the Notes or otherwise making them available to any retail investor in the EEA or in the UK may be unlawful under the PRIIPs Regulation.**

#### **MiFID PRODUCT GOVERNANCE RULES**

The applicable Final Terms in respect of any Series of Notes may include a legend entitled "MiFID II Product Governance" which will outline the target market assessment in respect of the Notes and which channels for distribution of the Notes are appropriate. Any person subsequently offering, selling or recommending the Notes (a "distributor") should take into consideration the target market assessment; however, a distributor subject to MiFID II is responsible for undertaking its own target market assessment in respect of any Notes (by either adopting or refining the target market assessment) and determining appropriate distribution channels.

A determination will be made at the time of issue about whether, for the purpose of the MiFID Product Governance Rules under EU Delegated Directive 2017/593 (the "MiFID Product Governance Rules"), any Dealer subscribing for any Notes is a manufacturer in respect of such Notes, but otherwise neither the Arranger nor the Dealers nor any of their respective affiliates will be a manufacturer for the purpose of the MiFID Product Governance Rules.

## **PRODUCT CLASSIFICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 309B OF THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES ACT (CHAPTER 289 OF SINGAPORE)**

The applicable Final Terms in respect of any Series of Notes may include a legend entitled "Singapore Securities and Futures Act Product Classification" which will state the product classification of the Notes pursuant to section 309B(1) of the Securities and Futures Act (Chapter 289 of Singapore) (the "SFA").

The Issuer will make a determination in relation to each issue about the classification of the Notes being offered for the purposes of section 309B(1)(a). Any such legend included on the relevant Final Terms will constitute notice to "relevant persons" for the purposes of section 309B(1)(c) of the SFA.

## **STABILISATION**

In connection with the issue of any Tranche of Notes, the Dealer or Dealers (if any) named as the stabilisation manager(s) in the relevant subscription agreement (the "Stabilisation Manager") (or persons acting on behalf of any Stabilisation Manager(s)) may over-allot Notes or effect transactions with a view to supporting the market price of the Notes during the stabilisation period at a level higher than that which might otherwise prevail. However, stabilisation may not occur. Any stabilisation action may begin on or after the date on which adequate public disclosure of the final terms of the offer of the relevant Tranche of Notes is made and, if begun, may cease at any time, but it must end no later than the earlier of 30 days after the issue date of the relevant Tranche of Notes and 60 days after the date of the allotment of the relevant Tranche of Notes. Any stabilisation action or over-allotment must be conducted by the relevant Stabilisation Manager(s) (or person(s) acting on behalf of any Stabilisation Manager(s)) in accordance with all applicable laws and rules.

## **PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL AND OTHER INFORMATION**

### **Presentation of ADCB's Financial Information**

This Base Prospectus contains:

- the unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial statements as at and for the three months ended 31 March 2020 (with comparative data as at 31 December 2019 and for the three months ended 31 March 2019 (as applicable)) (the "**2020 Interim Financial Statements**");
- the unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial statements as at and for the three months ended 31 March 2019 (with comparative data as at 31 December 2018 and for the three months ended 31 March 2018 (as applicable)) (the "**2019 Interim Financial Statements**");
- the audited consolidated financial statements as at and for the year ended 31 December 2019 (with comparative data as at and for the year ended 31 December 2018) (the "**2019 Financial Statements**"); and
- the audited consolidated financial statements as at and for the year ended 31 December 2018 (with comparative data as at and for the year ended 31 December 2017) (the "**2018 Financial Statements**").

In this Base Prospectus, the 2019 Financial Statements and the 2018 Financial Statements are together referred to as the "**Annual Financial Statements**" and the 2020 Interim Financial Statements and the 2019 Interim Financial Statements are together referred to as the "**Interim Financial Statements**". The Annual Financial Statements and the Interim Financial Statements are together referred to as the "**Financial Statements**".

ADCB prepared the 2020 Interim Financial Statements in accordance with International Accounting Standard ("IAS") 34 "*Interim Financial Reporting*". Except as set out in Note 2.5 (*Changes in accounting policies on adoption of IFRS 9 – Hedge Accounting*) to the 2020 Interim Financial Statements, the accounting policies used in the preparation of the 2020 Interim Financial Statements are consistent with those used in the preparation of the 2019 Financial Statements. The 2020 Interim Financial Statements have been reviewed by Ernst & Young Middle East (Abu Dhabi Branch) ("EY") in accordance with the International Standard on Review Engagements (ISRE) 2410, "*Review of Interim Financial Information Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity*", as stated in their review report relating to the 2020

Interim Financial Statements which is incorporated by reference into this Base Prospectus. With respect to the 2020 Interim Financial Statements, EY has reported that they have applied limited procedures in accordance with ISRE 2410. However, their review report dated 7 May 2020, incorporated by reference into this Base Prospectus, states that they did not audit and they do not express any audit opinion on the 2020 Interim Financial Statements. Accordingly, the degree of reliance on their report on such information should be restricted in light of the limited nature of the review procedures applied.

ADCB prepared the 2019 Interim Financial Statements in accordance with IAS 34 "*Interim Financial Reporting*". The 2019 Interim Financial Statements have been reviewed by Deloitte & Touche (M.E.) ("**Deloitte**") in accordance with the International Standard on Review Engagements (ISRE) 2410, "*Review of Interim Financial Information Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity*", as stated in their review report relating to the 2019 Interim Financial Statements which is incorporated by reference into this Base Prospectus.

ADCB prepared the Annual Financial Statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("**IFRS**") as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("**IASB**"). The Annual Financial Statements have been audited by Deloitte. The financial information included in this Base Prospectus corresponding to the year ended 31 December 2017 has been extracted from the 2018 Financial Statements (where such 2017 financial information is presented for comparative purposes). The financial information included in this Base Prospectus corresponding to the year ended 31 December 2018 has been extracted from the 2019 Financial Statements (where such 2018 financial information is presented for comparative purposes).

Certain disclosure notes and numbers in the 2019 Financial Statements have been restated, reclassified and rearranged in the 2020 Interim Financial Statements as a result of the completion of the valuation exercise resulting from the merger between ADCB and Union National Bank P.J.S.C. ("**UNB**") (the "**Merger**") and the subsequent acquisition by the combined entity of Al Hilal Bank P.J.S.C. ("**AHB**") (the "**Acquisition**") and together with the Merger, the "**Combination**"), which was completed on 1 May 2019. For further information, please see Note 35 (*Business combinations*) to the 2020 Interim Financial Statements.

IFRS 9 has been introduced for financial reporting periods commencing on 1 January 2018, replacing IAS 39. The Group has adopted IFRS 9, which resulted in changes in accounting policies and adjustments to certain amounts previously recognised. As permitted by the transitional provisions of IFRS 9, the Group elected not to restate its comparative figures for the year ended 31 December 2017. The Group has also elected to continue to apply the hedge accounting requirements of IAS 39 as permitted under IFRS 9.

IFRS 16 'Leases' has been introduced for financial reporting periods commencing January 1, 2019, replacing IAS 17 'Leases'. IFRS 16 introduces significant changes to the lessee accounting by removing the distinction between operating and finance lease and requires the recognition of a right-of-use asset and a lease liability at commencement for all leases, except for short-term leases and leases of low value assets. In contrast to lessee accounting, the requirements for lessor accounting have remained largely unchanged. The Group has applied IFRS 16 using simplified modified approach, which resulted in the Group recognising a right-of-use asset and related lease liability in connection with all former operating leases except for those identified as low-value or having a remaining lease term of less than 12 months from the date of initial application.

Please see Note 3.7 (*Changes in accounting policies*) to the 2019 Financial Statements for further details.

The Group's financial year ends on 31 December and references in this Base Prospectus to 2019, 2018 and 2017 are to the 12 month period ending on 31 December in such year.

The Financial Statements incorporated by reference in this Base Prospectus should be read in conjunction with the respective notes thereto. Prospective investors are advised to consult their professional advisors for an understanding of: (i) the differences between IFRS and U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("**U.S. GAAP**") or any other systems of generally accepted accounting principles in the jurisdictions of such prospective investors and how those differences might affect the financial information included or incorporated by reference in this Base Prospectus; and (ii) the impact that future additions to, or amendments of, IFRS may have on the Group's results of operations or financial condition, as well as on the comparability of the prior periods.

In addition, this Base Prospectus includes certain non-IFRS financial measures and ratios (see "*Non-IFRS financial measures*" below).

All financial information regarding the Group in this Base Prospectus as at, or that relates to the three-month periods ended 31 March 2020 and 31 March 2019 is unaudited and has been extracted or derived from the Interim Financial Statements or from the Group's unaudited consolidated management accounts based on accounting records, as applicable, or is based on calculations of figures from these sources.

Certain numerical figures set out in this Base Prospectus, including financial and operating data have been rounded and some of these and other figures are also presented in AED millions or billions rather than in AED thousands (as presented in the Financial Statements). Therefore, the sums of amounts given in some columns or rows in the tables and other lists presented in this Base Prospectus may slightly differ from the totals specified for such columns or rows. Similarly, some percentage values presented in the tables in this Base Prospectus have been rounded and the totals specified in such tables may not add up to 100 per cent.

The financial information included in this Base Prospectus is not intended to comply with the applicable accounting requirements of the Securities Act and the related rules and regulations which would apply if the Notes were being registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC").

### ***Non-IFRS financial measures***

This Base Prospectus contains references to certain non-IFRS financial measures, including capital adequacy and certain other ratios (see "*Alternative Performance Measures*" below and "*Selected Consolidated Financial Data – Selected Ratios*").

The non-IFRS financial measures contained in this Base Prospectus should not be considered in isolation and are not measures of financial performance or liquidity under IFRS. These non-IFRS financial measures should not be considered as an alternative to revenues, profit or loss for the period or any other performance measures derived in accordance with IFRS or as an alternative to cash flow from operating, investing or financing activities or any other measure of liquidity derived in accordance with IFRS. Non-IFRS financial measures do not necessarily indicate whether cash flow will be sufficient or available for cash requirements and may not be indicative of actual results of operations. In addition, the non-IFRS financial measures included in this Base Prospectus may not be comparable to other similarly titled financial measures used by other companies. The Group believes that net interest margin and other non-IFRS financial measures presented in this Base Prospectus are useful indicators of financial performance that are widely used by investors to monitor the results of banks generally. Because of the discretion that the Group and other companies have in defining these measures and calculating the reported amounts, care should be taken in comparing these various measures with similar measures used by other companies.

The non-IFRS financial measures contained in this Base Prospectus have not been prepared in accordance with IFRS, U.S. GAAP, SEC requirements or the accounting standards of any other jurisdiction and may not be comparable to similar measures of other companies.

### **Certain Defined Terms**

In this Base Prospectus, unless otherwise defined, the following words have the following meanings:

- "**Abu Dhabi**" means the Emirate of Abu Dhabi;
- "**Central Bank**" means the Central Bank of the UAE;
- "**Emirate**" means one or more of the seven emirates of the UAE;
- "**Government**" means the Government of Abu Dhabi;
- "**Group**" means ADCB and its subsidiaries taken as a whole; and
- "**Member State**" means a Member State of the EEA.

## Certain Conventions

Certain figures and percentages included in this Base Prospectus have been subject to rounding adjustments; accordingly figures shown in the same category presented in different tables may vary slightly and figures shown as totals in certain tables may not be an arithmetic aggregation of the figures which precede them.

All references in this Base Prospectus to "**U.S. dollars**", "**U.S.\$**" and "**\$**" refer to United States dollars being the legal currency for the time being of the United States of America; all references to "**dirham**" and "**AED**" refer to UAE dirham being the legal currency for the time being of the UAE; all references to "**euro**" and "**€**" refer to the currency introduced at the start of the third stage of European economic and monetary union pursuant to the Treaty establishing the European Community, as amended; all references to "**CNH**", "**Renminbi**" and "**RMB**" are to the lawful currency of the PRC (which, for the purposes of this Base Prospectus, excludes the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the PRC, the Macau Special Administrative Region of the PRC and Taiwan); all references to "**AUD**" and "**A\$**" refer to Australian dollars, the lawful currency of the Commonwealth of Australia; all references to "**JPY**" refer to Japanese yen, the lawful currency of Japan; all references to "**GBP**" refer to the British Pound, the lawful currency of the United Kingdom; all references to "**CHF**" refer to Swiss Francs, the lawful currency of Switzerland; and all references to "**INR**" refer to Indian Rupee, the lawful currency of the Republic of India.

The dirham has been pegged to the U.S. dollar since 22 November 1980. The current midpoint between the official buying and selling rates for the dirham is at a fixed rate of AED 3.6725 = U.S.\$1.00.

## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Some statements in this Base Prospectus may be deemed to be forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements include statements concerning the Group's plans, objectives, goals, strategies, future operations and performance and the assumptions underlying these forward-looking statements. When used in this document, the words "anticipates", "estimates", "expects", "believes", "intends", "plans", "aims", "seeks", "may", "will", "should" and any similar expressions generally identify forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are contained in the sections entitled "*Risk Factors*" and "*Description of the Group*" and other sections of this Base Prospectus. ADCB has based these forward-looking statements on the current view of its management with respect to future events and financial performance. Although the Group believes that the expectations, estimates and projections reflected in its forward-looking statements are reasonable as at the date of this Base Prospectus, if one or more of the risks or uncertainties materialise, including those which the Group has identified in this Base Prospectus, or if any of the Group's underlying assumptions prove to be incomplete or inaccurate, the Group's actual results of operation may vary from those expected, estimated or predicted.

These forward-looking statements speak only as at the date of this Base Prospectus. Without prejudice to any requirements under applicable laws and regulations, the Issuer expressly disclaims any obligations or undertaking to disseminate after the date of this Base Prospectus any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect any change in expectations thereof or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such forward-looking statement is based.

## PRESENTATION OF STATISTICAL INFORMATION AND OTHER DATA

Certain statistical information in this Base Prospectus has been derived from a number of publicly available sources. The Issuer confirms that such information has been accurately reproduced and that, so far as it is aware and is able to ascertain from information published by the relevant sources, no facts have been omitted which would render the reproduced information inaccurate or misleading. The source of any third party information contained in this Base Prospectus is stated where such information appears in this Base Prospectus.

The statistical information in the section entitled "*Overview of the UAE and Abu Dhabi*" has been derived from a number of different sources. All statistical information provided in that section may differ from that produced by other sources for a variety of reasons, including the use of different definitions and cut-off times. The data set out in that section relating to Abu Dhabi's historical gross domestic product ("**GDP**") is subject to change.

Certain information under the headings "*Risk Factors*", "*Description of the Group*", "*Overview of the UAE and Abu Dhabi*", "*The United Arab Emirates Banking Sector and Regulations*" and "*Book-entry Clearance Systems*" has been extracted from information provided by:

- the International Monetary Fund (the "**IMF**"), the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries ("**OPEC**"), the Central Bank and the Abu Dhabi Statistics Centre (the "**Statistics Centre**"), in the case of "*Risk Factors*";
- the UAE, Abu Dhabi and Dubai governments and the Central Bank, in the case of "*Description of the Group*";
- the IMF, the World Bank, OPEC, the Statistics Centre, Abu Dhabi National Oil Company ("**ADNOC**"), the UAE Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Authority ("**FCSA**") and the UAE and Abu Dhabi governments, in the case of "*Overview of the UAE and Abu Dhabi*";
- the Central Bank and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division in the case of "*The United Arab Emirates Banking Sector and Regulations*"; and
- the clearing systems referred to therein, in the case of "*Book-entry Clearance Systems*".

#### **Use of Benchmarks**

Amounts payable under the Notes may be calculated by reference to:

- the London Interbank Offered Rate ("**LIBOR**"), which is provided by ICE Benchmark Administration Limited;
- the Euro Interbank Offered Rate ("**EURIBOR**"), which is provided by the European Money Markets Institute;
- the Kuwait Interbank Offered Rate ("**KIBOR**"), which is provided by the Central Bank of Kuwait;
- the Shanghai Interbank Offered Rate ("**SHIBOR**"), which is provided by National Interbank Funding;
- the Hong Kong Interbank Offered Rate ("**HIBOR**"), which is provided by the Hong Kong Association of Banks;
- the Kuala Lumpur Interbank Offered Rate ("**KLIBOR**"), which is provided by Bank Negara Malaysia;
- the Turkish Lira Interbank Offered Rate ("**TRLIBOR**" or "**TRYLIBOR**"), which is provided by the Banks Association of Turkey;
- the Singapore Interbank Offered Rate ("**SIBOR**"), which is provided by the Associate of Banks in Singapore;
- the Emirates Interbank Offered Rate ("**EIBOR**"), which is provided by the Central Bank;
- the Tokyo Interbank Offered Rate ("**TIBOR**"), which is provided by the Japanese Bankers Association;
- the Australia Bank Bill Swap ("**BBSW**"), which is provided by the Australian Stock Exchange;
- the Saudi Arabia Interbank Offered Rate ("**SAIBOR**"), which is provided by Thomson Reuters;
- the Canadian Dollar Offered Rate ("**CDOR**"), which is provided by Thomson Reuters;
- the Stockholm Interbank Offered Rate ("**STIBOR**"), which is provided by the Swedish Bankers' Association;

- the Bahrain Dinar Interbank Offered Rate ("**BHIBOR**"), which is provided by the Bahrain Association of Banks;
- the Copenhagen Interbank Offered Rate ("**CIBOR**"), which is provided by Nasdaq;
- the New Zealand Dollar Bank Bill ("**BKBM**"), which is provided by the New Zealand Financial Markets Association;
- the Norwegian Interbank Offered Rate ("**NIOR**"), which is provided by the Oslo Stock Exchange;
- the Taipei Interbank Offered Rate ("**TAIBOR**"), which is provided by the Taipei Interbank Money Centre;
- the Johannesburg Interbank Average Rate ("**JIBAR**"), which is provided by the Johannesburg Stock Exchange;
- the CNH Hong Kong Interbank Offered Rate ("**CNH HIBOR**"), which is provided by the Hong Kong Association of Banks;
- the ICE Swap Rate denominated in U.S. dollars, GBP or Euro (the "**ICE Swap Rate**"), which is provided by ICE Benchmark Administration Limited;
- the Sterling Overnight Index Average ("**SONIA**"), which is provided by the Bank of England;
- the Secured Overnight Financing Rate ("**SOFR**"), which is provided by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York; and
- the Euro Short-Term Rate ("**€STR**"), which is provided by the European Central Bank,

each such provider (or, as the case may be, any successor provider) are together referred to as the "**Administrators**".

As at the date of this Base Prospectus, ICE Benchmark Administration Limited and European Money Markets Institute appear on the register of administrators and benchmarks established and maintained by the European Securities and Markets Authority ("**ESMA**") pursuant to article 36 of the Benchmark Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/1011) (the "**Benchmark Regulation**"). As at the date of this Base Prospectus, Administrators (other than ICE Benchmark Administration Limited and European Money Markets Institute) do not appear on ESMA's register of administrators and benchmarks under the Benchmark Regulation ("**Benchmark Register**"). As far as the Issuer is aware: (a) SONIA, SOFR and €STR do not fall within the scope of the Benchmark Regulation; and (b) the transitional provisions in Article 51 of the Benchmark Regulation apply, such that the Administrators not appearing on the Benchmark Register are not currently required to obtain authorisation or registration (or, if located outside the European Union, recognition, endorsement or equivalence).

## CONTENTS

	Page
DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAMME.....	1
RISK FACTORS .....	7
DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE .....	40
ALTERNATIVE PERFORMANCE MEASURES.....	42
FORM OF THE NOTES .....	48
APPLICABLE FINAL TERMS .....	51
TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE NOTES .....	61
USE OF PROCEEDS .....	116
SELECTED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA.....	117
DESCRIPTION OF THE GROUP.....	121
MANAGEMENT .....	144
RISK MANAGEMENT .....	156
CAPITAL MANAGEMENT .....	172
OVERVIEW OF THE UAE AND ABU DHABI .....	173
THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES BANKING SECTOR AND REGULATIONS.....	178
BOOK-ENTRY CLEARANCE SYSTEMS .....	189
TAXATION .....	193
CERTAIN ERISA CONSIDERATIONS.....	202
SUBSCRIPTION AND SALE AND TRANSFER AND SELLING RESTRICTIONS .....	204
GENERAL INFORMATION .....	215

## DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAMME

*This description must be read as an introduction to this Base Prospectus. Any decision to invest in any Notes should be based on a consideration of this Base Prospectus as a whole, including the documents incorporated by reference herein, by any investor. This description does not purport to be complete and is taken from, and is qualified in its entirety by, the remainder of this Base Prospectus and, in relation to the terms and conditions of any particular Tranche of Notes, the applicable Final Terms.*

*Words and expressions defined in "Form of the Notes" and "Terms and Conditions of the Notes" shall have the same meanings in this description.*

<b>Issuer</b>	Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank PJSC
<b>LEI</b>	213800RWVKKIRX1AUH58
<b>Description</b>	Global Medium Term Note Programme
<b>Arranger</b>	Merrill Lynch International
<b>Dealers</b>	Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank PJSC Barclays Bank PLC BNP Paribas Citigroup Global Markets Limited Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch ING Bank N.V., London Branch J.P. Morgan Securities plc Merrill Lynch International Morgan Stanley & Co. International plc Standard Chartered Bank

ADCB may from time to time terminate the appointment of any dealer under the Programme or appoint additional dealers either in respect of one or more Tranches or in respect of the whole Programme.

<b>Certain restrictions</b>	Each issue of Notes denominated in a currency in respect of which particular laws, guidelines, regulations, restrictions or reporting requirements apply will only be issued in circumstances which comply with such laws, guidelines, regulations, restrictions or reporting requirements from time to time (see " <i>Subscription and Sale and Transfer and Selling Restrictions</i> ") including the following restrictions applicable as at the date of this Base Prospectus.
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### **Notes having a maturity of less than one year**

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

<b>Issuing and Principal Paying Agent</b>	Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch
<b>Euro Registrar and Paying Agent</b>	Deutsche Bank Luxembourg S.A.

<b>U.S. Registrar and Paying Agent</b>	Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas
<b>Programme Size</b>	Up to U.S.\$15,000,000,000 (or its equivalent in other currencies calculated as described in the Programme Agreement) outstanding at any time. ADCB may increase the amount of the Programme in accordance with the terms of the Programme Agreement.
<b>Distribution</b>	Notes may be distributed by way of private or public placement and in each case on a syndicated or non-syndicated basis.
<b>Currencies</b>	Subject to any applicable legal or regulatory restrictions, any currency agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer.
<b>Redenomination</b>	The applicable Final Terms may provide that certain Notes may be redenominated in euro. The relevant provisions applicable to any such redenomination are contained in Condition 5 ( <i>Redenomination</i> ).
<b>Maturities</b>	The Notes will have such maturities as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer, subject to such minimum or maximum maturities as may be allowed or required from time to time by the relevant central bank (or equivalent body) or any laws or regulations applicable to the Issuer or the relevant Specified Currency.
<b>Issue Price</b>	Notes may be issued on a fully-paid or a partly-paid basis and at an issue price which is at par or at a discount to, or premium over, par.
<b>Form of Notes</b>	The Notes will be issued in bearer or registered form as described in " <i>Form of the Notes</i> ". Registered Notes will not be exchangeable for Bearer Notes and <i>vice versa</i> .
<b>Fixed Rate Notes</b>	Fixed interest will be payable on such date or dates as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer and on redemption and will be calculated on the basis of such Day Count Fraction as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer.
<b>Floating Rate Notes</b>	<p>Floating Rate Notes will bear interest at a rate determined:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) on the same basis as the floating rate under a notional interest rate swap transaction in the relevant Specified Currency governed by an agreement incorporating the 2006 ISDA Definitions including, if specified in the applicable Final Terms, the ISDA Benchmarks Supplement (each as published by the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc., and as amended and updated as at the Issue Date of the first Tranche of the Notes of the relevant Series) plus or minus the applicable margin; or</li> <li>(ii) on the basis of the relevant Reference Rate as adjusted for any applicable margin; or</li> <li>(iii) on such other basis as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer.</li> </ul>

The margin (if any) relating to such floating rate will be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer for each Series of Floating Rate Notes.

**Other provisions in relation to Floating Rate Notes**

Interest on Floating Rate Notes in respect of each Interest Period, as agreed prior to issue by the Issuer and the relevant Dealer, will be payable on such Interest Payment Dates, and will be calculated on the basis of such Day Count Fraction, as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer.

**Reset Notes**

Reset Notes will bear interest:

- (i) in respect of the period from (and including) the Interest Commencement Date to (but excluding) the Reset Date (or, if there is more than one Reset Period, the first Reset Date occurring after the Interest Commencement Date), at the rate per annum equal to the Initial Rate of Interest; and
- (ii) in respect of the Reset Period (or, if there is more than one Reset Period, each successive Reset Period thereafter), at such rate per annum as is equal to the relevant Subsequent Reset Rate, as determined by the Principal Paying Agent on the relevant Reset Determination Date in accordance with Condition 6.3(a),

payable, in each case, in arrear on the Interest Payment Date(s) (as specified in the applicable Final Terms).

**Interest Period and Interest Rates**

The length of the interest periods for the Notes and the applicable interest rate or its method of calculation may differ from time to time or be constant for any Series.

Notes may have a maximum interest rate, a minimum interest rate, or both. All such information will be set out in the applicable Final Terms.

**Zero Coupon Notes**

Zero Coupon Notes will be offered and sold at a discount to their nominal amount and will not bear interest.

**Redemption**

The applicable Final Terms will indicate either that the relevant Notes cannot be redeemed prior to their stated maturity (other than in specified instalments, if applicable, or for taxation reasons or following an Event of Default) or that such Notes will be redeemable at the option of the Issuer and/or the Noteholders (including, where specified as being applicable in the applicable Final Terms following the occurrence of a Change of Control Event as described below) upon giving notice to the Noteholders or the Issuer, as the case may be, on a date or dates specified in the applicable Final Terms prior to such stated maturity, and at a price or prices specified in the applicable Final Terms and on such other terms as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer.

The applicable Final Terms may provide that Notes may be redeemable in two or more instalments of such amounts and on such dates as are indicated in the applicable Final Terms.

Notes having a maturity of less than one year are subject to restrictions on their denomination and distribution, see "*Certain restrictions*" above.

#### **Change of Control**

If so specified in the applicable Final Terms, on the occurrence of a Change of Control Event the holders of Senior Notes shall have the right as described in Condition 8.4 (*Redemption and Purchase – Redemption at the option of the Noteholders (Investor Put and Change of Control Put)*) to require the Issuer to redeem their Senior Notes.

A "**Change of Control Event**" will occur if at any time the Government ceases to own, directly or indirectly, more than 50 per cent. of the issued share capital of ADCB or otherwise ceases to control, ADCB. For the purposes of Condition 8.4 (*Redemption and Purchase – Redemption at the option of the Noteholders (Investor Put and Change of Control Put)*), the Government will be deemed to control ADCB if (whether directly or indirectly and whether by the ownership of share capital, the possession of voting power, contract, trust or otherwise) it has the power to appoint and/or remove all or the majority of the members of the board of directors or other governing body of ADCB or otherwise controls, or has the power to control, the affairs and policies of ADCB.

#### **Denomination of Notes**

The Notes will be issued in such denominations as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer save that the minimum denomination of each Note will be such amount as may be allowed or required from time to time by the relevant central bank (or equivalent body) or any laws or regulations applicable to the relevant Specified Currency, see "*Certain restrictions*" above, and save that the minimum denomination of each Note admitted to trading on a regulated market within the EEA or the UK or offered to the public in a Relevant State in circumstances which would otherwise require the publication of a prospectus under the Prospectus Regulation will be €100,000 (or, if the Notes are denominated in a currency other than euro, the equivalent amount in such currency).

The minimum aggregate principal amount of Notes which may be purchased by a QIB pursuant to Rule 144A is U.S.\$200,000 (or the approximate equivalent thereof in any other currency).

#### **Taxation**

All payments in respect of the Notes will be made without deduction for or on account of withholding taxes imposed by any Relevant Tax Jurisdiction as provided in Condition 9 (*Taxation*). In the event that any such deduction is made, the Issuer will, save in certain limited circumstances provided in Condition 9 (*Taxation*), be required to pay additional amounts to cover the amounts so deducted.

#### **Negative Pledge**

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

#### **Cross-Default**

The terms of the Senior Notes will contain a cross-default provision as further described in Condition 11 (*Events of Default*).

#### **Status of the Senior Notes**

The Senior Notes will constitute direct, unconditional, unsubordinated and (subject to the provisions of Condition 4 (*Negative Pledge*)) unsecured obligations of the Issuer and will

	rank <i>pari passu</i> among themselves and (save for certain obligations required to be preferred by law) equally with all other unsecured obligations (other than subordinated obligations, if any) of the Issuer from time to time outstanding.
<b>Status and Subordination of the Subordinated Notes</b>	The Subordinated Notes will constitute direct, unsecured, conditional and subordinated obligations of the Issuer and rank <i>pari passu</i> and without any preference among themselves, as described in Condition 3.2 ( <i>Status – Status of the Subordinated Notes</i> ).
<b>Rating</b>	<p>ADCB has been rated A (negative outlook) by Standard &amp; Poor's and A+ (stable outlook) by Fitch. Each of Standard &amp; Poor's and Fitch is established in the European Union and is registered under the CRA Regulation.</p> <p>Each Series of Notes may be unrated or rated by all or one or two only of the credit rating agencies. Where a Series of Notes is rated, such rating will be specified in the applicable Final Terms. A rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be subject to suspension, reduction or withdrawal at any time by the assigning rating agency.</p>
<b>Approval, Listing and Admission to trading</b>	<p>Application has been made to (i) the Luxembourg Stock Exchange for the Notes to be admitted to the Official List and to trading on the Regulated Market and (ii) Euronext Dublin for the Notes to be admitted to its official list and to trading on its regulated market.</p> <p>Notes may be listed or admitted to trading, as the case may be, on other or further stock exchanges or markets agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer in relation to the Series. Notes which are neither listed nor admitted to trading on any market may also be issued.</p> <p>The applicable Final Terms will state whether or not the relevant Notes are to be listed and/or admitted to trading and, if so, on which stock exchanges and/or markets.</p>
<b>Clearing Systems</b>	Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and/or DTC or, in relation to any Tranche of Notes, any other clearing system.
<b>Governing Law</b>	The Notes and any non-contractual obligations arising out of or in connection with the Notes will be governed by, and shall be construed in accordance with, English law.
<b>Selling Restrictions</b>	There are restrictions on the offer, sale and transfer of the Notes in the United States, the UK, the EEA, Japan, the UAE (excluding the Dubai International Financial Centre), the Dubai International Financial Centre, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Kingdom of Bahrain, the State of Qatar (excluding the Qatar Financial Centre), Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia, the State of Kuwait and the PRC (which, for the purposes of this Base Prospectus, excludes the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the PRC, the Macau Special Administrative Region of the PRC and Taiwan) and such other restrictions as may be required in connection with the offering and sale of a particular Tranche of Notes (see " <i>Subscription and Sale and Transfer and Selling Restrictions</i> ").

**United States Selling  
Restrictions**

Regulation S, Category 2. Rule 144A and TEFRA C/TEFRA D/TEFRA not applicable, as specified in the applicable Final Terms. See "*Certain ERISA Considerations*" for ERISA-related restrictions.

## RISK FACTORS

*Any investment in the Notes is subject to a number of risks and uncertainties. Prospective investors should consider carefully the risks and uncertainties associated with ADCB's business and any investment in the Notes, together with all of the information that is included in this Base Prospectus, and should form their own view before making an investment decision with respect to the Notes. In particular, prospective investors should evaluate the risks and uncertainties referred to or described below, which may have a material adverse effect on ADCB's business, results of operations and financial condition. Should one or more of the following events or circumstances occur at the same time or separately, the value of the Notes could decline and an investor might lose part or all of its investment.*

*The Issuer believes that the factors described below represent the principal risks inherent in investing in the Notes, but the Issuer's inability to pay interest, principal or other amounts on or in connection with the Notes may occur for other reasons. Additional risks not presently known to the Issuer or that the Issuer currently deems immaterial may also impair the Issuer's ability to pay interest, principal or other amounts on or in connection with the Notes.*

### **FACTORS THAT MAY AFFECT THE GROUP'S ABILITY TO FULFIL ITS OBLIGATIONS IN RESPECT OF NOTES ISSUED UNDER THE PROGRAMME**

#### **Risks relating to the Group's business**

***Difficult macro-economic and financial market conditions have affected and could continue to materially adversely affect the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition***

The Group is susceptible to changes in the macro-economic environment and the performance of financial markets generally. As at the date of this Base Prospectus, the performance of global debt and equity markets has been volatile, reflecting the ongoing volatility in the macro-economic climate which has had, and which continues to have, a material adverse effect on the economies of the Gulf Co-operation Council ("GCC") states, including the UAE. In particular, the spread of the novel coronavirus disease ("COVID-19") has caused significant uncertainty and volatility in financial markets globally and regionally (see "*The Group's business, results of operations and financial condition may be adversely affected by the impact of COVID-19*").

Between July 2014 and January 2016, international crude oil prices declined dramatically (falling by approximately 75 per cent. from a monthly average OPEC Reference Basket price per barrel of U.S.\$107.89 in July 2014, to a monthly average price of U.S.\$26.50 in January 2016). Although there was a partial correction in global crude oil prices between 2017 and 2019 (according to the OPEC website, the average price of the OPEC Reference Basket was approximately U.S.\$66.48 per barrel for the year ended 31 December 2019), 2020 has seen increased volatility in the price of oil with the average price of the OPEC Reference Basket falling from U.S.\$65.11 per barrel in January 2020 to U.S.\$17.64 per barrel in April 2020. The volatility in the price of oil and a reduction in its demand has also recently been exacerbated by the impact of COVID-19 (see "*Risks relating to the UAE and MENA – The UAE's economy is highly dependent upon its oil revenue*"). With this backdrop, the economies of the oil-revenue dependent GCC states (including the UAE) have continued to be adversely affected with greater budget deficits, a decrease in fiscal revenues and consequent lower public spending seen between 2017 and 2019, which is expected to continue into 2020. Government fiscal deficits have resulted in weakened net asset positions, larger external financing needs and/or continued lower government spending. This has resulted in the downgrading of a number of GCC sovereigns including, the Sultanate of Oman and Kuwait in the first quarter of 2020.

Additionally, in the UAE, the significant fiscal reforms implemented by the federal government in response to the low oil price environment since 2015 have had, and are expected to continue to have, a significant effect on the UAE economy. The UAE federal government has scaled back capital transfers to government-related entities, reduced government investment, raised electricity and water tariffs and removed fuel subsidies. Further, with effect from 1 January 2018, the federal government introduced a value-added tax ("VAT") regime in the UAE at a rate of 5 per cent.

These measures have become an integral part of a broader federal government strategy aimed at rationalising fiscal expenditure generally and reducing fiscal dependency on hydrocarbon related revenues. When taken in totality with the ongoing oil price volatility, the diversion of significant fiscal revenues to

the Saudi Arabian led military intervention in the Republic of Yemen since 2015 and domestic job losses in both the private and public sectors across the UAE (and particularly within Abu Dhabi), the impact on the UAE economy since early 2015 has been significant. Moreover, in respect of the Group's Abu Dhabi-based Government-related customers, legislation including Abu Dhabi Executive Council Circular No. 11 of 2015 and Abu Dhabi Executive Council Circular No. 1 of 2017 (together, the "**Abu Dhabi Public Debt Laws**"), requires any company owned by the Government which has received a copy of such circulars, to obtain the approval of the Abu Dhabi Executive Council for it or any of its subsidiaries to enter into any transaction for borrowing or issue of debt (with an additional requirement to co-ordinate with the Public Debt Office of Abu Dhabi if such borrowing is to be guaranteed by the Government). In practice, it is unclear how the application of the Abu Dhabi Public Debt Laws has impacted the Group's Abu Dhabi-based Government-related customers. If the provisions of the Abu Dhabi Public Debt Laws start to be applied more strictly and require the Group's Abu Dhabi-based Government-related customers to obtain Abu Dhabi Executive Council approval each time they contract with the Group, it is possible that the Group may experience a decline in (and/or a delay in execution of) lending activity to customers within this sector.

The measures taken by the federal government in the UAE to counter the impact of the oil price volatility since 2015 have created significant stress in UAE retail markets (which represents one of the Group's core businesses. The Consumer Banking Group ("**CBG**") segment, which includes retail customers, accounted for 22.1 per cent. of the Group's net profit for the year ended 31 December 2019). In the event that macro-economic conditions do not improve in the UAE and the challenges faced by the retail sector were to spread to the Group's corporate customers (which business represents 27.34 per cent. of the Group's net profit for the year ended 31 December 2019), the impact on the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition could be significant.

As a result of market conditions prevailing as at the date of this Base Prospectus and in particular, the impact of COVID-19 and a drop in oil prices, companies to which the Group directly extends credit have experienced, and may continue to experience, decreased revenues, financial losses, insolvency, difficulty in obtaining access to financing and increased funding costs and some of these companies have been unable to meet their debt service obligations or other expenses as they become due, including amounts payable to the Group. The Group's gross impairment charge for loans and advances to customers totalled AED 2.55 billion, AED 1.5 billion and AED 1.9 billion for the years ended 31 December 2019, 2018 and 2017, respectively. If current market conditions continue to deteriorate, the Group may incur further impairment charges and experience increases in defaults by its debtors which would have a material adverse effect on the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition.

These extremely volatile market conditions have resulted in reduced liquidity, widening of credit spreads and lack of price transparency in credit and capital markets. The adverse market conditions have impacted investment markets both globally and in the UAE, with increased volatility in interest rates and exchange rates. Between December 2015 and December 2018, the U.S. Federal Reserve increased U.S. overnight interest rates by an aggregate 225 basis points (in nine separate increments of 25 basis points each). However, in 2019 the U.S. Federal Reserve decreased U.S. overnight interest rates by an aggregate 75 basis points (in three separate increments of 25 basis points each). So far in 2020, in an attempt to stabilise the economy against the negative impact of COVID-19, the U.S. Federal Reserve has, through two separate cuts, decreased U.S. interest rates to effectively zero per cent. Given the peg of the UAE dirham to the U.S. dollar, the UAE also undertook similar action and cut its key rates by 50 basis points in the beginning of March 2020 and by an additional 75 basis points on 16 March 2020. Future movements in such rates may adversely impact the Group's net interest margins and borrowing costs if the Group is unable to adjust to the volatile interest rate environment.

The business, results of operations and financial condition of the Group have been materially adversely affected by these trends and may be further materially adversely affected by a continuation of the unfavourable economic conditions in the other countries of the GCC and emerging markets generally as well as by United States, European and international trading market conditions and/or related factors.

***The Group may experience material losses due to customer and counterparty defaults arising from adverse changes in credit and recoverability that are inherent in the Group's business***

As a result of adverse economic and political developments in recent years, adverse changes in consumer confidence levels, consumer spending, liquidity levels, bankruptcy rates and commercial and residential real estate prices, among other factors, have historically impacted the Group's customers and counterparties and, in certain cases, adversely affected their ability to repay their loans or other obligations to the Group.

This, in turn, along with increased market volatility and decreased pricing transparency has, historically, adversely affected the Group's credit risk profile.

As at the date of this Base Prospectus, the global macro-economic climate remains volatile (see "*Difficult macro-economic and financial market conditions have affected and could continue to materially adversely affect the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition*" above). International prices for hydrocarbon related products and investor confidence in international debt and equity markets remain volatile. In particular, the United Kingdom's "leave" vote in the June 2016 referendum on its membership of the EU and the election of Donald J. Trump as President of the United States resulted in periods of significant under and (as applicable) over performance in financial markets. Further, certain policies of the Trump administration including, for example, the reimposition of sanctions on Iran in November 2018, the implementation of tariffs on products imported from countries such as China since July 2018 and the announcement that the U.S. would not renew exceptional waivers for importing Iranian oil for several oil important countries effective May 2019 have been met with retaliatory actions from affected countries and have caused significant uncertainty in financial markets. On 2 January 2020, the U.S. carried out a military strike which killed a senior Iranian military commander. As a result of this military strike, Iran launched missiles at a U.S. base in Iraq and there have been a number of subsequent retaliatory military actions. Prolonged uncertainty as to how such developments could affect the wider global economy and the Group's customers and counterparties could lead to lower recoverability and have a materially adverse effect on the Group.

As at 31 December 2019, the Group's loans and advances to customers (net of provisions) on a restated basis, amounted to AED 247.8 billion, as compared to AED 166.4 billion as at 31 December 2018 and AED 163.3 billion as at 31 December 2017. The Group's gross impairment charge for loans and advances to customers totalled AED 2.55 billion, AED 1.5 billion and AED 1.9 billion for the years ended 31 December 2019, 2018 and 2017, respectively.

As at 31 December 2019, the borrowers in respect of 94.1 per cent. of the Group's total net loans and advances to customers were located in the UAE (31 December 2018: 94.2 per cent. and 31 December 2017: 93.9 per cent.). This level of geographic concentration causes the Group's credit risk profile to be particularly susceptible to adverse economic conditions at a regional level. In particular, factors such as house prices, levels of employment, interest rates and the amount of consumers' disposable income in the UAE can each have a material impact on its business (see "*The Group's loan and investment portfolios and deposit base are concentrated by geography, sector and client*" below).

This challenging economic environment is expected to continue to have an adverse effect on the Group's credit risk profile. Although the Group regularly reviews its credit exposures and has re-priced a major portion of its loan portfolio and restructured some of its loans under stress, customer defaults may continue to occur. The occurrence of these events and any failure by the Group to maintain the quality of its assets through effective risk management policies to mitigate against credit risk could materially adversely affect the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition.

***The Group's business, results of operations and financial condition may be adversely affected by the impact of COVID-19***

The recent spread of COVID-19 and the measures imposed by government bodies around the world to limit its spread have disrupted the global economy, financial markets and business productivity. The outbreak has resulted in the implementation of travel restrictions, quarantines and extended shutdowns of certain businesses globally (in particular, in relation to the travel and hospitality sectors), the impact of which is highly uncertain and, if prolonged, could have materially adverse consequences, including lower economic growth (both regionally and globally) and increased volatility. It is currently unclear how long these restrictions will be in place and what their ultimate impact will be on global and local economies.

A substantial amount of the Group's business involves providing credit and other financial services to individuals, corporates, industries or governments that may be detrimentally impacted by COVID-19 and therefore be unable to repay their loans as they fall due or have a lower demand for the products and services offered by the Group. The Group may also be limited in its ability to service clients as it has restricted operations in many of its offices and allowed employees to work from home to the extent possible. As a result, the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition could be materially and adversely impacted.

A number of central banks and governments have announced financial stimulus and economic support packages aimed at helping against the negative impact of COVID-19. In the UAE, effective from 15 March 2020, the Central Bank implemented a Targeted Economic Support Scheme (the "TESS") which includes a range of measures aimed at mitigating the economic effects of COVID-19. Such measures include allowing banks operating in the UAE access to loans and advances extended at zero cost against collateral by the Central Bank, to be used to grant temporary relief to private sector corporate and SME customers and retail clients. In addition (subject to the terms of the TESS), banks are allowed to tap into their capital conservation buffer up to a maximum of 60 per cent. without supervisory consequences and the domestic systemically important banks (the "DSIBs"), which includes ADCB, are allowed to use 100 per cent. of their D-SIB buffer without supervisory consequences (in each case, until 31 December 2021). The requirement to maintain a minimum LCR (as defined below) has been reduced from 100 per cent. to 70 per cent. and the reserve requirement for banks to maintain 14 per cent. of customer deposits with the Central Bank has been reduced to 7 per cent. and these measures are expected to free up additional liquidity. In addition, in view of the expected volatility resulting from COVID-19, the Central Bank has issued a requirement for banks to apply a prudential filter to ECL provisions, which is aimed at minimising the effect of IFRS 9 provisions on regulatory capital. The filter allows for any increase in provisioning compared to the position as at 31 December 2019 to be partially added back to a bank's regulatory capital, which has the effect of improving such bank's capital position and providing improved consistency. IFRS 9 provisions are intended to be gradually phased-in during the five year period ending on 31 December 2024. Whilst these measures are expected to help against the negative impact of COVID-19, the impact of these measures cannot be predicted and a prolonged period of reduced global liquidity and growth may have materially adverse consequences on economic growth and the Group's clients or affect the Group's employees and operations.

In order to prepare itself for the potential adverse consequences resulting from the impact of COVID-19, the Group has run several macro-economic scenarios and internal models by incorporating changes to, amongst other things, weights of economic scenarios, reduction in oil prices, drop in real estate prices and a negative GDP growth. However, the results of these scenarios are based on judgments and estimates and a variety of factors which are outside of the Group's control can affect the losses which actually materialise. Whilst the Group has established policies and control procedures that are intended to ensure that its significant accounting estimates and judgments are well controlled and applied consistently, due to the uncertainty surrounding the Group's judgments, the estimates pertaining to these matters and the impact of macro-economic factors over which the Group has no control, should the estimated values for such items prove substantially different to actual values, particularly because of significant and unexpected market movements, or if the methods by which such values were determined are revised in future rules or interpretations, the Group may experience unexpected losses. See further *"Description of the Group – Recent Developments – Impact of COVID-19"*.

***The Group's loan and investment portfolios and deposit base are concentrated by geography, sector and client***

The Group's loan portfolio is concentrated, geographically, in the UAE. The current challenging macro-economic environment which has been further impacted by the negative effects of COVID-19 and a drop in oil prices, together with the ongoing process of rationalisation of federal government expenditure in the UAE economy, has had a material adverse effect on certain areas of this geographically concentrated portfolio and continues to impact the Group (see *"The Group may experience material losses due to customer and counterparty defaults arising from adverse changes in credit and recoverability that are inherent in the Group's business"* and *"Difficult macro-economic and financial market conditions have affected and could continue to materially adversely affect the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition"* above). The Group's investment portfolio has exposure to the United States, Europe and the GCC (see *"Description of the Group – Treasury and Investments Group"*).

As at 31 December 2019, the borrowers in respect of 94.1 per cent. of the Group's total net loans and advances to customers were located in the UAE (31 December 2018: 94.2 per cent. and 31 December 2017: 93.9 per cent.) and the borrowers in respect of the remaining 5.9 per cent. were located outside of the UAE (31 December 2018: 5.8 per cent. and 31 December 2017: 6.1 per cent.). On a restated basis, of the Group's gross loans and advances to customers as at 31 December 2019, real estate investment and hospitality accounted for 32.5 per cent. (of which 7.3 per cent. was concentrated in the construction and contracting sectors), personal loans accounted for 23.8 per cent., government and public sector entities accounted for 20.2 per cent. and financial institutions (including investment companies) accounted for 7.2 per cent.

Challenging macro-economic conditions have contributed to (amongst other things) decreased demand for housing in Abu Dhabi and a depressed residential real estate market. For example, according to the Central Bank, Abu Dhabi residential real estate sale prices declined at a rate of 8.2 per cent. year-on-year in third quarter of 2019 (following a year-on-year decrease of 7 per cent. in the first quarter of 2019) and rental prices declined at a rate of 6.2 per cent. year-on-year in the third quarter of 2019 (following a year-on-year decrease of 9.1 per cent. in first quarter of 2019) (*source*: Central Bank's Quarterly Economic Review, Third Quarter 2019). Given the concentration of the Group's gross loans and advances to customers as at 31 December 2019 within the real estate investment and hospitality sector, any further deterioration in the Abu Dhabi real estate market could have a material adverse effect on the Group.

The quality of the Group's loan portfolio exposure to these sectors depends on, among other things, customer creditworthiness. This, in turn, is significantly affected by macro-economic business conditions. Various factors may contribute to a deterioration in the quality of the Group's loan portfolio, and in particular events or circumstances which are beyond the Group's control, such as deteriorating macro-economic conditions or the declaration of bankruptcy of a customer or a group of customers to which the Group's exposures are significant.

The Group's twenty largest loans and advances to customers constituted 27.82 per cent. of the Group's total gross loan portfolio as at 31 December 2019 (31 December 2018: 36.58 per cent. and 31 December 2017: 34.85 per cent.).

In addition, as at 31 December 2019, the ten and twenty largest depositors accounted for 26 per cent. and 34.9 per cent., respectively, of the Group's total customer deposits (26 per cent. and 35.1 per cent., respectively, as at 31 December 2018 and 24.4 per cent. and 34.7 per cent., respectively, as at 31 December 2017).

The Group's investment securities portfolio has significant exposure to GCC-based issuers, with the investments primarily in sovereign and quasi-sovereign senior unsecured fixed income securities issued by UAE and GCC issuers. As at 31 December 2019, 73.1 per cent. of the investment securities portfolio comprised exposure to UAE and GCC-based issuers (66.2 per cent. as at 31 December 2018 and 65.6 per cent. as at 31 December 2017). The majority of the Group's local liquidity is invested in government bonds and other government-related public sector entities in the UAE and systemically important financial institutions in the UAE and the GCC. The Group's treasury money markets division has significantly reduced its exposure to Qatari Riyals by reducing Qatari Riyal deposits held with Qatari financial institutions in Qatar following the decision of a number of countries in the Middle East and North Africa ("MENA") region, including the UAE, to sever diplomatic relations with the Qatar in June 2017 (see "*Risks relating to the UAE and MENA – The Group is subject to risks associated with political and economic conditions in Abu Dhabi, the UAE and the Middle East*" below). The Group's investment securities portfolio outside the UAE and GCC was 26.9 per cent. of its total investment securities portfolio as at 31 December 2019 (31 December 2018: 33.8 per cent. and 31 December 2017: 34.4 per cent.).

As a result of the concentration of the Group's loan and investment portfolios and deposit base in the UAE and the GCC, any deterioration in general economic conditions in the UAE or in the GCC, or any failure of the Group to effectively manage its geographic, sectoral and client risk concentrations, could have a material adverse effect on its business, results of operations and financial condition.

Further, the majority of the population in the UAE is comprised of non-nationals who require a renewable work permit sponsored by their employer to work and reside in the UAE (see "*Overview of the UAE and Abu Dhabi*"). Therefore most of the Group's customer base and retail loan portfolio, in addition to certain of its small to medium-sized enterprises ("SMEs") and mid-corporate (being entities with annual revenue of between AED 150 million and AED 500 million) loan portfolios, is comprised of individuals who are (or, as the case may be, entities which are owned by) UAE-based expatriates. The Group is exposed to a "skip risk" that such customers may leave the UAE without making repayments on their loans. Although the Group takes overseas enforcement action against "skip" borrowers in certain countries and regularly reviews its credit exposures and has in place systems for assessing the financial condition and creditworthiness of its debtors, its failure to do so accurately or effectively may result in an increase in the rate of default for the Group's loan portfolio, which could have a material adverse effect on its business, results of operations and financial condition (see "*Risks relating to the Group's operations*" below).

***If the Group is unable to effectively monitor and control the level of its non-performing loans with debtors in financial distress, or its allowances for loan impairment are insufficient to cover loan losses, the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition could be materially adversely affected***

As at 31 December 2019, the Group had AED 8.5 billion of impaired loans and advances to customers and, in the year ended 31 December 2019, carried impairment allowances of AED 7.3 billion to cover potential loan losses (31 December 2018: AED 5.2 billion of impaired loans and advances to customers and impairment allowances of AED 6.7 billion and 31 December 2017: AED 3.7 billion of impaired loans and advances to customers and impairment allowances of AED 5.9 billion). More recently, the Group has also made provisions in respect of its exposure to NMC Health PLC, Finabl PLC and associated companies, which are suspected of irregular financial activities (see "*The Group has credit exposure to the NMC Health Group and its associates companies, some of which are suspected of irregular financial activities and have been put into administration*".) In accordance with IFRS, the Group is required to reflect the impairment calculated (which is based on its best estimates of recoveries and judgments leading to calculation of probable losses) as an upfront charge to the income statement. This is required to be written back to the income statement as and when interest or principal (as applicable) on the debt is received. However, there is no guarantee that impairment allowances recognised by the Group will be sufficient to cover its actual credit portfolio losses. As at 31 December 2019, impairment allowances including fair value adjustments (for stage 1 and stage 2 accounts) on loans and advances constituted 123.2 per cent. of the Group's impaired loans (31 December 2018: 130.2 per cent. and 31 December 2017: 162.9 per cent. without any fair value adjustments in respect of the information for 2018 and 2017).

The estimated fair value of collateral and other security enhancements held against various credit risk exposures for the year ended 31 December 2019 was AED 247,161.2 million (31 December 2018: AED 178,273.9 million and 31 December 2017: AED 183,993.8 million). Where the estimated fair value of collateral held exceeds the outstanding loan, any excess is paid back to the customers and is not available for offset against other loans (see "*Security interests or loan guarantees provided in favour of the Group may not be sufficient to cover any losses and may not be legally enforceable*" below).

The Group regularly reviews and monitors compliance with lending limits to individual financial institutions and country limits (see "*Risk Management–Management of Risks–Credit Risk*"). Further, the Group's risk group is responsible for the formulation of credit policies and processes in line with growth, risk management and strategic objectives as promulgated by the Board and the Board risk and credit committee (see "*Management*").

If the Group fails to appropriately monitor and control the levels of, and adequately provide for, its impaired loans and advances to customers and loans under stress, the Group may need to make further impairment charges and its business, results of operations and financial condition could be materially adversely affected.

***A substantial increase in new impairment allowances or losses greater than the level of previously recorded impairment allowances for doubtful loans and advances to customers would adversely affect the Group's results of operations and financial condition***

In connection with lending activities, the Group periodically establishes impairment allowances for loan losses, which are recorded in its income statement. The Group's overall level of impairment allowances is based upon its assessment of expected credit losses ("ECL"), the volume and type of lending being conducted, collateral held, industry standards, past due loans, macro-economic conditions and other factors related to the recoverability of various loans. Although the Group endeavours to establish an appropriate level of impairment allowances based on its best estimate of the above factors, it may have to significantly increase its impairment allowances for loan losses in the future as a result of increases in non-performing assets, deteriorating economic conditions leading to increases in defaults and bankruptcies, or for other reasons.

Any significant increase in impairment allowances for loan losses or a significant change in the Group's estimate of the risk of loss inherent in its portfolio of non-impaired loans and advances to customers, as well as the occurrence of loan losses in excess of the impairment allowances allocated with respect thereto, would have a material adverse effect on its business, results of operations and financial condition.

***The Group has a portfolio of restructured and/or rescheduled loans and there is no guarantee that future restructurings will not be required***

As a consequence of adverse market conditions, the Group has historically focused on restructuring or rescheduling its loans with debtors in financial distress. Rescheduled loans represent loans whose terms have been rescheduled resulting in certain loan repayment concessions (such as re-scheduling principal payments until later periods and/or to set interest payments at a relatively low level for a certain time frame followed by larger interest payments in later periods) but where the new terms do not result in a present value loss to the Group. Restructured loans represent loans which have been renewed entirely or materially altered (to a greater degree than loans which have simply been rescheduled) and causes a loss to a bank as a result of reduced profit rate and/or principal amount. Restructured loans are not delinquent but an impairment is recognised where necessary, in accordance with IFRS 9 and is written back to the income statement as and when interest or principal (as appropriate) on the debt is received.

However, there is no guarantee that such reschedulings or restructurings will be successful in mitigating the Group's credit risk. Additionally, due to the lack of publicly available information and financial data regarding debtors' credit and payment histories in the GCC (primarily due to borrowers' limited credit histories and inability (and, in certain cases, unwillingness) to provide the quality and quantity of information sought by lenders), the Group is required to make certain assumptions when assessing the financial condition and creditworthiness of its debtors. See "*The UAE's federal level credit bureau is still developing and any incomplete, unreliable or inaccurate information about the Group's debtors' and account holders' financial standing, credit history and ability to repay could impair the Group's ability to assess credit quality*" below and "*Some of the Group's debtors are unable or unwilling to provide the quality and quantity of financial data sought by the Group*" below.

If the Group fails to successfully reschedule or restructure loans or any assumptions made in order to effect such reschedulings or restructurings fail to materialise or a debtor counterparty defaults on the terms of the rescheduled or restructured loan, such loans may need to be rescheduled or restructured again or they may become impaired loans as a result of which the Group may need to make further impairment charges and its business, results of operations and financial condition could be materially adversely affected.

***The Group has credit exposure to the NMC Health Group and its associates companies, some of which are suspected of irregular financial activities and have been put into administration***

NMC Health PLC (together with its subsidiaries, the "**NMC Health Group**") is a UAE based healthcare firm with operations in 19 countries. NMC Health PLC was listed on the London Stock Exchange in 2012 and entered the FTSE 100 in September 2017. In February 2020, the NMC Health Group revealed previously undisclosed liabilities of U.S.\$335 million. A further review uncovered undisclosed liabilities of approximately U.S.\$4 billion and suspected irregular activities and misrepresentations in relation to the NMC Health Group's past financial activities. Trading in NMC Health PLC's shares on the London Stock Exchange was suspended on 27 February 2020 and NMC Health PLC made a voluntary delisting of its shares from the London Stock Exchange on 27 April 2020.

As one of the largest creditors of the NMC Health Group, on 2 April 2020, ADCB applied to the High Court in the United Kingdom for the appointment of joint administrators to take control of the NMC Health Group with a view to protecting its future. ADCB also initiated criminal proceedings with the attorney general in Abu Dhabi against a number of individuals in relation to the NMC Health Group on 15 April 2020. The application for administration was approved on 9 April 2020 and joint administrators took control of the NMC Health Group's business with the intention of ensuring continuity of patient care through stability for staff and suppliers and financial security for the NMC Health Group's operating companies. The joint administrators aim to improve stability and monitor liquidity in the short term before commencing restructuring activities and the recovery of the business.

A coordinating committee of significant debtholders, chaired by ADCB, has been formed to act as the primary contact between the NMC Health Group and its creditors and to help with the restructuring of its debts. Discussions between the NMC Health Group and its lenders aimed at ensuring the continuity of its operations and the rapid recovery of its business are currently ongoing.

Further review of the companies associated with the NMC Health Group also uncovered financial irregularities at Finabl PLC ("**Finabl**"), a London Stock Exchange listed company which primarily deals in offering cross-border payment and foreign exchange services and owns Travelex and UAE Exchange.

Whilst investigations are currently ongoing, it is reported that Finabl's overall debt (excluding its Travelex business) may be approximately U.S.\$1.3 billion, which is substantially higher than the last reported figure of U.S.\$334 million as at the end of June 2019. Trading in Finabl's shares on the London Stock Exchange was suspended on 16 March 2020. Finabl has appointed an independent financial adviser to establish an accurate position of its current indebtedness position to allow it to engage further with its creditors and explore the options that may be available to them.

As at 31 March 2020, the Group had an exposure of U.S.\$981 million to the NMC Health Group and U.S.\$182 million to Finabl and its subsidiaries including UAE Exchange. In respect of its exposure to the NMC Health Group, Finabl and associated companies, the Group recorded impairment charges of AED 1.072 billion as at 31 March 2020.

As the administration of the NMC Health Group progresses and the situation in respect of Finabl develops further, there is a risk that the Group may need to make further impairment charges in respect of its exposure to these companies. In addition, if there is a failure to reach an agreement by either of the NMC Health Group or Finabl to restructure their debts with their respective creditors or if further financial irregularities are uncovered, any of which may result in the companies being wound-up or substantial parts of their businesses being sold, then there is a risk that the Group may not be able to recover the entire amount of the debts owed to it. Although the combined liabilities owed by the NMC Health Group and Finabl to the Group represent 1.04 per cent. of the Group's total assets as at 31 March 2020, an inability to recover the debts owed to it may have an impact on the Group's financial condition.

***The UAE's federal level credit bureau is still developing and any incomplete, unreliable or inaccurate information about the Group's debtors' and account holders' financial standing, credit history and ability to repay could impair the Group's ability to assess and monitor credit quality***

Substantially all of the Group's debtors are located in the UAE. Typically, there is little public information or financial data available regarding debtors' credit and payment histories in this region, primarily due to borrowers' limited credit histories and the fact that the federal level credit bureau, Al Etihad Credit Bureau, only became operational during 2014 and remains under development as at the date of this Base Prospectus. Furthermore, statistical and other data on the Group's debtors may also be less complete than those available in jurisdictions with more mature financial markets.

As at the date of this Base Prospectus, the Al Etihad Credit Bureau remains in a nascent stage. Data available from Al Etihad Credit Bureau is only used as a decision making aid and has not fully remedied the challenges of obtaining fulsome debtor credit histories. Accordingly, the Group is unable to rely solely on credit scores provided by the Al Etihad Credit Bureau when making a credit assessment and is required to make certain assumptions when assessing the financial condition and creditworthiness of its debtors. In the absence of meaningful statistical data on its existing and potential debtors, there can be no assurance as to the Group's ability to accurately assess the credit quality of its loan portfolios.

Accordingly, the Group's failure to accurately assess the financial condition and creditworthiness of its debtors may result in increased defaults on the Group's loan portfolio, or defaults in excess of its expectations as well as increased losses upon default, any of which, which could have a material adverse effect on its business, results of operations and financial condition.

***Some of the Group's debtors are unable or unwilling to provide the quality and quantity of financial data sought by the Group, which may lead to material losses***

Although the Group requires regular disclosure of its debtors' financial information, some debtors, especially high net worth individuals ("HNWIs") (including the controlled/affiliated entities of these individuals) and SMEs, do not, or are unable to, provide the quality and quantity of information sought by the Group. Furthermore, such financial data may not always present a complete and comparable picture of each such debtor's financial condition. For example, the financial statements of the Group's debtors (including HNWIs) are not (unless publicly listed) required to be presented in accordance with IFRS or audited in accordance with International Standards on Auditing.

Unavailability of adequate quantity or quality of financial data in respect of its debtors may result in the Group's failure to accurately assess the financial condition and creditworthiness of its debtors, leading to increased defaults on the Group's loan portfolio, or defaults in excess of its expectations as well as increased

losses upon default, any of which could have a material adverse effect on the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition.

***Security interests or loan guarantees provided in favour of the Group may not be sufficient to cover any losses and may not be legally enforceable***

The practice of pledging assets (such as share portfolios in margin lending and real estate assets) to obtain a bank loan is subject to certain limitations and administrative restrictions under UAE law. In particular, such security may not be enforced without a court order. As a result, security over certain pledged assets may not be enforced in UAE courts. Accordingly, the Group may have difficulty foreclosing on collateral (including any real estate collateral) or enforcing guarantees or other third party credit support arrangements when debtors default on their loans and would likely face further such difficulties if any of the Group's key clients or shareholders were to default on their loans.

In addition, even if such security interests are enforceable in UAE courts, the time and costs associated with enforcing security interests in the UAE may make it uneconomical for the Group to pursue such enforcement proceedings, adversely affecting the Group's ability to recover its loan losses. As at 31 December 2019, the Group had a loans and advances to customers portfolio (net of provisions) totalling AED 247.8 billion on a restated basis (31 December 2018: AED 166.4 billion and 31 December 2017: AED 163.3 billion). For the year ended 31 December 2019, the estimated fair value of collateral and other security enhancements the Group held against various credit exposures was AED 247.2 billion.

However, on 15 March 2017, UAE Federal Law No. 20 of 2016 on mortgaging of moveable assets (the "**Moveable Assets Law**") became effective, which is anticipated to have a significant impact on local law security packages and enforcement of a security holder's rights thereunder. The Moveable Assets Law creates a new class of non-possessory pledge or mortgage specifically intended to be used in respect of movable assets (including accounts payable and deposits at licensed banks and financial institutions, including current and deposit accounts). The Moveable Assets Law also provides for the establishment of a publicly searchable register of such security. This register was established in 2018. However, given that this process is largely untested, the process for initial registration and the establishment of prior interests may present challenges. Additionally, in January 2016, Law No. 3 of 2015 Concerning the Regulation of the Real Estate Sector in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi (the "**Real Estate Law**") became effective. Prior to the Real Estate Law, there was no specific mortgage law in Abu Dhabi. Whilst there was federal law in relation to similar security concepts such as pledges, this did not provide a specific framework for registration of mortgages. The Real Estate Law has provided increased certainty for lenders and borrowers alike in relation to registration and enforcement of real estate security interests in Abu Dhabi.

The Group typically requires additional collateral in the form of cash and/or other assets in situations where the Group may not be able to exercise rights over pledged shares or where it enters into guarantees or other third party credit support arrangements for loans made to individuals and corporations. Any decline in the value or liquidity of such collateral (as a result of, for example, the market value of real estate assets which have been pledged as collateral) may prevent the Group from foreclosing on such collateral for its full value or at all in the event that a borrower becomes insolvent and enters bankruptcy, and could thereby adversely affect the Group's ability to recover the full amounts advanced to the borrower.

Further, Presidential Resolution No. 3/4/7135 Concerning Cheques dated 23 October 2012 has granted immunity to UAE nationals in respect of Article 401 of Federal Law No. 3 of 1987 (the "**Penal Code**"). As a result, UAE nationals are not subject to criminal prosecution under the Penal Code for issuing bounced cheques. While similar provisions in respect of non-UAE nationals have not been enacted as at the date of this Base Prospectus, the UAE Insolvency Law (Federal Law No. 9 of 2016) (the "**Insolvency Law**") has introduced provisions enabling a UAE court to grant a stay in respect of criminal proceedings relating to bounced cheques of a debtor, where such debtor enters into a bankruptcy procedure under the auspices of the Insolvency Law and irrespective of that debtor's nationality. Additionally, pursuant to Dubai Law No. 1 of 2017 concerning the Penal Order, the Dubai public prosecutor has the ability to issue 'penal orders' which downgrade certain offences to misdemeanours. The Dubai public prosecutor has issued such a 'penal order', downgrading to a misdemeanour the offence of issuance of a bounced cheque for amounts up to AED 200,000. As a result of these provisions, and in the event that similar immunity from criminal prosecution under the Penal Code is granted to non-UAE nationals, the Group may face difficulties in enforcing loan repayments for loans guaranteed by way of post-dated cheques.

It is anticipated that the introduction of the Insolvency Law, the Real Estate Law and the Moveable Assets Law will, collectively, improve the Group's ability to recover the full amounts advanced to a borrower. However, as at the date of this Base Prospectus, while these legislative advances have begun to have a positive effect for lenders and borrowers alike, it remains unclear how certain of the detailed provisions and operational aspects of the new laws will be applied in practice.

The occurrence of any of the foregoing could have a material adverse effect on the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition.

### **Risks relating to the Group's liquidity**

#### ***The Group's cash flow from its operations may not be sufficient at all times to meet its contractual and contingent payment obligations***

If the Group's cash flow from its operations is not sufficient to meet its short- and medium-term contractual and contingent payment obligations as they become due, it could experience liquidity issues. Such liquidity issues could occur if the Group's available liquidity is not sufficient to enable it to service its debt, fulfil loan commitments or meet other on- or off-balance sheet payment obligations on specific dates, even if the Group continues to receive new deposits from customers, proceeds from new financings or its future revenue streams. Such liquidity issues could also arise if there is an unexpected outflow of customer deposits, if there is a material decline in the value of the Group's liquid securities portfolio or if the Group is unable to secure short-term funding at commercially acceptable rates to bridge this funding gap.

As at the date of this Base Prospectus, the Central Bank has adopted a policy of a gradual, phased introduction of the capital and liquidity standards for credit institutions, approved by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (the "**Basel Committee**") in response to the 2008 global financial crisis (the "**Basel III Reforms**"). As part of this gradual introduction of Basel III in the UAE, the Central Bank has informed certain banks in the UAE, including the Group, that they are subject to the Basel III liquidity coverage ratio ("**LCR**") and the net stable funding ratio ("**NSFR**"), which they are obliged to report to the Central Bank. The LCR is a metric introduced by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision as part of the Basel III Reforms to measure a bank's ability to manage a sustained outflow of customer funds in an acute stress event over a 30-day period. The ratio is calculated by taking a financial institution's stock of high quality liquid assets ("**HQLAs**") – which include low-risk, highly marketable asset classes, designed to provide significant sources of liquidity in such a stress scenario – and dividing it by its projected net cash outflows over the immediately following 30-day period. The LCR requires that banks have sufficient HQLAs in their liquidity buffer to cover the difference between expected cash outflows and expected capped cash inflows over a 30-day stressed period. As per the Basel III Reforms, the Central Bank requires that the minimum value of the ratio is 100 per cent. (i.e., an institution's stock of HQLAs should at least equal total net cash outflows) from 1 January 2019 onwards. As at 31 December 2019, the Group held a portfolio of HQLAs valued at AED 71.2 billion and had an LCR ratio of 127.3 per cent. (31 December 2018: HQLAs valued at AED 48.6 billion and LCR ratio of 186 per cent.; 31 December 2017: HQLAs valued at AED 42.5 billion and LCR ratio of 134.6 per cent.). As at 31 March 2020, the Group's LCR ratio was 115.13 per cent. and it held a portfolio of HQLAs valued at AED 69.7 billion. The Central Bank has recently reduced the minimum LCR and other requirements as part of its relief measures against the impact of COVID-19. See "*Risk Factors – Risks relating to the Group's business – The Group's business, results of operations and financial condition may be adversely affected by the impact of COVID-19*" for further information.

Accordingly, and in line with Central Bank direction, the Group monitors its liquidity position through LCR compliance and reporting. The associated requirement to maintain a significant buffer of HQLAs may adversely affect the Group's core businesses of consumer and wholesale banking, particularly given the inherent cost of maintaining a HQLA portfolio of sufficient size and quality to cover regulatory outflow assumptions embedded in LCR. If the Group were to choose to mitigate against these additional costs by introducing selective deposit fees or minimum lending rates, this may result in a loss of customer deposits, a key source of the Group's funding, net new money outflows and/or a declining market share in its domestic loan portfolio. By virtue of the inherent costs associated with LCR compliance and maintaining a sufficient portfolio of HQLAs, the Group may be at a competitive disadvantage to its peer UAE-based financial institutions who do not monitor liquidity through LCR, which may have a material adverse effect on its business, results of operations and financial condition. If the Group defaults on any contractual or contingent payment obligation, such default would have a material adverse effect on its business, results of operations and financial condition.

In respect of compliance with the NSFR, there are certain sources of "Available Stable Funding" which are treated more favourably than others. Examples of these include customer deposits (with a residual maturity of more than one year) and retail deposits with a residual maturity of less than one year and exclude, for example, short term wholesale funding (with residual maturity of less than six months) and funding from derivative liabilities. As more banks adhere to such ratios, their adherence may inadvertently distort the market in the UAE which may have a material adverse effect on the business, results of operations and financial condition of the Group.

In addition, as a result of on-going implementation of Basel III standards in the UAE, the regulatory required Tier 1 common capital ratio (the "**CET 1 ratio**") (including countercyclical buffer) increased to 9.25 per cent. in 2018, again to 10 per cent. in 2019, with further increases expected in the future. Furthermore, due to the Group's status as a D-SIB, it is required to adhere to even higher capital ratios set by the Central Bank. As a D-SIB, the Group is required to have a CET 1 ratio of 10 per cent. The Group's CET 1 ratio was 10.82 per cent. as at 31 March 2020 and 12.93 per cent. on a restated basis as at 31 December 2019. Whilst the Central Bank has currently granted relief measures under the TESS which allow banks, amongst other things, to tap into the capital conservation buffer up to a maximum of 60 per cent. without supervisory consequences and DSIBs to use 100 per cent. of their D-SIB buffer without supervisory consequences until 31 December 2021 and the provision of a prudential filter aimed at reducing the effect of IFRS 9 provisions on regulatory capital (see "*Risks relating to the Group's business – The Group's business, results of operations and financial condition may be adversely affected by the impact of COVID-19*"), the Central Bank may further increase its CET 1 ratio requirement for D-SIBs in the future. As a result, the Group may need to obtain additional capital in the future. Such capital, whether in the form of financing or additional capital contributions from its shareholders, may not be available on commercially favourable terms, or at all. Moreover, should the Group's capital ratios fall close to regulatory minimum levels, the Group's own internal minimum levels or the levels required to maintain its ratings at the desired level, the Group may need to adjust its business practices, including reducing the risk and leverage of certain activities. If the Group is unable to maintain satisfactory capital adequacy ratios, its credit ratings may be lowered and its cost of funding may therefore increase. Additionally, the Group may find that any fair value assessments of its assets undertaken in connection with the purchase price accounting processes applicable to the Combination may have a detrimental impact on its capital adequacy levels.

***The Group relies on short-term demand and time deposits as a major source of funding but primarily has medium- and long-term assets, which results in asset-liability maturity gaps that could have a materially adverse effect on the Group***

In common with other banks in the UAE, many of the Group's liabilities are short-term demand and time deposits, whereas its assets are generally medium to long-term (such as loans and mortgages). This results in mismatches between the maturities of the Group's assets and liabilities. Mismatches could also arise if the Group is incapable of obtaining new deposits or alternative financing sources for its existing or future loan portfolio.

Although the Group has accessed wholesale funding markets (through bilateral or syndicated loans and international bond markets) since 2005 in order to diversify and extend the maturity profile of its funding sources, such borrowings have not eliminated asset-liability maturity gaps. As at 31 December 2019, 72.7 per cent. of the Group's funding (which comprises total liabilities) had remaining maturities of one year or less or were payable on demand (31 December 2018: 74.8 per cent. and 31 December 2017: 71.9 per cent.).

If a substantial portion of the Group's depositors withdraw their demand deposits or do not roll over their time deposits upon maturity, or the Group fails to refinance some of its large short- to medium-term borrowings, the Group may need to access more expensive sources to meet its funding requirements. No assurance can be given that the Group will be able to obtain additional funding on commercially reasonable terms as and when required, or at all. The Group's inability to refinance or replace such deposits with alternative funding could materially adversely affect the Group's liquidity, business, results of operations and financial condition.

***The Group has significant off-balance sheet credit-related commitments that may lead to potential losses***

As part of its normal banking business, the Group issues revocable and irrevocable commitments to extend credit, guarantees, letters of credit and other financial facilities and makes commitments to invest in securities before such commitments have been fully funded. All of these are accounted for off-balance sheet until such time as they are actually funded or cancelled. Although these commitments are contingent and

therefore off-balance sheet, they nonetheless subject the Group to related credit, liquidity and market risks. Credit-related commitments are subject to the same credit approval terms and compliance procedures as loans and advances to customers, and commitments to extend credit are contingent on customers maintaining required credit standards. Although the Group anticipates that not all of its obligations in respect of these commitments will be triggered, it may have to make payments in respect of a substantial portion of such commitments, which could have a material adverse effect on its financial position, and in particular its liquidity position. As at 31 December 2019, the Group had AED 109.1 billion in such contingent liabilities and commitments (31 December 2018: AED 60.3 billion and 31 December 2017: AED 53.4 billion).

***The Group may be materially adversely affected by a loss of business from key clients that represent a significant portion of net operating income***

The Group generates a significant proportion of its net operating income from certain key clients, including Government-controlled and Government-related entities, and members of the ruling family of Abu Dhabi and other HNWIs (including the controlled/affiliated entities of these individuals). The loss of all or a substantial portion of the business provided by one or more of these clients could have a material adverse effect on the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition.

In addition, the financial condition and ongoing profitability of Government-controlled or Government-related entities largely depends upon Government spending and policy. Therefore the Group is exposed to shifts in Governmental spending and policy and its impact on the level of economic activity in Abu Dhabi and the UAE (see "*Risks relating the Group's Business – Difficult macro-economic and financial market conditions have affected and could continue to materially adversely affect the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition*" above) over which it has no control and the effect of such shifts on the Group may be difficult to predict. Challenging economic conditions since mid-2014 have resulted in larger budget deficits across the GCC economies, coupled with reduced fiscal budgets and public spending.

The Group's failure to adequately foresee and assess such shifts may have an adverse effect on its business, results of operations and financial condition.

**Risks relating to the Market in which the Group operates**

***Changes in interest rate levels may adversely affect the Group's net interest income and borrowing costs, and the value of assets sensitive to interest rates and spread changes may be adversely affected***

The Group's operations are affected by, among other things, fluctuations in interest rates. In particular, the Group's activities depend on the Group's interest rate risk management, as well as the connections between market rates and interest margins. The Group's net interest income largely depends on the level of the Group's interest-bearing assets and liabilities, as well as the average interest rate on interest-bearing assets and liabilities and on the average interest on interest-bearing assets and liabilities.

Any shortage of liquidity in markets that are sources of funding for the Group could contribute to an increase in the Group's marginal borrowing costs. Similarly, any increase in interbank reference rates could also affect the value of certain assets that are subject to changes in applicable interest rates. As at 31 December 2019, the Group's borrowings were largely set at floating rates based on interbank reference rates, such as 3-month LIBOR and 3-month EIBOR, plus a specified margin. The Group's interest rate sensitivity position as at 31 December 2019, 2018 and 2017 was based on maturity dates and contractual re-pricing arrangements.

Interest rates are sensitive to many factors beyond the Group's control, including the policies of central banks, such as the Central Bank and the U.S. Federal Reserve, political factors and domestic and international economic conditions. For example, the U.S. Federal Reserve raised interest rates in December 2015 for the first time since 2006. Between December 2015 and December 2018, the U.S. Federal Reserve increased U.S. overnight interest rates by an aggregate 225 basis points (in nine separate increments of 25 basis points each). However, in 2019 the U.S. Federal Reserve decreased U.S. overnight interest rates by an aggregate 75 basis points (in three separate increments of 25 basis points each). So far in 2020, in an attempt to stabilise the economy against the negative impact of COVID-19, the U.S. Federal Reserve has, through two separate cuts, decreased U.S. interest rates to effectively zero per cent. Given the peg of the UAE dirham to the U.S. dollar, the UAE also undertook similar action and cut its key rates by 50 basis points in the beginning of March 2020 and by an additional 75 basis points on 16 March 2020.

As at 31 December 2019, 86.8 per cent. of the Group's total wholesale borrowings were denominated in U.S. dollars (31 December 2018: 87.5 per cent. and 31 December 2017: 89.1 per cent.). If interbank reference rates rise, the interest payable on the Group's floating rate borrowings increases. Additionally, in a rising interest rate environment, the Group's interest expense may increase significantly as a result of the higher interest rates payable on the Group's existing time deposits and a propensity amongst customers to convert their lower interest bearing current and savings account deposits to time deposits. The Group's marginal cost of funding may increase as a result of a variety of factors, including further deterioration of conditions in the financial markets or loss of confidence by and between financial institutions. If the Group fails to pass on such increase in funding cost to its customers in a timely manner or at all due to market, competitive or other conditions, it could have a material adverse effect on its business, results of operations and financial condition.

***Changes in equity and debt securities prices may adversely affect the values of the Group's investment portfolios***

The Group holds investment securities and a decrease in the realised and unrealised fair value investment gains, together with fair value losses on such investment securities has had a material adverse impact as a result of global macro-economic volatility. Instability in the international debt and equity capital markets could have a material adverse impact on the Group's investment portfolios and its financial condition and results of operations. As at each reporting period, the Group records: (i) realised gains or losses on the sale of any investment securities; (ii) unrealised fair value gains or losses in respect of any investment securities as at the end of the period on a mark to market basis; and (iii) impairment where there is a sustained decrease in fair value of any investment securities.

The amounts of such gains and losses may fluctuate considerably from period to period. The level of fluctuation depends, in part, upon the market value of the securities, which in turn may vary considerably, and the Group's investment policies. The Group's net (losses)/gains on investment securities (comprising securities carried at fair value through profit or loss and fair value through other comprehensive income) totalled AED (0.005) million, AED 0.6 million and AED 38.9 million for the years ended 31 December 2019, 31 December 2018 and 31 December 2017, respectively. The Group cannot predict the amount of realised or unrealised gain or loss for any future period, and variations from period to period are not indicative of future performance. Gains on the Group's investment portfolio may not continue to contribute to net income at levels consistent with those from recent periods or at all.

**Risks relating to the Group's operations**

***The Group's risk management policies and internal controls may not be effective in all circumstances and may leave it exposed to unidentified or unanticipated risks, which could result in material losses***

In the course of its business activities, the Group is exposed to a variety of risks, the most significant of which are credit risk, market risk, liquidity risk, operational risk, compliance risk and regulatory risk (see "Risk Management"). Investors should note that any failure to adequately control these risks could result in material adverse effects on the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition, as well as its general reputation in the market.

The Group's risk management techniques may not be fully effective or consistently implemented in mitigating its exposure in all market environments or against all types of risk, including risks that are unidentified or unanticipated. Some of the Group's methods of managing risk are based upon its use of historical market behaviour which, as evidenced by events caused by the global financial crisis and global macro-economic volatility in more recent times, may not always accurately predict future risk exposures, which could be significantly greater than such historical measures indicate. Other risk management practices, including "know your customer" ("KYC") practices, depend upon evaluation of information regarding the markets in which the Group operates, its clients or other matters that are publicly available or information otherwise accessible to the Group.

There is a lack of publicly available information and financial data regarding debtors' credit and payment histories in the GCC (primarily due to borrowers' limited credit histories and inability (and, in certain cases, unwillingness) to provide the quality and quantity of information sought by lenders and the fact that credit bureaus in the UAE are in their infancy) (see "The Group's business, results of operations and financial condition have historically been adversely affected by credit risks and may again be affected by credit risks if economic conditions do not improve", "The UAE's federal level credit bureau is still developing and any

*incomplete, unreliable or inaccurate information about the Group's debtors' and account holders' financial standing, credit history and ability to repay could impair the Group's ability to assess credit quality" and "Some of the Group's debtors are unable or unwilling to provide the quality and quantity of financial data sought by the Group" above). Accordingly, the Group, in common with other UAE banks, is frequently required to make risk management assessments in the absence of the quality and quantity of information available to lenders in other, more developed markets.*

As such practices are less developed in the GCC than they are in other markets and may not have been consistently and thoroughly implemented in the past, this information may not be accurate, complete, up-to-date or properly evaluated in all cases.

There can be no assurance that the Group's risk management and internal control policies and procedures will adequately control, or protect the Group against, all credit, liquidity, market, operational, regulatory and other risks. In addition, certain risks could be greater than the Group's empirical data would otherwise indicate. The Group also cannot give assurance that all of its staff have adhered, or will adhere to, its risk policies and procedures.

The Group is susceptible to, amongst other things, failure of internal processes or systems, unauthorised transactions by employees and operational errors, including clerical or record keeping errors or errors resulting from faulty computer or telecommunications systems, and fraud by employees or outsiders (see "*The Group's business may be adversely affected if there is any disturbance to its operational systems or a loss of business continuity*" below). The Group's risk management and internal control capabilities are also limited by the information tools and technologies available to it. Any material deficiency in the Group's risk management or other internal control policies or procedures may expose it to significant credit, liquidity, market, operational, compliance or regulatory risk, which may in turn have a material adverse effect on the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition.

***If the Group is unable to retain key members of its executive management and/or remove underperforming staff and/or recruit and retain new qualified personnel in a timely manner, this could have an adverse effect on the business of the Group***

The Group's ability to maintain and grow its business will depend, in part, on its ability to continue to recruit and retain qualified and experienced banking and management personnel. The Group is likely to face challenges in recruiting qualified personnel to manage its business. In common with other banks in the UAE, the Group experiences a shortage of qualified employees residing in the UAE, which requires it to recruit from outside the UAE. In addition, even after hiring its employees, the Group has faced challenges in retaining such employees due to the continued recruitment efforts of its competitors.

For the years ended 31 December 2019, 2018 and 2017, the Group experienced employee attrition rates of approximately 11.8 per cent., 9.5 per cent. and 8.8 per cent., respectively. Additionally, if the Group continues to grow, it will need to continue to increase its number of employees.

The Group may have to incur costs to replace senior executive officers or other key employees of AHB who leave, and the Group's ability to execute its business strategy could be impaired if it is unable to replace such persons in a timely manner.

The Group is guided in its human resources decisions by the UAE federal government's minimum threshold for Emirati employees, as set out in the UAE federal policy on Emiratisation, promulgated by UAE Cabinet Decree number 3/10/267 of 2015, dated 25 October 2015 (the "**Emiratisation Circular**") (see "*Description of the Group – Human Resources – Emiratisation*"). If the Group is not able to meet or exceed the minimum threshold for Emirati employees set out in the Emiratisation Circular, it may be subject to legal penalties, calculated in accordance with the Emiratisation Circular. Due to UAE federal labour laws, the Group may face difficulties that could delay or prevent dismissal of a UAE national employee if it finds such an employee's performance to be unsatisfactory.

While the Group believes that it has effective staff recruitment, training and incentive programmes in place, its failure to recruit, train and/or retain necessary personnel, its inability to dismiss certain employees or the shortage of qualified UAE nationals or other nationals prepared to relocate to the UAE, could have a material adverse effect on its business, results of operations and financial condition.

***If the Group is unable to anticipate and develop or provide new digital services for its customers and/or keep pace with the digitisation of the banking market, the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition could be materially adversely affected***

The banking markets in which the Group operates have been characterised in recent times by rapid technological change, evolving industry standards, changing customer service preferences and dynamics and new product and service innovations. The Group's future success will depend in part on its ability to anticipate such advances and to develop or provide new product and service offerings to meet dynamic customer requirements in the digital age. The Group may fail to anticipate or respond to technological advances on a timely basis, or, if it does respond, the services or technologies that it develops may not be successful in the marketplace as compared to its principal competitors.

The digitisation of many of the Group's core business processes is a key strategic focus for the Group. In line with this organisation-wide strategic focus on digitisation, the Group has dedicated significant resources to the development of its digital offering and will continue to make such investment as it strives to remain competitive (see "*Description of the Group – Strategy*" and "*Description of the Group – Digitisation*" for further details on the Group's digitisation initiatives). However, such investment and resource commitment may not provide the Group with the competitive advantage, cost savings or anticipated performance improvements the Group expects. Additionally, cyber-security risks for financial institutions have significantly increased because of the proliferation of new technologies and the use of the Internet and telecommunications technologies to conduct financial transactions (see "*The Group's business is dependent on its information and technology systems which are subject to potential cyber-attack*" below).

Failure by the Group to anticipate and effectively respond to changes in the markets in which the Group operates and develop new or enhanced technologies or processes that are competitive in the market could materially adversely affect the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition.

***The Group relies on third party service and system providers in the operation of its business and is subject to potential cyber-attack***

The Group relies on the services and expertise of third party service and system providers in the operation of its business. As a result of such outsourcing arrangements, the Group faces the risk that such third party service and system providers become insolvent, enter into default or fail to perform their contractual obligations in a timely manner or at all or fail to perform at an adequate and acceptable level. Any such failure could lead to interruptions in the Group's operations or result in vulnerability of its information technology systems, exposing the Group to operational failures, additional costs, reputational damage or cyber-attacks.

The threat to the security of the Group's information and customer data from cyber-attacks is real and continues to grow at pace. Activists, rogue states and cyber criminals are among those targeting computer systems around the world. Risks to technology and cyber-security change rapidly and require continued focus and investment. Given the increasing sophistication and scope of potential cyber-attack, it is possible that future attacks may lead to significant breaches of security. Failure to adequately manage cyber-security risk and continually review and update current processes in response to new threats could disrupt its business, result in the disclosure of confidential information, create significant financial and/or legal exposure and damage the Group's reputation and/or brands, which could have a material adverse effect on the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition.

#### **Regulatory risks relating to the Group's business**

***The Group is a highly regulated entity and changes in applicable laws or regulations, the interpretation or enforcement of such laws or regulations or the failure to comply with such laws or regulations could have a material adverse effect on the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition***

The Group is subject to a number of prudential and regulatory controls designed to maintain the safety and soundness of banks, ensure their compliance with economic, social and other objectives and limit their exposure to risk (see "*The United Arab Emirates Banking Sector and Regulations*"). These regulations include UAE federal laws and regulations (particularly those of the UAE federal government and the Central Bank), as well as the laws and regulations of the other countries in which the Group operates, such as Egypt, Jersey, Kuwait, Qatar and China. In particular (but without limitation), the Group is subject to

restrictions on certain credit limits in respect of real estate and construction financing, major shareholders or to a single customer (based on the Group's customer deposits and/or capital and reserves as prescribed by the Central Bank) and concentration limits on total credit and other risk exposures.

On 23 February 2017, the Central Bank published the "Regulations re Capital Adequacy" (the "**February 2017 Regulations**") which were effective from 1 February 2017. The February 2017 Regulations are intended to ensure that the capital adequacy of all banks operating in the UAE is in line with the Basel III Reforms, whilst implementing the measures contained in the May 2016 consultation document published by the Central Bank, entitled "Capital Adequacy Regulation" (the "**Consultation Document**"). The February 2017 Regulations are supported by accompanying standards (the "**Accompanying Standards**") which were published by the Central Bank on 17 January 2018 in its Circular No. 28/2018 entitled "Standard re Capital Supply" and were effective from 31 December 2017. In addition, in March 2018 the Central Bank published its Standard re Tier Capital Instruments (the "**Standard re Tier Capital Instruments**") and together with the Accompanying Standards, the "**Capital Standards**") (and accompanying guidance), which were effective from 31 March 2018. The Capital Standards elaborate on the supervisory expectations of the Central Bank, as set out in the February 2017 Regulations, with respect to the relevant Basel III capital adequacy requirements and how they will be applied by the Central Bank to banks in the UAE. For example, banks which are classified as D-SIBs by the Central Bank (such as ADCB) will be required to hold additional capital buffers as notified to them by the Central Bank. In addition, a bank may also be subject to additional capital add-on requirements following a Supervisory Review and Evaluation process of the Central Bank.

Moreover, the Central Bank's Standard Re Tier Capital Instruments requires that a periodic distribution on an additional tier 1 instrument should be cancelled if the relevant UAE bank does not have sufficient "Distributable Items" on the relevant date for payment of (i) such periodic distribution and (ii) certain other payment obligations. However, if the Central Bank's ultimate implementation of any additional counter-cyclical or systemically important buffers is not in accordance with the provisions set out in the February 2017 Regulations and the Capital Standards, the regulatory burden on UAE financial institutions such as ADCB may further increase which could adversely impact the Group's business. In addition, if further counter-cyclical or systemically important buffers are implemented by the Central Bank, it is possible that UAE financial institutions, including ADCB, will be required to increase the levels of Common Equity Tier 1 capital, Additional Tier 1 capital and Tier 2 capital (together, "**Regulatory Capital**") that they hold on their balance sheets.

As at 31 March 2020, the Group's total capital adequacy ratio was 14.13 per cent. (31 December 2019 (restated): 16.3 per cent., 31 December 2018: 17.26 per cent. and 31 December 2017: 19.09 per cent.) and included AED 6 billion Tier 1 capital notes (which, as at 31 December 2018 and 2017, were AED 4 billion for ADCB and increased to AED 6 billion following the completion of the Combination) issued by the Group to the Government's Department of Finance (the "**Tier 1 Notes**") and U.S.\$750 million Tier 2 subordinated note (the "**Tier 2 Note**"). The Tier 2 Note has a remaining maturity of less than five years and is being amortised at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum until its maturity in 2023. Further, Tier 2 Note is subject to grandfathering deduction as per Central Bank guidelines. As at 31 March 2020, the Group's capital under Tier 2 Notes was AED 1.09 billion. The Group continuously evaluates its debt profile and may consider opportunities that arise from time to time to refinance and/or repay existing debt (including its subordinated debt). Any redemption of the Group's existing subordinated debt would have a material and adverse effect on the Group's capital base.

In addition, the Federal Law No. 14 of 2018 (which entered into force with effect from 23 September 2018) (the "**HSA Law**") (Article 116) indicates that the Central Bank shall establish a resolution framework for financial institutions, pursuant to which, in the case of a deficiency in an institution's financial position, the Central Bank may take certain actions for the protection of the concerned institution and its depositors. These may include (without limitation) requesting a court to liquidate or declare bankrupt such institution, or prepare a plan for transfer of its assets and liabilities, in accordance with established laws. The timing and content for any such framework are uncertain. The exercise (or perceived likelihood of exercise) of any such action by the Central Bank or any suggestion of such exercise could materially adversely affect the value of the Notes and could lead to holders losing some or all of their investment in the Notes.

Such regulations may limit the Group's ability to increase its loan portfolio or raise capital or may increase the Group's cost of doing business. Any further changes in laws or in Central Bank regulations or policy and/or the manner in which they are interpreted or enforced may affect the Group's reserves, revenues and performance and may have a material adverse effect on the Group's business, results of operations and

financial condition. Furthermore, non-compliance with regulatory guidelines could expose the Group to potential liabilities and fines. Although the Group works closely with its regulators and continually monitors compliance with Central Bank regulations and policy, future changes in regulation, fiscal or other policies cannot be predicted and are beyond its control.

***If the Group fails to comply with applicable anti-money laundering, counter-terrorism financing, sanctions and other related regulations, it could face substantial fines and damage to its reputation***

In order to carry out and expand its businesses, it is necessary for the Group to maintain or obtain a variety of licences, permits, approvals and consents from various regulatory, legal, administrative, tax and other governmental authorities and agencies. The processes for obtaining these licences, permits, approvals and consents are often lengthy, complex, unpredictable and costly. If the Group is unable to maintain or obtain the relevant licences, permits, approvals and consents, its ability to achieve its strategic objectives could be impaired.

The Group is also required to comply with applicable anti-money laundering ("AML"), counter-terrorism financing laws, sanctions and other regulations in the jurisdictions in which it operates, including those related to countries subject to sanctions by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the U.S. Department of Treasury (OFAC), similar regulations of the EU and other jurisdictions, and applicable anti-corruption laws in the jurisdictions in which it conducts business. These laws and regulations require the Group, among other things, to adopt and enforce KYC/AML policies and procedures and to report suspicious and large transactions to the applicable regulatory authorities. The Group has adopted KYC/AML policies and procedures and reviews them regularly in light of any relevant regulatory and market developments. However, following the Combination, the Group is in the process of aligning compliance policies and systems across a number of jurisdictions and practices which have historically differed from the Group, as part of the integration. For example, as part of the Combination, the Group acquired new operations in Kazakhstan and Egypt, which are generally seen as higher risk jurisdictions as compared to the UAE and which were operating under compliance policies that were different from the ones applying to the Group. An inability to effectively harmonise its policies and procedures across its various operations may adversely affect the Group's compliance with applicable law and regulations, which may result in regulatory action or fines against the Group. For example, in February 2020, the Jersey branch of ADCB was fined £475,000 for failing to comply with the requirements of Money Laundering (Jersey) Order 2008 by the Jersey Royal Court (see "*Description of the Group – Recent Developments – ADCB Jersey Fine*".)

To the extent the Group fails or is perceived to fail to fully comply with applicable laws and regulations, the relevant government agencies to which it reports have the power and authority to impose fines and other penalties on the Group. In addition, the Group's business and reputation could suffer if customers use the Group for money laundering or illegal purposes.

***A negative change in any of the Group's credit ratings could limit its ability to raise funding and may increase its borrowing costs***

The Group has been assigned a long-term credit rating of A (with a negative outlook) by Standard & Poor's and a long term credit rating of A+ (with a stable outlook) by Fitch. These ratings, which are intended to measure the Group's ability to meet its debt obligations as they mature, are an important factor in determining the Group's cost of borrowing funds.

There is no assurance that the ratings will remain in effect for any given period of time or that the ratings will not be lowered or withdrawn entirely if circumstances in the future so warrant (including as a result of the Combination). A downgrade of the Group's credit ratings, or a negative change in their outlook, may:

- limit the Group's ability to raise funding;
- increase the Group's cost of borrowing; and
- limit the Group's ability to raise capital,

each of which could materially adversely affect its business, financial condition and results of operations. Moreover, actual or anticipated changes in the Group's credit rating may affect the market value of the Notes.

A rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be subject to revision, suspension or withdrawal at any time by the assigning rating organisation. Ratings may not reflect the potential impact of all risks related to structure, market, the risk factors discussed in this section and others that may affect the value of the Notes.

***The interests of the Group's controlling shareholder, and its ability to appoint a majority of the board of directors of the Group, may conflict with the commercial interests of the Group, which may also conflict with the interests of the Noteholders***

As at the date of this Base Prospectus, the Government holds 60.20 per cent. of the Group's share capital, through the Abu Dhabi Investment Council (the "**Council**"). As a result, the Government has the ability to block actions or resolutions proposed at the Group's annual or extraordinary general meetings. Accordingly, the Government could cause the Group to pursue transactions, make dividend payments or other distributions or payments to shareholders or undertake other actions to implement the policy of the Government rather than to foster the commercial interests of the Group.

Additionally, as at the date of this Base Prospectus, ten of the 11 members of the Group's board of directors (the "**Board**") are elected by the Group's shareholders. The Council, as the majority shareholder, has the right to appoint a proportionate number of members of the Board to its shareholding in the Group. As at the date of this Base Prospectus, the Chairman of the Board is one of the directors appointed by the Council and the Council has appointed five other members of the Board. The Board, in turn, appoints the Group Chief Executive Officer ("**GCEO**") and specifies his powers and authority in controlling and monitoring the Group's business on a day-to-day basis, recommending strategy to the Board, leading senior management and implementing the Board's strategic and operational decisions. Although the Group's corporate governance policies have been designed on the basis of international best practice, Central Bank regulations on corporate governance and the Basel Committee's guidelines on corporate governance, including specific, core principles designed to ensure (amongst other things) accountability in the relationships between the Board and the shareholders, the Council is able to exert significant influence in the composition of the Board and, through the Board's ability to specify the powers of the GCEO, the day-to-day management of the Group's business.

In addition, many of the Group's largest customers are Government-related entities whose businesses depend, in large part, on Government spending and policy. Although it is the Group's policy that transactions with parties related to, or affiliated with, its controlling shareholder are priced at market rates, are otherwise undertaken on an arm's length basis and are subject to the same loan or account approval procedures and limits as applied by the Group to transactions with parties not related to or affiliated with the Government, there can be no assurance that any and all such credit or credit support will be extended to related parties on the above basis and terms. In some cases, the Group may enter into transactions with such entities with a view to long-term, mutually beneficial relationships, even if the Group may not achieve short-term profit maximisation from such transactions. Moreover, although the Group has not experienced pressure from its controlling shareholder to date to conduct transactions upon more favourable terms with Government-owned or controlled legal entities or to deviate from its credit and lending policies and procedures, there is no guarantee that the Group may not come under pressure to pursue certain non-core activities, engage in activities with a lower profit margin than it would otherwise pursue or to provide financing to certain companies or entities on favourable or non-market terms. Such activities could have a material adverse effect on the Group's business, results or operations and financial condition.

### ***Currency risk***

The Group is exposed to foreign currency risk through transactions in foreign currencies (particularly in connection with the Egyptian pound and the Kazakhstani tenge). The Group's transactional exposures give rise to foreign currency gains and losses which will be recognised in the consolidated statement of income. The Group currently monitors the level that net foreign currency exposure is kept by buying and selling foreign currencies at spot rates or by hedging when appropriate. See "*Risk Management—Management of Risks—Currency risk*" for further information.

## **Risks relating to the UAE and MENA**

### ***The UAE's economy is highly dependent upon its oil revenue***

The UAE's economy, and the economy of Abu Dhabi in particular, is highly dependent upon oil revenue. While Abu Dhabi is actively promoting tourism and real estate and undertaking several large-scale development projects, the hydrocarbon sector (mining and quarrying) dominates Abu Dhabi's economy and contributed approximately 40.4 per cent. in 2018 and 34.1 per cent. to nominal Abu Dhabi's GDP in 2017 (according to preliminary estimates published by the Statistics Centre), reflecting the lower oil price environment since mid-2014 onwards. However, the Government continues to implement strategies intended to increase the number of and type of industry sectors contributing to the economy.

The Group has historically received significant funding and other support from the Government and the UAE federal government. In the case of the Government, such funding and other support has been largely derived from the Government's significant oil revenues.

According to OPEC data, as at 31 December 2018, the UAE had approximately 6.5 per cent. of the world's proven crude oil reserves (giving it the sixth largest oil reserves in the world) (*source: OPEC Annual Statistical Bulletin 2019*) while, according to preliminary data produced by the FCSA, the hydrocarbon sector (mining and quarrying (including crude oil and natural gas)) accounted for 25.9 per cent. of the UAE's GDP in 2018 and crude oil revenues accounted for 36.1 per cent. of total public revenues in 2018. According to the OPEC website, the price of the OPEC Reference Basket has fluctuated significantly in recent years. Since July 2014, when the monthly average OPEC Reference Basket price per barrel was U.S.\$104.11, crude oil prices fell sharply by approximately 75 per cent. to a monthly average price of U.S.\$26.50 in January 2016. Although crude oil prices recovered slightly in recent years, with the monthly average price being U.S.\$56.94 per barrel in December 2018 and U.S.\$66.48 per barrel in December 2019, there has been a sharp decrease in the monthly average price in 2020 with the price falling from U.S.\$65.11 per barrel in January 2020 to U.S.\$17.64 per barrel in April 2020.

In addition to a fall in the demand for oil as a result of the spread of COVID-19, factors such as the inability of OPEC and its allies to efficiently reach an agreement on oil production levels have had a significant impact on the price of oil. OPEC officials proposed a plan to the OPEC countries and other non-OPEC countries, including Russia, to reduce global oil production by 1.5 per cent. However, the parties were unable to reach agreement and the three-year partnership between OPEC and major non-OPEC providers was terminated as a result. On 7 March 2020, Saudi Arabia announced that it would raise oil output and discount its oil in April 2020. The above factors led to a sharp decline in the OPEC Reference Basket price to U.S.\$ 20.09 on 30 March 2020, an 18-year low. A series of meetings took place on 9 and 12 April 2020 between OPEC and non-OPEC oil producing countries, which culminated in an agreement to reduce their overall oil production in stages between 1 May 2020 and 30 April 2022. However, there can be no assurance that the agreement will be implemented by all relevant parties or achieve its stated goals or what effect the agreement will have on oil prices in the short to medium term.

With this backdrop, oil prices are expected to continue to fluctuate in the future in response to changes in many factors over which the Group has no control. Factors that may affect the price of oil include, but are not limited to:

- (in the near-to-medium term) the effect of COVID-19 on the demand for oil and gas;
- economic and political developments in oil producing regions, particularly in the Middle East;
- global and regional supply and demand, and expectations regarding future supply and demand, for oil products;
- the ability of members of OPEC and other crude oil producing nations to agree upon and maintain specified global production levels and prices;
- the impact of international environmental regulations designed to reduce carbon emissions;
- other actions taken by major crude oil producing or consuming countries;

- prices and availability of alternative fuels, global economic and political conditions, prices and availability of new technologies using alternative fuels; and
- global weather and environmental conditions.

If the prevailing low international prices for hydrocarbon products are sustained for a significant period of time into the future this could have a material adverse effect on the UAE's economy which, in turn, could have a material adverse effect on the Group's business, financial condition and results of operations and thereby adversely affect the Issuer's and/or the Group's ability to perform its obligations in respect of any Notes.

***The Group is subject to risks associated with political and economic conditions in Abu Dhabi, the UAE and the Middle East***

The majority of the Group's current operations and interests are located in the UAE. The Group's results of operations are, and will continue to be, generally affected by financial, economic and political developments in or affecting Abu Dhabi, the UAE and the Middle East and, in particular, by the level of economic activity in Abu Dhabi, the UAE and the Middle East which, in turn, is affected by the prevailing level of global crude oil prices. It is not possible to predict the occurrence of events or circumstances, such as war or hostilities, or the impact of such occurrences, and no assurance can be given that the Group would be able to sustain the operation of its business if adverse political events or circumstances were to occur. A general downturn or instability in certain sectors of the UAE or the regional economy could have an adverse effect on the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition.

Investors should also note that the Group's business and financial performance could be adversely affected by political, economic or related developments both within and outside the Middle East because of interrelationships within the global financial markets. In addition, the implementation by the Government or the UAE federal government of restrictive fiscal or monetary policies or regulations, including changes with respect to interest rates, new legal interpretations of existing regulations or the introduction of a broad taxation regime (extending beyond VAT, which was introduced in the UAE with effect from 1 January 2018) or exchange controls could have a material adverse effect on the Group's business, financial condition and results of operations and thereby affect the Issuer's and/or the Group's ability to perform its obligations in respect of any Notes.

While the UAE is seen as a relatively stable political environment, certain other jurisdictions in the Middle East are not and there is a risk that regional geopolitical instability could impact the UAE. Instability in the Middle East may result from a number of factors, including government or military regime change, civil unrest or terrorism. In particular, since early 2011 there has been political unrest in a range of MENA countries, including Egypt, Algeria, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Libya, the Kingdom of Bahrain, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Republic of Yemen, the Republic of Iraq (Kurdistan), Syria, Palestine, the Republic of Turkey, Tunisia and the Sultanate of Oman.

This unrest has ranged from public demonstrations to, in extreme cases, armed conflict (including the multinational conflict with Islamic State (also known as Daesh, ISIS or ISIL)) and the overthrow of existing leadership and has given rise to increased political uncertainty across the region. Further, the UAE, along with other Arab states, is currently participating in the Saudi Arabian led intervention in Yemen which began in 2015 in response to requests for assistance from the Yemeni government against the Al Houthi militia. The UAE is also a member of another Saudi Arabian led coalition formed in December 2015 to combat Islamic extremism and, in particular, Islamic State. Additionally, in June 2017, a number of MENA countries including the UAE, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Arab Republic of Egypt severed diplomatic relations with the State of Qatar, citing Qatar's alleged support for terrorism and accusing Qatar of creating instability in the region. The termination of diplomatic relations included the withdrawal of ambassadors and imposing trade and travel bans.

These situations have caused significant disruption to the economies of affected countries and have had a destabilising effect on international oil and gas prices. Though the effects of the uncertainty have been varied, it is not possible to predict the occurrence of events or circumstances such as war or hostilities, or the impact of such occurrences, and no assurance can be given that the UAE would be able to sustain its current economic growth levels if adverse political events or circumstances were to occur. Continued instability affecting the countries in the MENA region could adversely impact the UAE although to date there has been no significant impact on the UAE.

Any of the foregoing circumstances could have a material adverse effect on the political and economic stability of the Middle East and, in particular, could impact the numbers of tourists that choose to visit the UAE and the number of businesses interested in doing business in the UAE and, consequently, could have a material adverse effect on the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition, and thereby adversely affect the Issuer's and/or the Group's ability to perform its obligations in respect of any Notes.

***Neither the Government nor the UAE federal government is under any obligation to continue to invest in or otherwise engage in business with the Group and either or both may alter their respective relationships with the Group at any time and for any reason***

The Group was incorporated in 1985 by Resolution No. 90 of the Abu Dhabi Executive Council. The Government has held, indirectly, at least 58.1 per cent. of the Group's share capital, and has maintained significant deposits with the Group, throughout the Group's history. During the period between 2008 and 2009, the Government (through its purchase of the Group's Tier 1 Notes) provided a total of AED 4 billion in Tier 1 capital to the Group (which stood at AED 6 billion as at 31 March 2020 as a result of tier 1 capital previously issued by UNB being merged into ADCB). In 2009, the UAE federal government also provided AED 6.6 billion in Tier 2 capital to the Group which was repaid on 2 June 2013. Despite the Government's and the UAE federal government's past investments in and deposits with the Group and funding support, neither the Government nor the UAE federal government are under any obligation to continue to invest in, make deposits with, do business with or otherwise support the Group. The Government and the UAE federal government may, whether directly or through government-owned entities, at any time and for any reason, dispose of its investments in, withdraw its deposits from, cease to do business with or otherwise cease to support the Group. The reduction or elimination of government support could have a material adverse effect on the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition.

***The Notes will not be guaranteed by the Government***

The Government, through the Council is a majority shareholder in the Group. Like any other shareholder, the Government has no legal obligation to provide additional funding for any of the Group's future operations. The Government is not providing a guarantee of any of the Group's obligations in respect of Notes to be issued under the Programme, nor is the Government under any obligation to purchase any of the Group's liabilities or guarantee any of the Group's obligations, and the Noteholders therefore do not benefit from any legally enforceable claim against the Government.

***The Group is exposed to risk of loss relating to its real estate property as a result of market movements and/or the interplay between the Group's ownership structure, Abu Dhabi real estate foreign ownership regulations and UAE laws of inheritance***

Historically, under Abu Dhabi law, except in certain limited areas, only UAE nationals could own real estate. Because the Group is not wholly-owned by UAE nationals, it was not able to be registered as an owner of real estate situated in Abu Dhabi, outside limited areas. This did not apply to the Group's current headquarters and certain other plots, which were historically registered in the Group's name. The Group, on occasion, resolved this issue by arranging for a director or executive, or companies associated with them, to hold property located in Abu Dhabi on behalf of the Group. While this arrangement was an effective means of complying with Abu Dhabi law, it exposes the Group or its related funds to certain risks with respect to certain real estate properties, including the risk of such property passing to the custodian's heirs under *Shari'a* law if the custodian were to die intestate. If the Group loses its ownership interest in, or loses any proceeds from, any of these real estate properties as a result of the foregoing, it could materially adversely affect the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition.

***The increasingly competitive environment in the UAE banking industry may adversely affect the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition***

The Group faces high levels of competition within the UAE for all of its products and services. The Group competes primarily with a large number of other domestic banks in the UAE, some of which are also owned, directly or indirectly, by the governments of the relevant Emirates, government-related entities or members of the ruling families of the relevant Emirates. As at 31 December 2019, there were a total of 48 commercial banks registered in the UAE (*source*: the Central Bank). The Group's main domestic competitors in terms of size of banking franchise and product and customer segments are Emirates NBD Bank PJSC ("**Emirates NBD**"), First Abu Dhabi Bank PJSC ("**First Abu Dhabi Bank**"), Standard Chartered Bank, HSBC Bank plc/HSBC Bank Middle East Limited ("**HSBC**"), Mashreqbank psc ("**Mashreqbank**"), Dubai Islamic

Bank PJSC ("**Dubai Islamic Bank**") and Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank PSJC ("**Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank**"). In the UAE market, as at 31 December 2019 and according to the 2019 Financial Statements and the publicly available financial statements of the Group's main domestic competitors as at and for the year ended 31 December 2019, the Group had the third largest market share in terms of total loans behind Emirates NBD and First Abu Dhabi Bank and also had the third largest market share in terms of total customer deposits behind, Emirates NBD and First Abu Dhabi Bank. There can be no assurance that the Group will be able to maintain its current market share in the future.

In addition to the local commercial banks in the UAE, the Group competes with a number of international banks in investment advisory, investment banking, corporate advisory, finance and other services. In the large corporate and government client segments, the Group faces competition from international banks and such competition is expected to increase in the UAE over time. Although the Group seeks to cooperate with some of the top-tier international banks, especially in securities underwriting and distribution, it will also compete with them in other areas, particularly in corporate advisory and treasury operations in which these banks have a long history of successful operations in other regions.

Further, the UAE could be viewed as an over-banked market, even by regional standards, with 48 different commercial banks (comprising 21 locally incorporated commercial banks and 27 foreign commercial banks) licensed to operate inside the UAE as at 31 December 2019 (excluding the Dubai International Financial Centre ("**DIFC**") (*source*: Central Bank), serving a population estimated to be in the region of approximately 9.8 million people at the end of 2019 (*source*: Statistical Yearbook 2019 edition, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division). There has traditionally been little impetus for consolidation. However, the merger between National Bank of Abu Dhabi and First Gulf Bank, which was completed on 30 March 2017, has stimulated further moves towards greater consolidation amongst UAE banks such as the Combination and the acquisition of Noor Bank P.J.S.C. by Dubai Islamic Bank P.J.S.C, which was completed in January 2020 (*source*: Reuters). While any further consolidation could increase the level of concentration in the domestic banking sector, it could also likely lead to a significant alteration of the competitive environment with fewer, larger locally incorporated banks competing for the larger financing transactions in the region with the foreign banks, which have tended to have comparatively larger franchises, with greater infrastructure and resources with which to absorb capital costs, such as information technology system development. (see "*The United Arab Emirates Banking Sector and Regulations– Characteristics of the Banking System– Historic Lack of Consolidation*").

If the Group is unable to compete successfully, it could adversely impact the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition.

***Tax changes in the UAE may have an adverse effect on the Group***

As at the date of this Base Prospectus, the Group is not currently subject to corporation tax on its earnings within the UAE. However, investors should be aware that with effect from 1 January 2018, the UAE federal government implemented a VAT regime within the UAE at a rate of 5 per cent.

The implementation of any future corporation tax regime which may be introduced in the UAE may have a material adverse effect on the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition, which in turn could affect the Issuer's ability to perform its obligations in respect of any Notes.

***Any alteration to, or abolition of, the foreign exchange "peg" of the UAE dirham or other regional currencies at a fixed exchange rate to the U.S. dollar will expose the Group to U.S. dollar foreign exchange movements against the UAE dirham or other such currencies***

The Group maintains its accounts, and reports its results, in UAE dirham. The UAE dirham has been pegged to the U.S. dollar since 22 November 1980 and remains pegged as at the date of this Base Prospectus. Additionally, the following oil producing GCC countries have their currencies pegged to the U.S. dollar as at the date of this Base Prospectus: the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; the Sultanate of Oman; and the Kingdom of Bahrain. In response to the volatility of oil prices internationally through 2015, oil producing countries with currencies that had been traditionally pegged to the U.S. dollar, faced pressure to de-peg and, in certain cases, did de-peg their currencies. For example, Kazakhstan de-pegged the Kazakhstani tenge from the U.S. dollar on 20 August 2015, which was followed on 21 December 2015 by the removal of the U.S. dollar peg against the Azerbaijani manat.

There is a risk that additional countries may choose to unwind their existing currency peg to the U.S. dollar, both in the GCC and the wider region. While the long-term impacts of such actions are uncertain, it is likely that any such de-pegged currency would face a de-valuation against the U.S. dollar immediately post-removal of the peg.

Given the levels of exposure amongst regional financial institutions to other pegged currencies, it is also likely that such currency de-valuation(s) would adversely impact the banking systems in the UAE and across the wider GCC. As at 31 December 2019, the Group's U.S. dollar, and other currencies pegged to the U.S. dollar, net long spot delta was approximately U.S.\$7.02 billion. Any de-peg of these currencies will have an impact on the Group's financial condition. As at 31 December 2019, a +/- 5 per cent. sensitivity to these funding pegged currencies is estimated to have an impact of U.S.\$351 million gain or loss on the Group's income statement. In addition, as at 31 December 2019, the Group's net U.S. dollar, pegged and non-pegged, trading spot delta was approximately long U.S.\$1.42 billion which is within the Board's approved limit of U.S.\$2 billion.

While the Central Bank has, most recently in January 2018, re-iterated its intention to retain the UAE dirham peg against the U.S. dollar, there can be no assurance that the UAE dirham will not be de-pegged in the future or that the existing peg will not be adjusted in a manner that adversely affects the Group's result of operations and financial condition. Additionally, any such de-pegging either in the UAE or across the wider region, particularly if such de-pegging is accompanied by the anticipated currency de-valuations against the U.S. dollar (as described above), could have an adverse effect on the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition, and thereby affect the Issuer's ability to perform its obligations in respect of any Notes.

### **Risks relating to enforcement**

#### ***Investors may experience difficulties in enforcing arbitration awards and foreign judgments in the UAE***

The payments under the Notes are dependent upon the Issuer making payments to investors in the manner contemplated under the Notes. If the Issuer fails to do so, it may be necessary for an investor to bring an action against the Issuer to enforce its obligations and/or to claim damages, as appropriate, which may be costly and time consuming.

Under current UAE law, the UAE courts are unlikely to enforce an English court judgment without first re-examining the merits of the claim, to which they may simply apply UAE law; thus ignoring the choice by the parties of English law as the governing law of the transaction. In the unlikely event that the parties' choice was respected, it is important to note that in the UAE, foreign law is required to be established as a question of fact. Therefore, the interpretation of English law by a court in the UAE may not accord with that of an English court.

In principle, courts in the UAE recognise the choice of foreign law if they are satisfied that an appropriate connection exists between the relevant transaction agreement and the foreign law which has been chosen. They will not, however, honour any provision of foreign law which is contrary to public policy, order or morals in the UAE, or which is contrary to any mandatory law of, or applicable in, the UAE.

Further, pursuant to Article 20 of Federal Law No. 11 of 1992 (as amended by Federal Law No. 10 of 2014) (the "**Law of Civil Procedure**"), the UAE courts will almost always assume jurisdiction in respect of claims against UAE nationals, UAE corporate entities and foreigners who are UAE residents, irrespective of any agreement between the parties in respect of jurisdiction and applicable laws.

The UAE is a civil law jurisdiction and judicial precedents in the UAE have no binding effect. In addition, court decisions in the UAE are generally not recorded. These factors create greater judicial uncertainty.

The Notes and the Agency Agreement are governed by English law and the parties to such documents have agreed to refer any unresolved dispute in relation to such documents to arbitration under the Arbitration Rules of the London Court of International Arbitration, with an arbitral tribunal with its seat in London (or, subject to the exercise of an option to litigate given to certain parties (other than the Issuer) the courts of England and Wales are stated to have jurisdiction to settle any disputes).

The New York Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards 1958 (the "**New York Convention**") entered into force in the UAE on 19 November 2006. In the absence of any other multilateral or bilateral enforcement convention, an arbitration award rendered in London should be

enforceable in the UAE as a foreign award in accordance with the terms of the New York Convention. Under the New York Convention, the UAE has an obligation to recognise and enforce foreign arbitration awards, unless the party opposing enforcement can prove one of the grounds under Article V of the New York Convention to refuse enforcement, or the UAE courts find that the subject matter of the dispute is not capable of settlement by arbitration or enforcement and would be contrary to the public policy of the UAE. There have been limited instances where the UAE courts, most notably the Fujairah Court of First Instance and the Dubai Court of Cassation, have ratified or ordered the recognition and enforcement of foreign arbitration awards under the New York Convention.

How the New York Convention provisions would be interpreted and applied by the UAE courts in practice and whether the UAE courts will enforce a foreign arbitration award in accordance with the New York Convention (or any other multilateral or bilateral enforcement convention), remains largely untested. This is reinforced by the lack of a system of binding judicial precedent in the UAE and the independent existence of different Emirates within the UAE, some with their own court systems independent of the federal system, and whose rulings may have no more than persuasive force cross-border. Although there are examples of foreign arbitral awards being enforced in the UAE under the New York Convention, there are other cases where the enforcement of foreign arbitral awards has been refused, with, for example, the relevant judge confusing the requirements for the enforcement of domestic awards with the requirements for the enforcement of foreign awards under UAE Federal Law No. 1 of 1992 as amended, or ignoring the provisions of Article 238 of the Law of Civil Procedure. Federal Cabinet Resolution No. 57 of 2018 (the "**Resolution**") governs the enforcement of foreign arbitral awards. The Resolution confirms that arbitral awards issued in a foreign state may be enforced in the UAE and that the conditions for enforcement of foreign arbitral awards set out in the New York Convention take precedence over the Resolution. There remains a risk that notwithstanding the Resolution or the terms of an applicable multilateral or bilateral enforcement convention, the UAE courts may in practice still consider and apply the grounds set out in Federal Law No. 6 of 2018 (the "**UAE Arbitration Law**") related to the enforcement of domestic arbitral awards (as provided in Articles 52 to 57 of the UAE Arbitration Law) to the enforcement of any non-UAE arbitral award. The UAE Arbitration Law and the Resolution are both new and it is unclear how they will be applied by the UAE courts in practice. Accordingly, there is a risk that a non-UAE arbitral award will be refused enforcement by the UAE courts.

## **FACTORS WHICH ARE MATERIAL FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSESSING THE MARKET RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH NOTES ISSUED UNDER THE PROGRAMME**

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

#### ***The Notes may be subject to optional redemption by the Issuer***

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

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

#### ***The Notes may be redeemed prior to their final maturity date for tax reasons***

If the Issuer becomes obliged to pay any additional amounts in respect of the Notes as provided or referred to in Condition 9 (*Taxation*) as a result of any change in, or amendment to, the laws or regulations of a Relevant Tax Jurisdiction (as defined in Condition 9 (*Taxation*)) or any change in the application or official interpretation of such laws or regulations, which change or amendment becomes effective on or after the date on which agreement is reached to issue the first Tranche of the Notes, the Issuer may redeem all but not some only of the outstanding Notes of such Tranche in accordance with Condition 8 (*Redemption and Purchase*).

In such circumstances, an investor may not be able to reinvest the redemption proceeds in a comparable security with a similar rate of return, which may have an adverse effect on the position of such investor.

During any period when the Issuer may elect to redeem the Notes, the market value of the Notes generally will not rise substantially above the Early Redemption Amount. Potential investors should consider re-investment risk in light of other investments available at that time.

***Partly-paid Notes are subject to additional risks***

The Issuer may issue Notes where the issue price is payable in more than one instalment. Failure to pay any subsequent instalment could result in an investor losing all of his investment.

***Certain benchmark rates may be discontinued or reformed in the future, including the potential phasing-out of LIBOR after 2021, which may adversely affect the trading market for, value of and return on, Notes based on such benchmarks***

Interest rates and indices which are deemed to be "benchmarks" (including LIBOR and EURIBOR) are the subject of ongoing national and international regulatory discussions and proposals for reform. Some of these reforms are already effective whilst others are still to be implemented. These reforms may cause such benchmarks to perform differently than in the past, to disappear entirely, or have other consequences which cannot be predicted.

The Benchmark Regulation was published in the Official Journal of the EU on 29 June 2016 and became applicable from 1 January 2018. The Benchmark Regulation applies, subject to certain transitional provisions, to the provision of benchmarks, the contribution of input data to a benchmark and the use of a benchmark, within the EU (which includes, for these purposes, the United Kingdom). Among other things, it (i) requires benchmark administrators to be authorised or registered (or, if non-EU-based, to be subject to an equivalent regime or otherwise recognised or endorsed) and (ii) prevents certain uses by EU supervised entities of benchmarks of administrators that are not authorised or registered (or, if non-EU based, not deemed equivalent or recognised or endorsed).

The Benchmark Regulation could have a material impact on any Notes linked to LIBOR, EURIBOR or another benchmark rate or index, in particular, if the methodology or other terms of the benchmark are changed in order to comply with the terms of the Benchmark Regulation, and such changes could (amongst other things) have the effect of reducing or increasing the rate or level, or affecting the volatility of the published rate or level, of the benchmark.

More broadly, any of the international, national or other proposals for reform, or the general increased regulatory scrutiny of benchmarks, could increase the costs and risks of administering or otherwise participating in the setting of a benchmark and complying with any such regulations or requirements. Such factors may have the following effects on certain benchmarks: (i) discourage market participants from continuing to administer or contribute to such benchmark; (ii) trigger changes in the rules or methodologies used in the benchmarks or (iii) lead to the disappearance of the benchmark.

As an example of such benchmark reforms, on 27 July 2017, the United Kingdom Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA") announced that it will no longer persuade or compel banks to submit rates for the calculation of the LIBOR benchmark after 2021 and, on 12 July 2018, announced that the LIBOR benchmark may cease to be a regulated benchmark under the Benchmark Regulation. Such announcements indicate that the continuation of LIBOR on the current basis (or at all) cannot and will not be guaranteed after 2021. In addition, on 29 November 2017, the Bank of England and the FCA announced that, from January 2018, its working group on Sterling risk-free rates has been mandated with implementing a broad-based transition to SONIA over the next four years across sterling bond, loan and derivative markets so that SONIA is established as the primary sterling interest rate benchmark by the end of 2021.

On 21 September 2017, the European Central Bank announced that it would be part of a new working group tasked with the identification and adoption of a "risk-free overnight rate" which can serve as a basis for an alternative to current benchmarks used in a variety of financial instruments and contracts in the euro area. On 13 September 2018, the working group on euro risk-free rates recommended the €STR as the new risk-free rate for the euro area. The €STR was published for the first time on 2 October 2019. Although EURIBOR has been reformed in order to comply with the terms of the Benchmark Regulation, it remains uncertain as to how long it will continue in its current form, or whether it will be further reformed or replaced with €STR or an alternative benchmark.

The elimination of any benchmark, the transition of an existing benchmark to an alternative benchmark or a risk-free overnight rate or changes in the manner of administration of any benchmark, could require or result in an adjustment to the interest calculation provisions of the Conditions, or result in adverse consequences to holders of any Notes linked to such benchmark. Furthermore, even prior to the implementation of any changes, uncertainty as to the nature of alternative reference rates and as to potential changes to such benchmark may adversely affect such benchmark during the term of the relevant Notes, the return on the relevant Notes and the trading market for securities (including the Notes) based on the same benchmark.

Investors should be aware that, if a benchmark were to be discontinued or otherwise become unavailable, the rate of interest on Floating Rate Notes and Reset Notes which reference such benchmark will be determined for the relevant period by the fall-back provisions applicable to such Notes set out in the Conditions. Depending on the manner in which the rate of interest is to be determined under the Conditions, this may: (i) in the case of Floating Rate Notes, if ISDA Determination applies, be reliant upon the provision by reference banks of offered quotations which, depending on market circumstances, may not be available at the relevant time; or (ii) in the case of Floating Rate Notes, if Screen Rate Determination applies, and in the case of Reset Notes, result in the effective application of a fixed rate based on the rate which applied in the previous period when the relevant benchmark was available. Furthermore, if the Issuer determines it is not able to follow the prescribed steps set out in the Conditions, the relevant fallback provisions may not operate as intended at the relevant time.

The Conditions may require the exercise of discretion by the Issuer, its designee or an independent adviser, as the case may be, and the making of potentially subjective judgments (including as to the occurrence or not of any events which may trigger amendments to the Conditions) and/or the amendment of the Conditions without the consent of Noteholders. The interests of the Issuer or those of its designee or the independent adviser, as applicable, in making such determinations or amendments may be adverse to the interests of the Noteholders.

Moreover, any of the above matters or any other significant change to the setting or existence of any relevant reference rate could affect the ability of the Issuer to meet its obligations under Notes linked to a benchmark or could have a material adverse effect on the market value or liquidity of, and the amount payable under such Notes.

Investors should consult their own independent advisers and make their own assessment about the potential risks imposed by the Benchmark Regulation reforms or possible cessation or reform of certain reference rates in making any investment decision with respect to any Notes linked to or referencing a benchmark.

***The market continues to develop in relation to risk-free rates (including overnight rates) which are possible reference rates for the Notes***

Investors should be aware that the market continues to develop in relation to risk-free rates such as SONIA, SOFR and €STR as reference rates in the capital markets for sterling, U.S. dollar or euro bonds, respectively, and their adoption as alternatives to the relevant interbank offered rates. In addition, market participants and relevant working groups are exploring alternative reference rates based on risk-free rates, including term SONIA, SOFR and €STR reference rates (which seek to measure the market's forward expectation of an average SONIA rate, SOFR or €STR over a designated term).

The use of SONIA, SOFR and €STR as a reference rate for Eurobonds continues to develop both in terms of the substance of the calculation and in the development and adoption of market infrastructure for the issuance and trading of bonds referencing such rates. In particular, investors should be aware that several different SOFR methodologies have been used in SOFR linked notes issued to date and no assurance can be given that any particular methodology, including the compounding formula in the Conditions, will gain widespread market acceptance.

The market or a significant part thereof may adopt an application of risk-free rates that differs significantly from that set out in the Conditions and used in relation to Notes that reference such risk-free rates issued under this Programme. The Issuer may in the future also issue Notes referencing SONIA, SOFR or €STR that differ materially in terms of interest determination when compared with any previous SONIA, SOFR or €STR referenced Notes issued by it under the Programme. The development of risk-free rates for the Eurobond markets could result in reduced liquidity or increased volatility or could otherwise affect the market price of any Notes that reference a risk-free rate issued under the Programme from time to time. In

addition, the manner of adoption or application of risk-free rates in the Eurobond markets may differ materially compared with the application and adoption of risk-free rates in other markets, such as the derivatives and loan markets. Investors should carefully consider how any mismatch between the adoption of such reference rates in the bond, loan and derivatives markets may impact any hedging or other financial arrangements which they may put in place in connection with any acquisition, holding or disposal of Notes referencing such risk-free rates.

***Risk-free rates differ from LIBOR and EURIBOR in a number of material respects and have a limited history***

Risk-free rates may differ from LIBOR, EURIBOR or other interbank offered rates in a number of material respects, including (without limitation) by being backwards-looking in most cases, calculated on a compounded or weighted average basis, risk-free overnight rates, whereas such interbank offered rates are generally expressed on the basis of a forward-looking term and include a risk-element based on interbank lending. As such, investors should be aware that LIBOR, EURIBOR and other interbank offered rates and any risk-free rates may behave materially differently as interest reference rates for the Notes.

Interest on Notes which reference a backwards-looking risk-free rate is only capable of being determined immediately prior to the relevant Interest Payment Date. It may be difficult for investors in Notes which reference such risk-free rates to reliably estimate the amount of interest which will be payable on such Notes, and some investors may be unable or unwilling to trade such Notes without changes to their IT systems, both of which could adversely impact the liquidity of such Notes. Further, in contrast to LIBOR-linked Notes or EURIBOR-linked Notes, if Notes referencing backwards-looking SONIA, SOFR or €STR become due and payable under Condition 11 (*Events of Default*) or are otherwise redeemed early on a date which is not an Interest Payment Date, the final Rate of Interest payable in respect of such Notes shall be determined by reference to a shortened period ending immediately prior to the date on which the Notes become due and payable or are scheduled for redemption.

The use of risk-free rates as a reference rate for Eurobonds is nascent, and may be subject to change and development, both in terms of the substance of the calculation and in the development and adoption of market infrastructure for the issuance and trading of bonds referencing such risk-free rates.

Notes referencing risk-free rates may have no established trading market when issued, and an established trading market may never develop or may not be very liquid. Market terms for debt securities referencing such risk-free rates, such as the spread over the index reflected in interest rate provisions, may evolve over time, and trading prices of such Notes may be lower than those of later-issued indexed debt securities as a result. Further, if the relevant risk-free rates do not prove to be widely used in securities like the Notes, the trading price of such Notes linked to such risk-free rates may be lower than those of Notes referencing indices that are more widely used. Investors in such Notes may not be able to sell such Notes at all or may not be able to sell such Notes at prices that will provide them with a yield comparable to similar investments that have a developed secondary market, and may consequently suffer from increased pricing volatility and market risk.

Investors should consider these matters when making their investment decision with respect to any Notes.

***The administrator of SONIA, SOFR or €STR may make changes that could change the value of SONIA, SOFR or €STR or discontinue SONIA, SOFR or €STR***

The Bank of England, The New York Federal Reserve (or a successor) or the European Central Bank, as administrator of SONIA, SOFR and €STR respectively, may make methodological or other changes that could change the value of SONIA, SOFR or €STR, including changes related to the method by which SONIA, SOFR or €STR is calculated, eligibility criteria applicable to the transactions used to calculate SONIA, SOFR or €STR, or timing related to the publication of SONIA, SOFR or €STR. In addition, the administrator may alter, discontinue or suspend calculation or dissemination of SONIA, SOFR or €STR (in which case a fallback method of determining the interest rate on the Notes will apply). The administrator

has no obligation to consider the interests of Noteholders when calculating, adjusting, converting, revising or discontinuing SONIA, SOFR or €STR.

***Inverse Floating Rate Notes are subject to increased volatility***

Inverse Floating Rate Notes have an interest rate equal to a fixed rate minus a rate based upon a reference rate such as LIBOR. The market values of those Notes typically are more volatile than market values of other conventional floating rate debt securities based on the same reference rate (and with otherwise comparable terms). Inverse Floating Rate Notes are more volatile because an increase in the reference rate not only decreases the interest rate of the Notes, but may also reflect an increase in prevailing interest rates, which further adversely affects the market value of these Notes.

***Fixed/Floating Rate Notes are subject to additional risk***

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

***Notes issued at a substantial discount or premium are subject to increased volatility***

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

**Risks relating to Notes denominated in Renminbi**

Notes denominated in Renminbi ("**RMB Notes**") may be issued under the Programme. A description of risks which may be relevant to an investor in RMB Notes is set out below:

***Renminbi is not freely convertible and there are significant restrictions on the remittance of Renminbi into and out of the PRC which may adversely affect the liquidity of RMB Notes***

Renminbi is not freely convertible at present. The government of the PRC (the "**PRC Government**") continues to regulate conversion between Renminbi and foreign currencies, including the Hong Kong dollar.

However, there has been significant reduction in control by the PRC Government in recent years, particularly over trade transactions involving import and export of goods and services as well as other frequent routine foreign exchange transactions. These transactions are known as current account items.

On the other hand, remittance of Renminbi into and out of the PRC for the settlement of capital account items, such as capital contributions, debt financing and securities investment is generally only permitted upon obtaining specific approvals from, or completing specific registrations or filings with, the relevant authorities on a case-by-case basis and is subject to a strict monitoring system. Regulations in the PRC on the remittance of Renminbi into and out of the PRC for settlement of capital account items are being adjusted from time to time to match the policies of the PRC Government.

Although, the People's Bank of China ("**PBOC**") has implemented policies improving accessibility to Renminbi to settle cross-border transactions in the past, there is no assurance that the PRC Government will liberalise control over cross-border remittance of Renminbi in the future, that the schemes for Renminbi cross-border utilisation will not be discontinued or that new regulations in the PRC will not be promulgated in the future which have the effect of restricting or eliminating the remittance of Renminbi into or out of the PRC. Despite Renminbi internationalisation pilot programmes and efforts in recent years to internationalise the currency, there can be no assurance that the PRC Government will not impose interim or long-term restrictions on the cross-border remittance of Renminbi. In the event that funds cannot be

repatriated out of the PRC in Renminbi, this may affect the overall availability of Renminbi outside the PRC and the ability of the Issuer to source Renminbi to finance its obligations under RMB Notes.

***There is only limited availability of Renminbi outside the PRC, which may affect the liquidity of the RMB Notes and the ability of the Issuer to source Renminbi outside the PRC to service RMB Notes***

As a result of the restrictions by the PRC Government on cross-border Renminbi fund flows, the availability of Renminbi outside the PRC is limited.

While PBoC has entered into agreements (the "**Settlement Arrangements**") on the clearing of Renminbi business with financial institutions (the "**Renminbi Clearing Banks**") in a number of financial centres and cities, including but not limited to Hong Kong, has established the Cross-Border Inter-Bank Payments System (CIPS) to facilitate cross-border Renminbi settlement, and is further in the process of establishing Renminbi clearing and settlement mechanisms in several other jurisdictions, the current size of Renminbi denominated financial assets outside the PRC is limited.

There are restrictions imposed by PBoC on Renminbi business-participating banks in respect of cross-border Renminbi settlement, such as those relating to direct transactions with PRC enterprises. Furthermore, Renminbi business participating banks do not have direct Renminbi liquidity support from PBoC, although the PBoC has gradually allowed participating banks to access the PRC's onshore inter-bank market for the purchase and sale of Renminbi. The Renminbi Clearing Banks only have limited access to onshore liquidity support from PBoC for the purpose of squaring open positions of participating banks for limited types of transactions and are not obliged to square for participating banks any open positions resulting from other foreign exchange transactions or conversion services. In cases where the participating banks cannot source sufficient Renminbi through the above channels, they will need to source Renminbi from outside the PRC to square such open positions.

Although it is expected that the offshore Renminbi market will continue to grow in depth and size, its growth is subject to many constraints as a result of PRC laws and regulations on foreign exchange. There is no assurance that new PRC regulations will not be promulgated or the Settlement Arrangements will not be terminated or amended in the future which will have the effect of restricting availability of Renminbi outside the PRC. The limited availability of Renminbi outside the PRC may affect the liquidity of the RMB Notes. To the extent the Issuer is required to source Renminbi in the offshore market to service the RMB Notes, there is no assurance that the Issuer will be able to source such Renminbi on satisfactory terms, if at all.

***Investment in RMB Notes is subject to exchange rate risks***

The value of Renminbi against other foreign currencies fluctuates from time to time and is affected by changes in the PRC and international political and economic conditions as well as many other factors. PBoC has implemented changes to the way it calculates the Renminbi's daily mid-point against the U.S. dollar to take into account market-maker quotes before announcing such daily mid-point. This change, and others that may be implemented, may increase the volatility in the value of the Renminbi against foreign currencies. All payments of interest and principal will be made in Renminbi with respect to the RMB Notes unless otherwise specified. As a result, the value of these Renminbi payments may vary with the changes in the prevailing exchange rates in the marketplace. If the value of Renminbi depreciates against another foreign currency, the value of the investment made by a holder of the RMB Notes in that foreign currency will decline.

***Investment in the RMB Notes is subject to currency risk***

If the Issuer is not able, or it is impracticable for it, to satisfy its obligation to pay interest and principal on the RMB Notes as a result of a RMB Currency Event (as defined in the Conditions), the Issuer shall be entitled, on giving notice as soon as practicable to the investors in accordance with the Conditions stating the occurrence of the RMB Currency Event, giving details thereof and the action proposed in relation thereto, to settle any such payment in the Relevant Currency (as specified in the applicable Final Terms) converted using the Spot Rate for the relevant Rate Calculation Date (as defined in the Conditions) of any such interest or principal, as the case may be.

***Payments with respect to the RMB Notes may be made only in the manner designated in the RMB Notes***

Investors may be required to provide certification and other information (including Renminbi account information) in order to receive payments in Renminbi in accordance with Renminbi clearing and settlement systems for participating banks in the RMB Settlement Centre(s). Except in the limited circumstances stipulated in Condition 7.9 (*RMB Currency Event*) (as set out in the RMB provisions below), all payments to investors in respect of the RMB Notes will be made solely (i) for so long as the RMB Notes are represented by global certificates held with the common depositary, for Clearstream Banking S.A. ("**Clearstream, Luxembourg**") and Euroclear Bank SA/NV ("**Euroclear**") or any alternative clearing system, by transfer to a Renminbi bank account maintained in the RMB Settlement Centre(s), if so specified in the applicable Final Terms, in accordance with prevailing Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg rules and procedures or those of such alternative clearing system or (ii) for so long as the RMB Notes are represented by global certificates, by transfer to a Renminbi bank account maintained in the RMB Settlement Centre(s), if so specified in the applicable Final Terms, in accordance with prevailing rules and procedures or (iii) for so long as the RMB Notes are in definitive form, by transfer to a Renminbi bank account maintained in the RMB Settlement Centre(s), if so specified in the applicable Final Terms, in accordance with prevailing rules and regulations. Other than as described in the Conditions, the Issuer cannot be required to make payment by any other means (including in any other currency or in bank notes, by cheque or draft or by transfer to a bank account in the PRC).

***Gains on the transfer of the RMB Notes may become subject to income taxes under PRC tax laws***

Under the PRC Enterprise Income Tax Law, the PRC Individual Income Tax Law and the relevant implementing rules, as amended from time to time, any gain realised on the transfer of RMB Notes by non-PRC resident enterprise or individual holders may be subject to PRC enterprise income tax ("**EIT**") or PRC individual income tax ("**IIT**") if such gain is regarded as income derived from sources within the PRC. The PRC Enterprise Income Tax Law levies EIT at the rate of 20 per cent. of the PRC-sourced gains derived by such non-PRC resident enterprise from the transfer of RMB Notes but its implementation rules have reduced the EIT rate to 10 per cent. The PRC Individual Income Tax Law levies IIT at a rate of 20 per cent. of the PRC-sourced gains derived by such non-PRC resident individual holder from the transfer of RMB Notes.

However, uncertainty remains as to whether the gain realised from the transfer of RMB Notes by non-PRC resident enterprise or individual holders would be treated as income derived from sources within the PRC and thus become subject to EIT or IIT. This will depend on how the PRC tax authorities interpret, apply or enforce the PRC Enterprise Income Tax Law, the PRC Individual Income Tax Law and the relevant implementing rules. According to the arrangement between the PRC and Hong Kong, for avoidance of double taxation, holders who are residents of Hong Kong, including enterprise holders and individual holders, will not be subject to EIT or IIT on capital gains derived from a sale or exchange of the Notes.

Therefore, if enterprise or individual resident holders which are non-PRC residents are required to pay PRC income tax on gains derived from the transfer of RMB Notes, unless there is an applicable tax treaty between PRC and the jurisdiction in which such non-PRC enterprise or individual holders of RMB Notes reside that reduces or exempts the relevant EIT or IIT, the value of their investment in RMB Notes may be materially and adversely affected.

***Risks related to Notes generally***

***The Issuer's payment obligations under the Subordinated Notes are conditional and expressed to rank junior to unsubordinated creditors of the Issuer***

The rights of holders of the Subordinated Notes against the Issuer are subordinated to the claims of Senior Creditors, and payments in respect of the Subordinated Notes are conditional upon the Issuer being solvent at the time of such payment and no payment shall be payable by the Issuer in respect of the Subordinated Notes, except to the extent that the Issuer could make such payment and any other payment required to be made to all Senior Creditors and creditors in respect of indebtedness which ranks or is expressed to rank *pari passu* with the Subordinated Notes and still be solvent immediately thereafter. If the Issuer does not have sufficient funds to make such payments on senior and *pari passu* obligations, the Subordinated Noteholders could lose all or some of their investment.

***The Notes are subject to modification by a majority of Noteholders without the consent of all Noteholders***

The Conditions contain provisions for calling meetings of Noteholders to consider matters affecting their interests. These provisions permit defined majorities to bind all Noteholders (including Noteholders who did not attend or vote at the relevant meeting as well as Noteholders who did attend the relevant meeting, but voted in a manner contrary to the majority).

***The Issuer's waiver of immunity may not be effective under UAE law***

The Issuer has waived its rights in relation to sovereign immunity; however, there can be no assurance as to whether such waivers of immunity from execution or attachment or other legal process by it under the Notes, the Agency Agreement and the Programme Agreement are valid and binding under the laws of the UAE and applicable in Abu Dhabi.

***A change of law may adversely affect the Notes***

The Conditions are based on English law in effect as at the date of this Base Prospectus. No assurance can be given as to the impact of any possible judicial decision or change to English law or administrative practice after the date of this Base Prospectus.

***Certain bearer notes, the denomination of which involves integral multiples, may be illiquid and difficult to trade***

If an issue of Bearer Notes is in denominations consisting of a minimum Specified Denomination plus one or more higher integral multiples of another smaller amount, it is possible that such Notes may be traded in amounts that are not integral multiples of such minimum Specified Denomination. In such a case a holder who, as a result of trading such amounts, holds an amount which is less than the minimum Specified Denomination in his account with the relevant clearing system at the relevant time may not receive a definitive Bearer Note in respect of such holding (should such Notes be printed) and would need to purchase a principal amount of Notes such that its holding amounts to a Specified Denomination.

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

***Investors in the Notes must rely on DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg procedures***

Notes issued under the Programme will be represented on issue by one or more Global Notes or Global Note Certificates that may be deposited with a common depositary for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg or may be deposited with a nominee for the Depositary Trust Company ("DTC"). Except in the circumstances described in each Global Note or Global Note Certificate, investors will not be entitled to receive Notes in definitive form. Each of DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg and their respective direct and indirect participants will maintain records of the beneficial interests in each Global Note or Global Note Certificate held through it. While the Notes are represented by a Global Note or Global Note Certificate, investors will be able to trade their beneficial interests only through the relevant clearing systems and their respective participants and the Issuer will discharge its payment obligations under the Notes by making payments through the relevant clearing systems. A holder of a beneficial interest in a Global Note or Global Note Certificate must rely on the procedures of the relevant clearing system and its participants in relation to payments under the Notes. The Issuer shall have no responsibility or liability for the records relating to, or payments made in respect of, beneficial interests in any Global Note or Global Note Certificate.

Holders of beneficial interests in a Global Note or Global Note Certificate will not have a direct right to vote in respect of the Notes so represented. Instead, such holders will be permitted to act only to the extent that they are enabled by the relevant clearing system and its participants to appoint appropriate proxies.

***The Issuer may, without the consent of the Noteholders, issue additional Notes. These additional Notes, even if they are treated for non-tax purposes as part of the same series as the original Notes, may be treated as a separate series for U.S. federal income tax purposes***

The Issuer may, without the consent of the holders of the Notes of the relevant Series, issue additional Tranches of Notes which may be consolidated and form a single Series with one or more Tranches

previously issued. Notwithstanding the foregoing, such additional Tranches may be treated as a separate series for U.S. federal income tax purposes. In such a case, the Notes of any such additional Tranche may be considered to have been issued with "original issue discount" for U.S. federal income tax purposes and this may reduce the market value of the Notes of such Tranche to certain classes of investor.

***A secondary market may not develop for any Notes***

The Notes may have no established trading market when issued. A market may not develop for such Notes and, if a market does develop, such market may not be liquid. The liquidity of any market for the Notes will depend on a number of factors, including, but not limited to:

- the method of calculating the principal and interest in respect of the Notes;
- the time remaining to the maturity of the Notes;
- the outstanding amount of the Notes;
- the redemption features of the Notes; and
- the level, direction and volatility of market interest rates generally.

As a result, investors may not be able to sell their Notes easily or at prices that will provide a yield comparable to similar investments that have a developed secondary market. Such risks are heightened for any Notes that: (i) are especially sensitive to interest rate risks, currency risk or other market risks; (ii) have been designed for specific investment objectives or strategies; or (iii) have been structured to meet the investment requirements of certain limited categories of investors, as such types of Notes generally would have a more limited secondary market and increased price volatility than conventional debt securities. The relative illiquidity of Notes may have a severely adverse effect on such Notes' market value.

***Notes may be subject to exchange rate risks and exchange controls***

The Issuer has no control over factors that generally affect exchange rate risks, such as economic, financial and political events and the supply and demand for applicable currencies. In recent years, exchange rates between certain currencies have been volatile and such exchange rate volatility with a variety of currencies may continue in the future.

The Issuer will pay principal and any interest due on any Notes in the currency specified in the applicable Final Terms (the "**Specified Currency**"). If an investor's financial activities are denominated principally in a currency or currency unit (the "**Investor's Currency**") other than the Specified Currency, it may therefore bear certain exchange rate risks. These include: (i) the risk that exchange rates may significantly change (including changes due to devaluation of the Specified Currency or revaluation of the Investor's Currency); and (ii) the risk that authorities with jurisdiction over the Investor's Currency may impose or modify exchange controls which could adversely affect an applicable exchange rate. Any appreciation in the value of the Investor's Currency relative to the Specified Currency would decrease: (i) the Investor's Currency-equivalent yield on the Notes; (ii) the Investor's Currency-equivalent value of the principal payable on the Notes; and (iii) the Investor's Currency-equivalent market value of the Notes.

Government and monetary authorities may impose (as some have done in the past) exchange controls that could adversely affect an applicable exchange rate as well as the availability of a specified foreign currency at the time of any payment of principal or interest on a Note. As a result, investors may receive less interest or principal than expected, or no interest or principal. Even if there are no actual exchange controls, it is possible that the Specified Currency for any particular Note would not be available at such Note's maturity.

***Credit ratings may not reflect all risks***

As at the date of this Base Prospectus, ADCB's long term credit rating is A+ with a "stable outlook" by Fitch and A with a "negative outlook" by Standard & Poor's. Each of Standard & Poor's and Fitch is established in the European Union and is registered under the CRA Regulation.

One or more independent credit rating agencies may also assign credit ratings to ADCB or any Notes. Any ratings of either ADCB or the Notes may not reflect the potential impact of all risks related to structure, market, additional factors discussed above, and other factors that may affect the value of any Notes. There

is no assurance that the ratings will remain in effect for any given period of time or that the ratings will not be lowered or withdrawn entirely if circumstances in the future so warrant.

Nevertheless, real or anticipated changes in ADCB's credit ratings or the ratings of the Notes generally will affect the market value of the Notes. A credit rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be revised or withdrawn by its assigning rating agency at any time.

In general, European regulated investors are restricted under the CRA Regulation from using credit ratings for regulatory purposes, unless such ratings are issued by a credit rating agency established in the EU and registered under the CRA Regulation (and such registration has not been withdrawn or suspended). Such general restriction will also apply in the case of credit ratings issued by non-EU credit rating agencies, unless the relevant credit ratings are endorsed by an EU-registered credit rating agency or the relevant non-EU-registered rating agency is certified in accordance with the CRA Regulation (and such endorsement action or certification, as the case may be, has not been withdrawn or suspended). The list of registered and certified rating agencies published by the ESMA on its website in accordance with the CRA Regulation is not conclusive evidence of the status of the relevant rating agency included in such list, as there may be delays between certain supervisory measures being taken against a relevant rating agency and the publication of the updated ESMA list.

***Implied Government support may not be reflected in applicable credit ratings***

The Government, through the Council, is ADCB's majority shareholder, holding a 60.20 per cent. stake as at the date of this Base Prospectus. The methodology applied by one or more credit rating agencies in assigning credit ratings to ADCB and/or any Notes from time to time may take into account support which might be expected to be provided to ADCB as a result of such ownership. However, there can be no assurance that any future credit ratings assigned to ADCB and/or any Notes will in fact reflect such implied support nor that any credit ratings which do reflect such support will continue to do so after they are first assigned. In addition, in applying their respective ratings methodologies to Notes issued under the Programme, applicable credit rating agencies may form a different view as to the likelihood of support being provided by the Government in respect of Senior Notes as compared to Subordinated Notes, and the corresponding credit ratings may be affected accordingly. Furthermore, even if applicable credit ratings do reflect such support, there can be no assurance that any such support will be provided. See "*The Notes will not be guaranteed by the Government*".

## DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

The following documents which have previously been published and have been filed with the CSSF shall be incorporated in, and form part of, this Base Prospectus:

- unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial statements of ADCB as at and for the three months ended 31 March 2020 and the review report thereon (an electronic copy of which is available at <https://www.adcb.com/en/multimedia/pdfs/2020/may/FinancialStatements-Full-Q1-2020.pdf>):

### **2020 Interim Financial Statements**

Independent Auditor's Review Report .....	Page 3
Condensed Consolidated Interim Statement of Financial Position.....	Page 4
Condensed Consolidated Interim Income Statement.....	Page 5
Condensed Consolidated Interim Statement of Comprehensive Income.....	Page 6
Condensed Consolidated Interim Statement of Changes in Equity .....	Page 7
Condensed Consolidated Interim Statement of Cash Flows.....	Pages 8 to 9
Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements .....	Pages 10 to 54

- unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial statements of ADCB as at and for the three months ended 31 March 2019 and the review report thereon (an electronic copy of which is available at [https://www.adcb.com/Images/ADCB-FS-Q1-19-En.pdf?\\_ga=2.67617302.640424783.1589959926-79157824.1573025799](https://www.adcb.com/Images/ADCB-FS-Q1-19-En.pdf?_ga=2.67617302.640424783.1589959926-79157824.1573025799)):

### **2019 Interim Financial Statements**

Independent Auditor's Review Report .....	Page 3
Condensed Consolidated Interim Statement of Financial Position.....	Page 4
Condensed Consolidated Interim Income Statement.....	Page 5
Condensed Consolidated Interim Statement of Comprehensive Income.....	Page 6
Condensed Consolidated Interim Statement of Changes in Equity .....	Page 7
Condensed Consolidated Interim Statement of Cash Flows.....	Pages 8 to 9
Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements .....	Pages 10 to 40

- audited consolidated financial statements of ADCB as at and for the year ended 31 December 2019 (together with the notes to the consolidated financial statements and the auditors' report thereon) (an electronic copy of which is available at <https://www.adcb.com/en/multimedia/pdfs/2020/january/FinancialStatements-Full2019.pdf>):

### **2019 Financial Statements**

Independent Auditor's Report.....	Pages 4 to 10
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position.....	Page 11
Consolidated Income Statement.....	Page 12
Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income.....	Page 13
Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity .....	Page 14
Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows.....	Page 15
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements .....	Pages 16 to 129

- audited consolidated financial statements of ADCB as at and for the year ended 31 December 2018 (together with the notes to the consolidated financial statements and the auditors' report thereon) (an electronic copy of which is available at [https://adcb.com/Images/4Q18\\_Financial\\_statement\\_English.pdf](https://adcb.com/Images/4Q18_Financial_statement_English.pdf)):

### **2018 Financial Statements**

Independent Auditor's Report.....	Pages 4 to 10
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position.....	Page 11
Consolidated Income Statement.....	Page 12
Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income.....	Page 13
Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity .....	Page 14
Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows.....	Page 15
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements .....	Pages 16 to 115

- the Terms and Conditions of the Notes contained in the Base Prospectus dated 7 December 2011 (the "**2011 Terms and Conditions**"), pages 48 to 84 (inclusive) (an electronic copy of which is

available at [https://www.ise.ie/debt\\_documents/2011%20IM\\_378295e7-f733-45a9-acb1-ff128f925d5d.pdf](https://www.ise.ie/debt_documents/2011%20IM_378295e7-f733-45a9-acb1-ff128f925d5d.pdf);

- the Terms and Conditions of the Notes contained in the Base Prospectus dated 18 February 2013 (the "**2013 Terms and Conditions**"), pages 41 to 77 (inclusive) (an electronic copy of which is available at [https://www.ise.ie/debt\\_documents/2013\\_BP\\_b81f9a75-2bd0-4e3a-9bbe-69a1215b55f4.pdf](https://www.ise.ie/debt_documents/2013_BP_b81f9a75-2bd0-4e3a-9bbe-69a1215b55f4.pdf));
- the Terms and Conditions of the Notes contained in the Base Prospectus dated 18 February 2014 (the "**2014 Terms and Conditions**"), pages 47 to 89 (inclusive) (an electronic copy of which is available at [http://www.ise.ie/debt\\_documents/Base%20Prospectus\\_9743464a-655d-4bf8-95bb-89a0dcc789d3.pdf?v=812015](http://www.ise.ie/debt_documents/Base%20Prospectus_9743464a-655d-4bf8-95bb-89a0dcc789d3.pdf?v=812015));
- the Terms and Conditions of the Notes contained in the Base Prospectus dated 24 February 2015 (the "**2015 Terms and Conditions**"), pages 48 to 90 (inclusive) (an electronic copy of which is available at [http://www.ise.ie/debt\\_documents/Base%20Prospectus\\_45c8a68f-c34d-4a7e-96dd-e82eda4a8564.pdf?v=1302016](http://www.ise.ie/debt_documents/Base%20Prospectus_45c8a68f-c34d-4a7e-96dd-e82eda4a8564.pdf?v=1302016));
- the Terms and Conditions of the Notes contained in the Base Prospectus dated 24 February 2016 (the "**2016 Terms and Conditions**"), pages 50 to 92 (inclusive) (an electronic copy of which is available at [http://www.ise.ie/debt\\_documents/Base%20Prospectus\\_a739d446-d247-4444-b467-e410872311c9.pdf](http://www.ise.ie/debt_documents/Base%20Prospectus_a739d446-d247-4444-b467-e410872311c9.pdf));
- the Terms and Conditions of the Notes contained in the Base Prospectus dated 22 February 2017 (the "**2017 Terms and Conditions**"), pages 50 to 92 (inclusive) (an electronic copy of which is available at [http://www.ise.ie/debt\\_documents/Base%20Prospectus\\_5bb92df2-20ea-40dc-97dc-75168978a0cf.pdf](http://www.ise.ie/debt_documents/Base%20Prospectus_5bb92df2-20ea-40dc-97dc-75168978a0cf.pdf));
- the Terms and Conditions of the Notes contained in the Base Prospectus dated 12 March 2018 (the "**2018 Terms and Conditions**"), pages 56 to 98 (inclusive) (an electronic copy of which is available at [https://www.ise.ie/debt\\_documents/FBaseProspectus\\_e4ecc850-c7cf-48b6-b801-4ebcb081b882.pdf](https://www.ise.ie/debt_documents/FBaseProspectus_e4ecc850-c7cf-48b6-b801-4ebcb081b882.pdf)); and
- the Terms and Conditions of the Notes contained in the Base Prospectus dated 26 March 2019 (the "**2019 Terms and Conditions**"), pages 68 to 113 (inclusive) (an electronic copy of which is available at [https://www.ise.ie/debt\\_documents/Base%20Prospectus\\_b46b9e59-b748-4079-9a02-ed28e7cf06ea.pdf](https://www.ise.ie/debt_documents/Base%20Prospectus_b46b9e59-b748-4079-9a02-ed28e7cf06ea.pdf));

in each case prepared by the Issuer in connection with the Programme.

Copies of the documents incorporated by reference in this Base Prospectus can be obtained from the registered office of ADCB and from the specified office of the Paying Agent for the time being in London and have been published on the website of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange ([www.bourse.lu](http://www.bourse.lu)).

Any parts of the documents referred to in paragraphs (i) and (ii) above which are not expressly incorporated by reference in this Prospectus as provided above are either not relevant for investors or are covered elsewhere in this Prospectus.

Any documents themselves incorporated by reference in the documents incorporated by reference in this Base Prospectus shall not form part of this Base Prospectus.

If at any time the Issuer shall be required to prepare a supplement to the Base Prospectus pursuant to the Prospectus Regulation, the Issuer will prepare and make available an appropriate supplement to this Base Prospectus or a further base prospectus which, in respect of any subsequent issue of Notes to be listed on the Official List and admitted to trading on the Regulated Market, shall constitute a Base Prospectus supplement as required by the Prospectus Regulation. Statements contained in any such supplement (or contained in any document incorporated by reference therein) shall, to the extent applicable (whether expressly, by implication or otherwise), be deemed to modify or supersede statements contained in this Base Prospectus or in a document which is incorporated by reference in this Base Prospectus. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not, except as so modified or superseded, constitute a part of this Base Prospectus.

## ALTERNATIVE PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Certain financial measures presented by ADCB in this Base Prospectus are not defined in accordance with IFRS accounting standards. ADCB believes that these alternative performance measures (as defined in the European Securities and Markets Authority guidelines (the "**ESMA Guidelines**") on Alternative Performance Measures ("**APMs**")) provide useful supplementary information to both investors and to ADCB's management, as they facilitate the evaluation of underlying business performance across financial reporting periods. However, investors should note that, since not all companies calculate financial measurements such as the APMs presented by ADCB in this Base Prospectus in the same manner, these are not always directly comparable to performance metrics used by other companies.

Additionally, the APMs presented by ADCB in this Base Prospectus are unaudited and have not been prepared in accordance with IFRS, U.S. GAAP or any other accounting standards. Accordingly, these financial measures should not be seen as a substitute for measures defined according to IFRS. ADCB considers that the following metrics (which are set out below along with their reconciliation, to the extent that such information is not defined according to IFRS and not included in the Financial Statements incorporated by reference into this Base Prospectus) presented in this Base Prospectus constitute APMs for the purposes of the ESMA Guidelines.

APM	Definition/method of calculation	Reconciliations with Financial Statements/accounting records
<b>Twenty largest loans and advances to customers as a percentage of gross loans and advances to customers</b>	This figure is calculated to determine whether the Group has any material concentration risk as at each financial reporting period. The figure is calculated by taking the Group's twenty largest loans and advances to customers as the numerator and total gross loans and advances to customers as the denominator, in each case, as at the relevant reporting date.	<p><b>Twenty largest loans and advances to customers</b></p> <p>This figure has been derived from the Group's internal accounting records.</p> <p><b>Loans and advances to customers, gross</b></p> <p>Refers to the same concept/figure as "<i>Loans and advances to customers, gross</i>" as set out in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position in the Annual Financial Statements.</p>
<b>Return on average equity</b>	Financial measure expressing the profit for the year attributable to equity holders of the Group after deducting the coupon on Tier 1 capital notes divided by average shareholders' equity less capital notes and non-controlling interests with average shareholders' equity calculated as the sum of the opening and closing balances of shareholders' equity (after deducting capital notes and non-controlling interests) in a given reporting period divided by two.	<p><b>Net adjusted profit for the year attributable to equity holders of the Group</b></p> <p>See above.</p> <p><b>Shareholders' equity</b></p> <p>Refers to the same concept/figure as "<i>Total equity</i>" less "<i>capital notes</i>" and "<i>non-controlling interests</i>" as set out in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position in the Annual Financial Statements (and in respect of the 2019 Financial Statements, as restated in the 2020 Interim Financial Statements).</p>
<b>Return on average tangible equity</b>	Financial measure expressing the profit for the year attributable to equity holders of the Group after deducting the coupon on Tier 1 capital notes divided by average shareholders' equity less capital notes, non-controlling interests and net intangible assets, with average shareholders' equity calculated as the sum of the opening and closing balances of shareholders' equity (after deducting capital notes, non-controlling interests and net intangible assets) in a given reporting period divided by two.	<p><b>Net adjusted profit for the year attributable to equity holders of the Group</b></p> <p>See above.</p> <p><b>Shareholders' equity</b></p> <p>Refers to the same concept/figure as "<i>Total equity</i>" less "<i>capital notes</i>", "<i>non-controlling interests</i>" and "<i>intangible assets, net</i>" as set out in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position in the Annual Financial Statements (and in respect of the 2019 Financial Statements, as restated in the 2020 Interim Financial Statements).</p>

APM	Definition/method of calculation	Reconciliations with Financial Statements/accounting records
<b>Cost to income ratio</b>	Financial measure to express operating efficiency and is computed as operating expenses divided by operating income.	<p><b>Operating expenses</b></p> <p>As set out in the Consolidated Income Statement in the Annual Financial Statements or as set out in the Condensed Consolidated Interim Income Statement in the Interim Financial Statements.</p> <p><b>Operating income</b></p> <p>As set out in the Consolidated Income Statement in the Annual Financial Statements or as set out in the Condensed Consolidated Interim Income Statement in the Interim Financial Statements.</p>
<b>Net interest margin</b>	Financial measure to express the margin between lending and borrowing. This is expressed as net interest income and income from Islamic financing and investing products as a percentage of total average interest and profit-earning assets, with average interest and profit earning assets calculated as average daily balances in a given reporting period.	<p><b>Net interest income and income from Islamic financing and investing products</b></p> <p>As set out in the Consolidated Income Statement in the Annual Financial Statements.</p> <p><b>Interest and profit earning assets</b></p> <p>Daily average balances of deposits and balances due from banks, reverse-repo placements, investment securities, loans and advances to customers, net plus certificates of deposits with the Central Bank and reverse repo with the Central Bank extracted from Group's internal accounting records for the respective reporting periods.</p>
<b>Yield</b>	Financial measure to express interest income and income from Islamic financing and investing products divided by average interest and profit-earning assets for a given period, with average interest and profit earning assets calculated as average daily balances in a given reporting period.	<p><b>Interest income</b></p> <p>As set out in the Consolidated Income Statement in the Annual Financial Statements.</p> <p><b>Income from Islamic financing and investing products</b></p> <p>As set out in the Consolidated Income Statement in the Annual Financial Statements.</p> <p><b>Interest and profit earning assets</b></p> <p>Daily average deposits and balances due from banks, reverse-repo placements, investment securities, loans and advances to customers, net plus certificates of deposits with the Central Bank and reverse repo with the Central Bank extracted from the Group's internal accounting records for the respective reporting periods.</p>

APM	Definition/method of calculation	Reconciliations with Financial Statements/accounting records
<b>Cost of funds</b>	Financial measure to express the interest expense and Islamic profit distribution/Distribution on Islamic deposits and profit paid to sukuk holders divided by the average interest-bearing and profit sharing liabilities, with average interest-bearing and profit-sharing liabilities calculated as average daily balances in a given reporting period.	<p><b>Interest expense</b></p> <p>As set out in the Consolidated Income Statement in the Annual Financial Statements.</p> <p><b>Islamic profit distribution/Distribution on Islamic deposits and profit paid to sukuk holders</b></p> <p>As set out in the Consolidated Income Statement in the Annual Financial Statements.</p> <p><b>Interest-bearing and profit-sharing liabilities</b></p> <p>Daily average balance of due to banks, deposits from customers, euro commercial paper and borrowings extracted from the Group's internal accounting records for the respective reporting periods.</p>
<b>Cost of risk</b>	Financial measure to express total impairment allowances charged, net of recoveries on loans and advances to customers, banks and investment securities as a percentage of average calculated as the sum of the opening and closing balance for outstanding net loans and advances to customers, banks and investment securities in a given reporting period divided by two.	<p><b>Impairment allowances</b></p> <p>Refers to the same concept/figure as "<i>Impairment allowances</i>" as set out in Note 32 to the 2019 Financial Statements excluding the net charge on commitments and contingent liabilities.</p> <p><b>Loans and advances to banks, net</b></p> <p>Refers to the same concept/figure as "<i>Loans and advances to banks</i>" as set out in Note 6 to the Annual Financial Statements less allowance for impairment on loans and advances to banks extracted from the Group's internal accounting records for the respective reporting periods.</p> <p><b>Loans and advances to customers, net</b></p> <p>Refers to the same concept/figure as "<i>Loans and advances to customers, net</i>" as set out in Note 10 to the Annual Financial Statements (and in respect of the 2019 Financial Statements, as restated in Notes 9 and 35 to the 2020 Interim Financial Statements).</p> <p><b>Investment securities</b></p> <p>As set out in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position in the Annual Financial Statements (and in respect of the 2019 Financial Statements, as restated in the 2020 Interim Financial Statements).</p>
<b>Non-performing loan (Stage 3 loans) ratio</b>	Financial measure to express loan asset quality. This is expressed as non-performing loans (Stage 3 loans and advances to customers and banks) as a percentage of gross loans and advances to customers and banks.	<p><b>Non-performing loans</b></p> <p>Refers to the same concept/figure as non performing/Stage 3 (limiting to the extent of loans and advances to banks and customers only, extracted from the internal accounting records of the Group) as set out in Note 42.2 to the 2019 Financial Statements and from internal accounting records of the Group for the interim periods reported.</p> <p><b>Loans and advances to customers, gross</b></p> <p>Refers to the same concept/figure as "<i>Gross loans and advances to customers</i>" as set out in</p>

APM	Definition/method of calculation	Reconciliations with Financial Statements/accounting records
		Note 10 to the Annual Financial Statements or as set out in Note 9 to the 2020 Interim Financial Statements.
		<b>Loans and advances to banks, gross</b>
		Refers to the same concept/figure as " <i>Loans and advances to banks</i> " as set out in Note 6 to the Annual Financial Statements or the 2020 Interim Financial Statements.
<b>Non-performing loan including POCI ( Purchase of Credit Impaired) ratio</b>	Financial measure to express loan asset quality. This is expressed as non-performing loans (Stage 3 loans and advances to customers and banks) including POCI, as a percentage of gross loans and advances to customers and banks.	<b>Non-performing loans including POCI</b>
		Refers to the same concept/figure as non performing/Stage 3 and POCI (limiting to the extent of loans and advances to banks and customers only, extracted from the internal accounting records of the Group) as set out in Note 42.2 to the 2019 Financial Statements and from internal accounting records of the Group for the interim periods reported.
		<b>Loans and advances to customers, gross</b>
		Refers to the same concept/figure as " <i>Gross loans and advances to customers</i> " as set out in Note 10 to the Annual Financial Statements or as set out in Note 9 to the 2020 Interim Financial Statements.
		<b>Loans and advances to banks, gross</b>
		Refers to the same concept/figure as " <i>Loans and advances to banks</i> " as set out in Note 6 to the Annual Financial Statements or the 2020 Interim Financial Statements.
<b>Loan to deposits ratio</b>	The loan to deposits ratio is a simple liquidity measure and is expressed as net loans and advances to customers divided by customer deposits.	<b>Loans and advances to customers, net</b>
		Refers to the same concept/figure as " <i>Loans and advances to customers, net</i> " as set out in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position in the Annual Financial Statements or the Interim Financial Statements.
		<b>Deposits from customers</b>
		Refers to the same concept/figure as " <i>Deposits from customers</i> " as set out in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position in the Annual Financial Statements or the Interim Financial Statements.
<b>Coverage ratio</b>	Financial measure which provides an indication of the Group's level of reserves including fair value adjustments of its non-performing loans. It is expressed as sum of impairment allowances on loans and advances to customers and banks and fair value adjustments on stage 1 and 2 loans and advances to customers and banks resulting from the Combination, as a percentage of non-performing loans (Stage 3 loans and advances to customers and banks).	<b>Impairment allowances</b>
		Refers to the same concept/figure as Impairment allowances " <i>Financial instruments carried at amortised cost</i> " (limiting it to the extent pertaining to loans and advances to banks and customers extracted from the internal accounting records of the Group) as set out in Note 42.3 to the 2019 Financial Statements.
		Refers to the same concept/figure as " <i>Impairment allowances</i> " (limiting it to the extent pertaining to loans and advances to banks and customers extracted from the internal accounting records of the Group) as

APM	Definition/method of calculation	Reconciliations with Financial Statements/accounting records
		set out in Note 10 of 2020 Interim Financial Statements.
		<b>Fair value adjustments</b>
		Refers to the fair value adjustments on Stage 1 and 2 loans and advances from banks and customers resulting from the Combination, extracted from the internal accounting records of the Group.
		<b>Non-performing loans</b>
		Refers to the same concept/figure as non performing/Stage 3 (limiting to the extent of loans and advances to banks and customers only, from the internal accounting records of the Group) as set out in Note 42.2 to the 2019 Financial Statements and from internal accounting records of the Group for the interim periods reported.
<b>Liquidity ratio</b>	Financial ratio which quantifies the Group's liquidity. This is expressed as total liquid assets (being assets held by the Group that can be converted into cash at relatively short notice) divided by total assets.	<b>Liquid assets</b> Liquidity assets include cash and balances with central banks, deposits and balances due from banks, (excluding loans and advances to banks), reverse repo placements, trading securities and quoted investment securities.  <b>Total assets</b> Refers to the same concept/figure as " <i>Total assets</i> " as set out in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position in the Annual Financial Statements or the Interim Financial Statements.
<b>CET 1 ratio (Basel III)</b>	<p>Calculated in accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank and the capital adequacy regulations issued by the Central Bank as stipulated in Circular No. 52/2017 dated 23 February 2017 and Circular No. 60/2017 dated 2 March 2017.</p> <p>CET 1 ratio is defined as CET 1 capital divided by risk-weighted assets at a given date.</p> <p>Risk-weighted assets are calculated under the standardised approach for Pillar 1 reporting and represent the sum of credit risk, market risk and operational risk-weighted assets.</p>	As set out in Note 49 to the 2019 Financial Statements and Note 31 to the 2020 Interim Financial Statements.
<b>Tier 1 ratio (Basel III)</b>	<p>Calculated in accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank and the capital adequacy regulations issued by the Central Bank as stipulated in Circular No. 52/2017 dated 23 February 2017 and Circular No. 60/2017 dated 2 March 2017.</p> <p>Tier 1 ratio is defined as Tier 1 capital divided by risk-weighted assets at a given date.</p> <p>Risk-weighted assets are calculated under the standardised approach for Pillar 1 reporting and represent the sum of credit risk, market risk and operational risk-weighted assets.</p>	As set out in Note 49 to the 2019 Financial Statements and Note 31 to the 2020 Interim Financial Statements.

APM	Definition/method of calculation	Reconciliations with Financial Statements/accounting records
<b>Total capital adequacy ratio (Basel III)</b>	<p>Calculated in accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank and the capital adequacy regulations issued by the Central Bank as stipulated in Circular No. 52/2017 dated 23 February 2017 and Circular No. 60/2017 dated 2 March 2017.</p> <p>Total capital adequacy ratio is defined as total regulatory capital divided by risk-weighted assets at a given date.</p> <p>Risk-weighted assets are calculated under the standardised approach for Pillar 1 reporting and represent the sum of credit risk, market risk and operational risk-weighted assets.</p>	As set out in Note 49 to the 2019 Financial Statements and Note 31 to the 2020 Interim Financial Statements.
<b>Liquidity coverage ratio (Basel III)</b>	<p>Liquidity coverage ratio is designed to measure a bank's ability to manage a sustained outflow of customer funds in an acute stress event over a 30-day period. It is calculated as the ratio of high quality liquid assets and dividing this by a bank's projected total net cash outflows over the immediately following 30-day stressed period. It is determined by the Basel III standards and has been implemented in the UAE through Central Bank Circular No. 33/2015. Approved banks are required to comply with the requirements from 1 January 2016 in a phased manner.</p>	This ratio has been derived from the Group's internal accounting records and is calculated in accordance with Basel III regulations and Central Bank guidelines.
<b>Net Stable Funding Resources ratio (NSFR)</b>	<p>Net Stable Funding Ratio ("NSFR") is a regulatory ratio that aims to ensure that the banks have stable funding profile in relation to the composition of their assets and off balance sheet activities over one year horizon. It is calculated as the ratio of Available Stable Funding divided by Required Stable Funding. It is determined by the Basel III standards and has been implemented in the UAE through Central Bank Circular No. 33/2015.</p>	This ratio has been derived from the Group's internal accounting records and is calculated in accordance with Basel III regulations and Central Bank guidelines.

## FORM OF THE NOTES

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

### **Bearer Notes**

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

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

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

Each Permanent Bearer Global Note will be exchangeable (free of charge), in whole but not in part, for definitive Bearer Notes with, where applicable, receipts, interest coupons and talons attached only upon the occurrence of an Exchange Event. For these purposes, "**Exchange Event**" means that: (i) an Event of Default (as defined in Condition 11 (*Events of Default*)) has occurred and is continuing; or (ii) the Issuer has been notified that both Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg have been closed for business for a continuous period of 14 days (other than by reason of holiday, statutory or otherwise) or have announced an intention permanently to cease business or have in fact done so and no successor clearing system is available. The Issuer will promptly give notice to Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15 (*Notices*) if an Exchange Event occurs. In the event of the occurrence of an Exchange Event, Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg (acting on the instructions of any holder of an interest in such Permanent Bearer Global Note) may give notice to the Principal Paying Agent requesting exchange. Any such exchange shall occur not later than 45 days after the date of receipt of the first relevant notice by the Principal Paying Agent.

The following legend will appear on all Bearer Notes which have an original maturity of more than 1 year and on all receipts and interest coupons relating to such Notes:

"ANY UNITED STATES PERSON WHO HOLDS THIS OBLIGATION WILL BE SUBJECT TO LIMITATIONS UNDER THE UNITED STATES INCOME TAX LAWS, INCLUDING THE

LIMITATIONS PROVIDED IN SECTIONS 165(J) AND 1287(A) OF THE U.S. INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986, AS AMENDED."

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

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

### Registered Notes

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

The Registered Notes of each Tranche may also be offered and sold in private transactions to persons who are QIBs. The Registered Notes of each Tranche sold to QIBs will be represented by a global note in registered form (a "**Rule 144A Global Note**" and, together with a Regulation S Global Note, the "**Registered Global Notes**").

Registered Global Notes will either be: (i) deposited with a custodian for, and registered in the name of a nominee of, DTC; or (ii) deposited with a Common Depositary for, and registered in the name of a common nominee of, Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg, as specified in the applicable Final Terms. Persons holding beneficial interests in Registered Global Notes will be entitled or required, as the case may be, under the circumstances described below, to receive physical delivery of definitive Notes in fully registered form.

Payments of principal, interest and any other amount in respect of the Registered Global Notes will, in the absence of provision to the contrary, be made to the person shown on the Register (as defined in Condition 7.4 (*Payments – Payments in respect of Registered Notes*)) as the registered holder of the Registered Global Notes. None of the Issuer, any Paying Agent or the Registrar will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to or payments or deliveries made on account of beneficial ownership interests in the Registered Global Notes or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to such beneficial ownership interests.

Payments of principal, interest or any other amount in respect of the Registered Notes in definitive form will, in the absence of provision to the contrary, be made to the persons shown on the Register on the relevant Record Date (as defined in Condition 7.4 (*Payments – Payments in respect of Registered Notes*)) immediately preceding the due date for payment in the manner provided in that Condition.

Interests in a Registered Global Note will be exchangeable (free of charge), in whole but not in part, for definitive Registered Notes without receipts, interest coupons or talons attached only upon the occurrence of an Exchange Event. For these purposes, "**Exchange Event**" means that: (i) an Event of Default has occurred and is continuing; (ii) in the case of Notes registered in the name of a nominee for DTC, either DTC has notified the Issuer that it is unwilling or unable to continue to act as depository for the Notes and no alternative clearing system is available or DTC has ceased to constitute a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act; or (iii) in the case of Notes registered in the name of a nominee for a common depositary for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg, the Issuer has been notified that both Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg have been closed for business for a continuous period of 14 days (other than by reason of holiday, statutory or otherwise) or have announced an intention permanently to cease business or have in fact done so and, in any such case, no successor clearing system is available. The Issuer will promptly give notice to Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15 (*Notices*) if an Exchange Event occurs. In the event of the occurrence of an Exchange Event, DTC, Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg (acting on the instructions of any holder of an interest in such Registered Global Note) may

give notice to the Registrar requesting exchange. Any such exchange shall occur no later than 10 days after the date of receipt of the first relevant notice by the Registrar.

### **Transfer of Interests**

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

### **General**

Pursuant to the Agency Agreement (as defined under "*Terms and Conditions of the Notes*"), the Principal Paying Agent shall arrange that, where a further Tranche of Notes is issued which is intended to form a single Series with an existing Tranche of Notes, the Notes of such further Tranche shall be assigned a common code and ISIN and, where applicable, a CUSIP and CINS number which are different from the common code, ISIN, CUSIP and CINS assigned to Notes of any other Tranche of the same Series until at least the expiry of the distribution compliance period (as defined in Regulation S) applicable to the Notes of such Tranche.

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

A Note may be accelerated by the holder thereof in certain circumstances described in Condition 11 (*Events of Default*). In such circumstances, where any Note is still represented by a Global Note and the Global Note (or any part thereof) has become due and repayable in accordance with the Conditions and payment in full of the amount due has not been made in accordance with the provisions of the Global Note then the Global Note will become void at 8.00 p.m. (London time) on such day. At the same time, holders of interests in such Global Note credited to their accounts with Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and/or DTC, as the case may be, will become entitled to proceed directly against the Issuer on the basis of statements of account provided by Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg and DTC on and subject to the terms of a deed of covenant (a "**Deed of Covenant**") dated 4 June 2020 and made by the Issuer. In addition, holders of interests in such Global Note credited to their accounts with DTC may require DTC to deliver definitive Notes in registered form in exchange for their interest in such Global Note in accordance with DTC's standard operating procedures.

## APPLICABLE FINAL TERMS

**[PROHIBITION OF SALES TO EEA AND UK RETAIL INVESTORS** – The Notes are not intended to be offered, sold or otherwise made available to, and should not be offered, sold or otherwise made available to, any retail investor in the European Economic Area (the "EEA") or in the United Kingdom (the "UK"). For these purposes, a retail investor means a person who is one (or more) of: (i) a retail client as defined in point (11) of Article 4(1) of Directive 2014/65/EU (as amended, "MiFID II"); (ii) a customer within the meaning of Directive (EU) 2016/97, where that customer would not qualify as a professional client as defined in point (10) of Article 4(1) of MiFID II; or (iii) not a qualified investor as defined in Regulation (EU) 2017/1129. Consequently, no key information document required by Regulation (EU) No 1286/2014 (as amended, the "PRIIPs Regulation") for offering or selling the Notes or otherwise making them available to retail investors in the EEA or in the UK has been prepared and therefore offering or selling the Notes or otherwise making them available to any retail investor in the EEA or in the UK may be unlawful under the PRIIPs Regulation.]<sup>1</sup>

**[MiFID II PRODUCT GOVERNANCE / PROFESSIONAL INVESTORS AND ECPS ONLY TARGET MARKET** – Solely for the purposes of [the]/[each] manufacturer's product approval process, the target market assessment in respect of the Notes has led to the conclusion that: (i) the target market for the Notes is eligible counterparties and professional clients only, each as defined in [Directive 2014/65/EU (as amended, "MiFID II")]/[MiFID II]; and (ii) all channels for distribution of the Notes to eligible counterparties and professional clients are appropriate. Any person subsequently offering, selling or recommending the Notes (a "distributor") should take into consideration the manufacturer['s/s'] target market assessment; however, a distributor subject to MiFID II is responsible for undertaking its own target market assessment in respect of the Notes (by either adopting or refining the manufacturer['s/s'] target market assessment) and determining appropriate distribution channels.]<sup>2</sup>

**[Singapore Securities and Futures Act Product Classification** – Solely for the purposes of its obligations pursuant to sections 309B(1)(a) and 309B(1)(c) of the Securities and Futures Act (Chapter 289 of Singapore) (the "SFA"), the Issuer has determined, and hereby notifies all relevant persons (as defined in Section 309A of the SFA) that the Notes are ["prescribed capital markets products"]/[capital markets products other than "prescribed capital markets products"] (as defined in the Securities and Futures (Capital Markets Products) Regulations 2018).]

**Final Terms dated [●]**

**ABU DHABI COMMERCIAL BANK PJSC**

**Legal Entity Identifier (LEI): 213800RWVKKIRX1AUH58**

**Issue of [●] [●]**

**under the U.S.\$15,000,000,000**

**Global Medium Term Note Programme**

### **PART A – CONTRACTUAL TERMS**

[Terms used herein shall be deemed to be defined as such for the purposes of the Conditions set forth in the base prospectus dated 4 June 2020 [and the supplement to the base prospectus dated [●]] which [together] constitute[s] a base prospectus (the "**Base Prospectus**") for the purposes of Regulation (EU) 2017/1129 (as amended, the "**Prospectus Regulation**"). [This document constitutes the applicable Final Terms of the Notes described herein for the purposes of Article 8(4) of the Prospectus Regulation and must be read in conjunction with the Base Prospectus]<sup>3</sup>. Full information on the Issuer and the offer of the Notes is only available on the basis of the combination of these applicable Final Terms and the Base Prospectus. The Base Prospectus is available for viewing on the website of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange ([www.bourse.lu](http://www.bourse.lu)) and during normal business hours at Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank PJSC, ADCB Tower,

<sup>1</sup> Include only where "Prohibition of Sales to EEA and UK Investors" in Part B is specified as "Applicable". Delete legend where "Prohibition of Sales to EEA and UK Investors" in Part B is specified as "Not Applicable".

<sup>2</sup> Include where one/more of the Managers considers themselves a manufacturer for MiFID II purposes.

<sup>3</sup> Delete where the Notes are neither admitted to trading on a regulated market in the EEA or the UK nor offered in the EEA or the UK in circumstances where a prospectus is required to be published under the Prospectus Regulation.

Head Office, Sheikh Zayed Street, P.O. Box 939, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, and copies may be obtained from Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank PJSC, ADCB Tower, Head Office, Sheikh Zayed Street, P.O. Box 939, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.]

[Terms used herein shall be deemed to be defined as such for the purposes of the Terms and Conditions (the "**Conditions**") contained in the Agency Agreement dated [7 December 2011/18 February 2013/18 February 2014/24 February 2015/24 February 2016/22 February 2017/12 March 2018/26 March 2019] and set forth in the base prospectus dated [7 December 2011/18 February 2013/18 February 2014/24 February 2015/24 February 2016/22 February 2017/12 March 2018/26 March 2019] [and the supplement to the base prospectus dated [•]] which are incorporated by reference into the base prospectus dated 4 June 2020. [This document constitutes the applicable Final Terms of the Notes described herein for the purposes of Article 8(4) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1129 (as amended, the "**Prospectus Regulation**") and must be read in conjunction with the base prospectus dated [•] 2020 [and the supplement to the base prospectus dated [•]], which [together] constitute[s] a base prospectus for the purposes of the Prospectus Regulation]<sup>4</sup> (the "**Base Prospectus**"), save in respect of the Conditions. The Base Prospectus is available for viewing on the website of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange ([www.bourse.lu](http://www.bourse.lu)) and during normal business hours at Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank PJSC, ADCB Tower, Head Office, Sheikh Zayed Street, P.O. Box 939, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, and copies may be obtained from Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank PJSC, ADCB Tower, Head Office, Sheikh Zayed Street, P.O. Box 939, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.]

1.
  - (a) Series Number: [•]
  - (b) Tranche Number: [•]
  - (c) Date on which the Notes become fungible: [Not Applicable]/[•]
2. Specified Currency or Currencies: [•]
3. Aggregate Nominal Amount of Notes admitted to trading: [•]
  - (a) Series: [•]
  - (b) Tranche: [•]
4. Issue Price: [•] per cent. of the Aggregate Nominal Amount [plus accrued interest from [•]]
5.
  - (a) Specified Denominations (in the case of Registered Notes this means the minimum integral amount in which transfers can be made): [•][and integral multiples of [•] in excess thereof]
  - (b) Calculation Amount: [•]
6.
  - (a) Issue Date: [•]
  - (b) Interest Commencement Date: [•]/[Issue Date]/[Not Applicable]
7. Maturity Date: [•]
8. Interest Basis:
  - [[•] per cent. Fixed Rate]
  - [[•] +/- [•] per cent. Floating Rate]
  - [Zero Coupon]
  - [Reset Notes]

<sup>4</sup> Delete where the Notes are neither admitted to trading on a regulated market in the EEA or the UK nor offered in the EEA or the UK in circumstances where a prospectus is required to be published under the Prospectus Regulation.

9. Redemption/Payment Basis: [Redemption at par]  
[Partly Paid]  
[Instalment]
10. Change of Interest Basis or [Applicable]/[Not Applicable]  
Redemption/Payment Basis:
11. Put/Call Options: [Investor Put]  
[Change of Control Put]  
[Issuer Call]
12. (a) Status of the Notes: [Senior]/[Subordinated]
- (b) [Date [Board] approval for [•]  
issuance of Notes obtained]:

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

13. Fixed Rate Note Provisions: [Applicable]/[Not Applicable]
- (a) Rate(s) of Interest: [•] per cent. per annum [payable [annually]/[semi-annually]/[quarterly]/[[•] in arrear]]
- (b) Interest Payment Date(s): [[•] in each year up to and including the Maturity Date]/[•]
- (c) Fixed Coupon Amount(s): [[•] per Calculation Amount]/[Not Applicable]
- (d) Broken Amount(s): [[•] per Calculation Amount, payable on the Interest Payment Date falling [in]/[on] [•]]/[Not Applicable]
- (e) Day Count Fraction: [30/360]/[Actual/Actual (ICMA)]/[Actual/365 (Fixed)]/[Actual/Actual (ISDA)]
- (f) Determination Date(s): [[•] in each year]/[Not Applicable]
- (g) Business Day Convention: [Floating Rate Convention]/[Following Business Day Convention]/[Modified Following Business Day Convention]/[Preceding Business Day Convention]/[Not Applicable]
14. Floating Rate Note Provisions: [Applicable]/[Not Applicable]
- (a) Specified Period(s)/Specified Interest Payment Dates: [•]
- (b) Effective Interest Payment Date: [The date falling [•] Business Days following each Interest Payment Date, provided that the Effective Interest Payment Date with respect to the last Interest Period will be the Maturity Date or, if the Issuer elects to redeem the Notes before the Maturity Date, the date fixed for redemption (*include for Payment Delay only*)]<sup>5</sup>/[Not Applicable]
- (c) Business Day Convention: [Floating Rate Convention]/[Following Business Day Convention]/[Modified Following Business

<sup>5</sup> *Effective Interest Payment Dates should be at least 5 Business Days after the Interest Payment Dates, unless otherwise agreed with the Principal Paying Agent.*

- Day Convention]/[Preceding Business Day  
Convention]/[Not Applicable]
- (d) Additional Business Centre(s): [•]
- (e) Manner in which the Rate of Interest and Interest Amount is to be determined: [Screen Rate Determination]/[ISDA Determination]
- (f) Party responsible for calculating the Rate of Interest and Interest Amount (if not the Principal Paying Agent): [•]
- (g) Screen Rate Determination:
- (i) Reference Rate: [LIBOR]/[EURIBOR]/[KIBOR]/[SHIBOR]/[HIBOR]/[KLIBOR]/[TRLIBOR]/[TRYLIBOR]/[SIBOR]/[EIBOR]/[TIBOR]/[BBSW]/[SAIBOR]/[CDOR]/[STIBOR]/[BHIBOR]/[CIBOR]/[BKBM]/[NIOR]/[TAIBOR]/[JIBAR]/[CNH HIBOR]/[USD]/[GBP]/[EUR]/[ICE Swap Rate]/[SONIA]/[SOFR]/[€STR]
- (ii) Interest Determination Date(s): [•]/[The date falling [•] Business Days prior to the first day of each Interest Period]/[First day of each Interest Period]/[The [•][*first, second, third etc.*] Business Day immediately preceding the Interest Payment Date for each Interest Period (or immediately preceding such earlier date, if any, on which the Notes are due and payable).][*provide details*]/[The Interest Payment Date at the end of each Interest Period; provided that the Interest Determination Date with respect to the last Interest Period prior to the Maturity Date or the date fixed for redemption will be the Rate Cut-off Date - *Include this wording for Payment Delay only*]]<sup>6</sup>
- (iii) Relevant Screen Page: [•]
- (iv) Relevant Time: [•]
- (v) Relevant Financial Centre: [•]
- (vi) Calculation Method: [Compounded Daily]/[Weighted Average]/[Not Applicable]
- (vii) Observation Method: [Lag]/[Lock-out]/[Observation Shift]/[Payment Delay]/[Not Applicable]
- (viii) Observation Look-back Period: [•]/[Not Applicable]<sup>7</sup>

<sup>6</sup> To be at least 5 Business Days before the relevant Interest Payment Date where the Reference Rate is SONIA, SOFR or €STR.

<sup>7</sup> The Observation Look-back Period should be at least as many Business Days before the Interest Payment Date as the Interest Determination Date. "Observation Look-back Period" is only applicable

- (viii) D: [365]/[360]/[●]/[Not Applicable]
- (viii) Rate Cut-off Date: [The date falling [●] Business Days prior to the Maturity Date or the date fixed for redemption, as applicable – *used for Payment Delay only*]<sup>8</sup>/[Not Applicable]
- (viii) Benchmark Replacement – ARRC: [Condition [6.7] (*Benchmark Replacement – ARRC*) is applicable]/[Not Applicable]
- (g) ISDA Determination:
- (i) Floating Rate Option: [●]
- (ii) Designated Maturity: [●]
- (iii) Reset Date: [●]
- (h) Linear Interpolation: [Not Applicable]/[Applicable – the Rate of Interest for the [long]/[short] [first]/[last] Interest Period shall be calculated using Linear Interpolation]
- (i) Margin(s): [+/-][●] per cent. per annum
- (j) Minimum Rate of Interest: [●] per cent. per annum
- (k) Maximum Rate of Interest: [●] per cent. per annum
- (l) Day Count Fraction: [Actual/Actual (ISDA)]  
[Actual/Actual]  
[Actual/365 (Fixed)]  
[Actual/365 (Sterling)]  
[Actual/360]  
[30/360]  
[360/360]  
[Bond Basis]  
[30E/360]  
[Eurobond Basis]  
[30E/360 (ISDA)]
15. Reset Note Provisions: [Applicable]/[Not Applicable]
- (a) Initial Rate of Interest: [●] per cent. per annum payable in arrear on each Interest Payment Date
- (b) Interest Payment Date(s): [●] [and [●]] in each year [up to and including the Maturity Date]
- (c) Day Count Fraction: [30/360]  
[Actual/Actual (ICMA)]  
[Actual/365 (Fixed)]
- (d) Determination Date(s): [[●] in each year]/[Not Applicable]

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where "Lag" or "Observation Shift" is selected as the Observation Method; otherwise, select "Not Applicable".

<sup>8</sup> The Rate Cut-off Date should be at least 5 Business Days before the Maturity Date or the date fixed for redemption, unless otherwise agreed with the Principal Paying Agent.

- (e) Reset Date(s): [•]
- (f) Subsequent Reset Reference Rate(s) and Relevant Financial Centre: Subsequent Reset Reference Rate: [Mid Swaps]/[Reference Bond]/[•]<sup>9</sup>
- (g) Reset Margin: [•]
- (h) Subsequent Reset Rate Screen Page: [•]
- (i) Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate: [LIBOR]/[EURIBOR]/[KIBOR]/[SHIBOR]/[HIBOR]/[KLIBOR]/[TRLIBOR]/[TRYLIBOR]/[SIBOR]/[EIBOR]/[TIBOR]/[BBSW]/[SAIBOR]/[CDOR]/[STIBOR]/[BHIBOR]/[CIBOR]/[BKBM]/[NIOR]/[TAIBOR]/[JIBAR]/[CNH HIBOR]/[USD]/[GBP]/[EUR]/[ICE Swap Rate]/[SONIA]/[SOFR]/[€STR]
- (j) Mid Swap Maturity: [•]
- (k) Reset Determination Date: [•]
- (l) Subsequent Reset Rate Time: [•]
- 16. Zero Coupon Note Provisions: [Applicable]/[Not Applicable]
  - (a) Accrual Yield: [•] per cent. per annum
  - (b) Reference Price: [•]
  - (c) Day Count Fraction in relation to Early Redemption Amounts and late payment: [Conditions 8.5(c) (*Early Redemption Amounts*) and 8.10 (*Late Payment on Zero Coupon Notes*) apply]/[•]<sup>10</sup>

#### PROVISIONS RELATING TO REDEMPTION

- 17. Issuer Call: [Applicable]/[Not Applicable]
  - (a) Optional Redemption Date(s): [•]
  - (b) Optional Redemption Amount: [[•] per Calculation Amount]
  - (c) If redeemable in part:
    - (i) Minimum Redemption Amount: [•]
    - (ii) Maximum Redemption Amount: [•]
  - (d) Notice period: [•]/[Condition 8.3 applies]
- 18. Investor Put: [Applicable]/[Not Applicable]
  - (a) Optional Redemption Date(s): [•]

<sup>9</sup> N.B. Any information inserted in respect of Notes listed on a Regulated Market will need to comply with the provisions of the Prospectus Regulation.

<sup>10</sup> N.B. Any information inserted in respect of Notes listed on a Regulated Market will need to comply with the provisions of the Prospectus Regulation.

- |     |  |                                |
|-----|--|--------------------------------|
|     | (b) Optional Redemption Amount:  | [[•] per Calculation Amount]   |
|     | (c) Notice period:   | [•]/[Condition 8.4(a) applies] |
| 19. | Change of Control Put:   | [Applicable]/[Not Applicable]  |
|     | (a) Change of Control Redemption Amount:   | [[•] per Calculation Amount]   |
| 20. | Final Redemption Amount:   | [[•] per Calculation Amount]   |
| 21. | Early Redemption Amount payable on redemption for taxation reasons or on event of default: | [[•] per Calculation Amount]   |

## GENERAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO THE NOTES

- |     |  |   |
|-----|--|---|
| 22. | Form of Notes:   | <p>[Bearer Notes:</p> <p>[Temporary Bearer Global Note exchangeable for a Permanent Bearer Global Note which is exchangeable for definitive Notes only upon an Exchange Event]</p> <p>[Temporary Bearer Global Note exchangeable for definitive Notes on and after the Exchange Date]</p> <p>[Permanent Bearer Global Note exchangeable for definitive Notes only upon an Exchange Event]]</p> <p>[Registered Notes:</p> <p>[Regulations S Global Note registered in the name of a nominee for [DTC]/[a common depositary for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg]]</p> <p>[Rule 144A Global Note registered in the name of a nominee for [DTC]/[a common depositary for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg]]]</p> <p>[Reg. S Compliance Category 2; [TEFRA C]/[TEFRA D]/[TEFRA not applicable]]</p> |
| 23. | Additional Business Centre(s) relating to Payment Days:  | [•]/[Not Applicable]  |
| 24. | Talons for future Coupons or Receipts to be attached to definitive Notes (and dates on which such Talons mature):                      | [Yes]/[No]  |
| 25. | Details relating to Partly Paid Notes: amount of each payment comprising the Issue Price and date on which each payment is to be made: | [•]/[Not Applicable]  |
| 26. | Details relating to Instalment Notes:  | [Applicable]/[Not Applicable]   |
|     | (a) Instalment Amount(s):  | [•]/[Not Applicable]  |
|     | (b) Instalment Date(s):  | [•]/[Not Applicable]  |

- |     |   |   |
|-----|---|---|
| 27. | Redenomination applicable:  | Redenomination [not] applicable                           |
| 28. | RMB Settlement Centre(s):   | [•]/[Not Applicable]                                      |
| 29. | RMB Currency Event:   | [Applicable]/[Not Applicable]                             |
| 30. | Relevant Currency for Condition 7.9<br>( <i>RMB Currency Event</i> ):                                   | [•]/[Not Applicable]                                      |
| 31. | Relevant Spot Rate Screen Pages for<br>Condition 7.9 ( <i>RMB Currency Event</i> ):                     |   |
|     | (i) Relevant Spot Rate Screen Page<br>(Deliverable Basis):  | [•]/[Not Applicable]                                      |
|     | (ii) Relevant Spot Rate Screen Page<br>(Non-deliverable basis):   | [•]/[Not Applicable]                                      |
| 32. | Party responsible for calculating the<br>Spot Rate for Condition 7.9 ( <i>RMB<br/>Currency Event</i> ): | [[•] (the " <b>Calculation Agent</b> ")]/[Not Applicable] |

Signed on behalf of the Issuer:

By: .....  
*Duly authorised*

By: .....  
*Duly authorised*

## PART B – OTHER INFORMATION

### 1. LISTING

- (a) Listing and Admission to trading: [Application [has been]/[is expected to be] made by the Issuer (or on its behalf) for the Notes to be admitted to the Official List and to trading on the [Luxembourg Stock Exchange's]/[Euronext Dublin's] regulated market with effect from [●]]/[Not Applicable]
- (b) Estimate of total expenses related to admission to trading: [●]/[Not Applicable]

### 2. RATINGS

[The Notes to be issued have not been rated]/[The Notes to be issued [have been/are expected to be] rated:]

Ratings: [Fitch: [●]]

[Standard & Poor's: [●]]

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

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

### 4. ESTIMATED NET PROCEEDS

[●]

### 5. YIELD (Fixed Rate Notes Only)

Indication of yield: [●]/[Not Applicable]

### 6. OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

- (a) ISIN Code: [●]
- (b) Common Code: [●]
- (c) FISN: [[*Include code*], as set out on the website of the Association of National Numbering Agencies (ANNA) or alternatively sourced from the responsible National Numbering Agency that assigned the ISIN]/[Not Applicable]
- (d) CFI Code: [[*Include code*], as set out on the website of the Association of National Numbering Agencies (ANNA) or alternatively sourced from the responsible National Numbering Agency that assigned the ISIN]/[Not Applicable]
- (e) CUSIP: [●]/[Not Applicable]
- (f) CINS: [●]/[Not Applicable]
- (g) Any clearing system(s) other than DTC, Euroclear Bank SA/NV and [●]/[Not Applicable]

Clearstream Banking S.A. and the relevant identification number(s):

- (h) Delivery: Delivery [against]/[free of] payment
- (i) Names and addresses of additional Paying Agent(s) (if any): [•]/[Not Applicable]

7. **PROHIBITION OF SALES TO EEA AND UK RETAIL INVESTORS**

[Applicable]/[Not Applicable]

8. **BENCHMARKS**

Details of benchmarks administrators and registration under Benchmarks Regulation

[[*specify benchmark*] is provided by [*administrator legal name*]. As at the date hereof, [*administrator legal name*] [appears]/[does not appear] in the register of administrators and benchmarks established and maintained by ESMA pursuant to Article 36 of the Benchmarks Regulation. [As far as the Issuer is aware, the transitional provisions in Article 51 of the Benchmarks Regulation apply, such that [*administrator legal name*] is not currently required to obtain authorisation/registration (or, if located outside the European Union, recognition, endorsement or equivalence).]]/[Not Applicable]

9. **THIRD PARTY INFORMATION**

[[•] has been extracted from [•]. [The Issuer confirms that such information has been accurately reproduced and that, so far as it is aware, and is able to ascertain from information published by [•], no facts have been omitted which would render the reproduced information inaccurate or misleading.]]/[Not Applicable]

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE NOTES

*The following are the Terms and Conditions of the Notes which, subject to completion in accordance with the provisions of Part A of the applicable Final Terms (and save for the text in italics) will be incorporated by reference into each Global Note (as defined below) and each definitive Note, in the latter case only if permitted by the relevant stock exchange or other relevant authority (if any) and agreed by the Issuer and the relevant Dealer at the time of issue but, if not so permitted and agreed, such definitive Note will have endorsed thereon or attached thereto such Terms and Conditions. The applicable Final Terms (or the relevant provisions thereof) will be endorsed upon, or attached to, each Global Note and definitive Note. Reference should be made to "Form of the Notes" for a description of the content of Final Terms which will specify which of such terms are to apply in relation to the relevant Notes.*

This Note is one of a Series (as defined below) of Notes issued by Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank PJSC ("**ADCB**" or the "**Issuer**") pursuant to the Agency Agreement (as defined below).

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

- (a) in relation to any Notes represented by a global Note (a "**Global Note**"), units of each Specified Denomination in the Specified Currency (each as specified in the applicable Final Terms);
- (b) any Global Note;
- (c) any definitive Notes in bearer form ("**Bearer Notes**") issued in exchange for a Global Note in bearer form; and
- (d) any definitive Notes in registered form ("**Registered Notes**") issued in exchange for a Global Note in registered form.

The Notes, the Receipts (as defined below) and the Coupons (as defined below) have the benefit of an amended and restated agency agreement (as amended and/or supplemented and/or restated from time to time, the "**Agency Agreement**") dated 4 June 2020 and made between ADCB as an issuer, Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch as issuing and principal paying agent and agent bank (the "**Principal Paying Agent**", which expression shall include any successor principal paying agent) and the other paying agents named therein (together with the Principal Paying Agent, the "**Paying Agents**", which expression shall include any additional or successor paying agents) and as exchange agent (the "**Exchange Agent**", which expression shall include any successor exchange agent), Deutsche Bank Luxembourg S.A. as euro registrar (the "**Euro Registrar**", which expression shall include any successor euro registrar) and as a transfer agent and Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas as U.S. registrar (the "**U.S. Registrar**", which expression shall include any successor U.S. registrar, and, together with the Euro Registrar, the "**Registrars**") and as a transfer agent (together with Deutsche Bank Luxembourg S.A., the "**Transfer Agents**", which expression shall include any additional or successor transfer agents).

Interest bearing definitive Bearer Notes have interest coupons ("**Coupons**") and, if indicated in the applicable Final Terms, talons for further Coupons ("**Talons**") attached on issue. Any reference herein to Coupons shall, unless the context otherwise requires, be deemed to include a reference to Talons. Definitive Bearer Notes repayable in instalments have receipts ("**Receipts**") for the payment of the instalments of principal (other than the final instalment) attached on issue. Registered Notes and Global Notes do not have Receipts, Coupons or Talons attached on issue.

The final terms for this Note (or the relevant provisions thereof) are set out in Part A of the applicable Final Terms attached to or endorsed on this Note which completes these Terms and Conditions (the "**Conditions**").

References to the "**applicable Final Terms**" are to Part A of the applicable Final Terms (or the relevant provisions thereof) attached to or endorsed on this Note.

Any reference to "**Noteholders**" or "**holders**" in relation to any Notes shall mean (in the case of Bearer Notes) the holders of the Notes and (in the case of Registered Notes) the persons in whose name the Notes are registered and shall, in relation to any Notes represented by a Global Note, be construed as provided below.

Any reference herein to "**Receiptholders**" shall mean the holders of the Receipts and any reference herein to "**Couponholders**" shall mean the holders of the Coupons and shall, unless the context otherwise requires, include the holders of the Talons.

As used herein, "**Tranche**" means Notes which are identical in all respects (including as to listing and admission to trading) and "**Series**" means a Tranche of Notes together with any further Tranche or Tranches of Notes which are: (a) expressed to be consolidated and form a single series; and (b) identical in all respects (including as to listing and admission to trading) except for their respective Issue Dates, Interest Commencement Dates and/or Issue Prices.

The Noteholders, the Receiptholders and the Couponholders are entitled to the benefit of a deed of covenant (the "**Deed of Covenant**") dated 4 June 2020 and made by the Issuer. The original of the Deed of Covenant is held by the common depository for Euroclear (as defined below) and Clearstream, Luxembourg (as defined below).

Copies of the Agency Agreement, a deed poll (the "**Deed Poll**") dated 4 June 2020 and made by the Issuer and the Deed of Covenant are available for inspection during normal business hours at the specified office of each of the Paying Agents. Copies of the applicable Final Terms are available for viewing at the specified office of each of the Paying Agents, the Registrar and Transfer Agents (such Agents and the Registrar being together referred to as the "**Agents**") and copies may be obtained from the registered office of the Issuer, ADCB Tower, Head Office, Sheikh Zayed Street, P.O. Box 939, Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates. The Noteholders, the Receiptholders and the Couponholders are deemed to have notice of, and are entitled to the benefit of, all the provisions of the Agency Agreement, the Deed Poll, the Deed of Covenant and the applicable Final Terms which are applicable to them. The statements in the Conditions include summaries of, and are subject to, the detailed provisions of the Agency Agreement.

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

#### 1. **Form, Denomination and Title**

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

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

This Note may be an Instalment Note, a Partly Paid Note or a combination of any of the foregoing, depending upon the Redemption/Payment Basis shown in the applicable Final Terms.

This Note will either be unsubordinated in the manner described under Condition 3.1 below (a "**Senior Note**") or subordinated in the manner described under Condition 3.2 below (a "**Subordinated Note**") depending upon the status specified in the applicable Final Terms.

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

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

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

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

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

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

## 2. **Transfers of Registered Notes**

### 2.1 **Transfers of interests in Registered Global Notes**

Transfers of beneficial interests in Registered Global Notes will be effected by DTC, Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg, as the case may be, and, in turn, by other participants and, if appropriate, indirect participants in such clearing systems acting on behalf of beneficial transferors and transferees of such interests. A beneficial interest in a Registered Global Note will, subject to compliance with all applicable legal and regulatory restrictions, be transferable for a beneficial interest in another Registered Global Note only in the authorised denominations set out in the applicable Final Terms and only in accordance with the rules and operating procedures for the time being of DTC, Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg, as the case may be, and in accordance with the terms and conditions specified in the Agency Agreement. Transfers of a Registered Global Note registered in the name of a nominee for DTC shall be limited to transfers of such Registered Global Note, in whole but not in part, to another nominee of DTC or to a successor of DTC or such successor's nominee.

### 2.2 **Transfers of Registered Notes in definitive form**

Subject as provided in paragraphs 2.5, 2.6 and 2.7 below, upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Agency Agreement, a Registered Note in definitive form may be transferred in whole or in part (in the authorised denominations set out in the applicable Final Terms). In order to effect any such transfer: (i) the holder or holders must: (A) surrender the Registered Note for registration of the transfer of the Registered Note (or the relevant part of the Registered Note) at the specified office of any Transfer Agent, with the form of transfer thereon duly executed by the holder or holders thereof or his or their attorney or attorneys duly authorised in writing; and (B) complete and deposit such other certifications as may be required by the relevant Transfer Agent; and (ii) the relevant Transfer Agent must, after due and careful enquiry, be satisfied with the documents of title and the identity of the person making the request. Any such transfer will be subject to such reasonable regulations as the Issuer and the Registrar may from time to time prescribe (the initial such regulations being set out in Schedule 9 to the Agency

Agreement). Subject as provided above, the relevant Transfer Agent will, within three business days (being for this purpose a day on which banks are open for business in the city where the specified office of the relevant Transfer Agent is located) of the request (or such longer period as may be required to comply with any applicable fiscal or other laws or regulations), deliver, or procure the delivery of, at its specified office to the transferee or (at the risk of the transferee) send by uninsured mail, to such address as the transferee may request, a new Registered Note in definitive form of a like aggregate nominal amount to the Registered Note (or the relevant part of the Registered Note) transferred. In the case of the transfer of part only of a Registered Note in definitive form, a new Registered Note in definitive form in respect of the balance of the Registered Note not transferred will be so delivered or (at the risk of the transferor) sent to the transferor. A Registered Note may not be transferred unless the nominal amount of Registered Notes transferred and (where not all of the Registered Notes held by a transferor are being transferred) the nominal amount of the balance of Registered Notes not transferred are Specified Denominations.

### 2.3 **Registration of transfer upon partial redemption**

In the event of a partial redemption of Notes under Condition 8, the Issuer shall not be required to register the transfer of any Registered Note, or part of a Registered Note, called for partial redemption.

### 2.4 **Costs of registration**

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

### 2.5 **Transfers of interests in Regulation S Global Notes**

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

- (i) upon receipt by the Registrar of a written certification substantially in the form set out in the Agency Agreement, amended as appropriate (a "**Transfer Certificate**"), copies of which are available from the specified office of any Transfer Agent, from the transferor of the Note or beneficial interest therein to the effect that such transfer is being made to a person whom the transferor reasonably believes is a QIB in a transaction meeting the requirements of Rule 144A; or
- (ii) otherwise pursuant to the Securities Act or an exemption therefrom, subject to receipt by the Issuer of such satisfactory evidence as the Issuer may reasonably require, which may include an opinion of U.S. counsel, that such transfer is in compliance with any applicable securities laws of any State of the United States,

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

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

### 2.6 **Transfers of interests in Legended Notes**

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

- (i) to a transferee who takes delivery of such interest through a Regulation S Global Note, upon receipt by the Registrar of a duly completed Transfer Certificate from the transferor to the effect that such transfer is being made in accordance with Regulation S and that in the case of a Regulation S Global Note registered in the name of a nominee for DTC, if

such transfer is being made prior to expiry of the applicable Distribution Compliance Period, the interests in the Notes being transferred will be held immediately thereafter through Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg; or

- (ii) to a transferee who takes delivery of such interest through a Legended Note where the transferee is a person whom the transferor reasonably believes is a QIB in a transaction meeting the requirements of Rule 144A, without certification; or
- (iii) otherwise pursuant to the Securities Act or an exemption therefrom, subject to receipt by the Issuer of such satisfactory evidence as the Issuer may reasonably require, which may include an opinion of U.S. counsel, that such transfer is in compliance with any applicable securities laws of any State of the United States,

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

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

## 2.7 Exchanges and transfers of Registered Notes generally

Holders of Registered Notes in definitive form may exchange such Notes for interests in a Registered Global Note of the same type at any time.

## 2.8 Definitions

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**"Rule 144A Global Note"** means a Registered Global Note representing Notes sold in the United States or to persons that are QIBs; and

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

## 3. Status

### 3.1 Status of the Senior Notes

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

### 3.2 Status of the Subordinated Notes

The Subordinated Notes and any relative Receipts and Coupons are direct, unsecured, conditional (as described below) and subordinated obligations of the Issuer and rank *pari passu* and without any preference among themselves.

The payment obligations of the Issuer in respect of the Subordinated Notes (whether on account of principal, interest or otherwise) will be subordinated to the claims of all Senior Creditors in the manner described below, but will rank at least *pari passu* with the claims of holders of all other subordinated obligations of the Issuer which rank or by their terms are expressed to rank *pari passu* with the payment obligations under the Subordinated Notes and will rank in priority to all claims of holders of all undated or perpetual subordinated obligations of the Issuer and to all claims of holders of all classes of share capital of the Issuer. The rights of the holders of Subordinated Notes against the Issuer are subordinated in right of payment to the claims of all Senior Creditors of the Issuer and payments in respect of the Subordinated Notes (whether on account of principal, interest or otherwise) by the Issuer are conditional upon the Issuer being solvent at the time of such payment and no payment shall be payable by the Issuer in respect of the Subordinated Notes, except to the extent that the Issuer could make such payment and any other payment required to be made to all Senior Creditors and creditors in respect of indebtedness which ranks or is expressed to rank *pari passu* with the Subordinated Notes and still be solvent immediately thereafter. For this purpose, the Issuer shall be solvent if: (i) it is able to pay its debts as they fall due; and (ii) its assets exceed its liabilities.

In this Condition 3.2, "**Senior Creditors**" shall mean unsubordinated creditors of the Issuer (including depositors).

Each holder of a Subordinated Note unconditionally and irrevocably waives any right of set-off, counterclaim, abatement or other similar remedy which it might otherwise have, under the laws of any jurisdiction, in respect of such Note. No collateral is or will be given for the payment obligations under the Subordinated Notes and any collateral that may have been or may in the future be given in connection with other indebtedness of the Issuer shall not secure the payment obligations under the Subordinated Notes.

### 4. Negative Pledge

This Condition 4 only applies to Senior Notes.

So long as any Note remains outstanding (as defined in the Agency Agreement), the Issuer shall not, and the Issuer shall procure that none of its Subsidiaries will, create or permit to subsist any Security Interest upon the whole or any part of its present or future undertaking, assets or revenues (including any uncalled capital) to secure any Indebtedness or Sukuk Obligation or guarantee of Indebtedness or any Sukuk Obligation, other than a Permitted Security Interest, without: (a) at the same time or prior thereto securing the Notes equally and rateably therewith; or (b) providing such other security for the Notes as may be approved by Extraordinary Resolution (as defined in the Agency Agreement).

In these Conditions:

"**guarantee**" means, in relation to any Indebtedness of any Person, any obligation of another Person to pay such Indebtedness including (without limitation):

- (i) any obligation to purchase such Indebtedness;
- (ii) any obligation to lend money, to purchase or subscribe shares or other securities or to purchase assets or services in order to provide funds for the payment of such Indebtedness;
- (iii) any indemnity against the consequences of a default in the payment of such Indebtedness; and
- (iv) any other agreement to be responsible for such Indebtedness;

**"Indebtedness"** means any indebtedness which is in the form of, or represented or evidenced by, certificates, bonds, notes, debentures, loan stock or other securities which for the time being are, or are intended to be or are capable of being, quoted, listed or dealt in or traded on any stock exchange or over the-counter or other securities market;

**"Non-recourse Project Financing"** means any financing of all or part of the costs of the acquisition, construction or development of any project, **provided that:** (i) any Security Interest given by the Issuer or any of its Subsidiaries in connection therewith is limited solely to the assets of the project; (ii) the Persons providing such financing expressly agree to limit their recourse to the project financed and the revenues derived from such project as the principal source of repayment for the moneys advanced; and (iii) there is no other recourse to the Issuer or any of its Subsidiaries in respect of any default by any Person under the financing;

**"Permitted Security Interest"** means:

- (i) any Security Interest created or outstanding with the approval of an Extraordinary Resolution;
- (ii) any Security Interest arising by operation of law, **provided that** such Security Interest is discharged within 30 days of arising; and
- (iii) any Security Interest granted to secure a Non-recourse Project Financing or to secure any Indebtedness or Sukuk Obligation incurred in connection with a Securitisation;

**"Person"** means any individual, company, corporation, firm, partnership, joint venture, association, organisation, state or agency of a state or other entity, whether or not having separate legal personality;

**"Securitisation"** means any securitisation (Islamic or otherwise) of existing or future assets and/or revenues, **provided that:** (i) any Security Interest given by the Issuer or any of its Subsidiaries in connection therewith is limited solely to the assets and/or revenues which are the subject of the securitisation; (ii) each Person participating in such securitisation expressly agrees to limit its recourse to the assets and/or revenues securitised as the principal source of repayment for the moneys advanced or payment of any other liability; and (iii) there is no other recourse to the Issuer or any of its Subsidiaries in respect of any default by any Person under the securitisation;

**"Security Interest"** means any mortgage, charge, pledge, lien or other security interest including, without limitation, anything analogous to any of the foregoing under the laws of any jurisdiction;

**"Subsidiary"** means in relation to any Person (the **"first person"**) at any particular time, any other Person (the **"second person"**):

- (i) whose affairs and policies the first Person controls or has power to control, whether by ownership of share capital, contract, the power to appoint or remove members of the governing body of the second person or otherwise; or
- (ii) whose financial statements are, in accordance with applicable law and generally accepted accounting principles, consolidated with those of the first person; and

**"Sukuk Obligation"** means any undertaking or other obligation to pay any money given in connection with the issue of trust certificates or other securities issued in connection with any Islamic financing whether or not in return for consideration of any kind, which trust certificates or other securities for the time being are, or are intended to be or are capable of being, quoted, listed or dealt in or traded on any stock exchange or over-the-counter or other securities market.

## 5. **Redenomination**

### 5.1 **Redenomination**

Where redenomination is specified in the applicable Final Terms as being applicable, the Issuer may, without the consent of the Noteholders, the Receipholders and the Couponholders, on giving prior notice to the Principal Paying Agent, Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg and at least 30

days' prior notice to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15, elect that, with effect from the Redenomination Date specified in the notice, the Notes shall be redenominated in euro.

The election will have effect as follows:

- (a) the Notes and the Receipts shall be deemed to be redenominated in euro in the denomination of euro 0.01 with a nominal amount for each Note and Receipt equal to the nominal amount of that Note or Receipt in the Specified Currency, converted into euro at the Established Rate, **provided that**, if the Issuer determines, with the agreement of the Principal Paying Agent, that the then market practice in respect of the redenomination in euro of internationally offered securities is different from the provisions specified above, such provisions shall be deemed to be amended so as to comply with such market practice and the Issuer shall promptly notify the Noteholders, the stock exchange (if any) on which the Notes may be listed and the Agents of such deemed amendments;
- (b) save to the extent that an Exchange Notice has been given in accordance with paragraph (d) below, the amount of interest due in respect of the Notes will be calculated by reference to the aggregate nominal amount of Notes presented (or, as the case may be, in respect of which Coupons are presented) for payment by the relevant holder and the amount of such payment shall be rounded down to the nearest euro 0.01;
- (c) if definitive Notes are required to be issued after the Redenomination Date, they shall be issued at the expense of the Issuer: (i) in the case of Relevant Notes in the denomination of euro 100,000 and/or such higher amounts as the Principal Paying Agent may determine and notify to the Noteholders and any remaining amounts less than euro 100,000 shall be redeemed by the Issuer and paid to the Noteholders in euro in accordance with Condition 7; and (ii) in the case of Notes which are not Relevant Notes, in the denominations of euro 1,000, euro 10,000, euro 100,000 and (but only to the extent of any remaining amounts less than euro 1,000 or such smaller denominations as the Principal Paying Agent may approve) euro 0.01 and such other denominations as the Principal Paying Agent shall determine and notify to the Noteholders;
- (d) if issued prior to the Redenomination Date, all unmatured Coupons denominated in the Specified Currency (whether or not attached to the Notes) will become void with effect from the date on which the Issuer gives notice (the "**Exchange Notice**") that replacement euro-denominated Notes, Receipts and Coupons are available for exchange (**provided that** such securities are so available) and no payments will be made in respect of them. The payment obligations contained in any Notes and Receipts so issued will also become void on that date although those Notes and Receipts will continue to constitute valid exchange obligations of the Issuer. New euro-denominated Notes, Receipts and Coupons will be issued in exchange for Notes, Receipts and Coupons denominated in the Specified Currency in such manner as the Principal Paying Agent may specify and as shall be notified to the Noteholders in the Exchange Notice. No Exchange Notice may be given less than 15 days prior to any date for payment of principal or interest on the Notes;
- (e) after the Redenomination Date, all payments in respect of the Notes, the Receipts and the Coupons, other than payments of interest in respect of periods commencing before the Redenomination Date, will be made solely in euro as though references in the Notes to the Specified Currency were to euro. Payments will be made in euro by credit or transfer to a euro account (or any other account to which euro may be credited or transferred) specified by the payee;
- (f) if the Notes are Fixed Rate Notes and interest for any period ending on or after the Redenomination Date is required to be calculated for a period ending other than on an Interest Payment Date, it will be calculated:
  - (i) in the case of the Notes represented by a Global Note, by applying the Rate of Interest to the aggregate outstanding nominal amount of the Notes; and
  - (ii) in the case of definitive Notes, by applying the Rate of Interest to the Calculation Amount;

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

- (g) if the Notes are Floating Rate Notes, the applicable Final Terms will complete the provisions relating to interest.

## 5.2 Definitions

In the Conditions, the following expressions have the following meanings:

**"Calculation Amount"** has the meaning given in the applicable Final Terms;

**"Established Rate"** means the rate for the conversion of the Specified Currency (including compliance with rules relating to roundings in accordance with applicable European Union regulations) into euro established by the Council of the European Union pursuant to Article 140 of the Treaty;

**"euro"** means the currency introduced at the start of the third stage of European economic and monetary union pursuant to the Treaty;

**"Redenomination Date"** means (in the case of interest bearing Notes) any date for payment of interest under the Notes or (in the case of Zero Coupon Notes) any date, in each case specified by the Issuer in the notice given to the Noteholders pursuant to Condition 5.1 above and which falls on or after the date on which the country of the Specified Currency first participates in the third stage of European economic and monetary union;

**"Relevant Notes"** means all Notes where the applicable Final Terms provide for a minimum Specified Denomination in the Specified Currency which is equivalent to at least euro 100,000 and which are admitted to trading on a regulated market in the EEA; and

**"Treaty"** means the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, as amended.

## 6. Interest

### 6.1 Interest on Fixed Rate Notes

Each Fixed Rate Note (other than where the Specified Currency is Renminbi and the applicable Final Terms specifies a Business Day Convention to be applicable) bears interest from (and including) the Interest Commencement Date at the rate(s) per annum equal to the Rate(s) of Interest. Interest will be payable in arrear on the Interest Payment Date(s) in each year up to (and including) the Maturity Date.

Where the Specified Currency of a Fixed Rate Note is Renminbi and the applicable Final Terms specifies a Business Day Convention to be applicable (each an **"Adjusted Renminbi Fixed Rate Note"**), that Fixed Rate Note bears interest on its outstanding nominal amount from the Interest Commencement Date at the rate per annum (expressed as a percentage) equal to the Rate of Interest, such interest being payable in arrear on each Interest Payment Date. For this purpose, **"Interest Payment Date"** means the Interest Payment Date(s) specified as such in the applicable Final Terms as adjusted in accordance with the applicable Business Day Convention. The amount of interest payable on each Interest Payment Date in respect of the Fixed Interest Period ending on (but excluding) such Interest Payment Date will be calculated by multiplying the product of the Rate of Interest and the outstanding nominal amount of that Adjusted Renminbi Fixed Rate Note by the applicable Day Count Fraction and rounding the resultant figure to the nearest CNH0.01, CNH0.005 being rounded upwards. Each such calculation will be made by the Calculation Agent. For this purpose, **"Fixed Interest Period"** means the period from (and including) an Interest

Payment Date (or the Interest Commencement Date) to (but excluding) the next (or first) Interest Payment Date.

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

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

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

- (A) in the case of Fixed Rate Notes which are represented by a Global Note, the aggregate outstanding nominal amount of the Fixed Rate Notes represented by such Global Note (or, if they are Partly Paid Notes, the aggregate amount paid up); or
- (B) in the case of Fixed Rate Notes in definitive form, the Calculation Amount;

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

"**Day Count Fraction**" means, in respect of the calculation of an amount of interest in accordance with this Condition 6.1:

- (a) if "**Actual/Actual (ISDA)**" or "**Actual/Actual**" is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the actual number of days in the Interest Period divided by 365 (or, if any portion of that Interest Period falls in a leap year, the sum of: (A) the actual number of days in that portion of the Interest Period falling in a leap year divided by 366; and (B) the actual number of days in that portion of the Interest Period falling in a non-leap year divided by 365);
- (b) if "**Actual/Actual (ICMA)**" is specified in the applicable Final Terms:
  - (i) in the case of Notes where the number of days in the relevant period from (and including) the most recent Interest Payment Date (or, if none, the Interest Commencement Date) to (but excluding) the relevant payment date (the "**Accrual Period**") is equal to or shorter than the Determination Period during which the Accrual Period ends, the number of days in such Accrual Period divided by the product of: (A) the number of days in such Determination Period; and (B) the number of Determination Dates (as specified in the applicable Final Terms) that would occur in one calendar year; or
  - (ii) in the case of Notes where the Accrual Period is longer than the Determination Period during which the Accrual Period ends, the sum of:
    - (A) the number of days in such Accrual Period falling in the Determination Period in which the Accrual Period begins divided by the product of: (x) the number of days in such Determination Period; and (y) the number of Determination Dates that would occur in one calendar year; and
    - (B) the number of days in such Accrual Period falling in the next Determination Period divided by the product of: (x) the number of days

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

- (c) if "**30/360**" is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the number of days in the period from (and including) the most recent Interest Payment Date (or, if none, the Interest Commencement Date) to (but excluding) the relevant payment date (such number of days being calculated on the basis of a year of 360 days with 12 30-day months) divided by 360; and
- (d) if "**Actual/365 (Fixed)**" is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the actual number of days in the Interest Period divided by 365.

In the Conditions:

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

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

## 6.2 Interest on Floating Rate Notes

### (a) **Interest Payment Dates**

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

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

Such interest will be payable in respect of each **"Interest Period"** (which expression shall, in the Conditions, mean the period from (and including) an Interest Payment Date (or the Interest Commencement Date) to (but excluding) the next (or first) Interest Payment Date).

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

- (A) in any case where Specified Periods are specified in accordance with Condition 6.2(a)(ii) above, the Floating Rate Convention, such Interest Payment Date: (a) in the case of (x) above, shall be the last day that is a Business Day in the relevant month and the provisions of (ii) below shall apply *mutatis mutandis*; or (b) in the case of (y) above, shall be postponed to the next day which is a Business Day unless it would thereby fall into the next calendar month, in which event: (i) such Interest Payment Date shall be brought forward to the immediately preceding Business Day; and (ii) each subsequent Interest Payment Date shall be the last Business Day in the month which falls the Specified Period after the preceding applicable Interest Payment Date occurred; or

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

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

- (a) a day (other than a Saturday or Sunday) on which commercial banks and foreign exchange markets settle payments and are open for general business (including dealing in foreign exchange and foreign currency deposits) in each Additional Business Centre specified in the applicable Final Terms; and
- (b) either: (i) in relation to any sum payable in a Specified Currency other than euro and Renminbi, a day (other than a Saturday or Sunday) on which commercial banks and foreign exchange markets settle payments and are open for general business (including dealing in foreign exchange and foreign currency deposits) in the principal financial centre of the country of the relevant Specified Currency (which if the Specified Currency is Australian dollars or New Zealand dollars shall be Sydney and Auckland, respectively); or (ii) in relation to any sum payable in euro, a day on which the Trans-European Automated Real-Time Gross Settlement Express Transfer (TARGET2) System (the "**TARGET2 System**") is open; or (iii) in the case of Renminbi, a day (other than a Saturday or Sunday) on which commercial banks and foreign exchange markets settle payments and are open for general business (including dealing in foreign exchange and foreign currency deposits) in the applicable RMB Settlement Centre(s).

(b) ***Rate of Interest***

The rate of interest (the "**Rate of Interest**") payable from time to time in respect of Floating Rate Notes will be determined in the manner specified in the applicable Final Terms.

(i) ***ISDA Determination for Floating Rate Notes***

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

- (A) the Floating Rate Option is as specified in the applicable Final Terms;
- (B) the Designated Maturity is a period specified in the applicable Final Terms; and

- (C) the relevant Reset Date is either: (I) if the applicable Floating Rate Option is based on the London interbank offered rate ("**LIBOR**"), on the Euro-zone interbank offered rate ("**EURIBOR**") or on the ICE Swap Rate, the first day of that Interest Period; or (II) in any other case, as specified in the applicable Final Terms.

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

Unless otherwise stated in the applicable Final Terms, the Minimum Rate of Interest shall be deemed to be zero.

(ii) *Screen Rate Determination for Floating Rate Notes not referencing SONIA, SOFR or ESTR*

- (x) Where Screen Rate Determination is specified in the applicable Final Terms as the manner in which the Rate of Interest is to be determined and the Reference Rate is specified in the applicable Final Terms as being a Reference Rate other than SONIA, SOFR or ESTR, the Rate of Interest for each Interest Period will, subject as provided below, be either:

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

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

- (y) If the Relevant Screen Page is not available or, if sub-paragraph (x)(A) applies and no such offered quotation appears on the Relevant Screen Page, or, if sub-paragraph (x)(B) applies and fewer than three such offered quotations appear on the Relevant Screen Page, in each case as at the Relevant Time, subject as provided below, the Principal Paying Agent shall request the principal Relevant Financial Centre office of each of the Reference Banks to provide the Principal Paying Agent with its offered quotation (expressed as a percentage rate per annum) for the Reference Rate at approximately the Relevant Time on the Interest Determination Date in question. If two or more of the Reference Banks provide the Principal Paying Agent with such offered quotations, the Rate of Interest for such Interest Period shall be the arithmetic mean of such offered quotations as determined by the Principal Paying Agent.
- (z) If paragraph (y) above applies and the Principal Paying Agent determines that fewer than two Reference Banks are providing offered quotations, subject as provided below, the Rate of Interest shall be the arithmetic mean of the rates per annum (expressed as a percentage) as

communicated to (and at the request of) the Principal Paying Agent by the Reference Banks or any two or more of them, at which such banks were offered at the Relevant Time on the relevant Interest Determination Date, deposits in the Specified Currency for a period equal to that which would have been used for the Reference Rate by leading banks in the Relevant Financial Centre interbank market or, if fewer than two of the Reference Banks provide the Principal Paying Agent with such offered rates, the offered rate for deposits in the Specified Currency for a period equal to that which would have been used for the Reference Rate, or the arithmetic mean of the offered rates for deposits in the Specified Currency for a period equal to that which would have been used for the Reference Rate, at which, the Relevant Time on the relevant Interest Determination Date, any one or more banks (which bank or banks is or are in the opinion of the Issuer suitable for such purpose) informs the Principal Paying Agent it is quoting to leading banks in the Relevant Financial Centre interbank market **provided that**, if the Rate of Interest cannot be determined in accordance with the foregoing provisions of this paragraph, and **provided further that** such failure is not due to the occurrence of a Benchmark Event (as defined in Condition 6.6 below), the Rate of Interest shall be determined as at the last preceding Interest Determination Date (though substituting, where a different Margin or Maximum or Minimum Rate of Interest is to be applied to the relevant Interest Period from that which applied to the last preceding Interest Period, the Margin or Maximum or Minimum Rate of Interest relating to the relevant Interest Period, in place of the Margin or Maximum or Minimum Rate of Interest relating to that last preceding Interest Period).

If the Rate of Interest cannot be determined because of the occurrence of a Benchmark Event, the Rate of Interest shall be calculated in accordance with the terms of Condition 6.6.

Unless defined otherwise, for the purposes of this Condition 6.2(b):

**"Interest Commencement Date"** means the Issue Date of the Notes or such other date as may be specified as the Interest Commencement Date in the applicable Final Terms;

**"Interest Determination Date"** has the meaning specified in the applicable Final Terms;

**"Margin"** has the meaning specified in the applicable Final Terms;

**"Reference Banks"** means four major banks selected by the Issuer (following, where practicable, consultation with the Principal Paying Agent) in the interbank market that is most closely connected with the Reference Rate;

**"Reference Rate"** means one of the following benchmark rates (as specified in the applicable Final Terms) in respect of the currency and period specified in the applicable Final Terms:

- LIBOR;
- EURIBOR;
- the Kuwait Interbank Offered Rate ("**KIBOR**");
- the Shanghai Interbank Offered Rate ("**SHIBOR**");
- the Hong Kong Interbank Offered Rate ("**HIBOR**");

- the Kuala Lumpur Interbank Offered Rate ("**KLIBOR**");
- the Turkish Lira Interbank Offered Rate ("**TRLIBOR**" or "**TRYLIBOR**");
- the Singapore Interbank Offered Rate ("**SIBOR**");
- the Emirates Interbank Offered Rate ("**EIBOR**");
- the Tokyo Interbank Offered Rate ("**TIBOR**");
- the Australia Bank Bill Swap ("**BBSW**");
- the Saudi Arabia Interbank Offered Rate ("**SAIBOR**");
- the Canadian Dollar Offered Rate ("**CDOR**");
- the Stockholm Interbank Offered Rate ("**STIBOR**");
- the Bahrain Dinar Interbank Offered Rate ("**BHIBOR**");
- the Copenhagen Interbank Offered Rate ("**CIBOR**");
- the New Zealand Dollar Bank Bill ("**BKBM**");
- the Norwegian Interbank Offered Rate ("**NIOR**");
- the Taipei Interbank Offered Rate ("**TAIBOR**");
- the Johannesburg Interbank Average Rate ("**JIBAR**");
- the CNH Hong Kong Interbank Offered Rate ("**CNH HIBOR**");
- the ICE Swap Rate denominated in U.S. dollars, GBP or Euro ("**ICE Swap Rate**");
- the Sterling Overnight Index Average ("**SONIA**");
- the Secured Overnight Financing Rate ("**SOFR**") and
- the Euro Short-Term Rate ("**€STR**").

"**Relevant Financial Centre**" means the financial centre specified as such in the applicable Final Terms;

"**Relevant Screen Page**" means such page, section, caption, column or other part of a particular information service as may be specified in the applicable Final Terms; and

"**Relevant Time**" means the time specified as such in the applicable Final Terms.

(iii) *Screen Rate Determination for Floating Rate Notes referencing SONIA, SOFR or €STR*

(A) Where Screen Rate Determination is specified in the applicable Final Terms as the manner in which the Rate of Interest is to be determined and the Reference Rate is specified in the applicable Final Terms as being SONIA, SOFR or €STR:

(1) where the Calculation Method in respect of the relevant Series of Notes is specified in the applicable Final Terms as being "**Compounded Daily**", the Rate of Interest applicable to the

Notes for each Interest Period will (subject to Condition 6.6 and Condition 6.2(c) and subject as provided below) be the Compounded Daily Reference Rate plus or minus (as indicated in the applicable Final Terms) the Margin, all as determined by the Principal Paying Agent (or such other party responsible for the calculation of the Rate of Interest, as specified in the applicable Final Terms) on the Interest Determination Date and the resulting percentage will be rounded, if necessary, to the fifth decimal place, with 0.000005 being rounded upwards; and

- (2) where the Calculation Method in respect of the relevant Series of Notes is specified in the applicable Final Terms as being "**Weighted Average**", the Rate of Interest applicable to the Notes for each Interest Period will (subject to Condition 6.6 and Condition 6.2(c) and subject as provided below) be the Weighted Average Reference Rate plus or minus (as indicated in the applicable Final Terms) the Margin, all as determined by the Principal Paying Agent (or such other party responsible for the calculation of the Rate of Interest, as specified in the applicable Final Terms) on the Interest Determination Date and the resulting percentage will be rounded, if necessary, to the fifth decimal place, with 0.000005 being rounded upwards.

- (B) Where "**SONIA**" is specified as the Reference Rate in the applicable Final Terms, subject to Condition 6.6, if, in respect of any Business Day, the Principal Paying Agent (or such other party responsible for the calculation of the Rate of Interest, as specified in the applicable Final Terms) determines that the SONIA rate is not available on the Relevant Screen Page or has not otherwise been published by the relevant authorised distributors, such SONIA rate shall be:

- (1) (i) the Bank of England's Bank Rate (the "**Bank Rate**") prevailing at 5.00 p.m. (or, if earlier, close of business) on the relevant Business Day; plus (ii) the mean of the spread of the SONIA rate to the Bank Rate over the previous five days on which a SONIA reference rate has been published, excluding the highest spread (or, if there is more than one highest spread, one only of those highest spreads) and lowest spread (or, if there is more than one lowest spread, one only of those lowest spreads); or
- (2) if the Bank Rate is not published by the Bank of England at 5.00 p.m. (or, if earlier, close of business) on the relevant Business Day, the SONIA rate published on the Relevant Screen Page (or otherwise published by the relevant authorised distributors) for the first preceding Business Day on which the SONIA rate was published on the Relevant Screen Page (or otherwise published by the relevant authorised distributors),

and, in each case, "**r**" shall be interpreted accordingly.

Notwithstanding the paragraph above, and without prejudice to Condition 6.6, in the event of the Bank of England publishing guidance as to (i) how the SONIA rate is to be determined or (ii) any rate that is to replace the SONIA rate, the Principal Paying Agent (or such other party responsible for the calculation of the Rate of Interest, as specified in the applicable Final Terms) shall, subject to receiving written instructions from the Issuer and to the extent that it is reasonably practicable, follow such guidance in order to determine the SONIA rate, for purposes of the Notes, for so long as the SONIA rate is not available or has not been published by the authorised distributors.

To the extent that any amendments or modifications to the Conditions or the Agency Agreement are required in order for the Principal Paying Agent (or such other party responsible for the calculation of the Rate of Interest, as specified in the applicable Final Terms) to follow such guidance in order to determine the SONIA rate, the Principal Paying Agent (or such other party responsible for the calculation of the Rate of Interest, as specified in the applicable Final Terms) shall have no obligation to act until such amendments or modifications have been made in accordance with the Conditions and the Agency Agreement.

- (C) Where "**SOFR**" is specified as the Reference Rate in the applicable Final Terms, subject to Condition 6.6, if, in respect of any Business Day, the Principal Paying Agent (or such other party responsible for the calculation of the Rate of Interest, as specified in the applicable Final Terms) determines that the SOFR rate does not appear on the Relevant Screen Page, such Reference Rate shall be the SOFR for the first preceding Business Day on which the SOFR was published on the Relevant Screen Page ("**r**" shall be interpreted accordingly).
- (D) Where "**€STR**" is specified as the Reference Rate in the applicable Final Terms, subject to Condition 6.6, if, in respect of any Business Day, the Principal Paying Agent (or such other party responsible for the calculation of the Rate of Interest, as specified in the applicable Final Terms) determines that the €STR rate does not appear on the Relevant Screen Page, such Reference Rate shall be the €STR for the first preceding Business Day on which the €STR was published on the Relevant Screen Page ("**r**" shall be interpreted accordingly).
- (E) In the event that the Rate of Interest for the relevant Interest Period cannot be determined in accordance with the foregoing provisions, subject to Condition 6.6, the Rate of Interest for such Interest Period shall be (i) that determined as at the last preceding Interest Determination Date (though substituting, where a different Margin or Maximum Rate of Interest or Minimum Rate of Interest is to be applied to the relevant Interest Period from that which applied to the last preceding Interest Period, the Margin or Maximum Rate of Interest or Minimum Rate of Interest relating to the relevant Interest Period, in place of the Margin relating to that last preceding Interest Period) or (ii) if there is no such preceding Interest Determination Date, the initial Rate of Interest which would have been applicable to such Series of Notes for the first Interest Period had the Notes been in issue for a period equal in duration to the scheduled first Interest Period but ending on (and excluding) the Interest Commencement Date (but applying the Margin and any Maximum Rate of Interest or Minimum Rate of Interest applicable to the first Interest Period).
- (F) If the relevant Series of Notes become due and payable in accordance with Condition 11, the last Interest Determination Date shall, notwithstanding any Interest Determination Date specified in the applicable Final Terms, be deemed to be the date on which such Notes became due and payable and the Rate of Interest on such Notes shall, for so long as the Notes remain outstanding, be that determined on such date.
- (G) For the purposes of this Condition 6.2(b)(iii):

If "**Payment Delay**" is specified in the applicable Final Terms as being applicable, all references in these Conditions to interest on the Notes being payable on an Interest Payment Date shall be read as references to interest on the Notes being payable on an Effective Interest Payment Date instead;

**"Applicable Period"** means,

- (1) where **"Lag"**, **"Lock-out"** or **"Payment Delay"** is specified as the Observation Method in the applicable Final Terms, the relevant Interest Period; and
- (2) where **"Observation Shift"** is specified as the Observation Method in the applicable Final Terms, the Observation Period relating to such Interest Period;

**"Business Day"** or **"BD"**, means,

- (1) where **"SONIA"** is specified as the Reference Rate in the applicable Final Terms, any day on which commercial banks are open for general business (including dealing in foreign exchange and foreign currency deposits) in London;
- (2) where **"SOFR"** is specified as the Reference Rate in the applicable Final Terms, any day which is a U.S. Government Securities Business Day and is not a legal holiday in New York and is not a date on which banking institutions in those cities are authorised or required by law or regulation to be closed; and
- (3) where **"€STR"** is specified as the Reference Rate in the applicable Final Terms, a day on which TARGET2 System is open for settlements of payments in euro;

**"Compounded Daily Reference Rate"** means, with respect to an Interest Period, the rate of return of a daily compound interest investment in the Specified Currency (with the applicable Reference Rate (as indicated in the applicable Final Terms and further provided for below) as the reference rate for the calculation of interest) and will be calculated by the Principal Paying Agent (or such other party responsible for the calculation of the Rate of Interest, as specified in the applicable Final Terms) as at the relevant Interest Determination Date as follows, and the resulting percentage will be rounded, if necessary, to the fifth decimal place, with 0.000005 being rounded upwards:

$$\left[ \prod_{i=1}^{d_o} \left( 1 + \frac{r_{i-pBD} \times n_i}{D} \right) - 1 \right] \times \frac{D}{d}$$

**"D"** is the number specified in the applicable Final Terms;

**"d"** means, for the relevant Applicable Period, the number of calendar days in such Applicable Period;

**"d<sub>o</sub>"** means, for the relevant Applicable Period, the number of Business Days in such Applicable Period;

**"Effective Interest Payment Date"** means any date or dates specified as such in the applicable Final Terms;

**"€STR"** means, in respect of any Business Day, a reference rate equal to the daily euro short-term rate for such Business Day as provided by the European Central Bank, as administrator of such rate (or any successor administrator of such rate), on the website of the European Central Bank currently at <http://www.ecb.europa.eu>, or any successor website officially designated by the European Central Bank (the **"ECB's"**

**Website")** in each case, on or before 9:00 a.m., (Central European Time) on the Business Day immediately following such Business Day;

**"i"** means, for the relevant Applicable Period, a series of whole numbers from one to  $d_0$ , each representing the relevant Business Day in chronological order from, and including, the first Business Day in such Applicable Period;

**"Lock-out Period"** means the period from, and including, the day following the Interest Determination Date to, but excluding, the corresponding Interest Payment Date;

**" $n_i$ "**, for any Business Day "i" in the Applicable Period, means the number of calendar days from, and including, such Business Day "i" up to but excluding the following Business Day;

**"New York Federal Reserve's Website"** means the website of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York currently at <http://www.newyorkfed.org>, or any successor website of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York;

**"Observation Period"** means, in respect of the relevant Interest Period, the period from, and including, the date falling "p" Business Days prior to the first day of such Interest Period (and the first Interest Period shall begin on and include the Interest Commencement Date) and ending on, but excluding, the date which is "p" Business Days prior to the Interest Payment Date for such Interest Period (or the date falling "p" Business Days prior to such earlier date, if any, on which the Notes become due and payable);

**"p"** means, for any Interest Period:

- (1) where "Lag" is specified as the Observation Method in the applicable Final Terms, the number of Business Days included in the Observation Look-back Period specified in the applicable Final Terms (which shall not be less than five Business Days without the consent of the Principal Paying Agent (or such other party responsible for the calculation of the Rate of Interest, as specified in the applicable Final Terms));
- (2) where "Lock-out" is specified as the Observation Method in the applicable Final Terms, zero; and
- (3) where "Observation Shift" is specified as the Observation Method in the applicable Final Terms, the number of Business Days included in the Observation Look-back Period specified in the applicable Final Terms ((which shall not be less than five Business Days without the consent of the Principal Paying Agent (or such other party responsible for the calculation of the Rate of Interest, as specified in the applicable Final Terms));

**"r"** means:

- (1) where in the applicable Final Terms "SONIA" is specified as the Reference Rate and either "Lag" or "Observation Shift" is specified as the Observation Method, in respect of any Business Day, the SONIA rate in respect of such Business Day;
- (2) where in the applicable Final Terms "SOFR" is specified as the Reference Rate and either "Lag" or "Observation Shift" is specified as the Observation Method, in respect of any Business Day, the SOFR in respect of such Business Day;

- (3) where in the applicable Final Terms "€STR" is specified as the Reference Rate and either "Lag" or "Observation Shift" is specified as the Observation Method, in respect of any Business Day, the €STR in respect of such Business Day;
- (4) where in the applicable Final Terms "SONIA" is specified as the Reference Rate and "Lock-out" is specified as the Observation Method:
  - (i) in respect of any Business Day "i" that is a Reference Day, the SONIA rate in respect of the Business Day immediately preceding such Reference Day, and
  - (ii) in respect of any Business Day "i" that is not a Reference Day (being a Business Day in the Lock-out Period), the SONIA rate in respect of the Business Day immediately preceding the last Reference Day of the relevant Interest Period (such last Reference Day coinciding with the Interest Determination Date);
- (5) where in the applicable Final Terms "SOFR" is specified as the Reference Rate and "Lock-out" is specified as the Observation Method:
  - (i) in respect of any Business Day "i" that is a Reference Day, the SOFR in respect of the Business Day immediately preceding such Reference Day, and
  - (ii) in respect of any Business Day "i" that is not a Reference Day (being a Business Day in the Lock-out Period), the SOFR in respect of the Business Day immediately preceding the last Reference Day of the relevant Interest Period (such last Reference Day coinciding with the Interest Determination Date);
- (6) where in the applicable Final Terms "€STR" is specified as the Reference Rate and "Lock-out" is specified as the Observation Method:
  - (i) in respect of any Business Day "i" that is a Reference Day, the €STR in respect of the Business Day immediately preceding such Reference Day, and
  - (ii) in respect of any Business Day "i" that is not a Reference Day (being a Business Day in the Lock-out Period), the €STR in respect of the Business Day immediately preceding the last Reference Day of the relevant Interest Period (such last Reference Day coinciding with the Interest Determination Date);
- (7) where in the applicable Final Terms "SONIA" is specified as the Reference Rate and "Payment Delay" is specified as the Observation Method, in respect of any Business Day, the SONIA rate in respect of such Business Day, provided however that, in the case of the last Interest Period, in respect of each Business Day in the period from (and including) the Rate Cut-off Date to (but excluding) the Maturity Date or the date fixed for redemption, as applicable, "i" shall be the SONIA rate in respect of the Rate Cut-off Date;
- (8) where in the applicable Final Terms "SOFR" is specified as the Reference Rate and "Payment Delay" is specified as the

Observation Method, in respect of any Business Day, the SOFR in respect of such Business Day, provided however that, in the case of the last Interest Period, in respect of each Business Day in the period from (and including) the Rate Cut-off Date to (but excluding) the Maturity Date or the date fixed for redemption, as applicable, "r" shall be the SOFR in respect of the Rate Cut-off Date; and

- (9) where in the applicable Final Terms "€STR" is specified as the Reference Rate and "Payment Delay" is specified as the Observation Method, in respect of any Business Day, the €STR in respect of such Business Day, provided however that, in the case of the last Interest Period, in respect of each Business Day in the period from (and including) the Rate Cut-off Date to (but excluding) the Maturity Date or the date fixed for redemption, as applicable, "r" shall be the €STR in respect of the Rate Cut-off Date;

**"Rate Cut-off Date"** has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms;

**"Reference Day"** means each Business Day in the relevant Interest Period, other than any Business Day in the Lock-out Period;

**" $r_{i-pBD}$ "** means the applicable Reference Rate as set out in the definition of "r" above for, (i) where, in the applicable Final Terms, "Lag" is specified as the Observation Method, the Business Day (being a Business Day falling in the relevant Observation Period) falling "p" Business Days prior to the relevant Business Day "i" or, (ii) otherwise, the relevant Business Day "i";

**"SOFR"** means, in respect of any Business Day, a reference rate equal to the daily Secured Overnight Financing Rate as provided by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, as the administrator of such rate (or any successor administrator of such rate) on the New York Federal Reserve's Website, in each case on or about 5.00 p.m. (New York City Time) on the Business Day immediately following such Business Day (the **"SOFR Determination Time"**);

**"SONIA"** means, in respect of any Business Day, a reference rate equal to the daily Sterling Overnight Index Average rate for such Business Day as provided by the administrator of SONIA to authorised distributors and as then published on the Relevant Screen Page or, if the Relevant Screen Page is unavailable, as otherwise published by such authorised distributors in each case on the Business Day immediately following such Business Day;

**"U.S. Government Securities Business Day"** means any day except for a Saturday, Sunday or a day on which the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (or any successor thereto) recommends that the fixed income departments of its members be closed for the entire day for purposes of trading in U.S. government securities; and

**"Weighted Average Reference Rate"** means:

- (1) where "Lag" is specified as the Observation Method in the applicable Final Terms, the arithmetic mean of the Reference Rate in effect for each calendar day during the relevant Observation Period, calculated by multiplying each relevant Reference Rate by the number of calendar days such rate is in effect, determining the sum of such products and dividing such sum by the number of calendar days in the relevant Observation

Period. For these purposes the Reference Rate in effect for any calendar day which is not a Business Day shall be deemed to be the Reference Rate in effect for the Business Day immediately preceding such calendar day; and

- (2) where "Lock-out" is specified as the Observation Method in the applicable Final Terms, the arithmetic mean of the Reference Rate in effect for each calendar day during the relevant Interest Period, calculated by multiplying each relevant Reference Rate by the number of calendar days such rate is in effect, determining the sum of such products and dividing such sum by the number of calendar days in the relevant Interest Period, provided however that for any calendar day of such Interest Period falling in the Lock-out Period, the relevant Reference Rate for each day during that Lock-out Period will be deemed to be the Reference Rate in effect for the Reference Day immediately preceding the first day of such Lock-out Period. For these purposes the Reference Rate in effect for any calendar day which is not a Business Day shall, subject to the proviso above, be deemed to be the Reference Rate in effect for the Business Day immediately preceding such calendar day.

(c) ***Minimum Rate of Interest and/or Maximum Rate of Interest***

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

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

Unless otherwise stated in the applicable Final Terms, the Minimum Rate of Interest shall be deemed to be zero.

(d) ***Determination of Rate of Interest and calculation of Interest Amounts***

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

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

- (A) in the case of Floating Rate Notes which are represented by a Global Note, the aggregate outstanding nominal amount of the Notes represented by such Global Note (or, if they are Partly Paid Notes, the aggregate amount paid up); or
- (B) in the case of Floating Rate Notes in definitive form, the Calculation Amount;

and, in each case, multiplying such sum by the applicable Day Count Fraction, and rounding the resultant figure to the nearest sub-unit of the relevant Specified Currency, half of any such sub-unit being rounded upwards or otherwise in accordance with applicable market convention. Where the Specified Denomination of a Floating Rate Note in definitive form is a multiple of the Calculation Amount, the Interest Amount payable in respect of such Note shall be the product of the amount (determined in the manner

provided above) for the Calculation Amount and the amount by which the Calculation Amount is multiplied to reach the Specified Denomination, without any further rounding.

**"Day Count Fraction"** means, in respect of the calculation of an amount of interest in accordance with this Condition 6.2:

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

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

Where:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

where:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

where:

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

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

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

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

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

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

(e) ***Linear Interpolation***

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

**"Applicable Maturity"** means: (i) in relation to Screen Rate Determination, the period of time designated in the Reference Rate; and (ii) in relation to ISDA Determination, the Designated Maturity.

(f) ***Notification of Rate of Interest and Interest Amounts***

The Principal Paying Agent will cause the Rate of Interest and each Interest Amount for each Interest Period and the relevant Interest Payment Date to be notified to the Issuer and any stock exchange on which the relevant Floating Rate Notes are for the time being listed (by no later than the second London Business Day after the Interest Determination Date) and notice thereof to be published in accordance with Condition 15 as soon as possible after their determination but in no event later than the fourth London Business Day thereafter. Each Interest Amount and Interest Payment Date so notified may subsequently be amended (or appropriate alternative arrangements made by way of adjustment) without prior notice in the event of an extension or shortening of the Interest Period. Any such amendment will be promptly notified to each stock exchange on which the relevant Floating Rate Notes are for the time being listed and to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15. For the purposes of this paragraph, the expression **"London Business Day"** means a day (other than a Saturday or a Sunday) on which banks and foreign exchange markets are open for general business in London.

(g) ***Certificates to be final***

All certificates, communications, opinions, determinations, calculations, quotations and decisions given, expressed, made or obtained for the purposes of the provisions of this Condition 6.2 or Condition 7.9, whether by the Principal Paying Agent or, if applicable and in the case of Condition 7.9, the Calculation Agent, shall (in the absence of wilful default, bad faith or manifest error or proven error) be binding on the Issuer, the Principal Paying Agent, the Calculation Agent (if applicable), the other Agents and all Noteholders, Receiptholders and Couponholders and (in the absence as aforesaid) no liability to the Issuer, the Noteholders, the Receiptholders or the Couponholders shall attach to the Principal Paying Agent or, if applicable and in the case of Condition 7.9, the Calculation Agent in connection with the exercise or non-exercise by it of its powers, duties and discretions pursuant to such provisions.

6.3 **Interest on Reset Notes**

(a) ***Rates of Interest***

Each Reset Note bears interest:

- (i) in respect of the period from (and including) the Interest Commencement Date to (but excluding) the Reset Date (or, if there is more than one Reset Period, the first Reset Date occurring after the Interest Commencement Date), at the rate per annum equal to the Initial Rate of Interest; and
- (ii) in respect of the Reset Period (or, if there is more than one Reset Period, each successive Reset Period thereafter), at such rate per annum as is equal to the relevant Subsequent Reset Rate, as determined by the Principal Paying Agent on the relevant Reset Determination Date in accordance with this Condition 6.3(a).

payable, in each case, in arrear on the Interest Payment Date(s) (as specified in the applicable Final Terms).

As used in these Conditions:

**"Initial Rate of Interest"** has the meaning specified in the applicable Final Terms.

**"Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate"** means (i) the Reference Rate as specified in the applicable Final Terms or (ii) if no such Reference Rate is specified, EURIBOR if the Specified Currency is euro or LIBOR if the Specified Currency is not euro.

**"Mid Swap Maturity"** has the meaning specified in the applicable Final Terms.

**"Mid Swap Rate"** means for any Reset Period the arithmetic mean of the bid and offered rates for the fixed leg, payable with a frequency equivalent to the frequency with which scheduled interest payments are payable on the Notes during the relevant Reset Period (calculated on the day count basis customary for fixed rate payments in the Specified Currency as determined by the Principal Paying Agent), of a fixed-for-floating interest rate swap transaction in the Specified Currency which transaction: (a) has a term equal to the relevant Reset Period and commencing on the relevant Reset Date; (b) is in an amount that is representative for a single transaction in the relevant market at the relevant time with an acknowledged dealer of good credit in the swap market; and (c) has a floating leg based on the Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate for the Mid Swap Maturity as specified in the applicable Final Terms (calculated on the day count basis customary for floating rate payments in the Specified Currency as determined by the Principal Paying Agent).

**"Reference Bond"** means for any Reset Period a government security or securities issued by the state responsible for issuing the Specified Currency (which, if the Specified Currency is euro, shall be Germany) selected by the Issuer on the advice of an investment bank of international repute as having an actual or interpolated maturity comparable with the relevant Reset Period that would be utilised, at the time of selection and in accordance with customary financial practice, in pricing new issues of corporate debt securities denominated in the Specified Currency and of a comparable maturity to the relevant Reset Period.

**"Reference Bond Price"** means, with respect to any Reset Determination Date: (A) the arithmetic average of the Reference Government Bond Dealer Quotations for such Reset Determination Date, after excluding the highest and lowest such Reference Government Bond Dealer Quotations; or (B) if the Principal Paying Agent obtains fewer than four such Reference Government Bond Dealer Quotations, the arithmetic average of all such quotations.

**"Reference Government Bond Dealer"** means each of five banks (selected by the Issuer on the advice of an investment bank of international repute), or their affiliates, which are: (A) primary government securities dealers, and their respective successors; or (B) market makers in pricing corporate bond issues.

**"Reference Government Bond Dealer Quotations"** means, with respect to each Reference Government Bond Dealer and the relevant Reset Determination Date, the arithmetic average, as determined by the Principal Paying Agent, of the bid and offered prices for the relevant Reference Bond (expressed in each case as a percentage of its nominal amount) at or around the Subsequent Reset Rate Time on the relevant Reset Determination Date quoted in writing to the Principal Paying Agent by such Reference Government Bond Dealer.

**"Reset Date(s)"** means the date(s) specified in the applicable Final Terms.

**"Reset Determination Date"** means for each Reset Period the date as specified in the applicable Final Terms falling on or before the commencement of such Reset Period on which the rate of interest applying during such Reset Period will be determined.

**"Reset Margin"** means the margin specified in the applicable Final Terms.

**"Reset Period"** means the period from (and including) the first Reset Date to (but excluding) the Maturity Date if there is only one Reset Period or, if there is more than one Reset Period, each period from (and including) one Reset Date (or the first Reset Date) to (but excluding) the next Reset Date up to (but excluding) the Maturity Date.

**"Subsequent Reset Rate"** for any Reset Period means the sum of: (i) the applicable Subsequent Reset Reference Rate; and (ii) the applicable Reset Margin (rounded down to four decimal places, with 0.00005 being rounded down).

**"Subsequent Reset Rate Screen Page"** has the meaning specified in the applicable Final Terms;

**"Subsequent Reset Rate Time"** has the meaning specified in the applicable Final Terms.

**"Subsequent Reset Reference Rate"** means either:

- (A) if **"Mid Swaps"** is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the Mid Swap Rate displayed on the Subsequent Reset Rate Screen Page at or around the Subsequent Reset Rate Time on the relevant Reset Determination Date for such Reset Period; or
- (B) if **"Reference Bond"** is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the annual yield to maturity or interpolated yield to maturity (on the relevant day count basis) of the relevant Reference Bond, assuming a price for such Reference Bond (expressed as a percentage of its nominal amount) equal to the relevant Reference Bond Price.

The Principal Paying Agent will calculate the amount of interest (the **"Interest Amount"**) payable on the Reset Notes for the relevant period by applying the Initial Rate of Interest or the applicable Subsequent Reset Rate (as the case may be) to:

- (A) in the case of Reset Notes which are represented by a Global Note, the aggregate outstanding nominal amount of the Reset Notes represented by such Global Note; or
- (B) in the case of Reset Notes in definitive form, the Calculation Amount;

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

**"Day Count Fraction"** and related definitions have the meanings given in Condition 6.1.

(b) ***Subsequent Reset Rate Screen Page***

If the Subsequent Reset Rate Screen Page is not available or the Mid Swap Rate does not appear on the Subsequent Reset Rate Screen Page, the Principal Paying Agent shall request each of the Reference Banks (as defined below) to provide the Principal Paying Agent with its offered quotation (expressed as a percentage rate per annum) for the Subsequent Reset Reference Rate at approximately the Subsequent Reset Rate Time on the Reset Determination Date in question. If two or more of the Reference Banks provide the Principal Paying Agent with such offered quotations, the Subsequent Reset Rate for the relevant Reset Period shall be the arithmetic mean (rounded if necessary to the fifth decimal place, with 0.000005 being rounded upwards) of the offered quotations plus or minus (as appropriate) the applicable Reset Margin (if any), all as determined by the Principal Paying Agent. **Provided that** a Benchmark Event has not occurred, if on any Reset Determination Date only one or none of the Reference Banks provides the Principal Paying Agent with an offered quotation as provided in the foregoing provisions of this paragraph, the Subsequent Reset Rate shall be determined as at the last preceding Reset Determination Date or, in the case of the first Reset Determination Date, the Subsequent Reset Rate shall be the Initial Rate of Interest.

If a Benchmark Event has occurred, the Subsequent Reset Rate shall be calculated in accordance with the terms of Condition 6.6.

For the purposes of this Condition 6.3(b):

**"Reference Banks"** means the principal office in the Relevant Financial Centre of four major banks in the swap, money, securities or other market most closely connected with the Subsequent Reset Reference Rate as selected by the Issuer on the advice of an investment bank of international repute.

**"Relevant Financial Centre"** means the financial centre specified as such in the applicable Final Terms or if none is so specified: (i) the case of a determination of LIBOR, London; (ii) in the case of a determination of EURIBOR, Brussels; (iii) in the case of a determination of SIBOR, Singapore; (iv) in the case of a determination of TIBOR, Tokyo; (v) in the case of a determination of HIBOR, Hong Kong; or (vi) in the case of a determination of the Bank of England Base Rate, London.

(c) ***Notification of Subsequent Reset Rate and Interest Amounts***

The Principal Paying Agent will cause the Subsequent Reset Rate and each Interest Amount for each Reset Period to be notified to the Issuer and any stock exchange on which the relevant Reset Notes are for the time being listed and notice thereof to be published in accordance with Condition 15 as soon as possible after their determination but in no event later than the fourth London Business Day thereafter. Each Interest Amount as notified may subsequently be amended (or appropriate alternative arrangements made by way of adjustment). Any such amendment will be promptly notified to any stock exchange on which the relevant Reset Notes are for the time being listed and to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15. For the purposes of this paragraph, the expression **"London Business Day"** means a day (other than a Saturday or a Sunday) on which banks and foreign exchange markets are open for business in London.

(d) ***Certificates to be final***

All certificates, communications, opinions, determinations, calculations, quotations and decisions given, expressed, made or obtained for the purposes of the provisions of this Condition 6.3 by the Principal Paying Agent shall (in the absence of wilful default, bad faith or manifest error) be binding on the Issuer, the Principal Paying Agent, the other Paying Agents and all Noteholders and (in the absence of wilful default and bad faith) no liability to the Issuer or the Noteholders or any other person shall attach to the Principal Paying Agent in connection with the exercise or non-exercise by it of its powers, duties and discretions pursuant to such provisions.

6.4 **Interest on Partly Paid Notes**

In the case of Partly Paid Notes (other than Partly Paid Notes which are Zero Coupon Notes), interest will accrue as aforesaid on the paid-up nominal amount of such Notes.

6.5 **Accrual of interest**

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

- (i) the date on which all amounts due in respect of such Note have been paid; and
- (ii) five days after the date on which the full amount of the moneys payable in respect of such Note has been received by the Principal Paying Agent or the Registrar, as the case may be, and notice to that effect has been given to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15.

6.6 **Benchmark Replacement – Independent Adviser**

In the case of Notes where the applicable Final Terms specify Condition 6.7 as not being applicable in respect of *"Benchmark Replacement – ARRC"*, in addition and notwithstanding the provisions

above in this Condition 6, if the Issuer determines that a Benchmark Event has occurred when any Rate of Interest (or the relevant component part thereof) remains to be determined by reference to a Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate or a Reference Rate (as applicable), then the following provisions shall apply:

- (a) the Issuer shall use reasonable endeavours to appoint an Independent Adviser to determine a Successor Rate or, alternatively, if the Independent Adviser determines that there is no Successor Rate, an Alternative Reference Rate no later than 10 Business Days prior to the relevant Reset Determination Date or Interest Determination Date (as applicable) relating to the next succeeding Reset Period or Interest Period (as applicable) (the "**IA Determination Cut-off Date**") for purposes of determining the Rate of Interest applicable to the Notes for all future Reset Periods or Interest Periods (as applicable) (subject to the subsequent operation of this Condition 6.6 if a further Benchmark Event occurs). The Issuer shall inform the Principal Paying Agent of the Successor Rate or the Alternative Reference Rate (as applicable) at least 5 Business Days prior to such Reset Determination Date or Interest Determination Date (as applicable);
- (b) if the Issuer is unable to appoint an Independent Adviser, or the Independent Adviser appointed by it fails to determine a Successor Rate or an Alternative Reference Rate prior to the IA Determination Cut-off Date in accordance with subparagraph (i) above, then the Issuer (acting in good faith and in a commercially reasonable manner) may determine a Successor Rate or, if the Issuer determines that there is no Successor Rate, an Alternative Reference Rate for purposes of determining the Rate of Interest applicable to the Notes for all future Reset Periods or Interest Periods (as applicable) (subject to the subsequent operation of this Condition 6.6 if a further Benchmark Event occurs); **provided, however, that** if this subparagraph (b) applies and the Issuer is unable or unwilling to determine a Successor Rate or an Alternative Reference Rate and inform the Principal Paying Agent of such Successor Rate or Alternative Reference Rate (as applicable) at least 5 Business Days prior to the Reset Determination Date or Interest Determination Date (as applicable) relating to the next succeeding Reset Period or Interest Period (as applicable) in accordance with this subparagraph (b), the Rate of Interest applicable to such Reset Period or Interest Period (as applicable) shall be equal to the Rate of Interest last determined in relation to the Notes in respect of a preceding Reset Period or Interest Period (as applicable) (which may be the Initial Rate of Interest) (though substituting, where a different Reset Margin or Margin or Maximum or Minimum Rate of Interest is to be applied to the relevant Reset Period or Interest Period from that which applied to the last preceding Reset Period or Interest Period for which the Rate of Interest was determined, the Reset Margin or Margin or Maximum or Minimum Rate of Interest relating to the relevant Reset Period or Interest Period, in place of the Reset Margin or Margin or Maximum or Minimum Rate of Interest relating to that last preceding Reset Period or Interest Period); for the avoidance of doubt, the proviso in this this subparagraph (b) shall apply to the relevant Reset Period or Interest Period (as applicable) only and any subsequent Reset Periods or Interest Periods (as applicable) are subject to the subsequent operation of, and to adjustment as provided in, this Condition 6.6;
- (c) if a Successor Rate or an Alternative Reference Rate is determined in accordance with the preceding provisions, such Successor Rate or Alternative Reference Rate (as applicable) shall be the Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate or Reference Rate (as applicable) for all future Reset Periods or Interest Periods (as applicable) (subject to the subsequent operation of this Condition 6.6 if a further Benchmark Event occurs);
- (d) if the Independent Adviser (in consultation with the Issuer) or (if the Issuer is unable to appoint an Independent Adviser, or the Independent Adviser appointed by it fails to determine whether an Adjustment Spread should be applied) the Issuer (acting in good faith and in a commercially reasonable manner) determines that (i) an Adjustment Spread should be applied to the relevant Successor Rate or the relevant Alternative Reference Rate (as applicable); and (ii) the quantum of, or a formula or methodology for determining, such Adjustment Spread, then such Adjustment Spread shall be applied to such Successor Rate or Alternative Reference Rate (as applicable). The Issuer shall inform the Principal Paying Agent of the Adjustment Spread and (if applicable) the quantum of, or the formula or methodology for determining, such Adjustment Spread, at least 5 Business Days prior

to the relevant Reset Determination Date or Interest Determination Date (as applicable). If the Independent Adviser or the Issuer (as applicable) is unable to determine and inform the Principal Paying Agent of, at least 5 Business Days prior to the Reset Determination Date or Interest Determination Date (as applicable) relating to the next succeeding Reset Period or Interest Period (as applicable), the quantum of, or a formula or methodology for determining, such Adjustment Spread, then such Successor Rate or Alternative Reference Rate (as applicable) will apply without an Adjustment Spread;

- (e) if the Independent Adviser or the Issuer (as the case may be) determines a Successor Rate or an Alternative Reference Rate or, in each case, any Adjustment Spread, in accordance with the above provisions, the Independent Adviser or the Issuer may also specify changes to the Day Count Fraction, Subsequent Reset Rate Screen Page, Relevant Screen Page, Business Day Convention, Business Day, Reset Determination Date, Interest Determination Date, Interest Payment Dates and/or the definition of Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate or Reference Rate or Adjustment Spread applicable to the Notes (and in each case, related provisions and definitions), and the method for determining the fallback rate in relation to the Notes, in order to follow market practice in relation to such Successor Rate or Alternative Reference Rate (as applicable), which changes shall apply to the Notes for all future Reset Periods or Interest Periods (as applicable) (subject to the subsequent operation of this Condition 6.6 if a further Benchmark Event occurs);
- (f) An Independent Adviser appointed pursuant to this Condition 6.6 shall act in good faith and (in the absence of fraud) shall have no liability whatsoever to the Issuer, the Principal Paying Agent or Noteholders for any determination made by it or for any advice given to the Issuer in connection with any determination made by the Issuer pursuant to this Condition 6.6. No Noteholder consent shall be required in connection with effecting the Successor Rate or the Alternative Reference Rate (as applicable), any Adjustment Spread or such other changes pursuant to subparagraph (e), including for the execution of any documents, amendments or other steps by the Issuer or the Principal Paying Agent (if required);
- (g) the Issuer shall, following the determination of any Successor Rate, Alternative Reference Rate, Adjustment Spread or any of the changes determined pursuant to subparagraph (e) above, notify the Principal Paying Agent thereof at least 5 Business Days prior to the relevant Reset Determination Date or Interest Determination Date (as applicable). In accordance with Condition 15, notice shall be provided to the Noteholders promptly thereafter; and
- (h) notwithstanding any other provision of this Condition 6.6, if following the determination of any Successor Rate, Alternative Reference Rate, Adjustment Spread or any other changes pursuant to subparagraph (e), in the Principal Paying Agent's opinion there is any uncertainty between two or more alternative courses of action in making any determination or calculation under this Condition 6.6, the Principal Paying Agent shall promptly notify the Issuer thereof and the Issuer shall direct the Agent in writing as to which alternative course of action to adopt. If the Principal Paying Agent is not promptly provided with such direction, or is otherwise unable (other than due to its own gross negligence, wilful default or fraud) to make such calculation or determination for any reason, it shall notify the Issuer thereof and the Principal Paying Agent shall be under no obligation to make such calculation or determination and (in the absence of such gross negligence, wilful default or fraud) shall not incur any liability for not doing so. In addition, nothing in this Condition 6.6 shall impose more onerous obligations on the Principal Paying Agent or expose it to any additional duties or liabilities, or decrease its rights and protections if in the reasonable opinion of the Principal Paying Agent they have this effect, unless the Principal Paying Agent provides its consent.

As used in these Conditions:

**"Adjustment Spread"** means a spread (which may be positive or negative) or formula or methodology for calculating a spread, which the Independent Adviser (in consultation with the Issuer) or the Issuer (as applicable and acting in good faith and in a commercially reasonable manner), determines is required to be applied to the relevant Successor Rate or the relevant

Alternative Reference Rate (as applicable), as a result of the replacement of the Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate or Reference Rate (as applicable) with the Successor Rate or the Alternative Reference Rate (as applicable) and is the spread, formula or methodology which:

- (i) in the case of a Successor Rate, is formally recommended in relation to the replacement of the Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate or Reference Rate (as applicable) with the Successor Rate by any Relevant Nominating Body; or
- (ii) in the case of a Successor Rate for which no such recommendation has been made or in the case of an Alternative Reference Rate, the Independent Adviser (in consultation with the Issuer) or the Issuer (as applicable and acting in good faith and in a commercially reasonable manner) determines is recognised or acknowledged as being in customary market usage in international debt capital markets transactions which reference the Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate or Reference Rate (as applicable) where such rate has been replaced by the Successor Rate or the Alternative Reference Rate (as applicable); or
- (iii) if no such customary market usage is recognised or acknowledged, the Independent Adviser (in consultation with the Issuer) or the Issuer in its discretion (as applicable), determines (acting in good faith and in a commercially reasonable manner) to be appropriate in order to reduce or eliminate, to the fullest extent reasonably practicable in the circumstances, any economic prejudice or benefit (as the case may be) to Noteholders as a result of the replacement of the Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate or Reference Rate (as applicable) with the Successor Rate or Alternative Reference Rate (as applicable);

**"Alternative Reference Rate"** means the rate (and related alternative screen page or source, if available) that the Independent Adviser or the Issuer (as applicable and acting in good faith and in a commercially reasonable manner) determines has replaced the relevant Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate or Reference Rate (as applicable) in customary market usage in the international debt capital markets for the purposes of determining rates of interest in respect of notes denominated in the Specified Currency and of a comparable duration to the relevant Reset Period or Interest Period (as applicable) or, if the Independent Adviser or the Issuer (as applicable) determines that there is no such rate, such other rate as the Independent Adviser or the Issuer (as applicable) determines in its discretion (acting in good faith and in a commercially reasonable manner) is most comparable to the relevant Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate or Reference Rate (as applicable);

**"Benchmark Event"** means:

- (i) the relevant Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate or Reference Rate (as applicable) has ceased to be published on the Relevant Screen Page as a result of such benchmark ceasing to be calculated or administered; or
- (ii) a public statement by the administrator of the relevant Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate or Reference Rate (as applicable) that it will cease publishing such Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate or Reference Rate (as applicable) permanently or indefinitely (in circumstances where no successor administrator has been appointed that will continue publication of such Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate or Reference Rate); or
- (iii) a public statement by the supervisor of the administrator of the relevant Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate or Reference Rate (as applicable) that such Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate or Reference Rate has been or will be permanently or indefinitely discontinued; or
- (iv) a public statement by the supervisor of the administrator of the relevant Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate or Reference Rate that means that Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate or Reference Rate will be prohibited from being used or that its use will be subject to restrictions or adverse consequences; or

- (v) a public statement by the supervisor of the administrator of the relevant Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate or Reference Rate (as applicable) that, in the view of such supervisor, (i) such Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate or Reference Rate is no longer representative of an underlying market or (ii) the methodology to calculate such Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate or Reference Rate has materially changed; or
- (vi) it has or will become unlawful for the Principal Paying Agent or the Issuer to calculate any payments due to be made to any Noteholder using the relevant Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate or Reference Rate (as applicable) (including, without limitation, under the Benchmark Regulation (EU) 2016/1011, if applicable);

**"Independent Adviser"** means an independent financial institution of international repute or other independent financial adviser of recognised standing with relevant experience in the international debt capital markets, in each case appointed by the Issuer at its own expense;

**"Relevant Nominating Body"** means, in respect of a reference rate:

- (i) the central bank, reserve bank, monetary authority or any similar institution for the currency to which the reference rate relates, or any central bank or other supervisory authority which is responsible for supervising the administrator of the reference rate; or
- (ii) any working group or committee sponsored by, chaired or co-chaired by or constituted at the request of
  - (A) the central bank, reserve bank, monetary authority or any similar institution for the currency to which the reference rate relates,
  - (B) any central bank or other supervisory authority which is responsible for supervising the administrator of the reference rate,
  - (C) a group of the aforementioned central banks or other supervisory authorities,
  - (D) the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. or any part thereof, or
  - (E) the Financial Stability Board or any part thereof; and

**"Successor Rate"** means the reference rate (and related alternative screen page or source, if available) that the Independent Adviser or the Issuer (as applicable) determines is a successor to or replacement of the relevant Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate or Reference Rate (as applicable) which is formally recommended by any Relevant Nominating Body.

#### 6.7 **Benchmark Replacement – ARRC**

This Condition 6.7 shall apply to all Notes where Condition 6.7 is specified as being applicable in respect of "*Benchmark Replacement – ARRC*" in the relevant Final Terms.

If the Issuer or its designee determines on or prior to the relevant Reference Time that a Benchmark Transition Event and its related Benchmark Replacement Date have occurred with respect to the then-current Benchmark, the Benchmark Replacement will replace the then-current Benchmark for all purposes relating to the Notes in respect of all determinations on such date and for all determinations on all subsequent dates. In connection with the implementation of a Benchmark Replacement, the Issuer or its designee will have the right to make Benchmark Replacement Conforming Changes from time to time.

Any determination, decision or election that may be made by the Issuer or its designee pursuant to this Condition 6.7, including any determination with respect to tenor, rate or adjustment or of the occurrence or non-occurrence of an event, circumstance or date and any decision to take or refrain from taking any action or any selection:

- (1) will be conclusive and binding absent manifest error;

- (2) will be made in the sole discretion of the Issuer or its designee, as applicable; and
- (3) notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the documentation relating to the Notes, shall become effective without consent from the holders of the Notes or any other party.

In the event that the Rate of Interest for the relevant Interest Period cannot be determined in accordance with the foregoing provisions by the Issuer or its designee, the Rate of Interest for such Interest Period shall be (i) that determined as at the immediately preceding Interest Determination Date (though substituting, where a different Margin or Maximum Rate of Interest or Minimum Rate of Interest is to be applied to the relevant Interest Period from that which applied to the immediately preceding Interest Period, the Margin or Maximum Rate of Interest or Minimum Rate of Interest relating to the relevant Interest Period, in place of the Margin relating to that immediately preceding Interest Period) or (ii) if there is no such preceding Interest Determination Date, the initial Rate of Interest which would have been applicable to such Series of Notes for the first Interest Period had the Notes been in issue for a period equal in duration to the scheduled first Interest Period but ending on (and excluding) the Interest Commencement Date (but applying the Margin and any Maximum Rate of Interest or Minimum Rate of Interest applicable to the first Interest Period).

For the purposes of this Condition 6.7:

**"Benchmark"** means, initially, U.S. dollar LIBOR or SOFR, as the case may be; provided that if the Issuer or its designee determines on or prior to the Reference Time that a Benchmark Transition Event and its related Benchmark Replacement Date have occurred with respect to U.S. dollar LIBOR or SOFR, as applicable, the then-current Benchmark, then "Benchmark" shall mean the applicable Benchmark Replacement.

**"Benchmark Replacement"** means:

- (A) in the case of Notes where the Reference Rate or Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate is U.S. dollar LIBOR, the Interpolated Benchmark with respect to the then-current Benchmark; provided that if the Issuer or its designee cannot determine the Interpolated Benchmark as of the Benchmark Replacement Date, then "Benchmark Replacement" means the first alternative set forth in the order below that can be determined by the Issuer or its designee as of the Benchmark Replacement Date:
  - (i) the sum of: (a) Term SOFR and (b) the Benchmark Replacement Adjustment;
  - (ii) the sum of: (a) Compounded SOFR (as determined in accordance with Condition 6.2(b)(iii) above) and (b) the Benchmark Replacement Adjustment;
  - (iii) the sum of: (a) the alternate rate of interest that has been selected or recommended by the Relevant Governmental Body as the replacement for the then-current Benchmark for the applicable Corresponding Tenor and (b) the Benchmark Replacement Adjustment;
  - (iv) the sum of: (a) the ISDA Fallback Rate and (b) the Benchmark Replacement Adjustment; or
  - (v) the sum of: (a) the alternate rate of interest that has been selected by the Issuer or its designee as the replacement for the then-current Benchmark for the applicable Corresponding Tenor giving due consideration to any industry-accepted rate of interest as a replacement for the then-current Benchmark for U.S. dollar-denominated floating rate notes at such time and (b) the Benchmark Replacement Adjustment;
- (B) in the case of Notes where the Reference Rate or Mid-Swap Floating Leg Benchmark Rate is SOFR, "Benchmark Replacement" means the first alternative set forth in the order below that can be determined by the Issuer or its designee as of the Benchmark Replacement Date:

- (i) the sum of: (a) the alternate rate of interest that has been selected or recommended by the Relevant Governmental Body as the replacement for the then-current Benchmark for the applicable Corresponding Tenor and (b) the Benchmark Replacement Adjustment;
- (ii) the sum of: (a) the ISDA Fallback Rate and (b) the Benchmark Replacement Adjustment; or
- (iii) the sum of: (a) the alternate rate of interest that has been selected by the Issuer or its designee as the replacement for the then-current Benchmark for the applicable Corresponding Tenor giving due consideration to any industry-accepted rate of interest as a replacement for the then-current Benchmark for U.S. dollar-denominated floating rate notes at such time and (b) the Benchmark Replacement Adjustment;

**"Benchmark Replacement Adjustment"** means the first alternative set forth in the order below that can be determined by the Issuer or its designee as of the Benchmark Replacement Date:

- (A) the spread adjustment, or method for calculating or determining such spread adjustment, (which may be a positive or negative value or zero) that has been selected or recommended by the Relevant Governmental Body for the applicable Unadjusted Benchmark Replacement;
- (B) if the applicable Unadjusted Benchmark Replacement is equivalent to the ISDA Fallback Rate, the ISDA Fallback Adjustment; or
- (C) the spread adjustment (which may be a positive or negative value or zero) that has been selected by the Issuer or its designee giving due consideration to any industry-accepted spread adjustment, or method for calculating or determining such spread adjustment, for the replacement of the then-current Benchmark with the applicable Unadjusted Benchmark Replacement for U.S. dollar-denominated floating rate notes at such time;

**"Benchmark Replacement Conforming Changes"** means, with respect to any Benchmark Replacement, any technical, administrative or operational changes (including changes to the definition of Interest Period, timing and frequency of determining rates and making payments of interest, rounding of amounts or tenors, and other administrative matters) that the Issuer or its designee decides may be appropriate to reflect the adoption of such Benchmark Replacement in a manner substantially consistent with market practice (or, if the Issuer or its designee decides that adoption of any portion of such market practice is not administratively feasible or if the Issuer or its designee determines that no market practice for use of the Benchmark Replacement exists, in such other manner as the Issuer or its designee determines is reasonably necessary);

**"Benchmark Replacement Date"** means the earliest to occur of the following events with respect to the then-current Benchmark (including any daily published component used in the calculation thereof):

- (A) in the case of paragraph (A) or (B) of the definition of "Benchmark Transition Event", the later of (a) the date of the public statement or publication of information referenced therein and (b) the date on which the administrator of the Benchmark permanently or indefinitely ceases to provide the Benchmark (or such component); or
- (B) in the case of paragraph (C) of the definition of "Benchmark Transition Event", the date of the public statement or publication of information referenced therein.

For the avoidance of doubt, if the event that gives rise to the Benchmark Replacement Date occurs on the same day as, but earlier than, the Reference Time in respect of any determination, the Benchmark Replacement Date will be deemed to have occurred prior to the Reference Time for such determination;

**"Benchmark Transition Event"** means the occurrence of one or more of the following events with respect to the then-current Benchmark (including any daily published component used in the calculation thereof):

- (A) a public statement or publication of information by or on behalf of the administrator of the Benchmark (or such component) announcing that such administrator has ceased or will cease to provide the Benchmark (or such component), permanently or indefinitely, provided that, at the time of such statement or publication, there is no successor administrator that will continue to provide the Benchmark (or such component); or
- (B) a public statement or publication of information by the regulatory supervisor for the administrator of the Benchmark (or such component), the central bank for the currency of the Benchmark (or such component), an insolvency official with jurisdiction over the administrator for the Benchmark (or such component), a resolution authority with jurisdiction over the administrator for the Benchmark (or such component) or a court or an entity with similar insolvency or resolution authority over the administrator for the Benchmark, which states that the administrator of the Benchmark (or such component) has ceased or will cease to provide the Benchmark (or such component) permanently or indefinitely, provided that, at the time of such statement or publication, there is no successor administrator that will continue to provide the Benchmark (or such component); or
- (C) a public statement or publication of information by the regulatory supervisor for the administrator of the Benchmark announcing that the Benchmark is no longer representative;

**"Compounded SOFR"** means the compounded average of daily SOFR rates for the applicable Corresponding Tenor, with the rate, or methodology for this rate, and conventions for this rate being established by the Issuer or its designee in accordance with:

- (A) the rate, or methodology for this rate, and conventions for this rate selected or recommended by the Relevant Governmental Body for determining Compounded SOFR; **provided that:**
- (B) if, and to the extent that, the Issuer or its designee determine that Compounded SOFR cannot be determined in accordance with paragraph (A) above, then the rate, or methodology for this rate, and conventions for this rate that have been selected by the Issuer or its designee giving due consideration to any industry-accepted market practice for U.S. dollar-denominated floating rate notes at such time.

Notwithstanding the above, the Compounded Daily Reference Rate will be calculated in accordance with Condition 6.2(b)(iii) above;

**"Corresponding Tenor"** with respect to a Benchmark Replacement means a tenor (including overnight) having approximately the same length (disregarding business day adjustment) as the applicable tenor for the then-current Benchmark;

**"designee"** means a designee as selected and separately appointed by the Issuer as designee for the Notes in writing;

**"Interpolated Benchmark"** with respect to the Benchmark means the rate determined for the Corresponding Tenor by interpolating on a linear basis between: (A) the Benchmark for the longest period (for which the Benchmark is available) that is shorter than the Corresponding Tenor and (B) the Benchmark for the shortest period (for which the Benchmark is available) that is longer than the Corresponding Tenor;

**"ISDA Definitions"** means the 2006 ISDA Definitions published by the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. or any successor thereto, as amended or supplemented from time to time, or any successor definitional booklet for interest rate derivatives published from time to time;

**"ISDA Fallback Adjustment"** means the spread adjustment (which may be a positive or negative value or zero) that would apply for derivatives transactions referencing the ISDA Definitions to be determined upon the occurrence of an index cessation event with respect to the Benchmark for the applicable tenor;

**"ISDA Fallback Rate"** means the rate that would apply for derivatives transactions referencing the ISDA Definitions to be effective upon the occurrence of an index cessation date with respect to the Benchmark for the applicable tenor excluding the applicable ISDA Fallback Adjustment;

**"Reference Time"** with respect to any determination of the Benchmark means (i) if the Benchmark is U.S. dollar LIBOR, the Relevant Time; (ii) in respect of Term SOFR, the time determined by the Issuer or its designee after giving effect to the Term SOFR conventions; (iii) in respect of Compounded SOFR, the SOFR Determination Date; and (iv) if the Benchmark is not U.S. dollar LIBOR or SOFR, the time determined by the Issuer or its designee in accordance with the Benchmark Replacement Conforming Changes;

**"Relevant Governmental Body"** means the Federal Reserve Board and/or the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, or a committee officially endorsed or convened by the Federal Reserve Board and/or the Federal Reserve Bank of New York or any successor thereto;

**"SOFR"** has the meaning given to it in Condition 6.2(b)(iii) above;

**"Term SOFR"** means the forward-looking term rate for the applicable Corresponding Tenor based on SOFR that has been selected or recommended by the Relevant Governmental Body; and

**"Unadjusted Benchmark Replacement"** means the Benchmark Replacement excluding the Benchmark Replacement Adjustment.

Any Benchmark Replacement, Benchmark Replacement Adjustment and the specific terms of any Benchmark Replacement Conforming Changes, determined under this Condition 6.7 will be notified promptly by the Issuer to the Principal Paying Agent and the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15. Such notice shall be irrevocable and shall specify the effective date on which such changes take effect.

## **7. Payments**

### **7.1 Method of payment**

Subject as provided below:

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

Payments will be subject in all cases to any fiscal or other laws and regulations applicable thereto in the place of payment, but without prejudice to the provisions of Condition 9.

### **7.2 Presentation of definitive Bearer Notes, Receipts and Coupons**

Payments of principal in respect of definitive Bearer Notes will (subject as provided below) be made in the manner provided in Condition 7.1 above only against presentation and surrender (or, in the case of part payment of any sum due, endorsement) of definitive Bearer Notes, and payments of interest in respect of definitive Bearer Notes will (subject as provided below) be made as aforesaid only against presentation and surrender (or, in the case of part payment of any sum due, endorsement) of Coupons, in each case at the specified office of any Paying Agent outside the United States (which expression, as used herein, means the United States of America (including the States and the District of Columbia and its possessions)).

Payments of instalments of principal (if any) in respect of definitive Bearer Notes, other than the final instalment, will (subject as provided below) be made in the manner provided in Condition 7.1 above only against presentation and surrender (or, in the case of part payment of any sum due, endorsement) of the relevant Receipt in accordance with the preceding paragraph.

Payment of the final instalment will be made in the manner provided in Condition 7.1 above only against presentation and surrender (or, in the case of part payment of any sum due, endorsement) of the relevant Bearer Note in accordance with the preceding paragraph. Each Receipt must be presented for payment of the relevant instalment together with the definitive Bearer Note to which it appertains. Receipts presented without the definitive Bearer Note to which they appertain do not constitute valid obligations of the Issuer. Upon the date on which any definitive Bearer Note becomes due and repayable, unmatured Receipts (if any) relating thereto (whether or not attached) shall become void and no payment shall be made in respect thereof.

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

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

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

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

### 7.3 **Payments in respect of Bearer Global Notes**

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

### 7.4 **Payments in respect of Registered Notes**

Payments of principal (other than instalments of principal prior to the final instalment) in respect of each Registered Note (whether or not in global form) will be made against presentation and surrender (or, in the case of part payment of any sum due, endorsement) of the Registered Note at the specified office of the Registrar or any of the Paying Agents. Such payments will be made by transfer to the Designated Account (as defined below) of the holder (or the first named of joint holders) of the Registered Note appearing in the register of holders of the Registered Notes maintained by the Registrar (the "**Register**") at the close of business on the third business day (being for this purpose a day on which banks are open for business in the city where the specified office of the Registrar is located) before the relevant due date. Notwithstanding the previous

sentence, if: (i) a holder does not have a Designated Account; or (ii) the principal amount of the Notes held by a holder is less than U.S.\$250,000 (or its approximate equivalent in any other Specified Currency), payment will instead be made by a cheque in the Specified Currency drawn on a Designated Bank (as defined below). For these purposes, "**Designated Account**" means the account (which, in the case of a payment in Japanese yen to a non resident of Japan, shall be a non resident account) maintained by a holder with a Designated Bank and identified as such in the Register and "**Designated Bank**" means (in the case of payment in a Specified Currency other than euro) a bank in the principal financial centre of the country of such Specified Currency (which, if the Specified Currency is Australian dollars or New Zealand dollars, shall be Sydney and Auckland, respectively) and (in the case of a payment in euro) any bank which processes payments in euro.

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

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

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

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

#### 7.5 **General provisions applicable to payments**

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

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Condition, if any amount of principal and/or interest in respect of Bearer Notes is payable in U.S. dollars, such U.S. dollar payments of principal

and/or interest in respect of such Notes will be made at the specified office of a Paying Agent in the United States if:

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

#### 7.6 **Payment Day**

If the date for payment of any amount in respect of any Note, Receipt or Coupon is not a Payment Day, the holder thereof shall not be entitled to payment until the next following Payment Day in the relevant place and shall not be entitled to further interest or other payment in respect of such delay. For these purposes, "**Payment Day**" means any day which (subject to Condition 10) is:

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

#### 7.7 **Interpretation of principal and interest**

Any reference in the Conditions to principal in respect of the Notes shall be deemed to include, as applicable:

- (a) any additional amounts which may be payable with respect to principal under Condition 9;
- (b) the Final Redemption Amount of the Notes;
- (c) the Early Redemption Amount of the Notes;
- (d) the Optional Redemption Amount(s) (if any) of the Notes;
- (e) in relation to Notes redeemable in instalments, the Instalment Amounts;

- (f) in relation to Zero Coupon Notes, the Amortised Face Amount (as defined in Condition 8.5); and
- (g) any premium and any other amounts (other than interest) which may be payable by the Issuer under or in respect of the Notes. Any reference in the Conditions to interest in respect of the Notes shall be deemed to include, as applicable, any additional amounts which may be payable with respect to interest under Condition 9.

#### 7.8 **RMB account**

All payments in respect of any Note, Receipt or Coupon in RMB will be made solely by credit to a RMB account maintained by the payee at a bank in the applicable RMB Settlement Centre(s) in accordance with applicable laws, rules, regulations and guidelines issued from time to time (including all applicable laws and regulations with respect to the settlement of RMB in the applicable RMB Settlement Centre(s)).

#### 7.9 **RMB Currency Event**

If "**RMB Currency Event**" is specified as being applicable in the applicable Final Terms and a RMB Currency Event, as determined by the Issuer acting in good faith, exists on a date for payment of any principal or interest in respect of any Note, Receipt or Coupon, the Issuer's obligation to make a payment in RMB under the terms of the Notes may be replaced by an obligation to pay such amount in the Relevant Currency (as specified in the applicable Final Terms) converted using the Spot Rate for the relevant Rate Calculation Date.

Upon the occurrence of a RMB Currency Event, the Issuer shall give notice as soon as practicable to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15 stating the occurrence of the RMB Currency Event, giving details thereof and the action proposed to be taken in relation thereto.

For the purpose of this Condition:

"**Governmental Authority**" means any de facto or de jure government (or any agency or instrumentality thereof), court, tribunal, administrative or other governmental authority or any other entity (private or public) charged with the regulation of the financial markets (including the central bank) of the applicable RMB Settlement Centre(s);

"**Rate Calculation Business Day**" means a day (other than a Saturday or Sunday) on which commercial banks are open for general business (including dealings in foreign exchange) in the applicable RMB Settlement Centre(s), London and the principal financial centre of the country of the Relevant Currency;

"**Rate Calculation Date**" means the day which is two Rate Calculation Business Days before the due date of the relevant payment under the Notes;

"**Relevant Currency**" has the meaning given in the applicable Final Terms;

"**Renminbi**" or "**RMB**" means the lawful currency for the time being of the People's Republic of China (the "**PRC**"), which, for these purposes, excludes the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the PRC, the Macau Special Administrative Region of the PRC and Taiwan;

"**RMB Currency Events**" means, with respect to any Notes where the Relevant Currency is Renminbi, any one of RMB Illiquidity, RMB Non-Transferability and RMB Inconvertibility;

"**RMB Illiquidity**" means the general RMB exchange market in the applicable RMB Settlement Centre(s) becomes illiquid as a result of which the Issuer cannot obtain sufficient RMB in order to make a payment under the Notes, as determined by the Issuer in a commercially reasonable manner following consultation with two independent foreign exchange dealers of international repute active in the RMB exchange market in the applicable RMB Settlement Centre(s);

"**RMB Inconvertibility**" means the occurrence of any event that makes it impossible for the Issuer to convert any amount due in respect of the Notes into RMB on any payment date in the general RMB exchange market in the applicable RMB Settlement Centre(s), other than where such

impossibility is due solely to the failure of the Issuer to comply with any law, rule or regulation enacted by any Governmental Authority (unless such law, rule or regulation is enacted after the Issue Date of the first Tranche of the relevant Series and it is impossible for the Issuer, due to an event beyond its control, to comply with such law, rule or regulation);

**"RMB Non-Transferability"** means the occurrence of any event that makes it impossible for the Issuer to deliver RMB between accounts inside the applicable RMB Settlement Centre(s) or from an account inside the applicable RMB Settlement Centre(s) to an account outside the applicable RMB Settlement Centre(s) (including where the RMB clearing and settlement system for participating banks in the applicable RMB Settlement Centre(s) is disrupted or suspended), other than where such impossibility is due solely to the failure of the Issuer to comply with any law, rule or regulation enacted by any Governmental Authority (unless such law, rule or regulation is enacted after the Issue Date of the first Tranche of the relevant Series and it is impossible for the Issuer, due to an event beyond its control, to comply with such law, rule or regulation);

**"RMB Settlement Centre(s)"** means the financial centre(s) specified as such in the applicable Final Terms in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. If no RMB Settlement Centre is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the RMB Settlement Centre shall be deemed to be Hong Kong; and

**"Spot Rate"** means the spot RMB/Relevant Currency exchange rate for the purchase of the Relevant Currency with Renminbi in the over-the-counter Renminbi exchange market in the applicable RMB Settlement Centre(s) for settlement in two Rate Calculation Business Days, as determined by the Calculation Agent at or around 11.00 a.m. (local time at the applicable RMB Settlement Centre(s)) on the Rate Calculation Date, on a deliverable basis by reference to the Relevant Spot Rate Screen Page (Deliverable Basis) (as specified in the applicable Final Terms), or if no such rate is available, on a non-deliverable basis by reference to the Relevant Spot Rate Screen Page (Non-deliverable Basis) (as specified in the applicable Final Terms). If neither rate is available, the Calculation Agent shall determine the rate taking into consideration all available information which the Calculation Agent deems relevant, including pricing information obtained from the Renminbi non-deliverable exchange market in the applicable RMB Settlement Centre(s) or elsewhere and the RMB/Relevant Currency exchange rate in the PRC domestic foreign exchange market.

## 8. **Redemption and Purchase**

### 8.1 **Redemption at maturity**

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

### 8.2 **Redemption for tax reasons**

The Notes may be redeemed at the option of the Issuer in whole, but not in part, at any time (if this Note is not a Floating Rate Note) or on any Interest Payment Date (if this Note is a Floating Rate Note), on giving not less than 30 nor more than 60 days' notice to the Principal Paying Agent and, in accordance with Condition 15, the Noteholders (which notice shall be irrevocable), if:

- (a) on the occasion of the next payment due under the Notes, the Issuer has or will become obliged to pay additional amounts as provided or referred to in Condition 9 as a result of any change in, or amendment to, the laws or regulations of a Relevant Tax Jurisdiction (as defined in Condition 9) or any change in the application or official interpretation of such laws or regulations, which change or amendment becomes effective on or after the date on which agreement is reached to issue the first Tranche of the Notes; and
- (b) such obligation cannot be avoided by the Issuer taking reasonable measures available to it,

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

Prior to the publication of any notice of redemption pursuant to this Condition 8.2, the Issuer shall deliver to the Principal Paying Agent a certificate signed by two Directors of the Issuer stating that the Issuer is entitled to effect such redemption and setting forth a statement of facts showing that the conditions precedent to the right of the Issuer so to redeem have occurred, and an opinion of independent legal advisers of recognised standing to the effect that the Issuer has or will become obliged to pay such additional amounts as a result of such change or amendment.

Notes redeemed pursuant to this Condition 8.2 will be redeemed at their Early Redemption Amount referred to in Condition 8.5 below together (if appropriate) with interest accrued to (but excluding) the date of redemption.

### 8.3 **Redemption at the option of the Issuer (Issuer Call)**

If Issuer Call is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the Issuer may, having given:

- (a) not less than 15 nor more than 30 days' notice to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15; and
- (b) not less than 15 days before the giving of the notice referred to in (a) above, notice to the Principal Paying Agent and, in the case of a redemption of Registered Notes, the Registrar;

(which notices shall be irrevocable and shall specify the date fixed for redemption), redeem all or some only of the Notes then outstanding on any Optional Redemption Date and at the Optional Redemption Amount(s) specified in, or determined in the manner specified in, the applicable Final Terms together, if appropriate, with interest accrued to (but excluding) the relevant Optional Redemption Date. Any such redemption must be of a nominal amount not less than the Minimum Redemption Amount and not more than the Maximum Redemption Amount, in each case as may be specified in the applicable Final Terms. In the case of a partial redemption of Notes, the Notes to be redeemed ("**Redeemed Notes**") will be selected individually by lot, in the case of Redeemed Notes represented by definitive Notes, and in accordance with the rules of Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and/or DTC, in the case of Redeemed Notes represented by a Global Note, not more than 30 days prior to the date fixed for redemption (such date of selection being hereinafter called the "**Selection Date**"). In the case of Redeemed Notes represented by definitive Notes, a list of the serial numbers of such Redeemed Notes will be published in accordance with Condition 15 not less than 15 days prior to the date fixed for redemption. No exchange of the relevant Global Note will be permitted during the period from (and including) the Selection Date to (and including) the date fixed for redemption pursuant to this Condition 8.3 and notice to that effect shall be given by the Issuer to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15 at least five days prior to the Selection Date.

### 8.4 **Redemption at the option of the Noteholders (Investor Put and Change of Control Put)**

This Condition 8.4 only applies to Senior Notes.

- (a) If Investor Put is specified in the applicable Final Terms, upon the holder of any Note giving to the Issuer in accordance with Condition 15 not less than 15 nor more than 30 days' notice the Issuer will, upon the expiry of such notice, redeem or, at the Issuer's option, purchase (or procure the purchase of), subject to, and in accordance with, the terms specified in the applicable Final Terms, such Note on the Optional Redemption Date and at the Optional Redemption Amount together, if appropriate, with interest accrued to (but excluding) the Optional Redemption Date. Registered Notes may be redeemed or, as the case may be, purchased under this Condition in any multiple of their lowest Specified Denomination. An Investor Put can only be exercised in accordance with this Condition 8.4, as supplemented by the applicable Final Terms.
- (b) If Change of Control Put is specified in the applicable Final Terms and if a Change of Control Event occurs, the Issuer will, upon the holder of any Notes giving notice within the Change of Control Put Period to the Issuer in accordance with Condition 15 (unless prior to the giving of the relevant Change of Control Notice (as defined below) the Issuer has given notice of redemption under Condition 8.2 or 8.3), redeem or, at the Issuer's option, purchase (or procure the purchase of) such Note on the Change of Control Put Date

at the Change of Control Redemption Amount together, if appropriate, with interest accrued to (but excluding) the Change of Control Put Date.

Promptly upon the Issuer becoming aware that a Change of Control Event has occurred, the Issuer shall give notice (a "**Change of Control Notice**") to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15 to that effect.

If 75 per cent. or more in nominal amount of the Notes of a Series then outstanding have been redeemed or, as the case may be, purchased, pursuant to this Condition 8.4(b), the Issuer may, on giving not less than 30 nor more than 60 days' notice to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15 (such notice to be given within 30 days of the Change of Control Put Date), redeem or, at the Issuer's option, purchase (or procure the purchase of) all but not some only of the remaining outstanding Notes of that Series at the Change of Control Redemption Amount together (if applicable) with interest accrued to (but excluding) the date fixed for redemption or purchase, as the case may be.

For the purpose of this Condition:

**"Business Day"** means a day on which commercial banks and foreign exchange markets in London are open for general business;

a **"Change of Control Event"** will occur if at any time the Government ceases to own, directly or indirectly, more than 50 per cent. of the issued share capital of the Issuer or otherwise ceases to control, the Issuer. For the purposes of this Condition, the Government will be deemed to control the Issuer if (whether directly or indirectly and whether by the ownership of share capital, the possession of voting power, contract, trust or otherwise) it has the power to appoint and/or remove all or the majority of the members of the board of directors or other governing body of the Issuer or otherwise controls, or has the power to control, the affairs and policies of the Issuer;

**"Change of Control Redemption Amount"** shall mean, in relation to each Note to be redeemed or purchased pursuant to the Change of Control Put Option, an amount equal to the nominal amount of such Note or such other amount as may be specified in the applicable Final Terms;

**"Change of Control Put Date"** means the first Business Day following the expiration of the Change of Control Put Period **provided that** the Change of Control Notice is given within 30 days of the Change of Control Event occurring, otherwise it means the date falling 14 days after the date on which the relevant Noteholders exercise its right to require the redemption of the relevant Notes in accordance with this Condition 8.4;

**"Change of Control Put Period"** means, in relation to any Change of Control Event, the period from and including the date on which that Change of Control Event occurs (whether or not the Issuer has given a Change of Control Notice in respect of such event) to and including the date falling 60 days after the date on which the Change of Control Notice is given, **provided that** if no Change of Control Notice is given, the Change of Control Put Period shall not terminate; and

**"Government"** means the Government of Abu Dhabi.

To exercise the right to require redemption of this Note pursuant to Condition 8.4(a) or 8.4(b) above the holder of this Note must, if this Note is in definitive form and held outside Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg, deliver, at the specified office of any Paying Agent (in the case of Bearer Notes) or the Registrar (in the case of Registered Notes) at any time during normal business hours of such Paying Agent or, as the case may be, the Registrar falling within the notice period, a duly completed and signed notice of exercise in the form (for the time being current) obtainable from any specified office of any Paying Agent or, as the case may be, the Registrar (a **"Put Notice"**) and in which the holder must specify a bank account to which payment is to be made under this Condition and, in the case of Registered Notes, the nominal amount thereof to be redeemed and, if less than the full nominal amount of the Registered Notes so surrendered is to be redeemed, an address to which a new Registered Note in respect of the balance of such Registered Notes is to be sent subject to and in accordance with the provisions of Condition 2.2. If this Note is in definitive bearer form, the Put Notice must be accompanied by this Note or evidence satisfactory to the Paying Agent concerned that this Note will, following delivery of the Put Notice, be held to its

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

Any Put Notice or other notice given in accordance with the standard procedures of Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg and DTC given by a holder of any Note pursuant to this Condition 8.4 shall be irrevocable except where, prior to the due date of redemption, an Event of Default has occurred, in which event such holder, at its option, may elect by notice to the Issuer to withdraw the notice given pursuant to this Condition 8.4 and instead to declare such Note forthwith due and payable pursuant to Condition 11.

#### 8.5 **Early Redemption Amounts**

For the purpose of Condition 8.2 above and Condition 11, each Note will be redeemed at its Early Redemption Amount calculated as follows:

- (a) in the case of a Note with a Final Redemption Amount equal to the Issue Price, at the Final Redemption Amount thereof;
- (b) in the case of a Note (other than a Zero Coupon Note but including an Instalment Note and a Partly Paid Note) with a Final Redemption Amount which is or may be less or greater than the Issue Price or which is payable in a Specified Currency other than that in which the Note is denominated, at the amount specified in, or determined in the manner specified in, the applicable Final Terms or, if no such amount or manner is so specified in the applicable Final Terms, at its nominal amount; or
- (c) in the case of a Zero Coupon Note, at an amount (the "**Amortised Face Amount**") calculated in accordance with the following formula:

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

where:

**RP** means the Reference Price;

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

**y** is a fraction the numerator of which is equal to the number of days (calculated on the basis of a 360 day year consisting of 12 months of 30 days each) from (and including) the Issue Date of the first Tranche of the Notes to (but excluding) the date fixed for redemption or (as the case may be) the date upon which such Note becomes due and repayable and the denominator of which is 360.

#### 8.6 **Instalments**

Instalment Notes will be redeemed in the Instalment Amounts and on the Instalment Dates. In the case of early redemption, the Early Redemption Amount will be determined pursuant to Condition 8.5.

#### 8.7 **Partly Paid Notes**

Partly Paid Notes will be redeemed, whether at maturity, early redemption or otherwise, in accordance with the provisions of Conditions 8.1 to 8.5 above and as supplemented by the applicable Final Terms.

8.8 **Purchases**

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

8.9 **Cancellation**

All Notes which are redeemed will forthwith be cancelled (together with all unmatured Receipts, Coupons and Talons attached thereto or surrendered therewith at the time of redemption). All Notes so cancelled and any Notes purchased and cancelled pursuant to Condition 8.8 above (together with all unmatured Receipts, Coupons and Talons cancelled therewith) shall be forwarded to the Principal Paying Agent and cannot be reissued or resold.

8.10 **Late payment on Zero Coupon Notes**

If the amount payable in respect of any Zero Coupon Note upon redemption of such Zero Coupon Note pursuant to Condition 8.1, 8.2, 8.3 or 8.4 above or upon its becoming due and repayable as provided in Condition 11 is improperly withheld or refused, the amount due and repayable in respect of such Zero Coupon Note shall be the amount calculated as provided in Condition 8.5(c) above as though the references therein to the date fixed for the redemption or the date upon which such Zero Coupon Note becomes due and payable were replaced by references to the date which is the earlier of:

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

9. **Taxation**

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

- (a) presented for payment in a Relevant Tax Jurisdiction; or
- (b) presented for payment by or on behalf of a holder who is liable for such taxes or duties in respect of such Note, Receipt or Coupon by reason of his having some connection with a Relevant Tax Jurisdiction other than the mere holding of such Note, Receipt or Coupon; or
- (c) presented for payment more than 30 days after the Relevant Date (as defined below) except to the extent that the holder thereof would have been entitled to an additional amount on presenting the same for payment on such thirtieth day assuming that day to have been a Payment Day (as defined in Condition 7.6).

As used herein:

- (i) the "**Relevant Date**" means the date on which such payment first becomes due, except that, if the full amount of the moneys payable has not been duly received by the Principal Paying Agent or the Registrar, as the case may be, on or prior to such due date, it means

the date on which, the full amount of such moneys having been so received, notice to that effect is duly given to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15; and

- (ii) **"Relevant Tax Jurisdiction"** means the United Arab Emirates or any Emirate therein or any political subdivision or any authority thereof or therein having power to tax.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in these Conditions, the Issuer shall be permitted to withhold or deduct any amounts required by Sections 1471 to 1474 inclusive of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended ("**FATCA**"), any treaty, law, regulation or other official guidance implementing FATCA, or any agreement (or related guidance) between the Issuer, a paying agent or any other person and the United States, any other jurisdiction, or any authority of any of the foregoing implementing FATCA and none of the Issuer, any paying agent or any other person shall be required to pay any additional amounts with respect to any such withholding or deduction imposed on or with respect to any Note.

#### 10. **Prescription**

The Notes (whether in bearer or registered form), Receipts and Coupons will become void unless claims in respect of principal and/or interest are made within a period of 10 years (in the case of principal) and five years (in the case of interest) after the Relevant Date (as defined in Condition 9) therefor.

There shall not be included in any Coupon sheet issued on exchange of a Talon any Coupon the claim for payment in respect of which would be void pursuant to this Condition or Condition 7.2 or any Talon which would be void pursuant to Condition 7.2.

#### 11. **Events of Default**

##### 11.1 **Event of Default for Senior Notes**

This Condition 11.1 only applies to Senior Notes.

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

##### (a) ***Non Payment***

Default is made in the payment of any principal or interest due in respect of the Notes or any of them and the default continues for a period of seven days in the case of principal and 14 days in the case of interest; or

##### (b) ***Breach of Obligations***

The Issuer fails to perform or observe any of its other obligations under the Conditions and (except in any case where the failure is incapable of remedy when no such continuation or notice as is hereinafter mentioned will be required) the failure continues for the period of 30 days next following the service by a Noteholder on the Issuer of notice requiring the same to be remedied; or

##### (c) ***Cross Default***

- (i) any Relevant Indebtedness of the Issuer or any of the Issuer's Principal Subsidiaries is not paid when due or (as the case may be) within any originally applicable grace period;
- (ii) any such Relevant Indebtedness becomes due and payable prior to its stated maturity by reason of default (however described); or
- (iii) the Issuer or any of the Issuer's Principal Subsidiaries fails to pay when due any amount payable by it under any guarantee of any Relevant Indebtedness,

**provided that** the events mentioned in this paragraph (c) shall not constitute an Event of Default unless the aggregate amount of all such Relevant Indebtedness, either alone or

when aggregated with all other indebtedness in respect of which such an event shall have occurred and be continuing, shall be more than U.S.\$50,000,000 (or its equivalent in any other currency or currencies); or

(d) ***Unsatisfied Judgments***

One or more final non-appealable judgments or orders for the payment of any sum which amount shall not be less than U.S.\$50,000,000 is rendered against the Issuer or any of the Issuer's Principal Subsidiaries and continues unsatisfied and unstayed for a period of 30 days after the service of any Noteholder on the Issuer of notice requiring the same to be remedied/paid; or

(e) ***Liquidation and Other Events***

- (i) any order is made by any competent court or resolution passed for the winding up or dissolution of the Issuer or any of the Issuer's Principal Subsidiaries, save in connection with a Permitted Reorganisation; or
- (ii) the Issuer or any of the Issuer's Principal Subsidiaries ceases or threatens to cease to carry on the whole or a Substantial Part of its business, save in connection with a Permitted Reorganisation, or the Issuer or any of the Issuer's Principal Subsidiaries stops or threatens to stop payment of, or is unable to, or admits inability to, pay, its debts (or any class of its debts) as they fall due, or is deemed unable to pay its debts pursuant to or for the purposes of any applicable law, or is adjudicated or found bankrupt or insolvent; or
- (iii) (A) proceedings are initiated against the Issuer or any of the Issuer's Principal Subsidiaries under any applicable liquidation, insolvency, composition, reorganisation or other similar laws, or an application is made (or documents filed with a court) for the appointment of an administrative or other receiver, manager, administrator or other similar official (and such proceedings are not being actively contested in good faith by the Issuer or the relevant Principal Subsidiary, as the case may be), or an administrative or other receiver, manager, administrator or other similar official is appointed, in relation to the Issuer or any of the Issuer's Principal Subsidiaries or, as the case may be, in relation to the whole or a Substantial Part of the undertaking or assets of any of them, or an encumbrancer takes possession of the whole or a Substantial Part of the undertaking or assets of any of them, or a distress, execution, attachment, sequestration or other process is levied, enforced upon, sued out or put in force against the whole or a Substantial Part of the undertaking or assets of any of them; and (B) in any case (other than the appointment of an administrator) is not discharged within 45 days; or
- (iv) the Issuer or any of the Issuer's Principal Subsidiaries initiates or consents to judicial proceedings relating to itself under any applicable liquidation, insolvency, composition, reorganisation or other similar laws (including the obtaining of a moratorium) or makes a conveyance or assignment for the benefit of, or enters into any composition or other arrangement with, its creditors generally (or any class of its creditors) or, save in connection with a Permitted Reorganisation, any meeting is convened to consider a proposal for an arrangement or composition with its creditors generally (or any class of its creditors); or
- (v) any event occurs which under the laws of the United Arab Emirates or any Emirate therein or any other jurisdiction has an analogous effect to any of the events referred to in paragraphs (i) to (iii) above;

(f) ***Illegality***

At any time it is or becomes unlawful for the Issuer to perform or comply with any or all of its obligations under or in respect of the Notes or any of the material obligations of the Issuer thereunder are not or cease to be legal, valid, binding or enforceable; or

(g) ***Nationalisation etc.***

By or under the authority of any government: (i) the management of the Issuer or any of the Issuer's Principal Subsidiaries is wholly or partially displaced or the authority of the Issuer or any of the Issuer's Principal Subsidiaries in the conduct of its business is wholly or partially curtailed; or (ii) all or a majority of the issued share capital of the Issuer or any of the Issuer's Principal Subsidiaries or the whole or any part (the book value of which is 20 per cent. or more of the book value of the whole) of its revenues or assets is seized, nationalised, expropriated or compulsorily acquired,

then any holder of a Note may, by written notice to the Issuer at the specified office of the Principal Paying Agent, effective upon the date of receipt thereof by the Principal Paying Agent, declare any Note held by it to be forthwith due and payable whereupon the same shall become forthwith due and payable at its Early Redemption Amount, together with accrued interest (if any) to the date of repayment, without presentment, demand, protest or other notice of any kind.

For the purposes of this Condition:

**"Principal Subsidiary"** means a Subsidiary of the Issuer the book value of the assets of which exceeds ten per cent. of the book value of the consolidated assets of the Issuer and its Subsidiaries, taken as a whole, or the revenues of which exceed ten per cent. of the consolidated revenues of the Issuer and its Subsidiaries, taken as a whole and, for these purposes:

- (i) the book value of the assets and the revenues of each Subsidiary which is, or might be, a Principal Subsidiary shall be determined by reference to its then most recently audited annual financial statements (consolidated if the same are prepared) or, if none, its then most recent annual management accounts; and
- (ii) the book value of the consolidated assets and the consolidated revenues of the Issuer and its Subsidiaries, taken as a whole, shall be determined by reference to the Issuer's then most recently audited consolidated annual financial statements; all as more fully set out in the Agency Agreement. A report by two Directors of the Issuer that in their opinion a Subsidiary of the Issuer is or is not or was or was not at any particular time or through any particular period a Principal Subsidiary shall (in the absence of manifest or proven error) be conclusive and binding on the parties;

**"Permitted Reorganisation"** means:

- (A) any disposal by any Subsidiary of the Issuer of the whole or a substantial part of its business, undertaking or assets to the Issuer or any Relevant Subsidiary of the Issuer;
- (B) any amalgamation, consolidation or merger of a Subsidiary with any other Subsidiary or any other Relevant Subsidiary of the Issuer; or
- (C) any amalgamation, consolidation, restructuring, merger or reorganisation on terms previously approved by an Extraordinary Resolution;

**"Subsidiary"** means in relation to any Person (the first Person) at any particular time, any other Person (the second Person) whose affairs and policies the first Person controls or has power to control, whether by ownership of share capital, contract, the power to appoint or remove members of the governing body of the second Person or otherwise.

**"Relevant Subsidiary"** means any Subsidiary which is, directly or indirectly, wholly-owned by the Issuer or which is so wholly-owned except for any nominal third party shareholding required by law;

**"Substantial Part"** means 15 per cent. of the assets of the Issuer and its consolidated Subsidiaries, taken as a whole; and

**"Relevant Indebtedness"** means, any indebtedness of any Person for money borrowed or raised including (without limitation) any indebtedness for or in respect of:

- (i) amounts raised by acceptance under any acceptance credit facility;
- (ii) amounts raised under any note purchase facility;
- (iii) the amount of any liability in respect of leases or hire purchase contracts which would, in accordance with applicable law and generally accepted accounting principles, be treated as finance or capital leases;
- (iv) the amount of any liability in respect of any purchase price for assets or services the payment of which is deferred for a period in excess of 30 days; and
- (v) amounts raised under any other transaction (including, without limitation, any forward sale or purchase agreement or Islamic financing) having the commercial effect of a borrowing.

## 11.2 **Events of Default for Subordinated Notes**

This Condition 11.2 only applies to Subordinated Notes.

### (a) ***Non Payment***

If default is made in the payment of any principal or interest due under the Notes or any of them and the default continues for a period of seven days in the case of principal and 14 days in the case of interest, any Noteholder may institute proceedings in the United Arab Emirates or any Emirate therein (but not elsewhere) for the dissolution and liquidation of the Issuer.

### (b) ***Liquidation and other events***

If any one or more of the following events shall occur and be continuing:

- (i) any order is made by any competent court or resolution passed for the winding up or dissolution of the Issuer, save in connection with a Permitted Reorganisation; or
- (ii) (A) proceedings are initiated against the Issuer under any applicable liquidation, insolvency, composition, reorganisation or other similar laws, or an application is made (or documents filed with a court) for the appointment of an administrative or other receiver, manager, administrator or other similar official (and such proceedings are not being actively contested in good faith by the Issuer), or an administrative or other receiver, manager, administrator or other similar official is appointed, in relation to the Issuer or an encumbrancer takes possession of the whole or a Substantial Part of the undertaking or assets of the Issuer, or a distress, execution, attachment, sequestration or other process is levied, enforced upon, sued out or put in force against the whole or a Substantial Part of the undertaking or assets of the Issuer; and (B) in any case (other than the appointment of an administrator) is not discharged within 45 days; or
- (iii) the Issuer initiates or consents to judicial proceedings relating to itself under any applicable liquidation, insolvency, composition, reorganisation or other similar laws (including the obtaining of a moratorium) or makes a conveyance or assignment for the benefit of, or enters into any composition or other arrangement with, its creditors generally (or any class of its creditors) or, save in connection with a Permitted Reorganisation, any meeting is convened to consider a proposal for an arrangement or composition with its creditors generally (or any class of its creditors); or

- (iv) any event occurs which under the laws of the United Arab Emirates or any Emirate therein or any other jurisdiction has an analogous effect to any of the events referred to in paragraphs (i) to (iii) above,

then the holder of any Note may give written notice to the Issuer at the specified office of the Principal Paying Agent, effective upon the date of receipt thereof by the Principal Paying Agent, that such Note is due and payable, whereupon the same shall become forthwith due and payable at its Early Redemption Amount, together with accrued interest (if any) to the date of repayment without presentation, demand, protest or other notice of any kind.

(c) ***Breach of Obligations***

To the extent permitted by applicable law and by these Conditions, a Noteholder may at its discretion institute such proceedings against the Issuer as it may think fit to enforce any obligation, condition, undertaking or provision binding on the Issuer under the Notes, the Receipts or the Coupons, but the institution of such proceedings shall not have the effect that the Issuer shall be obliged to pay any sum or sums sooner than would otherwise have been payable by it.

(d) ***Other Remedies***

No remedy against the Issuer, other than the institution of the proceedings referred to in paragraph (a) or (c) above and the proving or claiming in any dissolution and liquidation of the Issuer, shall be available to the Noteholders, the Receiptholders or the Couponholders whether for the recovering of amounts owing in respect of the Notes, the Receipts or the Coupons or in respect of any breach by the Issuer of any other obligation, condition or provision binding on it under the Notes, the Receipts or the Coupons.

12. **Replacement of Notes, Receipts, Coupons and Talons**

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

13. **Agents**

The names of the initial Agents and their initial specified offices are set out below.

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

- (a) there will at all times be a Principal Paying Agent and a Registrar;
- (b) so long as the Notes are listed on any stock exchange or admitted to listing by any other relevant authority, there will at all times be a Paying Agent (in the case of Bearer Notes) and a Transfer Agent (in the case of Registered Notes) with a specified office in such place as may be required by the rules and regulations of the relevant stock exchange or other relevant authority; and
- (c) so long as any of the Registered Global Notes payable in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars are held through DTC or its nominee, there will at all times be an Exchange Agent with a specified office in London.

In addition, the Issuer shall forthwith appoint a Paying Agent having a specified office in New York City in the circumstances described in Condition 7.5. Any variation, termination, appointment or change shall only take effect (other than in the case of insolvency, when it shall be

of immediate effect) after not less than 30 nor more than 45 days' prior notice thereof shall have been given to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15.

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

**14. Exchange of Talons**

On and after the Interest Payment Date on which the final Coupon comprised in any Coupon sheet matures, the Talon (if any) forming part of such Coupon sheet may be surrendered at the specified office of any Paying Agent in exchange for a further Coupon sheet including (if such further Coupon sheet does not include Coupons to (and including) the final date for the payment of interest due in respect of the Note to which it appertains) a further Talon, subject to the provisions of Condition 10.

**15. Notices**

All notices regarding the Bearer Notes will be deemed to be validly given if published (i) in a leading English language daily newspaper of general circulation in London and (ii) if and for so long as the Notes are admitted to trading on, and listed on the Official List of, the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, a daily newspaper of general circulation in Luxembourg and/or the Luxembourg Stock Exchange's website, [www.bourse.lu](http://www.bourse.lu). It is expected that any such publication in a newspaper will be made in the *Financial Times* in London and the *Luxemburger Wort* or the *Tageblatt* in Luxembourg or, if such publication is not practicable, in a leading English language daily newspaper having general circulation in Europe. The Issuer shall also ensure that notices are duly published in a manner which complies with the rules of any stock exchange or other relevant authority on which the Bearer Notes are for the time being listed or by which they have been admitted to trading. Any such notice will be deemed to have been given on the date of the first publication.

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

Until such time as any definitive Notes are issued, there may, so long as any Global Notes representing the Notes are held in their entirety on behalf of Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and/or DTC, be substituted for such publication in such newspaper(s) the delivery of the relevant notice to Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and/or DTC for communication by them to the holders of the Notes provided that, in the case of Notes admitted to listing and/or trading on any stock exchange, the requirements of such stock exchange or listing authority have been complied with. Any such notice shall be deemed to have been given to the holders of the Notes on the day after the day on which the said notice was given to Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and/or DTC, as the case may be.

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

16. **Meetings of Noteholders and Modification**

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

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

- (a) any modification (except such modifications in respect of which an increased quorum is required as mentioned above) of the Notes, the Receipts, the Coupons, the Deed of Covenant or the Agency Agreement which is not prejudicial to the interests of the Noteholders; or
- (b) any modification of the Notes, the Receipts, the Coupons, the Deed of Covenant or the Agency Agreement which is of a formal, minor or technical nature or is made to correct a manifest or proven error or to comply with mandatory provisions of the law. Any such modification shall be binding on the Noteholders, the Receiptholders and the Couponholders and any such modification shall be notified to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15 as soon as practicable thereafter.

17. **Further Issues**

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

18. **Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999**

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

19. **Governing Law and Submission to Jurisdiction**

19.1 **Governing law**

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

## 19.2 Arbitration

Subject to Condition 19.3, any dispute, claim, difference or controversy arising out of, relating to or having any connection with the Notes, the Receipts and/or the Coupons (including any dispute as to their existence, validity, interpretation, performance, breach or termination or the consequences of their nullity and any dispute relating to any non-contractual obligations arising out of or in connection with the Notes, the Receipts and/or the Coupons) (a "**Dispute**") shall be referred to and finally resolved by arbitration in accordance with the Arbitration Rules (the "**Rules**") of the London Court of International Arbitration ("**LCIA**"), which Rules (as amended from time to time) are deemed to be incorporated by reference into this Condition 19.2. For these purposes:

- (a) the seat of arbitration shall be London, England;
- (b) there shall be three arbitrators, each of whom shall be disinterested in the arbitration, shall have no connection with any party thereto and shall be an attorney experienced in international securities transactions. The parties to the Dispute shall each nominate one arbitrator and both arbitrators in turn shall appoint a further arbitrator who shall be the chairman of the tribunal. In cases where there are multiple claimants and/or multiple respondents, the class of claimants jointly, and the class of respondents jointly shall each nominate one arbitrator. Without prejudice to Article 8 of the LCIA Rules, in the event that one party or both fails to nominate an arbitrator within the time limits specified by the Rules, such arbitrator(s) shall be appointed by the LCIA. If the party nominated arbitrators fail to nominate the third arbitrator within 15 days of the appointment of the second arbitrator, such arbitrator shall be appointed by the LCIA; and
- (c) the language of the arbitration shall be English.

On receipt by the Issuer of a Request for Arbitration as defined in the Rules initiated by a Noteholder, Receiptholder or Couponholder (as the case may be), the Issuer shall send a copy of the Request for Arbitration to all Noteholders, Receiptholders or Couponholders, as applicable, (the "**Notification**") within 30 days of receipt. The arbitral proceedings shall be suspended until the earlier of the completion of the Notification process or 30 days following the receipt by the Issuer of a Request for Arbitration.

Any Noteholder, Receiptholder or Couponholder (as applicable) may, on receipt of such Notification, request to be joined with any other Noteholder, Receiptholder or Couponholder (as applicable) to that arbitration, by filing a written notice (a "**Joinder Notice**") with the relevant Noteholder, Receiptholder or Couponholder (as applicable) and the Issuer prior to disclosure of documents in that arbitration. Each Noteholder, Receiptholder or Couponholder hereby agrees to accept the joinder of any other Noteholder, Receiptholder or Couponholder (as applicable) where the interests of the Noteholders, Receiptholders or Couponholders (as applicable) are materially similar. Failure to file a Joinder Notice does not preclude any Noteholder, Receiptholder or Couponholder (as applicable) from bringing any action (whether arising from similar facts to those relevant to the arbitration in respect of which the Notification is provided or otherwise) in the future.

Any multi-party arbitration resulting from the joinder of any other Noteholder(s), Receiptholder(s) or Couponholder(s) (as applicable) will be formally settled in single arbitral proceedings.

In multi-party arbitration proceedings, the arbitral tribunal shall have all powers necessary to establish any supplementary procedural rules required or desirable in view of the multi-party nature of the proceedings.

In the event of arbitration proceedings where the interests of Noteholders, Receiptholders or Couponholders (as applicable) are sufficiently similar to permit those parties to be represented by a single counsel without generally accepted principles regarding conflicts of interest being infringed, such parties are obliged to act together and through one counsel only. In the event that there is some question as to whether the interests of some or all of the Noteholders, Receiptholders or Couponholders (as applicable) concerned are sufficiently similar to invoke the terms of this provision requiring joint representation, then that may be determined as a preliminary issue by the arbitral tribunal.

### 19.3 **Court of law**

Notwithstanding Condition 19.2 above, any Noteholder, Receiptholder or Couponholder may, in the alternative, and at its sole discretion, by notice in writing to the Issuer:

- (a) within 28 days of service of a Request for Arbitration (as defined in the Rules); or
- (b) in the event no arbitration is commenced,

require that a Dispute be heard by a court of law. If any Noteholder, Receiptholder or Couponholder gives such notice, the Dispute to which such notice refers shall be determined in accordance with Condition 19.4 and any arbitration commenced under Condition 19.2 in respect of that Dispute will be terminated. Each of the parties to the terminated arbitration will bear its own costs in relation thereto.

If any notice to terminate is given after service of any Request for Arbitration in respect of any Dispute, the relevant Noteholder, Receiptholder or Couponholder must also promptly give notice to the LCIA Court and to any Tribunal (each as defined in the Rules) already appointed in relation to the Dispute that such Dispute will be settled by the courts. Upon receipt of such notice by the LCIA Court, the arbitration and any appointment of any arbitrator in relation to such Dispute will immediately terminate. Any such arbitrator will be deemed to be functus officio. The termination is without prejudice to:

- (i) the validity of any act done or order made by that arbitrator or by the court in support of that arbitration before his appointment is terminated;
- (ii) his entitlement to be paid his proper fees and disbursements; and
- (iii) the date when any claim or defence was raised for the purpose of applying any limitation bar or any similar rule or provision.

### 19.4 **Submission to jurisdiction**

In the event that a notice pursuant to Condition 19.3 is issued, the following provisions shall apply:

- (a) subject to paragraph (c) below, the courts of England shall have exclusive jurisdiction to settle any Dispute and the Issuer submits to the exclusive jurisdiction of such courts;
- (b) the Issuer agrees that the courts of England are the most appropriate and convenient courts to settle any Dispute and, accordingly, that it will not argue to the contrary; and
- (c) this Condition 19.4 is for the benefit of the Noteholders, the Receiptholders and the Couponholders only. As a result, and notwithstanding paragraph (a) above, any Noteholder, Receiptholder or Couponholder may take proceedings relating to a Dispute ("**Proceedings**") in any other courts with jurisdiction. To the extent allowed by law, any Noteholder, Receiptholder or Couponholder may take concurrent Proceedings in any number of jurisdictions.

### 19.5 **Appointment of Process Agent**

The Issuer appoints Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank (UK Representative Office) Limited at its registered office at Cannon Place, 78 Cannon Street, London EC4N 6AF as its agent for service of process, and undertakes that, in the event of Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank (UK Representative Office) Limited ceasing so to act or ceasing to be registered in England, it will appoint another person as its agent for service of process in England in respect of any Proceedings or Disputes and notify the Noteholders, the Receiptholders and the Couponholders of such appointment in accordance with Condition 15. Nothing herein shall affect the right to serve proceedings in any other manner permitted by law.

19.6 **Enforcement**

The Issuer agrees that an arbitral award or judgment or order of an English or other court, in connection with a dispute arising out of or in connection with these Conditions, shall be binding on it and may be enforced against it in the courts of any competent jurisdiction. For the purposes of the foregoing, in respect of any proceedings arising out of or connected with the enforcement and/or execution of any award or judgment made against the Issuer, the Issuer hereby expressly submits to the jurisdiction of any court in which any such proceedings are brought.

19.7 **Waiver of immunity**

ADCB hereby irrevocably and unconditionally waives with respect to the Notes, the Receipts and the Coupons any right to claim sovereign or other immunity from jurisdiction or execution and any similar defence and irrevocably and unconditionally consents to the giving of any relief or the issue of any process, including without limitation, the making, enforcement or execution against any property whatsoever (irrespective of its use or intended use) of any order, judgment or award made or given in connection with any Proceedings or Disputes.

19.8 **Other documents**

Each of the Agency Agreement, the Deed of Covenant and the Deed Poll contain governing law, arbitration, submission, process agent appointment, enforcement and waiver of immunity terms that are substantially similar to those set out above.

### **USE OF PROCEEDS**

The net proceeds from each issue of Notes will be applied by ADCB for its general corporate purposes.

## SELECTED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA

The following selected consolidated financial information of the Group as at and for the years ended 31 December 2019 and 2018 has been extracted from the Annual Financial Statements and restated consolidated financial information as at 31 December 2019 has been extracted from the 2020 Interim Financial Statements. The financial information as at and for the three months ended 31 March 2020 and 2019 has been extracted from the Interim Financial Statements. The Annual Financial Statements and the Interim Financial Statements have been incorporated by reference in, and form a part of, this Base Prospectus. The following selected consolidated financial information should be read in conjunction with the information in the Annual Financial Statements and the Interim Financial Statements and in each case, the notes thereto.

### CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT DATA

	Year ended 31 December		Three months ended 31 March (unaudited)	
	2019	2018	2020	2019
	(AED thousands)			
Interest income.....	13,877,686	10,314,941	3,627,995	2,801,345
Interest expense.....	(6,364,907)	(4,202,662)	(1,414,928)	(1,348,298)
<b>Net interest income.....</b>	<b>7,512,779</b>	<b>6,112,279</b>	<b>2,213,067</b>	<b>1,453,047</b>
Income from Islamic financing and investing products .....	2,495,966	1,276,746	767,022	315,148
Distribution on Islamic deposits and profit paid to sukuk holders.....	(767,609)	(169,901)	(190,794)	(61,431)
<b>Net income from Islamic financing and investing products.....</b>	<b>1,728,357</b>	<b>1,106,845</b>	<b>576,228</b>	<b>253,717</b>
<b>Total net interest and income from Islamic financing and investing products.....</b>	<b>9,241,136</b>	<b>7,219,124</b>	<b>2,789,295</b>	<b>1,706,764</b>
Net fees and commission income .....	1,816,162	1,394,576	431,457	378,642
Net trading income.....	460,909	431,805	138,918	133,095
Net loss from investment properties.....	(66,736)	(56,459)	— <sup>(1)</sup>	— <sup>(2)</sup>
Other operating income.....	270,669	192,399	116,315	54,646
<b>Operating income.....</b>	<b>11,722,140</b>	<b>9,181,445</b>	<b>3,475,985</b>	<b>2,273,147</b>
Operating expenses .....	(4,517,679)	(3,083,501)	(1,325,410)	(793,226)
<b>Operating profit before impairment allowances.</b>	<b>7,204,461</b>	<b>6,097,944</b>	<b>2,150,575</b>	<b>1,479,921</b>
Impairment allowances .....	(2,352,054)	(1,265,787)	(1,882,495)	(329,923)
<b>Operating profit after impairment allowances....</b>	<b>4,852,407</b>	<b>4,832,157</b>	<b>268,080</b>	<b>1,149,998</b>
Share in profit/(loss) of associates.....	17,765	10,070	(10,608)	2,749
<b>Profit before taxation.....</b>	<b>4,870,172</b>	<b>4,842,227</b>	<b>257,472</b>	<b>1,152,747</b>
Overseas income tax expense.....	(40,926)	(2,373)	(31,719)	(436)
<b>Profit for the year/period from continuing operations.....</b>	<b>4,829,246</b>	<b>4,839,854</b>	<b>225,753</b>	<b>1,152,311</b>
Loss from discontinued operations.....	(36,759)	-	(16,490)	-
<b>Profit for the year/period.....</b>	<b>4,792,487</b>	<b>4,839,854</b>	<b>209,263</b>	<b>1,152,311</b>

<sup>(1)</sup> In the Interim Financial Statements "Net gains/(losses) from investment properties" are included within "Other operating income".

<sup>(2)</sup> In the Interim Financial Statements "Net gains/(losses) from investment properties" are included within "Other operating income".

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION DATA

	As at 31 December		As at 31 March (unaudited)
	2019 <sup>(1)</sup>	2018	2020
	(AED thousands)		
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and balances with central banks, net.....	24,904,966	19,589,957	26,013,508
Deposits and balances due from banks, net.....	23,064,974	19,627,076	27,702,746
Reverse-repo placements.....	-	2,203,800	-
Trading securities.....	-	60,134	74,119
Derivative financial instruments.....	6,789,717	4,447,247	14,366,219
Investment securities.....	73,442,662*	52,362,234	68,793,000
Loans and advances to customers, net.....	247,833,080*	166,425,762	246,662,966
Investment in associate.....	407,768	205,158	387,902
Investment properties.....	1,693,707	576,671	1,693,713
Other assets, net.....	16,750,208	13,330,894	16,530,612
Property and equipment, net.....	2,197,571	982,605	2,182,281
Intangible assets, net.....	7,474,342*	18,800	7,450,801
Assets held for sale.....	535,830	-	334,102
<b>Total assets</b> .....	<b>405,094,825*</b>	<b>279,830,338</b>	<b>412,191,969</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Due to banks.....	5,732,779	3,071,408	7,690,815
Derivative financial instruments.....	6,949,891	5,695,911	15,139,994
Deposits from customers.....	262,093,782	176,653,857	262,862,709
Euro commercial paper.....	2,062,338	3,279,302	3,338,652
Borrowings.....	51,882,054	43,027,749	54,725,562
Other liabilities.....	20,302,794	15,296,568	19,643,473
Liabilities related to assets held for sale.....	413,395	-	286,768
<b>Total liabilities</b> .....	<b>349,437,033</b>	<b>247,024,795</b>	<b>363,687,973</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Share capital.....	6,957,379	5,198,231	6,957,379
Share premium.....	17,878,882	2,419,999	17,878,882
Other reserves.....	9,257,919	6,859,271	4,684,372
Retained earnings.....	15,544,207	14,328,042	12,979,925
Capital notes.....	6,000,000	4,000,000	6,000,000
Non-controlling interests.....	19,405*	-	3,438
<b>Total equity</b> .....	<b>55,657,792*</b>	<b>32,805,543</b>	<b>48,503,996</b>
<b>Total liabilities and equity</b> .....	<b>405,094,825*</b>	<b>279,830,338</b>	<b>412,191,969</b>

<sup>(1)</sup> As discussed in more detail under Note 35 (*Business combinations*) to the 2020 Interim Financial Statements, which are incorporated by reference into this Base Prospectus, figures marked with a "\*" have been restated to reflect adjustments to provisional amounts and are unaudited.

## SELECTED CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW DATA

	Year ended 31 December		Three months ended 31 March (unaudited)	
	2019	2018	2020	2019
	(AED thousands)			
Net cash (used in)/from operating activities.....	(5,950,138)	9,863,159	1,555,869	7,530,706
Net cash from/(used in) investing activities.....	14,574,092	(2,681,215)	2,593,453	(3,826,787)
Net cash (used in)/from financing activities.....	(8,862,534)	101,361	(280,711)	(1,191,389)
<b>Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents</b> .....	<b>(238,580)</b>	<b>7,283,305</b>	<b>3,868,611</b>	<b>2,512,530</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year/period.....	23,094,853	15,811,548	22,856,273	23,094,853
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year/period</b> .....	<b>22,856,273</b>	<b>23,094,853</b>	<b>26,724,884</b>	<b>25,607,383</b>

## SELECTED RATIOS

	As at and for the year ended 31 December		As at and for the three months ended 31 March ( <i>unaudited</i> )	
	2019 <sup>(1)</sup>	2018	2020	2019
	(%)			
<b>Performance measures</b>				
Return on average equity <sup>(2)</sup> .....	11.54	16.3		
Return on average tangible equity <sup>(3)</sup> .....	12.75	16.3		
Cost to income ratio <sup>(4)</sup> .....	38.54	33.6	38.13	34.9
<b>Financial ratios</b>				
Net interest margin <sup>(5)</sup> .....	2.85	3.0		
Yield <sup>(6)</sup> .....	5.05	4.9		
Cost of funds <sup>(7)</sup> .....	2.40	1.98		
Cost of risk <sup>(8)</sup> .....	0.86	0.6		
<b>Asset quality ratios</b>				
Non-performing loan (NPL) ratio <sup>(9)</sup> .....	3.15	2.88	4.65	3.09
Non-performing loan ratio including POCI <sup>(9a)</sup> .....	4.53	N/A	6.09	N/A
Loan to deposits ratio <sup>(10)</sup> .....	94.56	94.2	93.84	91.69
Coverage ratio <sup>(11)</sup> .....	123.2	130.2	108.82	118.86
Liquidity ratio <sup>(12)</sup> .....	26.1	28.3	26.2	30.3
<b>Basel III ratios</b>				
CET 1 ratio <sup>(15)(16)</sup> .....	12.93	13.4	10.82	12.07
Tier 1 ratio <sup>(13)(16)</sup> .....	14.79	15.3	12.66	13.88
Total capital adequacy ratio <sup>(14)(16)</sup> .....	16.3	17.3	14.13	15.76
Liquidity coverage ratio <sup>(17)</sup> .....	127.3	186	115.13	193.4
NSFR ratio <sup>(18)</sup> .....	104	107	103	106

(1) Information as at and for the year ended 31 December 2019 has been computed on the basis of restated information as set out in the 2020 Interim Financial Statements, which are incorporated by reference into this Base Prospectus.

(2) Return on average equity is net adjusted profit for the year attributable to equity holders of the Group after deducting coupon on Tier 1 capital notes divided by average shareholders' equity less capital notes and non-controlling interest, with average shareholders' equity calculated as the sum of the opening and closing balances of shareholders' equity (after deducting capital notes and non-controlling interest) in a given reporting period divided by two.

(3) Return on average tangible equity is net adjusted profit for the year attributable to equity holders of the Group after deducting the coupon on Tier 1 capital notes divided by average shareholders' equity less capital notes, non-controlling interest and net intangible assets, with average shareholders' equity calculated as the sum of the opening and closing balances of shareholders' equity (after deducting capital notes, non-controlling interest and net intangible assets) in a given reporting period divided by two.

(4) Cost to income ratio is operating expenses divided by operating income.

(5) Net interest margin is net interest income and income from Islamic financing and investing product as a percentage of total average interest and profit-earning assets, with average interest and profit-earning assets calculated as daily average balances of deposits and balances due from banks, reverse-repo placements, investment securities, loans and advances to customers, net plus certificates of deposits with the Central Bank and reverse repo with the Central Bank extracted from Group's internal accounting records for the respective reporting periods.

(6) Yield is interest income and income from Islamic financing and investing product divided by average interest and profit-earning assets for a given period, with average interest and profit-earning assets calculated as daily average balances of deposits and balances due from banks, reverse-repo placements, investment securities, loans and advances to customers, net plus certificates of deposits with the Central Bank and reverse repo with the Central Bank extracted from the Group's internal accounting records for the respective reporting periods.

(7) Cost of funds is interest expense and Islamic profit distribution/Distribution on Islamic deposits and profit paid to sukuk holder divided by the average interest-bearing and profit-sharing liabilities, with average interest-bearing and profit-sharing liabilities calculated as daily average balances of due to banks, deposits from customers, euro commercial paper and borrowings extracted from the Group's internal accounting records for the respective reporting periods.

(8) Cost of risk is total impairment allowances charged, net of recoveries, on loans and advances to customers, banks and investment securities as a percentage of average (calculated as the sum of the opening and closing balance in a giving reporting period divided by two) outstanding net loans and advances to customers, banks and investments securities extracted from the Group's internal accounting records for respective reporting periods.

(9) Non-performing loan ratio (Stage 3 loans ratio) is non-performing loans (stage 3 loans and advances to customers and banks) as a percentage of gross loans and advances to customers and banks.

(9a) Non-performing loan ratio including POCI is non-performing loans (stage 3 loans and advances to customers and banks) plus POCI, as a percentage of gross loans and advances to customers and banks. "POCI" is defined as Purchase of originated credit-impaired financial assets.

(10) Loan to deposits ratio is net loans and advances to customers divided by customer deposits.

(11) The coverage ratio for 31 December 2019 and 31 March 2020 was expressed as the sum of impairment allowances on loans and advances to banks and customers and fair value adjustments on stage 1 and 2 loans and advances to customers and banks resulting from the Combination, as a percentage of non-performing loans (Stage 3 loans and advances to customers and banks). For 31

December 2018 and 31 March 2019, the coverage ratio was expressed as impairment allowances on loans and advances to customers and banks as a percentage of non-performing loans (Stage 3 loans and advances to customers and banks).

- (12) Liquidity ratio is total liquid assets (being assets held by the Group that can be converted into cash at relatively short notice) divided by total assets. Liquid assets include cash and balances with central banks, deposits and balances due from banks, (excluding loans and advances to banks), reverse repo placements, trading securities and quoted investment securities.
- (13) Tier 1 ratio is defined as total Tier 1 capital divided by risk-weighted assets at a given date. Risk-weighted assets are calculated under the standardised approach for Pillar 1 reporting and represent the sum of credit risk, market risk and operational risk-weighted assets.
- (14) Total capital adequacy ratio is defined as total regulatory capital divided by risk-weighted assets at a given date. Risk-weighted assets are calculated under the standardised approach for Pillar 1 reporting and represent the sum of credit risk, market risk and operational risk-weighted assets.
- (15) CET 1 ratio is defined as CET 1 capital divided by risk-weighted assets at a given date. Risk-weighted assets are calculated under the standardised approach for Pillar 1 reporting and represent the sum of credit risk, market risk and operational risk-weighted assets.
- (16) Calculated in accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank and the capital adequacy regulations issued by the Central Bank as stipulated in Circular No. 52/2017 dated 23 February 2017 and Circular No. 60/2017 dated 2 March 2017.
- (17) Liquidity coverage ratio (LCR) is designed to measure a bank's ability to manage a sustained outflow of customer funds in an acute stress event over a 30-day period. It is calculated as the ratio of HQLAs divided by a bank's projected total net cash outflows over the immediately following 30-day stressed period. It is determined by the Basel III standards and has been implemented in the UAE through Central Bank Circular No. 33/2015. Approved banks are required to comply with the requirements from 1 January 2016 in a phased manner.
- (18) Net Stable Funding Ratio (NSFR) is a regulatory ratio that aims to ensure that the banks have stable funding profile in relation to the composition of their assets and off balance sheet activities over a one year horizon. It is calculated as the ratio of Available Stable Funding divided by Required Stable Funding. It is determined by the Basel III standards and has been implemented in the UAE through Central Bank Circular No. 33/2015.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE GROUP

### OVERVIEW

The Group is one of the leading commercial banks in the UAE, offering a wide range of retail, commercial, investment and Islamic banking, brokerage and asset management products and services. According to the publicly available financial statements of the Group and its main domestic competitors, as at and for the year ended 31 December 2019 the Group was the third largest bank in the UAE market in terms of net loans and advances to customers (AED 247.8 billion on a restated basis), the second largest bank in Abu Dhabi in terms of total assets (AED 405.1 billion) and the second largest bank in the Abu Dhabi market in terms of net loans and advances to customers (AED 247.8 billion on a restated basis).

As at 31 December 2019, the Group had customer deposits of AED 262 billion and total assets were AED 405.1 billion, representing an estimated 13.1 per cent. of the UAE market in terms of total assets according to Central Bank statistical records for December 2019. As at 31 December 2019, the Group served more than 1.25 million retail customers including 192,000 from the Merger and more than 40,450 wholesale customers, primarily in its domestic UAE market.

The Group has grown rapidly to become one of the largest full service commercial banks in the UAE. Since its incorporation, the Government has at all times held, indirectly, a controlling interest of at least 58.1 per cent. of the share capital of the Group. As at the date of this Base Prospectus, the Government held, through the Council, 60.20 per cent. of the Group's share capital.

The Group has four principal areas of business, which also constitute segments for financial reporting purposes:

- **Consumer Banking Group:** the consumer banking group provides a broad range of conventional and *Shari'a* compliant consumer banking and wealth management products and services to individual customers (including high net worth individuals ("**HNWIs**") and their businesses) located primarily in the UAE. The products and services offered include current and deposit accounts, personal and vehicle loans, mortgage lending, brokerage, credit and other card services, third party insurance and investment products, which include a range of *Shari'a* compliant Islamic products and services provided through AHB. For the year ended 31 December 2019, AED 1,059.1 million or 22.1 per cent. of the Group's net profit for the year was attributable to the consumer banking group;
- **Wholesale Banking Group:** the wholesale banking group provides a broad range of corporate and investment banking products and services to large strategic clients (including government or government related entities and regional blue chip corporates), financial institutions, mid-corporates and local branches of multinational corporations and SMEs. The products and services offered include corporate lending, cash management, trade finance, Islamic finance, debt securities underwriting and distribution, corporate advisory and structuring services. The wholesale banking group also oversees and monitors some of the bank's international operations. For the year ended 31 December 2019, AED 1,310.6 million or 27.3 per cent. of the Group's net profit for the year was attributable to the wholesale banking group;
- **Treasury and Investments Group:** the treasury and investments group provides commercial and proprietary treasury operations offering a range of treasury services including money market, interest rate, currency and commodity services (together with Islamic equivalents of money market, interest rate and currency services) and manages the Group's investment portfolio. For the year ended 31 December 2019, AED 2,350.8 million or 49.1 per cent. of the Group's net profit for the year was attributable to the treasury and investments group; and
- **Property Management:** the property management division comprises the real estate management and engineering service operations of the Group's subsidiaries, Abu Dhabi Commercial Properties ("**ADCP**") and Abu Dhabi Commercial Engineering Services ("**ADCES**"), in addition to certain real estate assets in Abu Dhabi owned by the Group (see "*Property Management*" below). For the year ended 31 December 2019, AED 72 million or 1.5 per cent. of the Group's net profit for the year was attributable to the property management group.

As at 31 December 2019, the Group had 141 branches (including three pay offices), two SimplyLife sales and service centres, five uBank centres and two representative offices. In addition, as at 31 December 2019, the Group had 532 automated teller machines ("ATMs") in the UAE, with the majority in Abu Dhabi and Dubai. The Group's 141 branches consist of: 72 ADCB branches and 14 AHB branches in the UAE; 48 Union National Bank Egypt ("UNB-E") branches in Egypt; three branches in Kazakhstan, one branch in Kuwait, one branch in Qatar, one branch in China, one offshore branch in Jersey; and representative offices in London and in Singapore (though the Group has announced that it is in the process of discontinuing some of its operations outside of the UAE – see "*Recent Developments*" below). The Group also offers services to individuals and corporate customers through its internet banking, phone and SMS banking systems, the ADCB mobile application and through one of the largest point of sale networks in the UAE. In addition, the Group provides a range of *Shari'a* compliant Islamic products and services under its "ADCB Islamic Banking" brand and through AHB.

ADCB is the parent company of the Group and holds interests in a number of subsidiaries, further information in respect of which is set out in Note 48 (*Subsidiaries*) to the 2019 Financial Statements.

## STRENGTHS

The Group believes that its businesses have the following strengths:

### Supportive Principal Shareholder

As at the date of this Base Prospectus, 60.20 per cent. of the issued and outstanding ordinary shares of the Group were held by the Government (through the Council). The Government was instrumental in the founding of the Group through a three way merger of local Abu Dhabi banks in 1985, and it has continued to support the Group since that date. In particular, many Government controlled entities regularly engage the Group in new business opportunities and have remained long standing clients of the Group. Furthermore, in common with other regional governments, the Government provided financial support to its local banks, including the Group, during the 2008 global financial crisis which helped the Group to maintain liquidity and achieve a high capital adequacy ratio, well above the Central Bank guidelines.

According to the Statistics Centre and based on mid-year estimates, Abu Dhabi's nominal GDP per capita was approximately U.S.\$90,946 in 2018, which makes it one of the highest in the Gulf region. The Government has a long-term sovereign credit rating of AA (with a stable outlook) and short-term credit rating of A-1+ (with a stable outlook) from Standard & Poor's (see "*Overview of the UAE and Abu Dhabi*"). The financial strength of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi flows into the Group through its Government majority shareholding, which is the largest of any bank in the UAE. In addition to this, the sticky nature of the government deposits held by the Group provide it a competitive advantage over its peers which lack such support.

The majority ownership of the Group and financial and other support provided by the Government has helped to stabilise the Group's performance in turbulent economic periods and to enhance customer and market confidence in the Group. Although there can be no assurance that the Government will continue to support the Group, management believes that the Group's relationship with the Government is unlikely to change in the foreseeable future. See "*Risk Factors – The Notes will not be guaranteed by the Government*".

### Solid Capital Base and Liquidity Profile

As at 31 March 2020, the Group had a total capital adequacy ratio of 14.13 per cent., consisting of a Tier 1 ratio of 12.66 per cent. and a Tier 2 ratio of 1.47 per cent. (compared to a total capital adequacy ratio of 16.3 per cent. as at 31 December 2019, consisting of a Tier 1 ratio (on a restated basis) of 14.79 per cent. and a Tier 2 ratio of 1.51 per cent.), calculated in each case in accordance with Central Bank guidelines. Pursuant to the February 2017 Regulations, the Group has been required by the Central Bank to maintain a minimum total capital adequacy ratio of 13.5 per cent. since 1 January 2019. Included within this Central Bank prescribed minimum total capital adequacy ratio, the Group, as a domestically systemic important bank ("**D-SIB**"), has been required to maintain a Common Equity Tier 1 buffer of 0.50 per cent. with effect from 1 January 2019 (however, see "*Risk Factors – Risks relating to the Group's business – The Group's business, results of operations and financial condition may be adversely affected by the impact of COVID-19*" for information on the temporary relief measures provided by the Central Bank under the TESS). As at 31 March 2020, the Group had cash and cash equivalents of AED 26.7 billion (AED 22.9 billion as at 31 December 2019 and AED 23.1 billion as at 31 December 2018).

As at the date of this Base Prospectus, the Central Bank has adopted a policy of a gradual, phased introduction of the Basel III Reforms in the UAE. As part of this phased introduction of Basel III, certain banks operating in the UAE have begun transitioning to LCR compliance and reporting their LCR to the Central Bank. The Group has maintained a strong liquidity position with an LCR ratio of 115.13 per cent. as at 31 March 2020 and 127.3 per cent. as at 31 December 2019 compared to a minimum ratio of 100 per cent. prescribed by the Central Bank, which was recently reduced to a minimum requirement of 70 per cent. as part of the temporary relief measures provided by the Central Bank under the TESS. In addition to the reduction in the minimum LCR ratio, the Central Bank has provided a number of relief measures under the TESS aimed at countering the negative impact of COVID-19 including the ability for banks to tap into their capital conservation and D-SIB buffers without supervisory consequences and the application of a prudential filter aimed at minimising the effect of ECL provisions under IFRS 9 on regulatory capital (see *"Risk Factors – Risks relating to the Group's business – The Group's business, results of operations and financial condition may be adversely affected by the impact of COVID-19"* for more information).

As at 31 March 2020, the Group's liquidity ratio was 26.2 per cent., as compared to 26.1 per cent. as at 31 December 2019 and 28.3 per cent. as at 31 December 2018. As part of its LCR reporting to the Central Bank, the Group is required to maintain a portfolio of HQLAs which is sufficient to survive a significant stress scenario, lasting for a period of up to 30 days. As at 31 March 2020, the Group held a portfolio of HQLAs valued at AED 69.7 billion as compared to AED 71.2 billion as at 31 December 2019. The Group believes that its maintenance of an LCR ratio in excess of Central Bank requirements will assist it in absorbing unanticipated systemic shocks to the UAE or regional economies or banking sectors (see *"Risk Factors – Risks relating to the Group's liquidity – The Group's cash flow from its operations may not be sufficient at all times to meet its contractual and contingent payment obligations"*, *"Risk Factors – Regulatory risks relating to the Group's business – The Group is a highly regulated entity and changes in applicable laws or regulations, the interpretation or enforcement of such laws or regulations or the failure to comply with such laws or regulations could have a material adverse effect on The Group's business, results of operations and financial condition"* in the *"Risk Factors"* section above). Whilst the early signs of COVID-19's negative impact could be seen in the market generally as at 31 March 2020, with the aid of the relief measures provided by the Central Bank under the TESS, management believes that the Group continues maintain a strong capital position.

### **Strong Domestic Franchise with a Well Known and Trusted Brand**

In the UAE, the Group is one of the leading commercial banks with a broad portfolio of consumer and wholesale products, an extensive distribution network and well established relationships with its client base. With more than 1.25 million retail customers and over 40,450 wholesale customers, the Group has one of the largest commercial banking customer bases in Abu Dhabi and the UAE and maintains one of the largest domestic banking distribution networks. This distribution network offers significant opportunities to attract additional clients and expand the Group's range of products and services to existing clients. As at 31 December 2019, the Group had 86 branches in the UAE (including three pay offices and 14 AHB branches), two SimplyLife sales and service centres and five uBank centres and 532 ATMs throughout the UAE with a suite of alternative distribution channels, including internet banking, mobile banking channels and SMS alerts. Through the Group's AHB branch network and digital services, the Group is able to provide *Shari'a* compliant products and services to customers through a dedicated Islamic brand. The Group has also set up contact centres to assist customers and to address customer queries as a part of its culture of service excellence with the aim of providing seamless service to its customers. As at 31 December 2019, the Group had total customer deposits of AED 262.1 billion, which represented an estimated market share of 14 per cent. of total UAE customer deposits and a loans and advances to customers portfolio (net of impairment allowances) of AED 247.8 billion on a restated basis, which represented an estimated 15 per cent. of the total loans and advances, net of impairment allowances of all UAE banks, according to the UAE Monthly Banking Indicators for December 2019 published by the Central Bank.

Management believes that the Group's strong position in consumer and wholesale banking enables the Group to benefit from economies of scale and provides a strong platform for sustained profitability in the UAE banking market. In addition, management believes that the Group's market position and strong brand recognition throughout the UAE reflect the Group's focus on high quality customer service, creation of innovative products and services, its established track record in both consumer and wholesale banking, its targeted marketing to consumer, SME, large corporate and strategic client groups and its involvement in the UAE's most prominent infrastructure and other development projects.

## **Experienced Executive Management Team with Proven Track Record in the Banking Industry**

The Group's strategy (see "*Strategy*" below) is supported by the executive management team's broad expertise in the region, proven record for implementing industry leading initiatives, and by its focus on best practices and customer service. The Group benefits from continuity of personnel within its executive management team, with limited changes to the executive management team over the previous ten years. The Group's executive management team has extensive experience in the financial services sector in the UAE and internationally (see "*Corporate Governance*"). The heads of the Group's wholesale, consumer, treasury and investment, finance and risk groups have extensive experience in the finance and banking sector, from global institutions such as Barclays, Citibank and Standard Chartered Bank.

## **Expertise in Designing Banking Products to Meet Customers' Needs**

The Group currently offers a range of banking products and services to its clients and has the ability to tailor each product to fit the banking needs of individual clients, especially its strategic, large corporate and HNWI clients. The Group's wholesale banking group provides customised cash management, trade finance (including structured trade finance) and investment banking solutions to its strategic, large corporate and SME clients. The Group also offers individualised banking services for HNWIs. Since 2005, the Group has focused on affluent retail clients and HNWI clients through its Privilege Club, Excellency, SimplyLife and other programmes. The Group also offers "TouchPoints", a rewards programme whereby customers earn points redeemable for goods and services for virtually all transactions carried out with the Group.

ADCB believes that the availability of custom tailored products and services helps to market the Group's other products and services effectively and to differentiate the Group's products from those of its competitors.

## **STRATEGY**

The Group's strategy is based on six main pillars:

- ***Grow through a UAE centric approach with controlled internationalisation:*** The Group's core strategy is to defend, maintain and consolidate its business in the UAE. The group acquired UNB-E and branches in Kuwait, China and Qatar as part of the Combination. The Group aims to capitalise on the strengths of its consumer and wholesale banking franchises and strong brand in order to enhance its position as a leading full service commercial bank in the UAE. The Group's focus for growth resides primarily within the core segments of corporate and wholesale banking and consumer banking in the UAE; however the Group is prepared to explore new markets to take advantage of international opportunities, and is in the process of evaluating its presence overseas taking into account the scale of operations and the potential for future growth. The Group is currently focusing on: (i) growing revenues derived from SMEs, mid-corporates and consumer businesses; (ii) creating shareholder value and driving a strong return on equity by adopting a business-focused risk culture; and (iii) achieving growth through cross-selling products and services across its various segments in order to meet the full breadth of customer needs and reduce customer attrition;
- ***Maintain a culture of service excellence and efficiency:*** The Group has a customer centric approach and continues to invest in improving its customer experience proposition, with innovation at the forefront of its customer service model, whilst ensuring cost efficiencies. The programme of changes includes, but is not limited to: (i) an enterprise-wide project to examine and re-assess customer interactions; (ii) full re-engineering of core business processes; (iii) a smarter physical distribution strategy with a key focus on customer service; and (iv) continued investment in technology and innovation. The Group monitors customer satisfaction levels using the well-recognised 'net promoter score' metric which measures a customer's propensity to recommend a business or service to their friends and associates;
- ***Sustainability through liability growth:*** One of the Group's key strategic levers is to ensure adequate funding and liquidity and develop a sustainable cost of funds advantage, seizing opportunities to bolster its balance sheet. The Group has also increased customer deposits (in particular, current and savings account deposits) to further lower its cost of funds as a way to fuel balance sheet growth and improve returns;

- ***Manage risk in line with a pre-defined risk strategy:*** The Group maintains a granular risk appetite policy based on several quantitative and qualitative metrics. The Group believes it has a strong risk management team and continues to improve its risk management function, corporate governance and transparency through regular reviews of its risk policies and procedures. To manage risks, the Group has implemented a more robust risk framework, including investment in upgrading its risk systems. Risk management is also being carried out through ongoing proactive remedial management, tightening of credit criteria and education of staff in order to create a bank wide "credit" culture;
- ***Capital management and allocation:*** Capital management and allocation is critical for all of the Group's lending and investment decisions. The Group manages its capital base to obtain an attractive return on capital while maintaining adequate buffers over regulatory requirements and ensuring future growth. The Group aims to ensure an attractive return on capital by allocating capital to segments and products that offer the best risk adjusted return on equity. The Group evaluates its capital requirements through various techniques such as demand forecasting and stress testing to ensure adequate buffers; and
- ***Digitisation to drive growth and efficiency:*** The digitisation of many of the Group's core business processes is a key strategic focus for the Group. In the context of ever-evolving and rapidly changing customer demands and industry boundaries, in which traditional and non-financial competitors are embracing digital solutions to offer banking services through non-traditional distribution channels, the Group's digital and data analytics strategy aims to improve return on equity through a combination of customer acquisition, reductions in processing costs and reductions in impairment charges. See "*Digitisation*" below for further details on the Group's digitisation initiatives.

As enablers of its core strategic pillars, the Group recognises the contribution of its staff members to its long-term profitability and success. To this end, the Group seeks to retain its key staff members, to periodically review their compensation and incentives and reward them in accordance with their performance. The Group also remains focused on attracting talent to key new roles within the organisation through a competitive compensation structure, its investment in its people and its commitment to building inspiring career paths for staff.

In striving to implement its strategic pillars, the Group views innovation and agility as integral characteristics of its corporate culture, made essential by short product life cycles, evolving customer demands and the prevailing competitive landscape. The Group aims to foster the ability to create custom-quality products in short production runs, on-demand, at low cost, with high reliability, and with a low cycle time. The Group's staff in dedicated performance units currently receive training on agile working practices and "smart" risk taking, with these practices intended to be extended to the wider organisation over time.

## HISTORY

ADCB is a public joint stock company and was incorporated on 2 May 1985 following the merger of Khalij Commercial Bank, Emirates Commercial Bank and Federal Commercial Bank. This merger was effected pursuant to a resolution of the Abu Dhabi Executive Council. ADCB is registered in accordance with the Commercial Companies Law under registration number 4 and is licensed to operate as a commercial bank in the UAE by the Central Bank. ADCB's telephone number is +971 (0)2 621 0090.

On 29 January 2019, the board of directors of each of ADCB and UNB voted unanimously to recommend to their respective shareholders the Combination. On 21 March 2019 the shareholders of both ADCB and UNB approved the Combination. The Merger was pursuant to Article 283(1) of the Commercial Companies Law and an agreement dated 29 January 2019 between ADCB and UNB setting out the terms and conditions of, and the parties' rights and obligations in connection with, the implementation of the Merger (the "**Merger Agreement**").

On 1 May 2019, the assets and liabilities of UNB were assumed by the Group in consideration for the issue of new shares in ADCB to the existing shareholders of UNB. This resulted in the issue by ADCB of 1,641,501,087 shares of AED 1 each to the shareholders of UNB at the exchange rate of 0.5966 shares of ADCB for each share of UNB. Based on ADCB's closing share price on 30 April 2019 of AED 9.88, this represented consideration of AED 16,218 million. Upon the Merger becoming effective, UNB was

dissolved pursuant to the provisions of Article 291 of the Commercial Companies Law. Immediately thereafter, ADCB acquired the entire issued share capital of AHB from its sole shareholder, the Council, for consideration of AED 1,000 million by issuing unsecured mandatory convertible bonds convertible into 117,647,058 post-merger ADCB shares. AHB is now an wholly owned subsidiary of the Group and operates as a separate Islamic bank within the Group.

As at 31 December 2019, ADCB's issued share capital was AED 6,957,379,354.

## CONSUMER BANKING GROUP

CBG provides a comprehensive range of conventional and *Shari'a* compliant products and services across all segments of retail clients. Focused on catering for client needs, these products and services include deposit and transactional accounts, personal and auto loans, mortgages, credit cards, third-party insurance and investment products. In addition, the consumer banking group offers wealth management and brokerage services, and offshore banking services. In addition, CBG provides financial support to businesses of HNWI's and ultra-HNWI's through its Private Accounts unit. The service delivery is supported by a strong, multi-channel infrastructure. As a result of the Combination, the Group's infrastructure was expanded and, as at 31 December 2019, included 141 branches (including three pay offices), two Simply Life sales and service centres and five uBank centres, 532 ATMs, 245 of which have cash and cheque deposit facilities, a customer contact centre (open 24 hours and 7 days a week), online banking services and mobile banking applications in the UAE. The Group's 141 branches consist of: 72 ADCB branches and 14 AHB branches in the UAE; 48 UNB-E branches in Egypt; three branches in Kazakhstan; one branch in Kuwait; one branch in Qatar; one branch in China; and one offshore branch in Jersey (though the Group has announced that it is in the process of discontinuing some of its operations outside of the UAE – see "*Recent Developments*" below).

ADCB was the first bank in the UAE to launch a bank-wide loyalty program, "TouchPoints" that rewards customers for their interaction with ADCB. Customers earn reward points for subscription to products and services, maintenance and continuity of their relationship, transacting with ADCB or utilising a product or service recommended by ADCB. These loyalty points can be redeemed by the customer for airline miles and for vouchers of various leading retail merchants (including electronics, jewellery, supermarkets and lifestyle benefits).

The consumer banking group comprises five businesses: (i) the retail banking business, which serves each of the "mass", "emerging affluent" and the "mass affluent" customer segments, through three specifically catered sets of products – "Aspire", "Privilege Club" and "Excellency"; (ii) the private client and wealth management business, which has the dual responsibility of managing the relationships of HNWI's and ultra-HNWI's (under the brand name "ADCB Private") and also provides wealth management product and service solutions to all other customer segments within CBG; (iii) the Islamic banking business, which provides the Group's *Shari'a* compliant products and services based on Islamic structures such as murabaha, salam, mudaraba, wakala and ijara to both retail and corporate customers through the "ADCB Islamic Banking" brand and AHB; (iv) the private accounts business, which supports the businesses of HNWI's and ultra-HNWI's; and (v) the "new business" group, which is responsible for developing new business opportunities. The "SimplyLife" product was a new business line launched in 2014 in order to cater for the consumer finance needs of the lower tier of the "mass" customer segment.

For the year ended 31 December 2019, AED 1,059.1 million or 22.1 per cent of the Group's net profit for the year was attributable to CBG. Operating profit before impairment allowances attributable to CBG for the year ended 31 December 2019 increased to AED 2,291.5 million from AED 2,024.6 million for the year ended 31 December 2018. Impairment allowances attributable to CBG for the year ended 31 December 2019 increased to AED 1,230.5 million from AED 834.8 million for the year ended 31 December 2018. CBG contributed 43 per cent. (or AED 5,036 million) to the Group's total operating income of AED 11,722.1 million for the year ended 31 December 2019 (as compared to 42.7 per cent. (or AED 3,918.1 million) to the Group's total operating income of AED 9,181.4 million for the year ended 31 December 2018).

As at 31 December 2019, CBG had over 1.15 million customers, including 192,000 customers who were customers of UNB. In addition, as at 31 December 2019 AHB had approximately 123,000 customers.

## **Consumer Banking**

### ***Retail banking business***

The retail banking business offers three sets of products and services, namely "Aspire", "Privilege Club" and "Excellency", which cater to the "mass", "emerging affluent" and "mass affluent" customer segments, respectively. The "mass" customer segment includes customers who credit more than AED 5,000 in monthly salary transfers to their account with the Group or those who maintain a 'total relationship balance' with the Group of greater than AED 10,000. The "emerging affluent" customer segment caters for customers with a 'total relationship balance' with the Group of greater than AED 200,000 (or monthly salary credits of greater than AED 30,000) and the "mass affluent" customer segment includes customers maintaining a 'total relationship balance' with the Group of greater than AED 500,000. "Aspire" consists of basic transaction accounts offering deposits, loans and credit cards along with access to online and mobile banking services. The "Privilege Club" product, in addition to the services and products offered under "Aspire", provides access to a dedicated customer service officer and banking area, dedicated toll free number, wealth management products and lifestyle benefits. "Excellency" provides access to relationship managers (each of whom has been certified by the Chartered Institute for Securities and Investment), dedicated "Excellency" centres, a dedicated toll free number, wealth management solutions (including an investment platform offering a broad array of third party funds and strategies) and special lifestyle benefits. As at 31 December 2019, CBG had over 699,000 "Aspire" clients, over 100,000 "Privilege Club" clients, over 14,000 "Excellency" clients and over 112,000 "SimplyLife" clients. The retail clients of the Group's Islamic banking business (see "*Islamic Banking Business*" below) are included within the "Aspire", "Privilege Club", "Excellency" and "SimplyLife" client numbers provided above.

### ***Private client and wealth management business***

CBG's private client and wealth management business caters for the investment management needs of all customer segments within CBG. The business offers an open architecture platform which provides CBG customers with access to a global set of mutual funds. The business product offering combines traditional long-only equity fund management with more bespoke discretionary portfolio management and investment advisory solutions, along with execution and custody services covering equity, fixed income, mutual funds and structured products. Additionally, the business also manages a range of Luxembourg domiciled Undertakings for Collective Investments in Transferable Securities ("**UCITS**") mutual funds offering exposure to MENA equity markets.

The Group's private client service, "ADCB Private" manages the relationships of the CBG's HNWIs and ultra-HNWIs. The "ADCB Private" business offers private clients bespoke products and services including discretionary, non-discretionary and advisory wealth management solutions, capital markets products, succession planning, tailored lending, lifestyle solutions, premium payment solutions and transaction based retail and business banking solutions.

Membership of "ADCB Private" is typically only extended on an invitation only basis, with ADCB assessing the overall net worth and profile of the customer. The minimum eligibility criteria for "ADCB Private" is the maintenance of a 'total relationship balance' of at least U.S.\$1 million with ADCB.

In 2018, ADCB established a wholly owned asset management subsidiary, ADCB Asset Management Limited, in the Abu Dhabi Global Market ("**ADGM**") financial free zone. ADCB Asset Management Limited holds a category 3C license issued by the Financial Services Regulatory Authority ("**FSRA**") with financial services permissions to conduct regulated activities including managing assets, arranging and advising on investments, arranging custody and arranging credit.

### ***Private accounts***

The private accounts division provides transaction banking, corporate loans and working capital finance to HNWIs, ultra-HNWIs and their businesses.

### ***New business group***

The new business group is responsible for developing and exploiting new business opportunities within the UAE. In 2014, the "SimplyLife" product was the first new business line to be launched, to cater for the consumer finance needs of the lower tier of the "mass" customer segment. As at 31 December 2019, CBG had over 112,000 "SimplyLife" customers. A focus area for the new business group is the remittance

business, which is designed to increase penetration and usage of electronic funds transfers across the different customer segments of the CBG.

Additionally, in June 2017, the new business group launched the "merchant acquiring services" business which is designed to complement the Group's cards issuance business. The Group's merchant acquiring services business involves the installation of point-of-sale machines at a number of participating merchant's premises. Each credit or debit card transaction that a merchant undertakes with a customer on the point-of sale machine is then processed by the Group, on behalf of the merchant, for which the Group earns a processing fee. The Group offers merchant acquiring services through various channels including point of sale, mobile point of sale and e-commerce. Since the launch of this new business line, the Group had acquired more than 4,177 merchants as at 31 December 2019.

### **Islamic Banking Business**

The Islamic banking business is managed under the "ADCB Islamic Banking" brand, which offers *Shari'a* compliant products and services to both retail and corporate customers. The Group's suite of products and services available in *Shari'a* compliant form are similar to its conventional offerings, including accounts (Millionaire Destiny Savings Account and Emirati Millionaire Savings Account), deposits, financing products (murabaha auto finance, salam personal finance, education and home finance), Islamic credit cards and investments. This business forms a part of the Group's Islamic banking platform in conjunction with the Group's wholly-owned Islamic banking subsidiary, AHB. As at 31 December 2019, the Group's Islamic banking business had over 279,000 retail clients and approximately 5,000 corporate clients, including 1,706 retail clients and 845 corporate clients acquired as a result of the Acquisition.

The Group's Islamic banking business experienced growth during 2019, with income from Islamic financing increasing by 95.5 per cent. to AED 2,496 million in the year ended 31 December 2019 from AED 1,276.8 million in the year ended 31 December 2018. This increase was mainly due to the Combination. The Group's Islamic banking business also experienced significant growth during 2018, with income from Islamic financing increasing by 18 per cent. from AED 1,081.7 million in the year ended 31 December 2017 to AED 1,276.8 million in the year ended 31 December 2018.

Additionally, the Group's gross Islamic financing assets increased by 117.9 per cent. to AED 47,721.5 million in 2019 mainly due to the completion of the Combination and decreased by 0.9 per cent. to AED 21,901.4 million as at 31 December 2018 from AED 22,102.2 million as at 31 December 2017. The Group also experienced an increase in its total Islamic deposits as at 31 December 2019 to AED 46,976.5 million, while it experienced growth of 15.1 per cent. in its total Islamic deposits which increased to AED 16,940 million as at 31 December 2018 from AED 14,724 million as at 31 December 2017. This increase was mainly due to the Combination.

#### *Al Hilal Bank*

Following the Acquisition, the Group also offers *Shari'a* compliant products and services to retail customers through its wholly-owned subsidiary AHB, which operates as a separate Islamic bank within the Group.

As at 31 December 2019, AHB had approximately 123,000 retail customers and maintained 14 branches (including one pay office) in the UAE and 80 ATMs. AHB's subsidiary, Al Hilal Bank Kazakhstan maintained three branches as at 31 December 2019.

Following the Acquisition, the Group activated a digital strategy to turn AHB into a leading digital-first Islamic retail bank. As part of this strategy, the majority of AHB's wholesale and SME portfolios were migrated to ADCB within a few months of the Acquisition.

AHB aims to use advanced an innovative technology to enhance its range of digital channels, thereby providing enhanced levels of accessibility and convenience for its customers. Since the Acquisition, AHB launched 'Ahlan', an advanced onboarding mobile app that facilitates the onboarding of customers within a few minutes. As part of the enhancement of its digital offering, AHB has also upgraded its online banking platform and mobile apps, as well as introducing secure fingerprint and facial recognition technology.

## Products and Services

The principal products and services offered by CBG include:

- *Deposit and transactional accounts:* CBG customers are offered interest and non-interest bearing current accounts (which can be opened in a variety of currencies), savings accounts, term deposit accounts and call accounts of different maturities and yields. Customers can access their accounts by using their debit cards at the Group's network of ATMs, as well as through SMS, telephone and internet banking channels;
- *Personal loans:* CBG customers are offered personal loans, which are extended for a variety of purposes to both UAE nationals and expatriates and are denominated in UAE dirham;
- *Auto loans:* CBG customers are offered auto loans which are extended for the purchase of cars and are generally denominated in UAE dirham. The processes by which auto loans are extended, and the terms governing such loans, are substantially similar to those with respect to personal loans;
- *Mortgages:* CBG provides mortgages for the purchase of properties and off plan properties with fixed and variable interest rate options;
- *Credit cards:* CBG customers are offered credit cards with the Visa and MasterCard brands, as well as co-branded credit cards with LuLu Hypermarkets, the largest supermarket chain in the UAE and with Etihad Airways, the national airline of the UAE;
- *Third party bancassurance products:* CBG also offers insurance solutions and services through partnerships with international and local providers including Zurich International Life, American Life Insurance Company, Dubai Islamic Insurance and Reinsurance Company and Oman Insurance Company; and
- *Open architecture investment product suite:* CBG offers both its own and third party investment products to its customers. Customers may subscribe to a range of investment instruments including mutual funds, fixed income securities and structured products.

## Sales, Service and Distribution Channels

In order to both maintain long-term customer relationships and further expand its customer base, the Group maintains an extensive network of retail branches (including two pay offices, two SimplyLife sales and service centres and five uBank centres) in the UAE, principally in Abu Dhabi and Dubai. The Group also services its clients through a network of alternative distribution channels, including ATMs, cheque and cash deposit machines, contact centres, Internet banking, phone banking, the Group's mobile banking application, SMS banking and the "uBank" digital banking service.

### *Conventional distribution channels*

As at 31 December 2019, the Group maintained 141 branches consisting of: 72 ADCB branches and 14 AHB branches in the UAE; 48 UNB-E branches in Egypt; three branches in Kazakhstan; one branch in Kuwait; one branch in Qatar; one branch in China and one offshore branch in Jersey (though the Group has announced that it is in the process of discontinuing some of its operations outside of the UAE – see "*Recent Developments*" below).

### *Alternative distribution channels*

The Group also maintains the following alternative distribution channels:

- *ADCB's internet banking system:* ADCB customers can conduct certain banking transactions such as account transfers, bill payments, opening of fixed deposits, booking credit card loans, viewing transaction history and conducting enquiries. As at 31 December 2019, over 600,000 customers had registered with ADCB's internet banking system;
- *ADCB's mobile banking application:* ADCB customers can conduct certain basic banking transactions such as account transfers, bill payments and enquiries. As at 31 December 2019, over 562,000 customers had downloaded the ADCB mobile banking application;

- *ADCB Hayyak*: Launched in February 2019, ADCB Hayyak facilitates the digital on-boarding of new customers to ADCB. As of 31 December 2019, over 50,000 customers have been on-boarded through Hayyak;
- *ADCB Securities*: Founded in 2005, ADCB Securities is ADCB's brokerage house which offers its customers access to trade through the UAE's stock exchanges. With capital of AED 71 million, it is regulated by the UAE Securities and Commodities Authority for trading in the Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange, the Dubai Financial Market and NASDAQ Dubai. In 2019, ADCB Securities successfully integrated with Union Brokerage Company ("**UBC**");
- *SMS alerts*: allows ADCB customers to request information on transactions conducted through ADCB's mobile banking application and to receive transaction alerts via SMS. As at 31 December 2019, over 860,000 customers had registered for SMS banking;
- *532 ATMs*: located throughout the UAE (with the majority concentrated in Abu Dhabi and Dubai);
- *Contact centres*: call centres designed to assist customers with questions concerning consumer banking products and services. ADCB's contact centres are ISO 9001 certified; and
- *uBank*: ADCB operates four fully digital banking centres, known as the "uBank", with three locations in Abu Dhabi and two locations in Dubai. The "uBank" service uses biometric technology for authentication, interactive digital walls and surface tables along with video conferencing facilities through which customers can access financial guidance and support. Through the "uBank" service, customers have the ability to instantly open accounts and collect cheques from the kiosk. In addition, customers are able to conduct a number of routine banking transactions, including issuance and replacement of credit and debit cards, through a video assisted kiosk at the "uBank". The "uBank" also has on-site service ambassadors to guide customers with transactions through the digital centre as required.

### **Competition for CBG**

The consumer banking market in the UAE is highly fragmented and includes a range of local and international banks. The primary competitors to the Group's consumer banking business are Emirates NBD, Mashreqbank, First Abu Dhabi Bank and HSBC. The Group attempts to distinguish itself from these local and international banks by striving to provide a full range of products and services, superior customer services, a customer centred approach, effective distribution channels and the "TouchPoints" rewards programme. In Islamic consumer banking, the Group's principal competitors include Dubai Islamic Bank and Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank. Similarly, the Group attempts to distinguish itself from these local Islamic banks by drawing on its full service conventional banking experience in order to provide a more extensive range of Islamic banking products and services than those offered by such local banks.

### **Awards**

The Group's CBG has been recognised as one of the leading providers of retail banking products and services in the UAE.

In 2017, at the "The International Excellence in Retail Financial Services Awards 2017", hosted by "The Asian Banker" in Tokyo, the Group received the "Branch of the Year" award, for its "uBank" initiative. Additionally, in 2018, the Group's Etihad Guest Above Credit Card won the award for "Best affinity Credit Card in Middle East & Asia/Oceania" by Freddie Awards 2018. In the same year, the Group Traveller's Card won the award for "Best affinity card in Middle East & North Africa" by MasterCard Leadership Forum and "Credit Card product of the Year in Middle East" by the Asian Banker.

In 2019, the Group was awarded the "Visa Global Service Quality Awards for the Highest Authorization Approval Rate – Cross Border Consumer Point of Sale (POS) (Issuer)" for the MENA region. Additionally, in the 2019 Visa Bond Brand Loyalty study, ADCB Etihad Guest Cobrand Credit Card was ranked first in customer satisfaction across 49 programs surveyed across four markets in CEMEA region (KSA, UAE, Russia and Kenya). Further, in 2019, the Group's Islamic Banking won the "Best Islamic Banking Window Award 2019" from Islamic Retail Banking Awards by Cambridge IFA, UK and ADCB Securities won an award from the DFM for being the most active brokerage firm in trading via a mobile app.

## WHOLESALE BANKING GROUP

The wholesale banking group provides corporate lending, trade finance, working capital finance, liquidity management, transactional banking and capital markets and advisory services to SMEs, local, regional and multinational corporate entities, government and government-related entities and financial institutions, primarily in the UAE.

The wholesale banking group's client-focused divisions include: (i) the commercial banking division, which focuses on SMEs; (ii) the mid-corporate division; (iii) four divisions (one serving Dubai and the Northern Emirates, the second focusing on Abu Dhabi and Al Ain, the third serving the wider GCC, including businesses domiciled in the UAE and the fourth catering to clients that require a purely Islamic proposition) focussed on top tier corporates, including multi-national businesses, government-related commercial entities and governments and their respective agencies; and (iv) the institutional clients division, which serves financial institutions in the UAE, the GCC and globally.

The wholesale banking group's product-focused divisions include the: (i) transactional banking division, which focuses on cash management (including a sophisticated automated platform), trade finance, bespoke client servicing and liability products such as fixed deposits; and (ii) investment banking division, which focuses on conventional and Islamic debt capital markets instruments including debt underwriting and distribution services, structured asset and acquisition financing, debt restructuring, corporate advisory and structuring services, manages the Group's infrastructure fund, evaluates mergers and acquisitions and joint venture opportunities;

The Group's representative offices in: (i) the United Kingdom (which was opened in London in 2014); and (ii) Singapore (which was opened in September 2015) are also managed by the wholesale banking group.

As at 31 December 2019, the wholesale banking group had more than 40,450 customers, the majority of which were based in the UAE.

For the year ended 31 December 2019, AED 1,310.6 million or 27.3 per cent. of the Group's net profit for the year was attributable to the wholesale banking group. Operating profit before impairment allowances attributable to the wholesale banking group for the year ended 31 December 2019 increased to AED 2,392 million from AED 2,161.1 million for the year ended 31 December 2018. Impairment allowances attributable to the wholesale banking group for the year ended 31 December 2019 increased to AED 1,041.9 million from AED 453.1 million for the year ended 31 December 2018. The wholesale banking group contributed 31.4 per cent. (or AED 3,681.9 million) to the Group's total operating income of AED 11,722.1 million for the year ended 31 December 2019 (as compared to 32.7 per cent. (or AED 3,005 million) to the Group's total operating income of AED 9,181.4 million for the year ended 31 December 2018).

### Client-Focused Divisions

#### *Commercial banking division*

The commercial banking division provides SME customers (entities with annual revenue of less than AED 150 million) with a wide range of products and services including cash management, trade finance, business/commercial financing and deposit services. In order to control the costs of and risks associated with the services it provides to its SME clients, the division provides clients with relatively standardised packages of services rather than separate solutions for each individual client. The Group added over 10,800 net new funded SME loan accounts (including long and short term loans and overdrafts) among new and existing customers in the year ended 31 December 2019. As at 31 December 2019, the Group had approximately 31,500 SME customers.

#### *Mid-corporate division*

The mid-corporate division offers a range of products and services to mid-sized corporates, focused primarily on growing businesses (entities with annual revenue of between AED 150 million and AED 500 million). The division operates through a dedicated team of relationship managers who provide clients with asset and liability products and trade finance, cash management and corporate financing services. The mid-corporate division serves approximately 2,100 clients as at 31 December 2019. Its client base includes branches of foreign companies and offshore entities. As at 31 December 2019, the client base also included approximately 1,100 "liabilities only clients" (being clients with whom the Group has no lending relationship and who only maintain current and savings account balances with the Group), which the team

has developed and now manages in order to increase current and savings account balances and develop ongoing relationships.

### ***Top tier corporate divisions***

Each of the Dubai and the Northern Emirates, the Abu Dhabi and Al Ain and the wider GCC top tier corporate divisions offer a full range of banking products and services to large corporates, multi-national businesses, government-related commercial entities and governments and their departments across their respective geographic locations. In particular, the GCC business offers facilities to clients with linkages to India and clients in other GCC countries requiring the services of a UAE-based bank, with a current focus on the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Sultanate of Oman. The unit works closely with the Group's branch offices in Kuwait, Qatar and China, as well as servicing a small portfolio of major Egyptian government and corporate clients, who also have relationships with the Group's subsidiary in Egypt.

Drawing on expertise from around the Group, in 2019 a new division was formed to manage existing corporate clients that request a purely Islamic offering. Those clients were moved into the Group's wholesale operations following the decision to cease the wholesale banking operations of AHB during 2019. The division deals solely with corporates, institutional government, commercial or mid-corporate clients, which were allocated to their respective customer divisions.

The top tier corporate divisions deliver through a focused group of dedicated relationship managers, with a combined client base of approximately 3,900 as at 31 December 2019.

### ***Institutional clients division***

The institutional clients division is responsible for managing the Group's relationships with approximately 1,098 financial institutions (including non-bank financial institutions) located around the globe. These financial institutions comprise banks, finance and investment companies, asset managers, broker dealers, commodity houses and insurance companies. The division provides a range of trade finance, treasury, financing and other products and solutions to these financial institutions. The division is also responsible for maintaining nostro (where the Group holds an account with other financial institutions) and vostro (where other financial institutions hold an account with the Group) client relationships. In addition, the institutional clients division is responsible for the allocation of exposure to other relevant areas of the Group, including the treasury group.

## **Product-Focused Divisions**

### ***Transaction banking division***

The transaction banking division provides corporate banking services to support the wholesale banking group's client-focused divisions. The division offers cash management, trade services and trade finance products as well as liability products such as call accounts, fixed deposits and money market related deposits. The division's principal products and services include:

- *Cash management:* managing cash accounts, cash management solutions for large or government clients, including through the use of a sophisticated electronic platform enabling integration of internal and external information management between the Group and the client through secure information technology architecture, and payment and collection products for its corporate and financial institution clients. It also provides escrow services and is closely involved in the management of deposit products;
- *Trade finance:* providing trade finance products and services such as export/import letters of credit, payment guarantees, bills and collections. Trade services can be offered on a proprietary electronic platform which automates activity; and
- *Liability products:* providing and managing liability products, including deposits.

The Group is focused on significantly increasing its transaction banking capabilities, including its trade finance and cash management capabilities. With respect to trade finance, the Group has: (i) aligned its wholesale banking group coverage teams (both internally and with the credit group); (ii) built capacity for structured transactions, including the development of an Islamic trade finance delivery channel; (iii)

launched an advanced internet based trade finance platform to automate the Group's trade finance offerings and enhance its capabilities; and (iv) reviewed and streamlined documentation practices.

With respect to cash management, the Group: (i) has increased the number of clients (including government clients) using the Group's cash management capabilities; (ii) has launched programmes to strengthen deposit retention, drive the acquisition of deposits and cross-sell existing products; (iii) is providing yield enhancing, principal protected investments through the treasury and investments group; (iv) is exploring opportunities for providing transaction management services to niche customer groups such as universities, law and accounting firms and insurance companies; (v) is focusing on acquiring *Shari'a* compliant deposits; (vi) has developed a sophisticated electronic system to deliver end-to-end cash management; and (vii) is offering streamlined processing and payment options.

### ***Investment banking division***

The investment banking division primarily provides corporate advisory, origination, structuring, underwriting and syndication services to corporations, financial institutions and government controlled entities.

The division offers its products and services primarily to clients in the UAE, especially in Abu Dhabi and Dubai, as well as to clients in other GCC countries. Although the division does not focus on any particular industries or sectors, it has provided products and services to a disproportionately large number of real estate and energy companies due to the concentration of such companies in the region. The division also works with international banks as an arranger or lead manager in international debt offerings by GCC issuers with the aim of positioning itself as the preferred local partner of such international banks rather than directly competing with them.

The division's principal investment banking products and services include:

- *Asset based finance*: offering asset based finance (infrastructure and project financing) to local or multinational corporates;
- *Debt capital markets*: structuring and arranging conventional bonds (including convertible bonds) on a syndicated or stand-alone basis. The division also offers structured and standardised Islamic finance, including *Shari'a* compliant financing and sukuk issuances for its institutional clients, and intends to grow its Islamic debt capital markets business significantly in the future;
- *Structured financing and debt restructuring*: offering structured asset finance, acquisition finance (including leveraged finance) and debt restructuring for local and multinational corporates; and
- *Corporate advisory and structuring*: providing corporate advisory and structuring services to clients to facilitate complex structured financing transactions. In addition, the division assists with investment management, transaction negotiation, performing due diligence and asset valuations for sellers.

The division also manages the Group's strategic investments and certain of the Group's proprietary investments. In addition, the investment banking division seeks and evaluates strategic opportunities for the Group, such as mergers and acquisitions and joint ventures, and performs valuations of assets for investment purposes.

### **Risk and Support Team**

The risk and support team provides support to the wholesale banking group through analysis of initial business risk and credit analysis, portfolio monitoring, document exception management, quality controls and assurance over front office activities, as well as preparing financing documents before forwarding business proposals to the Group's credit department. In addition, through the use of both financial analysis tools and a dedicated implementation team, the risk and business support division provides support across the Group's wholesale banking business (see "*Risk Management*").

## **Overseas Divisions**

### ***Representative offices***

The role of the Group's representative offices in London and Singapore is to capitalise on global economic trade and investment flows through these global financial centres for the benefit of the wider Group. These representative offices are primarily tasked with conducting research to understand and increase knowledge of the local market in these financial centres.

### ***The Group's India operations***

The wholesale banking group previously oversaw the Group's Indian banking operations ("**ADCB India**"). The Group had two branches in India, located in Mumbai and Bengaluru. In September 2019, the Group announced that an agreement had been reached to sell the majority of its banking portfolio in India to DCB Bank Limited, which was completed on 10 September 2019. Following the sale, nominal assets and liabilities remained across the Group's two branches in India, which have now been closed and the Group has only nominal real estate now remaining in India. The process of cancelling the Indian banking licence is ongoing.

## **Competition for Wholesale Banking Group**

The primary competitors to the Group's wholesale banking business include Emirates NBD, First Abu Dhabi Bank and Mashreqbank. The Group also competes with certain international banks such as HSBC, Standard Chartered Bank, Barclays and BNP Paribas. In debt capital markets and securities underwriting and distribution, the Group typically works with international investment banks such as Bank of America, Goldman Sachs, Citibank, Morgan Stanley and UBS as co-lead or joint managers, rather than competing with them.

Certain aspects of the Group's wholesale banking business, including access to deposits and trade finance, have become increasingly competitive due to tight domestic liquidity conditions for term deposits and a renewed focus on non-funded lending by local banks. Foreign bank participation in public sector financing has had a significant downward effect on margins in this area.

In Islamic wholesale banking, the Group's principal competitors include Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank PJSC, Dubai Islamic Bank PJSC and Islamic subsidiaries of local and international banks.

## **Awards**

In 2019, the Group was named: (i) "Best Trade Finance Provider in UAE" by "Global Finance"; (ii) "Trade Finance Market Leader in the UAE" by "Euromoney"; (iii) "Best Trade Finance Service in the UAE"; (iv) "Best Cash Management Provider in the Middle East" by "Global Finance"; (v) "UAE Domestic Trade Finance Bank of the Year" by "Asian Banking & Finance"; (vi) "Best Trade Finance Services" by "Global Finance"; (vii) "Best Online Portal Services" by "Global Finance"; (viii) "Best Service Overall and Market Leader Overall-UAE" by "Euromoney"; (ix) "Best Service: Overall, Business Functions, Financial Facilities, Personnel, Service, Tech Provisions; Middle East" by "Euromoney"; (x) Best SME Bank in the UAE" by "Global Finance".

## **TREASURY AND INVESTMENTS GROUP**

The treasury and investments group manages the Group's commercial and proprietary financial markets operations and investment securities portfolios.

For the year ended 31 December 2019, the Group's treasury and investments group generated net profit of AED 2,350.8 million representing 49.1 per cent. of the Group's total net profit. Operating profit before impairment allowances attributable to the treasury and investments group for the year ended 31 December 2019 increased to AED 2,448.9 million from AED 1,807.9 million for the year ended 31 December 2018. The impairment allowances attributable to the treasury and investments group for the year ended 31 December 2019 were of AED 79.6 million compared to recoveries of AED 22.1 million for the year ended 31 December 2018. The treasury and investments group contributed 23.6 per cent. (or AED 2,770.6 million) to the Group's total operating income of AED 11,722.1 million for the year ended 31 December 2019 (as compared to 22 per cent. (or AED 2,036 million) to the Group's total operating income of AED 9,181.4 million for the year ended 31 December 2018).

## Treasury Division

The treasury division offers a range of treasury services including money market, interest rate, currency and commodity services as well as other structured treasury solutions and risk management products, together with their Islamic equivalents, to domestic and foreign corporates, sovereign wealth funds, central banks, public sector and government entities, as well as to HNWI clients, international investors and financial institutions.

Treasury is responsible for managing the Group's cash flow and liquidity as well as the Group's foreign exchange, investments and interest rate risks within delegated limits. The Group's LCR and NSFR exposure is monitored on a daily basis whilst internal liquidity and funding metrics are monitored periodically within the Group's Assets and Liabilities Committee (the "ALCO") and the Board.

Treasury uses derivative financial instruments for balance sheet hedging purposes in order to manage the Group's exposure to fluctuations in currency and interest rates. Additionally, in its trading activities, Treasury uses derivatives to offer hedging solutions to its customers enabling them to transfer, modify or reduce current and expected risks. For example, the Group's treasury money markets division has significantly reduced its exposure to Qatari Riyals by reducing Qatari Riyal deposits held with Qatari financial institutions in Qatar following the decision of a number of MENA countries, including the UAE, to sever diplomatic relations with the Qatar in June 2017 (see "*Overview of the UAE and Abu Dhabi – International Relations*"). Treasury at times also manages risk taken as a result of client transactions or initiates positions with the expectation of profiting from market movements. As at 31 December 2019, the total positive fair values and notional values of the total derivative financial instruments was AED 6.79 billion and AED 802.8 billion, respectively.

Treasury manages liquidity, interest rate and foreign exchange risks by running stress scenarios involving changes to market parameters including customer behaviour through Moody's RiskFoundation ALM Software. The software allows the Group to assess liquidity under different market conditions and be proactive in its balance sheet management strategies.

Treasury has diversified its funding via active short term liquidity management through repo trading and collateral swaps. This activity is executed via the Tripartite and Bilateral Repo markets.

Treasury aims to continue leveraging its wholesale and retail banking client relationships in order to maintain and improve its market share.

## Investments Division

The Group's investments division manages the Group's liquid assets portfolio as part of its compliance with the regulatory requirements of the Central Bank. Its investment strategy targets investments that: (i) do not compromise the Group's short to medium term liquidity positions; (ii) are in line with Central Bank and Basel III guidelines for HQLAs; and (iii) satisfy the Group's low risk appetite but generate attractive returns on capital. The investments are evaluated regularly and recorded on a mark-to-market, mark-to-model or amortised cost basis on the Group's statement of financial position.

As part of its LCR liquidity reporting and compliance, the Group's investments division invests in various short-term or medium-term, highly marketable assets in line with Basel III guidelines for HQLAs (such as certificates of deposit held with the Central Bank and investment grade bonds). As at 31 March 2020, the Group held a portfolio of HQLAs valued at AED 69.7 billion as compared to AED 71.2 billion as at 31 December 2019 (31 December 2018: HQLAs valued at AED 48.6 billion). See "*Risk Factors– Factors that may affect the Group's ability to fulfil its obligations in respect of Notes issued under the Programme– Risks relating to the Group's liquidity– The Group's cash flow from its operations may not be sufficient at all times to meet its contractual and contingent payment obligations*" and "*The United Arab Emirates Banking Sector and Regulations– Recent Trends in Banking– Liquidity*" for more information.

The Group's investments are primarily in highly liquid sovereign, quasi-sovereign and government-related senior unsecured fixed income securities issued by UAE, GCC and global issuers. The majority of the Group's local liquidity is invested in government bonds and other government-related public sector entities in the UAE and systemically important financial institutions in the UAE and the GCC.

As at 31 December 2019, 93.7 per cent. of the Group's investment portfolio was invested in listed fixed income securities and 5 per cent. in unlisted government fixed income securities and 0.2 per cent. in unlisted

banks and financial institutions securities. The remaining amount was invested in listed and unlisted equity and private equity funds, primarily based in the UAE.

As at 31 December 2019, the investments division had: (i) U.S. Treasury and U.S. agency securities of AED 918 million; (ii) a portfolio of AED 4,478.6 million of investments in government bonds of France, Japan and Italy; and (iii) a portfolio of AED 4,687.4 million of investments in senior fixed income securities issued by sovereigns and quasi sovereigns in the PRC, South Korea, Singapore, Hong Kong, India and Malaysia and AED 2,290.8 million of investments in supranational bonds. The carrying value of the total investment securities portfolio managed by the Group's investments division grew from AED 49,191.6 million as at 31 December 2017 to AED 73,442.7 million as at 31 December 2019 (restated).

The table below sets forth the Group's investment securities on the dates indicated.

	2019 (restated)	As at 31 December	
		2018	2017
		(AED millions)	
Investment securities.....	73,443	52,362	49,192

The Group's investment securities portfolio outside the UAE and GCC was 26.9 per cent. of its total portfolio as at 31 December 2019. Asset allocation has primarily been to highly liquid senior unsecured bonds of systemically important institutions with liquidity being the key investment criteria. The geographical distribution of the Group's investment securities portfolio as at 31 December 2019 was AED 34,401 million (46.8 per cent.) in the UAE, AED 19,283 million (26.3 per cent.) in other GCC countries and AED 19,758 million (26.9 per cent.) (on a restated basis) in the rest of the world (including Asia, Europe, the United States and other locations).

As at 31 December 2019, the Group had bond investments carried at fair value through other comprehensive income portfolio of AED 72,616.9 million. The external credit rating profile, by reference to Standard & Poor's rating scale (or, where a Standard & Poor's rating was unavailable, a comparable Fitch or Moody's rating), of the Group's bond investments carried at fair value through other comprehensive income as at 31 December 2019 was: (i) AED 20,443.7 million (or 28.2 per cent. of the bond portfolio) rated between 'AAA' and 'AA-'; (ii) AED 25,917.4 million (or 35.7 per cent. of the bond portfolio) rated between 'A+' and 'A-'; (iii) AED 10,468.7 million (or 14.4 per cent. of the bond portfolio) rated between 'BBB+' and 'BBB-'; (iv) AED 8,756.6 million (or 12.1 per cent. of the bond portfolio) rated between 'BB+' and 'B-'; (v) AED 5,958.1 million (or 8.2 per cent. of the bond portfolio) being UAE sovereign bonds; and (vi) AED 1,072.2 million (or 1.5 per cent. of the bond portfolio) being unrated.

For more information about the risks associated with these investments, see "*Risk Factors – Factors that may Affect the Group's Ability to Fulfil its Obligations in respect of Notes Issued under the Programme – Risks relating to the Group's Business – Difficult macro-economic and financial market conditions have affected and could continue to materially adversely affect the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition*".

### Competition for Treasury Operations

The management of the Group believes that the Group has market leading expertise in derivative products and structured treasury solutions as compared to other local banks. In addition to competing with the local UAE banks, the Group competes with a number of international banks in this business, including HSBC, Standard Chartered Bank, Citibank and Deutsche Bank. These banks have a wealth of experience in international treasury operations and market knowledge in this area and may pose a threat to the Group's franchise in the UAE market. However, management believes that the Group's strong relationships with mid-sized corporates, top-tier local corporates, public enterprises, SMEs and domestic financial institutions, combined with its treasury products expertise, will help sustain or enhance its market position in the foreseeable future.

### PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

The property management group mainly comprises the real estate management operations of:

- **Abu Dhabi Commercial Properties LLC:** which is a wholly-owned subsidiary whose principal activities consist of providing real estate property management and advisory services, including facilities management; and

- ***Abu Dhabi Commercial Engineering Services LLC***: which is a wholly-owned subsidiary whose principal activities consist of providing project management and development services.

In addition to the above, notable real estate assets in Abu Dhabi owned by the Group include: (i) the Group's head office building, situated in the central business district area of Abu Dhabi City; (ii) the Group's office building, situated at Al Nahyan Camp in Abu Dhabi City; (iii) a mixed use building named "AD1" at Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre, part of the Capital Centre District; (iv) an apartment building consisting of 58 apartments and 15 standalone villas in the Bawabat Al Sharq Development, Bani Yas, Abu Dhabi (the Group has the benefit of a Sale and Purchase Agreement, but legal title remains with the developer, Bani Yas Investment and Development Company), (v) former UNB head office building in Abu Dhabi City, (vi) Al Hilal Bank's head office building at Al Bahar Towers and (vi) four vacant plots on Al Reem Island.

In addition, the Group owns a number of buildings across the UAE associated with its business operations as part of its branch network, corporate space and storage facilities.

For the year ended 31 December 2019, the Group's property management group generated net profit of AED 72 million, representing 1.5 per cent. of the Group's total net profit. Operating profit attributable to the property management group for the year ended 31 December 2019 decreased to AED 72 million from AED 104.3 million for the year ended 31 December 2018. The property management group contributed 2 per cent. (or AED 233.7 million) to the Group's total operating income of AED 11,722.1 million on for the year ended 31 December 2019 (as compared to 2.4 per cent. (or AED 222.4 million) to the Group's total operating income of AED 9,181.4 million for the year ended 31 December 2018).

## DIGITISATION

The Group's strategy was updated in 2017 to include the digitisation of many of the Group's core business processes as a key organisation-wide strategic focus (see "*Description of the Group – Strategy*"). However, the Group has always been committed to adopting the latest banking and technological innovations in order to provide its customers with a convenient banking experience. In line with this strategic focus on digitisation, the Group has dedicated significant resources to the development of its digital offering and has instructed external consultants to advise on the implementation of its digitisation initiatives. The Group plans to continue to invest in digitisation as it strives to remain competitive and to provide its customers with access to banking services remotely and digitally (see "*Risk Factors – If the Group is unable to anticipate and develop or provide new digital services for its customers and/or keep pace with the digitisation of the banking market, the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition could be materially adversely affected*").

The strategic focus on digitisation is reflected by the creation of the Digital Steering Committee, a working group with responsibility for overseeing the Group's digitisation initiatives which is chaired by the GCEO and whose membership is comprised of members of the Group's executive management.

As at the date of this Base Prospectus, the Group's existing digitisation initiatives include the following:

- ***uBank***: The Group operates five fully digital banking centres, known as the "uBank", across locations in Abu Dhabi and Dubai. The "uBank" service uses biometric technology for authentication and interactive digital walls and surface tables along with video conferencing facilities through which customers can access financial guidance and support. (see "*Consumer Banking Group – Alternative distribution channels*" above);
- ***The Group's customer applications***: The Group's dedicated customer applications enable the Group's customers to conduct certain basic transactions through their personal devices, such as account transfers, bill payments, enquiries, cash management and securities brokerage services, in addition to viewing location-based offers and searching residential and commercial properties for rentals. As at 31 December 2019, the Group had ten customer applications including an instant account opening application; a mobile banking application; a money buddy; a watch application; a location-based offers application; a cash management mobile application for corporate clients; an ADCP property search application; and an ADCB Securities LLC application;
- **The Group's website**: The Group's website allows the Group's customers, prospective customers, and stakeholders to navigate and find what they want more easily. The website is responsive across

different platforms: desktop, mobile and tablet. In 2019, at the Global Finance World's Best Digital Bank awards, ADCB won the award for Best Website Design – Consumer UAE and in April 2020, ADCB was recognised at the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Webby Awards as "Webby Honoree" in the Websites Category for the Best Homepage;

- The Group's internet banking system: The Group's internet banking system provides the Group's customers with the ability to conduct certain banking transactions online, such as account transfers, bill payments, opening of fixed deposits, booking credit card loans, viewing transaction history and conducting enquiries. As at 31 December 2019, over 600,000 customers had registered with the Group's internet banking system;
- *Trade Finance services*: The Group's Trade Finance services were digitised through an improved workflow and portal. At the 2019 Global Finance World's Best Digital Bank awards, ADCB won the Global Innovator award, Best Online Portal Services – Corporate UAE award, Best Trade Finance Services – Corporate UAE award, Best Trade Finance Services in Middle East for its Trade Finance portal;
- *Virtual Accounts*: The Group has optimised the accounts receivables process for Corporate customers through enhanced technology, enabling customers to consolidate bank accounts and centralise transactions.
- *SMS alerts*: The Group's customers can request information on transactions conducted through the Group's mobile banking application and receive transaction alerts via SMS. As at 31 December 2019, over 860,000 customers had registered for SMS banking.

The Group plans to continue to expand the range of its customer focused digitisation initiatives with various projects expected to be implemented across the organisation before 2020.

## **GROUP BUSINESS SERVICES**

The group business services ("GBS") division comprises a number of key support functions which operate across the Group network. Following the internal re-organisation that took place on 1 January 2016, when the Branch Operations team was transferred internally to the CBG, and a further re-organisation in February 2018, when the Information and Physical Security team was transferred to the Risk Management department (see "*Risk Management – Decision Making – Execution – Information and physical security governance department*"), GBS was comprised of over 2,567 staff (2,482 of which are in ADCB) as at 31 December 2019. Headed by the Group Chief Operations Officer, GBS is organised by the following three core functions.

### **Itmam Services L.L.C. ("Itmam")**

Itmam is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Group which provides banking operational and processing services (such as lending, account and wealth, transaction, customer contact services, trade finance, wealth management, treasury, syndication and ATM services) to all parts of the Group. Itmam forms part of the GBS organisational structure and is governed by its own board of directors, who are all Group executive staff members. In 2018, the Group Operations function was brought into Itmam following an internal reorganisation. The Itmam structure includes a general manager and six key operational service divisions: (i) Consumer Operations; (ii) Wholesale Operations; (iii) Customer Contact services; (iv) Treasury and Syndication Operations; (v) Corporate services and (vi) Shared Services and Operations Management, which includes "Tamooha", the Group's award-winning operations centre initiative, staffed entirely by UAE national females.

In May 2019, subsequent to the announcement of the Acquisition, the operations at AHB were outsourced to Itmam to leverage the existing scale, efficiency, control and best practices. On 1 April 2020, Itmam completed the integration and unification of all UNB banking systems, with former UNB customers transferring to ADCB systems, applications and digital banking platforms.

### **Group Service and Customer Experience Management**

The group service and customer experience management division supports the bank-wide "service excellence initiative", innovation initiatives, service optimisation strategies and a number of key change projects across the Group.

## **Technology Services**

The technology services division architects, designs, develops and supports the Group's business systems landscape and IT Infrastructure. This division manages the Group's servers, data centres and the network supporting the Group's branch networks and offices connectivity across the UAE and internationally. Providing support for the Group applications running in production, the division assists the business groups in planning their requirements, architecting and designing IT solutions, managing business projects, conducting software testing, managing the ADCB hardware and software framework and is responsible for governance, risk mitigation, contracts, licensing and service changes.

In 2019, the technology services division focused on the delivery of the milestones for the Merger with the legal merger, the brand merger and branch network merger and with the final phase of IT systems & IT landscape consolidation to achieve merger synergies. This included the centralisation of governance and contracting functions as well as the organisational restructuring of IT to be able to run two bank's IT landscapes by one IT team until the final consolidation and shutdown of similar systems can be completed. In parallel the technology services division delivered on the Digital Program, as well as on improvements in the customer channels and in the operational productivity. Additionally the technology services division is in the process of moving its disaster recovery datacentre to a new Tier IV datacentre to be at par in terms of resilience between the primary and secondary site.

The technology services division also enables a convenient and efficient service to the Group's customers, offering a range of mobile and electronic banking services for Retail & Brokerage, Islamic, Corporate and Private Customers. This includes Internet banking, the Group mobile banking services, telephone banking, customer on-boarding, SMS banking, corporate cash management, trade finance as well as API based B2B services for partners.

The Group's disaster recovery procedures and facilities ensure that critical systems and data are fully operational and provide essential services to its customers. The Group carries out daily and other periodic data backups which are stored at a location outside of Abu Dhabi. In cases of emergency, the Group can switch over selected critical systems to the disaster recovery site within one hour. The Group's data centre is located outside the city limits of Abu Dhabi in a facility providing technical facilities certified as Tier IV in accordance with the Uptime Institute (which publishes a standard guiding design and investment for data centres globally).

## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

### **Employees**

In the last three years, ADCB has increased the number of employees by 42.8 per cent., as part of both normal course activities and the process of integrating UNB and AHB. The Group had 7,281 employees as of 31 December 2019, compared to 5,490 as of 31 December 2018 and 5,100 as of 31 December 2017. In addition to the total number of employees reported as of 31 December 2019, the number of outsourced staff as of 31 December 2019 was 807, compared to 951 as of 31 December 2018 and 1,485 as of 31 December 2017.

Investment in people remains a key focus in order to prepare employees to effectively adapt and manage challenges, by providing them with the necessary tools to empower and propel them towards growth. In 2019, the Group concentrated on servicing the needs and goals of its clients and stakeholders through successfully integrating UNB and AHB following the Combination while maintaining the high level of services and business activities as usual.

To continuously improve organisational and cultural health within the Group, the Group trains and develops its new and existing employees in order that the Group and all of its business functions continue to be supported by the skills required for operational success. The Group creates a tailored learning approach for each of its business line, including embedding new digital skills and competencies in its employee training needed to achieve the Group's organisational goals and a high performance culture.

The Ambition University ("AU") is the Group's corporate university which aligns and integrates employees' development with the Group's strategic initiatives both at an organisation and at a business level. The AU undertakes business-driven training designed to add value to the Group's business, shareholders and customers. The Group has developed a teaching model that is custom-designed for the needs of each

business with programmes delivered through a blended-learning methodology, including online and face-to-face workshops run either by the Group employees operating as in-house faculty or, where external facilitation is required, in partnership with some of the world's leading corporate education providers. The AU's Islamic Banking Academy won the Islamic Retail Banking Award ("IRBA") 2018 in the category of "Investors in People" during the 4<sup>th</sup> IRBA Ceremony which was held in Dubai in November 2018, where 33 top Islamic retail banks and leading personalities from 14 countries around the world were honoured for their leadership roles and participation in the industry.

In addition to private medical insurance, pension schemes for UAE and GCC nationals and other benefits, the Group offers variable remuneration schemes for all employees, operating in line with two principal schemes (one for executives, senior and middle management and a parallel scheme for more junior employees). Under this structure, performance-based variable pay and other incentives (including interests in the Group's shares) are awarded based on annual or semi-annual performance evaluation. Additionally, the Group has a mid-year and an annual performance appraisal scheme for all employees and merit-based pay increases and variable pay are paid on the basis of performance ratings.

The Group operates a variable pay policy that links an employee's variable pay to their performance as well as to their department and the Group's overall performance. Further, the Group pays sales employees incentives for achieving sales and revenue targets in addition to offering rewards and recognition schemes for employees who deliver exceptional service and demonstrate the Group's values.

The Group's variable pay policy takes into account international best practices. In particular, the scheme seeks to align employees' interests with those of the Group's investors by use of deferrals, claw-backs and share-based awards. The Group also operates a share-based employee retention scheme to aid the retention of employees deemed to be critical to the business. The retention scheme, which is independent of the variable pay policy, is designed to provide business continuity by mitigating turnover risk of critical employees and related operational risks.

The Group's approach to sourcing and retaining employees reflects the demands and opportunities of an increasingly active labour market. The Group's recruitment team actively utilises its own internal procurement capabilities, independently sourcing candidates from the market, to complement the existing use of external recruitment consultants.

## **Emiratisation**

In 1999, as part of a policy of "Emiratisation", UAE banks were instructed by the UAE federal government to increase the number of UAE nationals on their payroll by at least 4 per cent. per annum. This policy has now been replaced by the Emiratisation Circular.

In line with the Emiratisation Circular, the Group has made a commitment to employing and training UAE nationals. The Group's Emiratisation strategy supports the Group's position as a nationalisation leader across the UAE.

The Emiratisation Circular introduced a scoring system which takes into account the employment and progression of Emirati employees in the organisation. The minimum threshold for Emirati employees for each institution is dependent on a number of factors. The Emiratisation Circular does not set any upper limit at which the policy would no longer be applicable. If UAE banks are not able to achieve their targets for recruiting and progressing UAE nationals through their organisation, they will be subject to penalties to be computed in accordance with a specific formula set out in the Emiratisation Circular.

From 31 December 2014 to 31 December 2019, the number of Emirati employees in the Group has increased by 65 per cent., as a result of the Group's normal business activities and the process of integrating UNB and AHB. As of 31 December 2019, the Group had 1,479 UAE National employees within the Group. In addition, as a standard practice, the Group gives priority in recruitment and succession planning to UAE Nationals. This is further reflected through the Group's efforts, including its participation in career fairs and supporting year – round Emiratisation national initiatives. The Group plans to maintain the same drive and commitment to this initiative in the years ahead.

In November 2019, the Emiratisation target communicated by the Central Bank increased to 3,436. As at 31 December 2019, AHB's Emiratisation rate reached 48 per cent., the highest among all UAE banks.

The Group's Emiratisation strategy, implemented through recruitment and employee selection as well as training programmes, enjoys the support and commitment of business heads and management across all business areas.

Developing UAE Nationals in the Group is given special and dedicated attention. In 2018, the Group successfully launched the ADCB Emirati Academy, providing a robust, fully customised, learning framework that supports development at all levels within the organisation. Therefore, the Group increased the financial dexterity of Emirati employees, focusing on enhancing their competencies and confidence as individual subject matter experts and team contributors.

As an organisation, the Group is focused on empowering Emirati women in the banking industry. The Group supports this employment initiative through the Tamooha programme. The Tamooha programme continues to grow, attracting more Emirati women who are seeing the Group as an employer of choice. Since it began in 2014, this programme has attracted and continues to attract more than 350 Emirati women, facilitating job opportunities and career development, providing an environment that suits social norms, family responsibilities and overcomes regional barriers such as geographical remoteness. This award-winning inclusivity initiative for Emirati women celebrated its fifth anniversary in 2019. In 2016, this initiative was recognised at the "Gulf Employee Experience Awards" and, in 2017, "Tamooha" won the "Best Initiative Award" at the "Global Women in Leadership Economic Forum".

In line with Abu Dhabi Government's Strategy and Abu Dhabi Economic Vision 2030 to increase the participation of UAE Nationals in the workforce, the Group is also supporting young Emirati talent, enabling them to become a driving force of the UAE's economic development. In 2019, the Group committed to onboard a group of talented young Emiratis under its new "Train for Work" initiative. As the first trainees under the programme have already joined ADCB, the Group is committed to develop the leading bankers of today and tomorrow by consistently providing the required support, development and mentoring. In appreciation of Group's support for this initiative, the Group received a recognition award from Mubadala in partnership with Abu Dhabi Human Resources Authority and Zayed Higher Organization for People of Determination.

The Group aims to continue to support the national initiatives of Emiratisation.

## **LITIGATION**

There were a number of ordinary course legal proceedings pending against the Group as at 31 March 2020, the value of which was not material in the context of the Group's balance sheet. Based on the advice of the Group's legal advisers, executive management believes that no significant liability is likely to arise from these proceedings. Pending legal proceedings are reviewed on an ongoing basis and provisions are made at the end of each fiscal quarter, where appropriate.

## **INSURANCE**

The Group maintains various insurance policies and coverage. These include standard property insurance coverage for its assets (premises and contents), bankers' blanket bond coverage, general liability insurance, crime insurance coverage, cyber-crime and cyber-security coverage, staff private medical insurance coverage and professional indemnity insurance coverage. The Group also maintains a limited terrorism insurance cover (based on commercial viability) for its assets in the UAE. The Group's assets are generally insured on a reinstatement cost basis. The Group's aim is to maintain market standard insurance coverage.

## **COMPETITIVE ENVIRONMENT**

The UAE banking sector as at 31 December 2019 comprises 48 commercial banks, including branches or subsidiaries of 27 foreign commercial banks and 21 locally incorporated commercial banks. The licensed foreign bank branches and subsidiaries focus mainly on consumer banking, trade finance, foreign currency operations and government related business. Foreign bank participation in public sector financing has had a significant downward effect on margins in this area. The UAE banking market is becoming increasingly competitive and challenging and following the merger between NBAD and FGB in 2017 it is anticipated that this may act as a catalyst for further consolidation amongst locally incorporated banks. This has already been observed in the Combination, and the acquisition of Noor Bank P.J.S.C by Dubai Islamic Bank P.J.S.C in January 2020.

UAE local banks enjoy tax advantages over their international competitors with zero corporate, income and sales tax, while international banks operating in the UAE are subject to 20 per cent. corporate tax on their profits. Further, with effect from 1 January 2018, the UAE federal government has introduced a VAT regime in the UAE at a rate of 5 per cent.

## **RECENT DEVELOPMENTS**

### ***Impact of COVID-19***

COVID-19 has caused an unprecedented economic and health crisis. The measures implemented by governments to contain the virus have triggered an economic downturn and increased volatility with a sharp fall in the price of risk assets and a significant deterioration in market liquidity.

A number of central banks and governments have announced financial stimulus and economic support packages aimed at stabilising the economy and improving liquidity. In the UAE, effective from 15 March 2020, the Central Bank implemented the TESS which includes a range of measures aimed at mitigating the economic effects of COVID-19 including capital buffer relief for banks and access to loans and advances extended at zero cost against collateral by the Central Bank (see "*Risk Factors – Risks relating to the Group's business – The Group's business, results of operations and financial condition may be adversely affected by the impact of COVID-19*").

The Group's corporate portfolio is primarily UAE focused and as such, the relief measures provided by the TESS directly aid a significant majority of this sector, which is expected to mitigate some of the negative economic impact of COVID-19. However, the restrictive measures imposed by governments have also resulted in reduced demand in certain industries which have in turn resulted in redundancies, reduced pay and cash flow concerns for smaller businesses. All of this is expected to have a more immediate impact on the Group's retail portfolio and impact recoverability and liquidity. In terms of impact on its ECL, the Group has incorporated an overlay which was included in the net impairment charges of AED 1,882 million for the three month period ended 31 March 2020. Whilst it is difficult to predict the longevity and exact nature of COVID-19's economic impact, given that the Group's portfolio is largely based in the UAE, the government's relief measures are expected to mitigate the impact of ECL on the Group's portfolio. Please see Note 4 (*Coronavirus (Covid-19) outbreak and its impact on ADCB Group*) to the 2020 Interim Financial Statements for further details.

### ***NMC Health PLC and Finabl***

Financial irregularities and significant previously undisclosed debts have been uncovered recently in respect of two of the Group's creditors, the NMC Health Group and Finabl. As at 31 March 2020, the Group had an exposure of U.S.\$981 million to the NMC Health Group and U.S.\$182 million to Finabl and its subsidiaries including UAE Exchange. In respect of its exposure to the NMC Health Group, Finabl and associated companies, the Group recorded impairment charges of AED 1.072 billion as at 31 March 2020. See "*Risk Factors – Factors that may affect the Group's ability to fulfil its obligations in respect of Notes issued under the Programme – Risks relating to the Group's business – The Group has credit exposure to the NMC Health Group and its associates companies, some of which are suspected of irregular financial activities and have been put into administration*" for further information.

### ***ADCB Jersey Fine***

The Jersey branch of ADCB ("**ADCB Jersey**") entered a guilty plea to one charge of non-compliance with the Jersey finance industry's regulatory provisions at a court hearing in December 2019. On 5 February 2020, the Jersey Royal Court sentenced ADCB Jersey to a fine of £475,000, and awarded costs of £25,000, for failing to comply with the requirements of Money Laundering (Jersey) Order 2008. The charge concerned the appropriateness and consistency of two areas of the branch's anti money laundering policies and procedures related to two of its customers. The charge did not allege money laundering by the branch or its customers. ADCB Jersey and all of its relevant personnel continue to be authorised by the Jersey Financial Services Commission in the carrying on of banking business. ADCB is currently in the process of discontinuing its operations in Jersey (see "*International Branch Closures below*").

### ***European Tax Litigation***

In October 2019, the Group received 35 administrative decrees from a European tax office demanding the refund of withholding tax for dividends paid to the Group in respect of European equities owned by the

Group in each of 2011, 2012 and 2013. In January 2020, the Group lodged appeals with the relevant European tax office against these administrative decrees (the "**Substantive Appeal**"). At the time of commencing the Substantive Appeal, the Group requested that all payments due to the European tax office be suspended until the Substantive Appeal had been settled. On 20 April 2020, the Group received notice from the European tax office that the Group's request for suspension of payment had been rejected (the "**Suspension Rejection**"). In May 2020, the Group appealed against the Suspension Rejection.

#### ***International Branch Closures***

The Group has announced that it is in the process of discontinuing the following of its branch operations:

- *Jersey*: ADCB announced its decision to close the Jersey branch on 4 February 2020 and is currently in the process of discontinuing its operations there.
- *India*: the majority of the assets of ADCB's two branches in India were sold to DCB Bank on 10 September 2019. The two branches have now been closed and the Group has only nominal real estate in India remaining. The process of cancelling the Indian banking licence is ongoing.
- *Kuwait*: ADCB announced its decision to close the Kuwait branch on 27 October 2019 and is currently in the process of discontinuing its operations there.
- *Qatar*: ADCB announced its decision to close the Qatar branch on 27 October 2019 and is currently in the process of discontinuing its operations there.

## MANAGEMENT

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ADCB's Board is the principal decision-making forum within ADCB. It has overall responsibility for the management and strategy of ADCB and is accountable for creating and delivering sustainable shareholder value through its guidance of ADCB's business. In particular, it sets the goals, strategies and policies of ADCB. The Board monitors the performance of ADCB's businesses and guides and supervises ADCB's executive management.

ADCB has adopted a corporate governance code which is based on international best practice, the recently issued UAE Central Bank Corporate governance guidelines and the Basel Committee's guidelines on corporate governance. The core principles of ADCB's corporate governance code comprise: (i) responsibility and the clear division and delegation of authority; (ii) accountability in the relationships between ADCB's executive management and the Board and between the Board and the shareholders and other stakeholders; (iii) transparency and disclosure to enable stakeholders to assess ADCB's financial performance and condition; and (iv) fairness in the treatment of all stakeholders.

As at the date of this Base Prospectus, the Board consists of 11 members. Ten of the Board members are elected by ADCB's shareholders and the GCEO serves on the Board as an executive director. Other than the GCEO, all other directors of the Board are non-executive directors. The roles of the Chairman and the GCEO are separate and distinct, and there is clear division between their respective roles and responsibilities. The Chairman's main responsibility is to lead the Board with a view to ensuring the effective engagement and contribution of all directors, so that the Board may fully discharge its legal and regulatory responsibilities. The Board appoints the GCEO and specifies his powers and authority. The day-to-day management of ADCB has been delegated by the Board to the GCEO, who is assisted by the management executive committee ("**MEC**"). The GCEO, assisted by the MEC, is responsible for controlling and monitoring ADCB's business on a day-to-day basis, recommending strategy to the Board, leading senior management and implementing the Board's strategic and operational decisions.

All elected directors are required to seek re-election by the shareholders every three years. Directors are permitted to elect any director nominated to fill a vacancy, but any director so appointed must seek election by the shareholders at the next annual general assembly.

Any candidate for appointment as a director must first be considered and approved by the Board's nomination, compensation, human resources and governance committee ("**NCHRG Committee**") and the Central Bank. Amongst other things, the NCHRG Committee will consider whether the skills held by the candidate director are suitable. Where necessary, the NCHRG Committee will also consider whether the candidate director meets ADCB's and local regulators' criteria for independence. The Council, as the majority shareholder, has the right to appoint a proportionate number of members of the Board to its shareholding in ADCB. As at the date of this Base Prospectus, the Chairman of the Board is one of the directors appointed by the Council and the Council has appointed five other members of the Board. Decisions of the Board are, with limited exceptions, made by majority votes of those present (in person or by proxy) at the meeting.

Detailed below are the names, ages, positions and brief biographical information of each member of the Board as at the date of this Base Prospectus.

<b>Position</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Name, background and other positions</b>
<b>Chairman of the Board</b>	44	<b>H.E Khaldoon Khalifa Al Mubarak</b> Group CEO – Mubadala Investment Company; Chairman – Abu Dhabi Executive Affairs Company; Chairman – Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation, and Emirates Global Aluminum and City Football Group; Member – Abu Dhabi Executive Council; Member – UAE Supreme Petroleum Council.
<b>Vice-Chairman of the Board</b> <i>Chairman of NCHRG Committee</i>	62	<b>H.E Hussain J Al Nowais</b> Chairman – Al Nowais Investments; Chairman – AMEA Power; Chairman - Sheikh Khalifa Fund for Enterprise Development; Board Member – Rotana Hotel

<b>Position</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Name, background and other positions</b>
		Management Corporation; Board Member of Al Nowais Real Estate.
<b>Board Director</b> <i>Member of BREC</i> <i>Member of NCHRG Committee</i>	55	<b>Mr. Carlos Obeid</b> Group CFO – Mubadala Investment Company; Board Member – Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi; Board Member-Global Foundries; Board Member – Waha Capital; Chairman – Mubadala Infrastructure Partners; Board Member – Bank Audi SAL in Lebanon; Board Member – Mubadala Petroleum Company; Board Member – Abu Dhabi Future Energy.
<b>Board Director</b> <i>Member of BREC</i>	70	<b>Mr. Abdulla Khalil Al Mutawa</b> General Manager – Private Office of Sheikh Suroor Bin Mohammed Al Nahyan; Board Member – Bank Al Falah Limited; Chairman – Makhazen Investment Company; Board Member – ADNH; Non-Executive Member - EFG Hermes Board.
<b>Board Director</b> <i>Member of NCHRG Committee</i> <i>Member of BACC</i>	47	<b>Mr. Ahmed Al Calily</b> Chief Strategy & Risk Officer (CSRO) & Member – Mubadala Investment Company.
<b>Board Director</b> <i>Chairman of BREC</i> <i>Member of NCHRG Committee</i>	40	<b>Saeed Mohamed Almazrouei</b> Board Member - Modon Properties; Board Member - Mubadala Medical Company; Board Member - CEPSC Holding LLC.
<b>Board Director</b> <i>Member of BREC</i>	45	<b>Mr. Khaled Haji Al Khoori</b> Chairman of Orient House for Development & Construction; Board Member – Abu Dhabi National Hotels.
<b>Executive Director and Group Chief Executive Officer</b>	51	<b>Mr. Ala'a Eraiqat</b> Chairman – Al Hilal Bank; Board Member – Abu Dhabi National Hotels PJSC (ADNH).
<b>Board Director</b> <i>Member of BACC</i>	54	<b>Mr. Khalid Deemas Al Suwaidi</b> Board Member – Manazel Real Estate Company; Vice Chairman – Abu Dhabi National Takaful Company; Group Chief Executive Officer– Das Holding.
<b>Board Director</b> <i>Member of BACC</i>	48	<b>Mr. Mohamed Al Dhahiri</b> Chairman – InvestAd.
<b>Board Director</b> <i>Chairlady of BACC</i> <i>Member of BREC</i>	35	<b>Mrs. Aysha Ahmed Al Hallami</b> Research Specialist – Fixed Income & Treasury Department at ADIA.

The business address of each member of the Board is P.O. Box 939, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

Certain members of the Board, their families and companies of which they, or members of their families, are principal owners, or of which they are employees, are customers of ADCB in the ordinary course of business. The transactions with these parties are made at arm's length and on substantially the same terms, including interest rates, as those prevailing at the same time for comparable transactions with unrelated parties.

Except as disclosed in the next paragraph, no member of the Board named in the table above has any actual or potential conflict of interest between his duties to ADCB and his private interests and/or other duties.

Each of the directors of ADCB named in the table above has outside interests in entities other than ADCB, including employment and/or directorships with third parties (as set out underneath their names in the table above). Given the wide scope of ADCB's operations, such entities have banking and/or other commercial relationships with ADCB. Some Board members also have personal banking relationships with ADCB. As the directors are involved in ADCB's decision making process and have knowledge of ADCB's products and services, including the commercial terms thereof, a potential conflict of interest may arise. However, ADCB has established robust internal procedures to deal with any such potential conflict, including the relevant director being excluded from voting at Board meetings on issues which relate to the relevant employer's and/or other connected entity's dealings with ADCB.

Under the Commercial Companies Law, all directors are liable to ADCB, its shareholders and third parties for any acts of fraud, abuse of powers, violation of laws, violation of its articles of association or for mismanagement.

The table below sets out the number of shares held by each director as at 31 March 2020:

<b>Director</b>	<b>31 March 2020</b>
H.E. Khaldoon Khalifa Al Mubarak.....	440,854
H.E Hussain J Al Nowais .....	None
Mr. Carlos Obeid.....	None
Mr. Abdulla Khalil Al Mutawa .....	None
Mr. Saeed Mohamed Almazrouei .....	None
Mr. Mohamed Al Dhahiri.....	None
Mr. Khaled Haji Al Khoori .....	1,360,000
Mr. Ala'a Eraiqat .....	2,841,555
Mr. Khalid Deemas Al Suwaidi .....	14,915
Mr. Ahmed Al Calily .....	None
Mrs. Aysha Al Hallami .....	None

## **Board Committees**

The Board has established three board committees: (i) the audit and compliance committee; (ii) the NCHRG Committee; and (iii) the risk and executive committee, each of which plays an important role in governing ADCB's operations and in establishing and co-ordinating the policies of ADCB.

### ***Board audit and compliance committee***

The Board audit and compliance committee ("**BACC**") (which currently consists of four non-executive directors, one of whom is the committee chairlady) is primarily responsible for: (i) managing ADCB's internal audit function; (ii) overseeing the preparation of ADCB's financial statements and disclosures; (iii) recommending the appointment of auditors (internal and external) with a view to ensuring the independence such auditors; and (iv) monitoring internal controls over financial reporting as well as managing compliance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements. The BACC plays a predominantly advisory role, reporting its recommendations to the Board for final approval.

However, in certain limited circumstances, decisions may be taken by BACC, which are binding on the Board (for example, it may approve the terms of engagement of the external auditor without Board approval).

The BACC provides regular reports to the Board. As at 31 March 2020, the BACC had met 3 times for 2020.

### ***Board nomination, compensation, human resources and governance committee***

In 2019, the Board corporate governance committee was dissolved and the (previously known as) Board nomination, compensation and human resources Committee was tasked to look after governance to become the Board nomination, compensation, human resources and governance Committee ("**NCHRG**").

The NCHRG Committee (which currently consists of five non-executive directors, one of whom is the committee chairman) is responsible for: (i) monitoring developments in corporate governance and recommending and monitoring the implementation of ADCB's corporate governance plan; (ii) overseeing ADCB officers with responsibility for corporate governance; (iii) reviewing ADCB's corporate governance structures including the Board and its committees, management committees and their terms of reference; (iv) reviewing disclosure practices including directors' conflicts of interest and measures to implement accepted culture and ethics within ADCB; (v) reviewing and amending ADCB's articles of association; (vi) publishing corporate governance information; (vii) making recommendations to the Board and its committees on corporate governance strategy, actions and culture; (viii) evaluating directors' performance and professional development, (ix) evaluating the appropriate composition of the Board; (x) selecting and appointing directors; (xi) holding orientation and training sessions for new directors; (xii) succession planning for Board members and executive management; (xiii) performance assessment of the executive management; (xiv) developing, applying and reviewing human resources and training policies; (xv) determining ADCB's requirements for executive managers and employees; (xvi) selecting and appointing executive management; (xvii) reviewing and approving remuneration policies for executive management and the Board, and ADCB's remuneration and incentive plans; (xviii) ADCB's public reporting of remuneration matters; and (xix) evaluating the independence of independent directors on a continuous basis.

In determining the composition of the Board, the NCHRG Committee considers the knowledge, skills and experience which are anticipated to be required by Board members. No director may participate in any decision regarding his own appointment or remuneration.

The NCHRG Committee provides regular reports to the Board and is authorised to take certain appointment and remuneration decisions which may bind the Board. In all other cases, recommendations are made to the Board for final approval. As at 31 March 2020, the NCHRG Committee had met 3 times for 2020.

#### ***Board risk and executive committee***

In March 2020, the Board Risk & Credit Committee was dissolved, and a new Board Risk & Executive Committee ("**BREC**") was formed (which currently consists of five non-executive directors). The BREC is responsible for: (i) development and implementation of the Bank's risk governance framework; (ii) overseeing the risks in the Bank's asset portfolios; (iii) development of risk management tools and monitoring the effectiveness of such tools; (iv) development and implementation of risk management strategies and limits, and the Bank's risk appetite; (v) compliance with regulatory requirements relating to risk management; (vi) public reporting on risk management matters; (vii) major credit commitments of the Bank; (viii) overseeing the independence and effectiveness of the Risk Management department; (ix) overseeing the development and implementation of the Bank's business plan and strategic priorities and providing recommendations to the Board; (x) reviewing and recommending to the Board the Bank's annual budget, as well as reviewing the Bank's financial performance and capital structure; (xi) assessing new business proposals including acquisitions and / or joint ventures and making appropriate recommendations; and (xii) reviewing and approving lending and investment activities in line with appropriate policies and procedures. The BREC provides oversight with respect to the development and implementation of the Bank's business and strategic plans and the risks associated with such plans. The Board has delegated certain credit and lending authorities to management, at a level that the Committee considers to be reasonable and prudent.

The BREC provides regular reports to the Board. As at 31 March 2020, the BREC has met 3 times.

## EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

As at the date of this Base Prospectus, the executive management of ADCB includes:

Position	Name
Group Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director.....	Mr. Ala'a Eraiqat
Group Chief Financial Officer .....	Mr. Deepak Khullar
Group Chief Risk Officer.....	Mr. Paul Keating
Acting Group Chief Operations Officer .....	Mr. Mohammed Al Jayyash
Group Chief Credit Officer .....	Mr. Tilak Silva
Group Treasurer .....	Mr. Kevin Taylor
Group Chief Internal Auditor .....	Mr. Abdirizak Mohamed
Group Head – Wholesale Banking Group.....	Mr. Ludovic Nobili
Group Head – Consumer Banking Group .....	Mr. Arup Mukhopadhyay
Group Head – Human Resources .....	Mr. Ali Darwish
Group General Counsel and Board Secretary.....	Mr. Simon Copleston
Acting Group Chief Compliance Officer .....	Ms. Rasha Mortada

Detailed below are the names, ages, positions and brief biographical information of each member of ADCB's executive management as at the date of this Base Prospectus.

Position	Age	Name, background and other positions
<b>Group Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director</b>	51	<p><b>Mr. Ala'a Eraiqat</b></p> <p>Mr. Eraiqat joined ADCB in January 2004 and since then has held various senior positions before taking over as GCEO in February 2009, when he was also appointed to ADCB's Board. Prior to joining ADCB, Mr. Eraiqat held senior positions at Citibank and Standard Chartered Bank, among others. In his current role as GCEO, his responsibilities include chairing the following management committees: the MEC; and the management risk and credit committee, in addition to the following subsidiaries of ADCB: ADCP, ADCES, ADCB Securities L.L.C. and Itmam Services L.L.C. Outside of his various functions within the Group, Mr. Eraiqat also serves on the boards of the following entities: Abu Dhabi National Hotels PJSC (ADNH); MasterCard Asia-Pacific, Middle East and Africa Regional Advisory Board; and Mubadala Infrastructure Partners Advisory Board.</p>
<b>Group Chief Financial Officer</b>	58	<p><b>Mr. Deepak Khullar</b></p> <p>Mr. Khullar was appointed as ADCB's Group Chief Financial Officer in 2008 and is responsible for the Group finance, investor relations, and strategic sourcing functions. Prior to joining ADCB, Mr. Khullar spent 15 years with Standard Chartered Bank in the Middle East and in Korea, before which, he worked for 12 years with Ernst &amp; Young and Price Waterhouse &amp; Co. (now PricewaterhouseCoopers) across the Middle East and India. Mr. Khullar is an Associate of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and an Associate Member of the Association of Corporate Treasurers (UK).</p>

<b>Position</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Name, background and other positions</b>
<b>Group Chief Risk Officer</b>	54	<p><b>Mr. Paul Keating</b></p> <p>Mr. Keating was appointed as ADCB's Group Chief Risk Officer in January 2018 having previously worked for the Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited ("ANZ") for over 30 years where he served in various capacities across the world. His last role with ANZ was as chief risk officer and head of credit for ANZ's Pacific division, with responsibility for 11 countries. In his role as Group Chief Risk Officer, Mr. Keating has responsibility for compliance, operational risk, market risk, credit policy and information security. Mr. Keating holds a Bachelor of Commerce and Administration from Victoria University in New Zealand and a Post Graduate Diploma in Banking Management from Massey University in New Zealand.</p>
<b>Acting Group Chief Operations Officer</b>	36	<p><b>Mr. Mohammed Al Jayyash</b></p> <p>Mr. Al Jayyash was appointed as ADCB's Acting Group Chief Operations Officer in December 2019. He has held senior operational management positions at ADCB including chief service officer and branch operations manager. He is the Chairperson of several ADCB subsidiary companies including ITMAM Services LLC, Abu Dhabi Commercial Engineering Services LLC and Abu Dhabi Commercial Properties LLC, and a Board Member of Al Hilal Bank PJSC. He is also the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Emirates Digital Wallet L.L.C. Mr. Al Jayyash has over 15 years of experience of working in roles aimed at improving customer experience, ensuring regulatory compliance and delivering capabilities for growth and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Al Ghurair University in the United Arab Emirates, a Post Graduate Certificate in Management at Ashridge Executive Education HULT in the United Kingdom and a Diploma in Banking from the Emirates Institute for Banking and Financial Studies.</p>
<b>Group Chief Credit Officer</b>	70	<p><b>Mr. Tilak Silva</b></p> <p>Mr. Silva was appointed as ADCB's Group Chief Credit Officer in January 2018. He has been with ADCB for 37 years with his main focus areas during that time being credit underwriting, remedial risk, litigation and restructuring. Prior to joining ADCB, Mr. Silva worked for Hatton National Bank in Sri Lanka, undertaking different roles within the bank's credit group.</p>
<b>Group Treasurer</b>	59	<p><b>Mr. Kevin Taylor</b></p> <p>Mr. Taylor joined ADCB in 2009 as head of the treasury and investments group. He has held significant treasury and risk positions in global</p>

Position	Age	Name, background and other positions
		organisations such as ALICO, Citigroup, Westpac Bank and Merrill Lynch. At ADCB, he has responsibility for a front office staff of 40, including foreign exchange trading and sales, derivative trading and sales, and fixed income and investments personnel, along with money market and balance sheet analytics teams. Mr. Taylor is a member of the UAE banks federation's Financial Markets Committee and is a member of the board of directors of Gulf Capital. Mr. Taylor holds an MBA from Macquarie University in Australia and a Master of Science in Risk Management from the Stern School of Business, New York University.
<b>Group Chief Internal Auditor</b>	51	<p><b>Mr. Abdirizak Mohamed</b></p> <p>Mr. Mohamed has been ADCB's Group Chief Internal Auditor since 2006, having previously worked at the NASDAQ Stock Market, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (formerly the National Association of Securities Dealers) and the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight (and its successor entity, the Federal Housing Finance Agency), each in the United States. He has more than 20 years of financial industry experience including roles within capital markets management, accounting policy and applications, examinations and auditing, risk management, regulatory oversight, and corporate governance. Mr. Mohamed also serves as an audit committee member of various Abu Dhabi-based companies. Mr. Mohamed is a Certified Public Accountant, and holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of Washington in Seattle and a Master's degree from the George Washington University in Washington, D.C.</p>
<b>Group Head – Wholesale Banking Group</b>	45	<p><b>Mr. Ludovic Nobili</b></p> <p>Mr. Nobili joined the Bank in 2009 from Citigroup in London. He is a senior investment banker with 20 years' experience in all aspects of structured lending; refinancing, restructuring; securitization and acquisition finance. In his current role, Ludovic has responsibility for the Banking advisory business, corporate finance and fund management. Ludovic also leads ADCB's principal finance initiatives.</p>
<b>Group Head – Consumer Banking Group</b>	53	<p><b>Mr. Arup Mukhopadhyay</b></p> <p>Mr. Mukhopadhyay joined ADCB in 2005 as head of the CBG. He had previously spent seven years with Citibank, acting as head of wealth management products and as a marketing director for its UAE consumer business. Prior to his roles with Citibank, Mr. Mukhopadhyay served with Unilever in India in various sales and marketing roles. Mr. Mukhopadhyay is a Mechanical Engineering graduate and holds an MBA from the Indian</p>

<b>Position</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Name, background and other positions</b>
		Institute of Management, Lucknow. In 2016, Mr. Mukhopadhyay was named the Retail Banker of the year in the Middle East by the Asian Banker, Singapore.
<b>Group Head – Human Resources</b>	53	<b>Mr. Ali Darwish</b>  Mr. Darwish originally joined ADCB in 1998, serving at various senior executive levels before being appointed as Group Head of the Human Resources function in May 2011. Prior to joining ADCB, Mr. Darwish had over 20 years' experience across the financial services sector, having worked for HSBC, ABN AMRO, Dubai Islamic Bank and Tamweel.
<b>Group General Counsel and Board Secretary</b>	47	<b>Mr. Simon Copleston</b>  Mr. Copleston has been General Counsel and Board Secretary at ADCB since 2008. Prior to his appointment at ADCB, he spent two years with the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority in their emerging markets department and strategic investment and infrastructure teams and has more than 20 years' experience in banking, finance, and corporate law roles, including eight years practising corporate law in London. In his current role with ADCB, Mr. Copleston has had overall responsibility for developing and monitoring ADCB's corporate governance regime. He holds a history degree from Durham University in the UK and is a UK qualified solicitor.
<b>Acting Group Chief Compliance Officer</b>	44	<b>Ms. Rasha Mortada</b>  Ms. Rasha Mortada joined ADCB in 2006 from Citibank UAE. She has twenty-four years of experience in the banking and finance industry with leading global and local institutions, and over sixteen years of experience in the compliance field covering multiple roles & responsibilities including Regulatory Compliance, Anti Money Laundering/Counter Terrorist Financing, Sanctions, FATCA/Common Reporting Standard and Conduct Compliance covering multiple business lines. She holds a bachelor degree in Banking and Finance from the Lebanese American University, Beirut, an International Diploma in Compliance from the International Compliance Association, and a Fintech qualification from Harvard University, Massachusetts.

The business address of each member of the executive management is P.O. Box 939, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

No member of the executive management of ADCB has any actual or potential conflict of interest between his duties to ADCB and his private interests and/or other duties.

## **Executive Management Committees**

Day-to-day management is co-ordinated by the MEC, which oversees all other management committees and working groups, including the management risk and credit committee (the "**MRCC**"), the ALCO, the management recoveries committee ("**MRC**"), the capital expenditure committee (the "**Capex Committee**"), the senior management committee ("**SMC**"), the management human resources committee ("**MHRC**"), the liabilities and initiatives committee ("**LICO**") and the management financial performance committee ("**MFPC**"). The MEC has delegated certain responsibilities to its reporting committees.

### ***Management executive committee***

The MEC is the highest management level authority overseeing matters relating to corporate organisation, strategy recommendations, finance and operations. All management committees report to the MEC, which has full authority to review and reorganise the composition and terms of reference of the management committees and working groups.

The MEC is composed of key members of management, whose appointments are approved by the NCHR Committee. The members of the MEC include the GCEO (who serves as Chairman of the MEC), the Group chief financial officer ("**CFO**"), the Group chief risk officer ("**GCRO**"), the acting Group chief operations officer ("**COO**"), the acting head of wholesale banking, the heads of treasury and investments, human resources and consumer banking and the Group General Counsel. The MEC meets weekly and reports to the Board.

The responsibilities of the MEC include:

- establishing the organisation structure for management and management committees;
- implementing strategy set by the Board and recommending strategy and policy decisions;
- recommending ADCB's annual budget and funding plan;
- approving key performance indicators for each business line;
- reviewing periodic performance reports;
- executing proposals from the Board (including proposals regarding any increase or decrease to ADCB's capital);
- approving expenditures within the guidelines of ADCB's annual budget, expenditures not captured by the annual budget up to AED 10 million during a quarter and other expenditures within certain delegated limits set by the Board;
- approving the establishment or sale of branches, agencies, joint ventures and subsidiaries and appointments of directors to subsidiaries;
- approving debt-funding issues, up to certain delegated limits set by the Board, treasury investments and related hedging transactions;
- approving recovery settlements relating to impaired loans and advances to customers up to certain limits set by the Board;
- approving ADCB's policies, excluding those falling within the Board's responsibility; and
- approving credit transactions up to certain limits set by the Board.

### ***Management risk and credit committee***

The MRCC is responsible for appraising credit decisions within the limits that have been sub-delegated from the MEC. In addition, the MRCC considers risk appetite and strategy issues; sets and recommends risk policies; guides the BREC and the Board on credits above delegated limits and on general risk and risk policy issues and makes recommendations to the Board or the BREC, as appropriate, on risk strategy matters and credit exposures.

### ***Assets and liabilities committee***

The ALCO is responsible for reviewing and monitoring all major investments and strategic commitments and developing policies relating to the management of all assets and liabilities (such as balance sheet structuring, funding, pricing, hedging, investing and the setting and monitoring of liquidity ratios).

The ALCO seeks to manage assets and liabilities in order to enhance profitability and protect ADCB from any adverse consequences that may result from extreme changes in market conditions and other financial risks.

The ALCO's primary functions include: (i) managing ADCB's wholesale debt lending and deposit liabilities; (ii) the formulation and implementation of market risk and liquidity risk policies and strategies for addressing market and liquidity risks; (iii) monitoring whether market risks and liquidity risks are identified, assessed, monitored, mitigated and controlled; (iv) the formulation and implementation of balance sheet structure policies and strategies for addressing issues relating to balance sheet structure; and (v) the purchase of assets within ADCB's treasury investment portfolio.

In carrying out these key functions, the ALCO:

- reviews ADCB's financial performance, economic reports and forecasts;
- reviews ADCB's balance sheet structure and evaluates the risk exposure and assesses its potential impact on the income statement;
- reviews interest rate trends, yields, cost of funds and margins;
- makes recommendations on strategic directions leading to changes in balance sheet composition to achieve a desired structure including: (i) asset allocation strategies; (ii) buying and selling of assets; (iii) changing liability structure and mix; (iv) balance sheet growth, structure and maturity; and (v) hedging;
- formulates policy guidelines on limits of exposure to liquidity and market risk (such as value-at-risk ("VaR"), liquidity ratios, large depositors, sources of funds, investment and other assets);
- reviews base lending rate or reference rate and its guidelines;
- reviews transfer pricing between business units and sets the overall direction and approval criteria for purchase and sale of investments; and
- classifies investments into held-for-trading, available-for-sale and held to maturity.

### ***Management recoveries committee***

The MRC is responsible for reviewing and approving settlements relating to certain impaired loans and advances to customers within the limits that have been set by the MEC. A matter is forwarded to the MRC after the remedial risk department has attempted to recover the amount outstanding from the borrower and has either been unable to recover such amount or has provisionally agreed with the borrower to restructure the loan (see "*Risk Management – Collection Procedures*").

### ***Capital expenditure committee***

The Capex Committee is ADCB's key governance forum for managing its capital investment portfolio. The primary function of the Capex Committee is to consider, review and approve capital expenditure projects with a value of over AED 500,000. The projects almost exclusively relate to new technology systems, system upgrades and real estate (specifically relating to improvements and acquisitions required to conduct ADCB's business and to execute its long term plans, for example, in respect of branches).

### ***Senior management committee***

The SMC acts as a management forum regarding a wide range of issues, including ADCB's human resources policies, management strategy, projects and dissemination of information.

### ***Management human resources committee***

The MHRC supports the MEC in the discharge of its responsibilities relating to human resources and is the primary forum for prior screening, discussion and recommendation of all human resources related matters which are under the domain of the MEC. The MHRC discusses and recommends human resources strategy, policy and budgets to the MEC (including matters relating to pay and benefits, promotions, Emiratisation, merit increases, head count, learning, development and organisational activities like performance management, talent management and succession planning).

### ***Liabilities and initiatives committee***

The LICO supports the MEC with respect to approving and marketing ADCB's products within the bounds of ADCB's strategy. The LICO plays a prominent role in pricing of liability products within the overall pricing framework set by ALCO, including facilitating cross-department co-ordination in pricing of liability products. The LICO also oversees the progress of ADCB's various strategic initiatives.

### ***Management financial performance committee***

The MFPC is responsible for regularly reviewing and assessing the financial performance of ADCB's business lines against budget and strategic targets and identifying opportunities for revenue generation, cost control and optimisation of cost centres. In addition, the MFPC helps in shaping budget targets for the forthcoming year and has input into the medium term strategy process. The MFPC monitors and assesses the financial performance of ADCB's business lines within the bounds of ADCB's budget and strategy.

### **Working Groups**

In addition to the foregoing standing management committees, from time to time the MEC establishes working groups tasked to handle specific issues or areas of focus. The MEC has established the following working groups: compliance, corporate governance, customer service, operational risk management and insurances.

## **OTHER MANAGEMENT FUNCTIONS**

### **Audit Arrangements**

The external auditor is appointed annually by ADCB's shareholders. At the 2020 annual general meeting, EY was appointed as the external auditor of ADCB from the period commencing 1 January 2020. EY has replaced Deloitte & Touche (M.E.) as ADCB's external auditor in line with ADCB's internal policy of rotation of its external auditors (and with the Abu Dhabi Accountability Authority statutory auditor appointment rules, which were introduced on 28 September 2014 (the "SAAR")) and the Commercial Companies Law (which stipulates that ADCB is required to appoint new external auditors every four years).

In addition, the BACC will make recommendations on the rotation of the external audit firm, or of the partner of the firm in charge of ADCB's audit, to facilitate the independence of the external auditor.

Pursuant to Article 38 of the UAE Securities and Commodities Authority Resolution No. 7 of 2016, concerning the Standards of Institutional Discipline and Governance of Public Shareholding Companies (the "**2016 SCA Regulations**"), an external auditor is prohibited from undertaking a prescribed list of additional services, which do not form part of the audit programme, while carrying out an audit. The 2016 SCA Regulations directly prohibit an external auditor from performing any technical, administrative or consultation services or works outside of the scope of the audit which may affect the auditor's decisions and independence.

The scope of an audit is agreed between the BACC and the auditor. The external audit partner attends meetings of the BACC and the Board at which the financial statements are discussed and approved and as otherwise required. The BACC also periodically meets separately with ADCB's internal auditors and the auditor in the absence of management.

Under the SAAR, EY, as the current auditors of ADCB, will be due for rotation in 2024.

## **Internal Controls**

ADCB's internal controls over financial reporting comprise processes designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with applicable accounting principles. ADCB's internal controls include policies and procedures that: (i) are designed to support the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of ADCB; (ii) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of ADCB are being made only in accordance with authorisations of management and directors of ADCB; and (iii) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorised acquisition, use or disposition of ADCB's assets.

## **Disclosure Standards**

ADCB's corporate governance principles require ADCB to maintain high standards of disclosure and transparency. In line with this, ADCB has created a website in order to provide information to stakeholders. ADCB's web address is [www.adcb.com](http://www.adcb.com). Information on ADCB's website does not form part of, and is not incorporated by reference into, this Base Prospectus.

## **Compensation**

In the year ended 31 December 2019, the total remuneration and Board of Directors' fees and expenses paid to the Board and executive management amounted to AED 101.4 million (for 26 persons), as compared with AED 89.2 million (for 23 persons) for the year ended 31 December 2018 and AED 83 million (for 21 persons) for the year ended 31 December 2017.

## RISK MANAGEMENT

### INTRODUCTION

Efficient and timely management of the risks inherent in the Group's business activities is critical to its financial soundness and profitability. Risk management involves identifying, measuring, monitoring and managing risks on a regular basis. The objective of risk management is to protect the Group's asset values and income streams in order to protect the interests of its shareholders and external fund providers, increase shareholder value and achieve a return on equity that is commensurate with the risks assumed. The risk management framework is integral to the operations and culture of the Group. The Group seeks to proactively manage risks within the Group's defined risk framework.

Ultimate responsibility for setting out risk appetite and effective management of risk rests with the Board. This is managed through the BREC and the BACC, which are responsible for effectively communicating that risk taking authority and policies from the Board to the appropriate business units.

The MEC has primary responsibility for implementing, overseeing and taking ownership for the enforcement of risk management strategy and internal control directives laid down by the Board and Board Committees. The management level committees also actively manage risk, particularly the ALCO, the MRCC and MRC.

In January 2018, the Group reorganised its internal risk management function by separating the credit and risk functions into two separate groups with distinct responsibilities and reporting lines (with the credit group reporting to the Group's Group Chief Credit Officer ("GCCO") and the risk group reporting to the Group's GCRO). The GCRO reports independently to the BREC and the GCEO and the GCCO reports to the GCEO with full access to the BREC. This reorganisation was effected in order to align the Group's credit and risk functions with international best practice.

The Group's risk management function is headed by the GCRO. The risk management function is independent of the origination, trading and sales functions to avoid compromising risk-reward decisions and to facilitate transparency of decision making, in accordance with prescribed risk standards and policies. It exercises control over credit policy/portfolio, market, liquidity, operational, fraud, compliance and information security risk.

In addition, the Group's GCCO oversees consumer risk management, credit approvals, credit operations and remedial account management.

In 2019, the Group appointed a Head of Data Management. The role is designed to help develop and embed the Group's principles for governing the management of its data. This role is particularly significant with the growth of the Group's digital internal and external channels, as well as its increased use of data analytics to serve customers better. In addition, the Head of Data Management will be responsible for managing compliance with new regulations around general data protection to mirror the GDPR requirements introduced by the EU in May 2018.

The BACC provides assistance to the Board in the performances of the Board's duties and is responsible for overseeing the preparation of the Group's financial statements; the independence and performance of the Group's external and internal auditors; compliance with legal and regulatory requirements and internal policies; and internal control over financial reporting.

The internal audit group ("IAG") applies a systematic and disciplined approach to evaluating and improving the effectiveness of the Group's risk management, control and governance processes. The IAG reports directly to the BACC. The IAG consists of a team of auditors whose tasks are, among other things, to evaluate the quality of the Group's lending portfolio, the sufficiency of the Group's controls in operational processes and the integrity of the Group's information systems and databases. Through their audits, the IAG is also responsible for monitoring whether transactions undertaken by the Group are conducted in accordance with the Group's internal procedures, with a view to minimising the risk of fraudulent, improper or illegal practices (see further "*Decision Making – Execution – Internal audit group*" below).

### DECISION MAKING

The Group's governance structure is headed by the Board, which has overall responsibility for risk management. The Group has a number of Board committees and executive management committees which,

together with their other responsibilities, oversee and monitor the day-to-day risk management of the Group. These committees are responsible for the overall approval and implementation of the Group's risk management policies, while the formulation, monitoring and reporting of such policies and any exceptions thereto or any required corrective action, are the primary responsibility of the risk group that is headed by the GCRO.

The Group aims to reinforce a strong risk management culture through a comprehensive set of processes that are designed to effectively identify, measure, monitor, report, mitigate and control risk exposures.

Risk governance at the Group is based on the following four control environment layers:

- involvement of the Board and sub-committees under the Board such as the BREC;
- executive management level committees for risk management such as the MRCC and the MRC;
- dedicated risk management groups, which are the credit group and the risk group, that independently evaluate the control systems within the Group; and
- independent assurance provided by internal and external audit to provide important feedback on the effectiveness of these processes.

The Board evaluates risk in co-ordination with ADCB's Board committees and executive management committees. For further information regarding ADCB's Board committees and executive management committees, see "*Management – Board of Directors – Board committees*" and "*Management – Board of Directors – Executive Management – Executive management committees*".

### **Execution**

Execution of the Group's risk management system is co-ordinated by the credit group and the risk group which are headed by the GCCO and the GCRO, respectively. The risk group has the following sub-groups: credit policy management; operational risk management; fraud risk management; market risk management; group compliance; data management; and information security management. The credit group has the following sub-groups: consumer risk management; credit; remedial risk management; and credit operations. The IAG also oversees and reviews the Group's risk management practices and the integrity of its information systems and databases. These groups operate under the supervision of the Board and its committees, the GCEO, the GCRO, the GCCO and the MEC.

### ***Group Chief Risk Officer***

The GCRO is responsible for overall implementation of the risk objectives of the Group. His responsibilities are to:

- identify and plug gaps in the Group's risk infrastructure/framework and formulate plans to address the same;
- establish and nurture the independence of the risk function;
- guide and influence provisioning policies, risk strategy and credit/risk process changes;
- introduce process, policy and approach changes to energise risk awareness amongst front office business personnel and decision makers;
- continually align the risk organisation in line with market best practices;
- manage the Group's portfolio and associated risks to international best practice; and
- establish a comprehensible risk culture encompassing all areas of risk.

The GCRO position was created in order to centralise the Group's risk management processes and reports to the BREC and the GCEO. The Group segregates the risk and credit functions at the executive management. The GCRO is responsible for reviewing the Group's policies and procedures for managing exposure to credit, market and liquidity risk, operational, fraud, and information security risks.

### ***Treasury division***

Alongside its profit-generating and treasury management activities, the treasury division is responsible for (i) the day-to-day management of interest rate, liquidity and currency risk, (ii) monitoring the percentage of the Group's assets maintained in liquid assets and (iii) diversifying the Group's funding sources. The treasury division reviews any liquidity gaps, the Group's funding policies, the availability of contingent liquidity and projected future cash flows associated with significant investments/divestures and discusses these with the ALCO. The division reports directly to the GCEO and works closely with the market risk department.

### ***Credit group***

The credit group is responsible for reviewing wholesale credit, as well as HNWI applications and oversees the Group's wholesale and private accounts credit portfolio. The credit group monitors the loans it has extended to wholesale and private accounts borrowers in order to calculate potential losses and make provisions accordingly, classifies loans as impaired loans and advances to customers, refers certain impaired loans and advances to customers to the remedial risk department and generally controls the Group's exposure to credit risk. In addition, the credit group periodically reviews the Group's data collection procedures, restructuring methodologies, information management and credit evaluation practices. The GCCO oversees the credit administration unit, documentation unit, Special Assets Restructuring Department, Remedial Risk Department and the Consumer Risk Department.

### ***Legal department***

Alongside its day-to-day activities of providing legal assistance and advice to the Group, the Group General Counsel and his team are responsible for managing the Group's legal risk by reviewing, monitoring and interpreting applicable legal and regulatory issues in the UAE and other relevant overseas jurisdictions.

### ***Special assets restructuring department ("SARD")***

Credit files showing signs of deterioration, facing financial issues with multiple banks or otherwise raising complex issues are transferred by the MRCC or Credit Department with a view to rescheduling or restructuring. However, if this is unsuccessful, the file is transferred to the remedial risk department for the initiation of legal action.

### ***Remedial risk department ("RRD")***

The remedial risk department attempts to recover outstanding loans after such loans are classified as impaired and referred to the remedial risk department by the credit department. If the remedial risk department's attempts to conclude an amicable settlement are unsuccessful within a reasonable timeframe, legal action is initiated to recover the outstanding amount.

### ***Compliance department***

The compliance department is in charge of identifying, assessing, monitoring, and reporting on the Group's compliance risk, and ensuring overall adherence to applicable laws, regulations, standards and all other conduct and compliance policies. The department applies a risk-based approach and operates a compliance programme founded on the following pillars: governance, policies and procedures, systems and controls, training, reporting, monitoring and assurance. The Head of Compliance has direct access to the Board and the BACC.

The compliance department is responsible for creating regulatory awareness, assessing risks inherent in the business and enabling compliance with applicable rules and regulations.

### ***Consumer risk management department***

The consumer risk management department is responsible for overseeing the approval and verification of consumer credit, merchant authorisation, collections, risk mitigation, repossession and foreclosure management and fraud. The consumer risk management department is also responsible for reviewing key performance and key risk indicators, changes in the economic environment, feedback on fraud and collections, customer service issues and competition.

### ***Market risk department***

The market risk department is responsible for identifying, measuring, monitoring and controlling risks associated with on and off balance-sheet positions held by the Group. The market risk department aims to reduce income performance volatility and to make the Group's market risk profile transparent to executive management, the Board and the Group's regulators. The function is also responsible for identifying, measuring, monitoring and controlling risks associated with investments, funding and liquidity positions of the Bank.

### ***Credit policy department***

The credit policy department is responsible for formulating the credit strategy and policy in terms of risk measurement and aggregation techniques, prudential requirements, risk assessment and review, reporting requirements, risk grading and product and documentation guidelines. The department is also responsible for portfolio monitoring and maintenance of risk systems support. This department is the central co-ordination point for regulatory risk changes, liaison with external risk stakeholders such as rating agencies, for spearheading Basel III implementation and similar initiatives and for acting as the business partner in the implementation of risk systems.

### ***Operational risk department***

The operational risk department is responsible for the identification, measurement, monitoring, control and reporting of operational risks throughout the Group. This is the group support function responsible for establishing and implementing the operational risk framework throughout the Group, recording loss data, conducting risk self-assessment workshops, identifying and tracking key risk indicators and developing action plans to plug identified operational risk gaps. In addition, Business Continuity Management and planning sits within this department.

### ***Fraud risk department***

The fraud risk department is responsible for the identification, measurement, monitoring, control and reporting of fraud risks throughout the Group.

The centralised fraud risk management function is responsible for defining the Group's fraud risk management policy and managing the risk of fraud across the Group.

### ***Information and physical security governance department***

Information security risk arises from information leakage, loss or theft. The information and physical security governance department proactively identifies top organisational information and cyber security risks by continuously evaluating threats and by benchmarking information security controls against leading industry standards. The Group uses a combination of internal processes and third party technological protections to identify, monitor and prevent traditional and emerging cyber-threats to its information and physical security. In particular, the Group employs comprehensive monitoring at multiple levels within the organisation to detect any potential cyber-attacks and has an established process to respond to cyber security incidents and threats. Additionally, the Group has implemented dedicated internal programmes to improve cyber-security awareness levels within the organisation. The Group maintains an information risk heat map which plots the sufficiency of the Group's existing protection mechanisms against continuously evolving cyber threats. The information and physical security governance department uses knowledge from a variety of sources, such as published research, security forums, threat intelligence and regional events, to keep these mechanisms current and up-to-date with a view to ensuring that the Group is able to quickly and proactively respond to potential cyber security risks (see "*Risk Factors – Factors that may affect the Group's ability to fulfil its obligations in respect of Notes issued under the Programme – Risks relating to the Group's operations – The Group's business is dependent on its information and technology systems which are subject to potential cyber-attack*").

The Group's comprehensive security risk management programme covers classification of assets, identification of vulnerabilities and assessment of the risks of all internal assets and key third parties, which enables management to prioritise and mitigate information security risks. All critical systems and applications undergo regular security testing (including external third party testing) to monitor effectiveness.

## ***Data management***

The data management department is responsible for establishing data as an enterprise asset that is complete, accurate and appropriately accessible through a set of defined business processes, disciplines and practices to help unlock business value. The centralised function is responsible for defining the Group's Data Strategy and Plans, Data Management, Master Data Management, Data Governance, Data Quality Controls, Data Compliance Advisory, Regulatory Responses & Reporting, and all Leadership, Change Management, and Data Policies related to Data Management.

## ***Internal audit group***

The IAG was established to provide an independent, objective assurance and consulting function. The IAG applies a systematic and disciplined approach to evaluating and improving the effectiveness of the Group's risk management, control and governance processes. The IAG reports directly to the BACC. The IAG consisted of a team of 59 auditors as of 31 December 2019 whose tasks include evaluating the quality of the Group's lending portfolio, the controls in operational processes and the integrity of the Group's information systems and databases. The IAG is also responsible for auditing whether or not transactions undertaken by the Group are conducted in accordance with the Group's internal procedures, with a view to minimising the risk of fraudulent, improper or illegal practices.

In carrying out their audit activities and responsibilities, internal auditors have unrestricted access to all of the Group's records (whether manual or electronic), assets, physical properties and personnel. The IAG performs its function in accordance with a risk-based audit methodology. Although all of the Group's units are subject to audit, the frequency of internal audits carried out with respect to each of the Group's units depends on the perceived risk of that unit and its related control risk evaluation. All audits are conducted in accordance with the annual audit plan, which is approved by the BACC.

## **CREDIT APPROVAL PROCEDURES**

### **Overview**

The Group requires credit approvals in compliance with Board-approved credit procedures for both consumer and wholesale loans. The UAE's central credit bureaus (such as the Central Bank Risk Bureau and the Al Etihad Credit Bureau ("**AECB**")) provide support for the customer due diligence process. However, ultimate credit assessment and sanctioning is independently managed by each UAE bank (see "*The United Arab Emirates Banking Sector and Regulations – Recent Trends in Banking – Establishing a Credit Bureau in the UAE*"). The Group's credit approval procedures are closely monitored by the Board through the BREC and by executive management through the MRCC. The Group's credit group and consumer credit risk group are responsible for the development and implementation of the Group's credit approval procedures in conjunction with the BREC and the MRCC as well as the development of the Group's central credit information database.

The Group applies different credit limits and approval criteria depending on the types of loans, customers and industry sectors. The approvals are made at various levels of the organisation, ranging from the Board, the BREC under the Board supervision, the MRCC to a credit officer for consumer risk management of retail loans, in each case within the Group's established credit limits.

### **Wholesale and HNWI loan approval procedures**

For wholesale and HNWI loans, the Board is responsible for approving all credit commitments which are classified as 'large exposures' for the purposes of the Central Bank Notice No. 32/2013 on large exposures (the "**Large Exposure Notice**"). The BREC, which is appointed by the Board, is responsible for approving credit commitments on behalf of the Group over and above the management committee delegation and up to an aggregate percentage of the Group's capital per single borrower or group of related borrowers as specified by the Central Bank (see "*The United Arab Emirates Banking Sector and Regulations – Recent Trends in Banking – Large Exposures*") and, in all other cases, making recommendations to the Board for approval. The BREC is comprised of five non-executive directors and several invitees from the executive management team including the GCEO, the CFO, the GCRO, the GCCO, the COO, the GCIA, the heads of credit, consumer banking, wholesale banking, treasury, special assets restructuring and the Group General Counsel, among others. The MRCC has a delegation to approve wholesale loans that is linked to the customer internal rating and factors in the prudential limits established by the Group for each customer

rating. These ratings are internal ratings for customers given by the Group to each customer based on the Group's credit policy. The MRCC is comprised of the GCEO, the GCRO, the GCCO, the GCFO, and the heads of consumer banking, wholesale banking and treasury. All decisions at the MRCC require the GCEO's vote and at least one vote from the credit group or the risk group. The GCRO has the right of escalation of any matter in this committee to the level of the BREC should he feel the need to do so.

Wholesale and HNWI credit commitments that fall under the mandate of the MRCC are addressed by the credit group's "functional delegated lending authorities" approved by the MEC. Certain cases can be escalated to the MRCC/the BREC based on the recommendation of the GCEO, the GCRO or the GCCO. The GCEO, the GCRO or the GCCO may also further sub-delegate "specific delegated lending authorities" that are generally limited to short-term commitments (i.e., a maximum of one year). All such sub-delegations are notified to both MRCC and BREC.

In addition to categorising wholesale and HNWI credit commitments by value, the Group also divides its wholesale and HNWI credit commitments into the following main product categories: loans, trade finance, contract guarantees (such as performance bonds), financial commitments (such as financial guarantees and undrawn commitments), market variation (foreign exchange contracts, options and derivatives), settlement (foreign exchange and other delivery), syndication and others. The Group applies specific standards of review for each category of credit commitment, which enables the Group to examine both the credit risk of the borrower as well as the Group's overall lending exposure per product category. The credit department also operates pursuant to product specific policy manuals, including manuals for the Group's asset based finance, commercial vehicle financing and real estate and property development finance. Analysing applications by product category also allows the Group to respond to market developments. This approach allows the credit department to apply different credit approval procedures of the Group to different clients as required.

New wholesale and HNWI borrowers are sourced through the Group's sales channels including its relationship managers at wholesale and HNWI client divisions such as the business banking division, financial institutions division and strategic clients and government banking divisions as well as through the Group's local branch network. Once a new customer has been identified, the relationship manager prepares a due diligence report on the client as part of the approval process. This due diligence report is based on the Group's review of all relevant information and generally includes: (i) borrower information (including its legal constitution, ownership structure, organisational structure and financial strength); (ii) management (including a list of directors, key officers and their qualifications and affiliations); (iii) industry sector and market information; (iv) relationship with the Group and other banks; (v) financial analysis of the borrower; (vi) sources of repayment; and (vii) appropriateness of certain covenants to be included in loan documents. The Group also reviews the borrower's payment history with the Group or other banks, competitive strengths, levels / location / value / type of collateral and other factors to reach its credit decision. This due diligence report is then validated independently by the credit group, which prepares a brief assessment of the reports, summarising its salient features and recommendation for approval at the appropriate delegated lending authority.

The credit division also uses a risk grading and security categorisation system to assess and monitor the credit quality of credit applicants as well as existing borrowers. In accordance with the Group's rating matrices, wholesale banking and HNWI clients are assigned credit grades based on various qualitative and quantitative factors including financial strength of the borrower, industry risk factors, management quality, operational efficiency and company standing. These credit grades are used by the Group to decide the maximum lending amount per customer group and to set minimum pricing thresholds. The risk grading system attempts to grade a borrower based solely on the borrower's characteristics, and therefore does not take into consideration any security provided by the borrower. In addition to facilitating loan approval decision making, credit scores are also used by the Group to set credit facility limits for specific clients. The credit quality of the client and the guarantor, the fair value of security interests and other relevant factors are all considered prior to setting the terms of the facility agreement (including the payment period, processing fee and interest rate).

The division monitors compliance with conditions, covenants and other trigger mechanisms on an ongoing basis during the year and, in the event of non-compliance, is responsible for timely intervention in advance of a facility's annual review. The credit division reviews the credit limits of its wholesale customers at least once each year.

## **Consumer credit approval procedures**

The Group has developed a comprehensive consumer credit policy and procedures manual, which establishes the consumer banking group's overall risk management framework. The manual establishes operating policies and procedures relating to credit approval and verification, merchant authorisation, collections, risk mitigation, repossession and foreclosure management and fraud. The policy acts as a guideline for the formulation of individual product credit policy and procedures manuals. Additional policies and procedures manuals have been established with respect to the use of vendors, agents, dealers, brokers and other third parties or intermediaries that directly or indirectly impact credit risk, such as appraisers, realtors, brokers, servicing agents and collection agencies.

For consumer loans, the Board has delegated its authority to the consumer risk management division. This division applies a tiered hierarchy of delegated approval authorities based on the value of the credit commitment sought. Such authorities are set out in authority matrices which are required to be approved by appropriate internal committees.

New consumer borrowers are sourced through the Group's sales channels, including direct sales agents and the Group's retail branch network. The consumer risk management division makes credit decisions based on product lending programmes for consumer customers. Acceptance of new retail clients typically depends on the size and type of loans as well as the type of customers. Credits extended to consumer customers are reviewed every 30 days as part of a general portfolio review.

## **COLLECTION PROCEDURES**

### **Consumer banking collection procedures**

If a consumer banking group loan is in arrears, it is processed in accordance with standard operating procedures whereby the loan is considered to be in default one day after it has become delinquent. The account is recorded as an impaired loan after 90 days past due in line with Central Bank recommendations and guidelines.

The collections unit, which reports directly to the head of consumer risk management, may also, in certain cases, approach a delinquent borrower in order to settle an outstanding loan or assess how an outstanding loan may be restructured. The collection unit is responsible for pursuing all avenues available to collect the outstanding amount from a debtor and/or its guarantor by, among other methods, filing a claim with the court and starting a court proceeding to foreclose on relevant collateral.

### **Wholesale banking collection procedures**

If a wholesale banking group loan is in arrears, the credit department is responsible for taking the initial steps to determine if the default can be remedied. If: (i) the loan remains in default for more than 90 days (and is thereby recorded as an impaired loan as per Central Bank recommendations and guidelines); or (ii) negative information about the debtor surfaces, which makes collection of the outstanding loan unlikely, then the credit department refers the loan to the remedial risk department.

Initially, the remedial risk department contacts the borrower to discuss repayment of the amount of the loan outstanding. If the borrower is unable to repay the amount outstanding under the original terms of the loan, the remedial risk department may attempt to reschedule interest and principal payments or otherwise restructure the loan in conjunction with the debtor and its advisers. As part of such restructuring, the remedial risk department may request additional collateral, increase applicable interest rates or accelerate payment schedules. Restructuring plans negotiated by the remedial risk department with the borrower are required to be approved by the MRC, which is comprised of members of the Group's executive management and chaired by the GCCO. The MRC can review and approve settlements relating to impaired loans and advances to customers where the principal waiver does not exceed AED 25 million. Any amount in excess of this threshold is required to be approved by the MRCC, the BREC or the Board itself, based upon threshold amounts. If the foregoing measures do not result in payment, the remedial risk department is responsible for pursuing all other avenues available to collect the outstanding amount from the debtor and/or its guarantor by, among other methods, filing a claim with the court and starting a court proceeding

to foreclose on relevant collateral. Under UAE federal law, however, creditors are prevented from foreclosing on a UAE national's primary residence.

## MANAGEMENT OF RISKS

In common with other financial institutions, the Group faces a range of risks in its business and operations including: (i) credit risk; (ii) funding and liquidity risk; (iii) market risk (including currency risk, interest rate risk, equity price risk and commodity price risk); (iv) legal risk; (v) reputational risk; and (vi) operational risk (see "*Risk Factors – Factors that may affect the Group's ability to fulfil its obligations in respect of Notes issued under the Programme*").

### Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a customer or counterparty will default on its contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the Group. The Group's main income generating activity is lending to customers and therefore credit risk is a principal risk. Credit risk mainly arises from loans and advances to customers and other banks (including related commitments to lend such as loan or credit card facilities), investments in debt securities and derivatives that are an asset position. The Group considers all elements of credit risk exposure such as counterparty default risk, geographical risk and sector risk for risk management purposes.

The Group's credit committee is responsible for managing the Group's credit risk by:

- Monitoring the Group's credit risk practices, including its systems of internal control, to determine adequate allowances in accordance with the Group's stated policies and procedures, IFRS and relevant supervisory guidance.
- Identifying, assessing and measuring credit risk across the Group, from an individual instrument to a portfolio level.
- Creating credit policies to protect the Group against the identified risks including the requirements to obtain collateral from borrowers, to perform robust ongoing credit assessment of borrowers and to monitor exposures against internal risk limits.
- Limiting concentrations of exposure by type of asset, counterparties, industry, credit rating and geographic location.
- Establishing a robust control framework regarding the authorisation structure for the approval and renewal of credit facilities.
- Developing and maintaining the Group's risk grading to categorise exposures according to the degree of risk of default. Risk grades are subject to regular reviews.
- Developing and maintaining the Group's processes for measuring ECL including monitoring of credit risk, incorporation of forward looking information and the method used to measure ECL.
- Monitoring and maintaining the Group's policies and procedures in relation to the maintenance of validation of models used to assess and measure ECL.
- Establishing a sound credit risk accounting assessment and measurement process that provides it with a strong basis for common systems, tools and data to assess credit risk and to account for ECL; and providing advice, guidance and specialist skills to business units to promote best practice throughout the Group in the management of credit risk.
- Managing the credit exposure relating to its trading activities by entering into master netting agreements and collateral arrangements with counterparties in appropriate circumstances and limiting the duration of exposure. In certain cases, the Group may also close out transactions or assign them to other counterparties to mitigate credit risk.

The Group wide credit policies and standards are approved by the BREC. These govern all delegated lending authorities and include policies, standards, metrics, strategies and procedures specific to each of the different business segments and are decided based on the macro economic conditions, the risk appetite of the Group, market data and internal skill sets and capabilities. They are regularly reviewed and modified

for current developments and relevancy and with a view to protect the Group's interest in changing operating conditions. In addition to Group wide policies, there are underwriting standards set for each portfolio segment. The internal audit function performs regular audits making sure that the established controls and procedures are adequately designed and implemented.

Please see Note 42 (*Credit risk management*) to the 2019 Financial Statements for further information.

#### ***Organisational framework for credit risk management***

The risk management structure of the Group is clearly established with well-defined roles and responsibilities. The committees responsible for managing credit risk are the MRCC and the MRC. The Group's risk management practices and strategies are an integral part of business planning and the budgeting process. All risk management areas are centralised under the credit group and the risk group.

The BREC is responsible for sanctioning high value credits and is responsible for the approval of credit policies and processes in line with growth, risk management and strategic objectives established by the Board. In addition, the Group manages the credit exposure by obtaining security where appropriate and limiting the duration of exposure. Credit risk in respect of derivative financial instruments is limited to those with positive fair values.

Regular audits of business units and the Group's credit processes are undertaken by the IAG.

Please see Note 41 (*Risk management*) to the 2019 Financial Statements for further information.

#### ***Credit risk measurement and mitigation policies***

Loans and advances to customers are the main source of credit risk to the Group, although the Group is also exposed to other forms of credit risk through various other financial assets, including derivative instruments, debt investments, loans to banks, loan commitments and debt securities. The Group's risk management policies and processes are designed to identify and analyse risk, to set appropriate risk appetite, limits and controls and to monitor the risks and adherence to limits by means of reliable and timely data. The Group assesses the probability of default of individual counterparties using internal rating tools tailored to the various categories of counterparties.

Exposure to credit risk is also managed through regular analysis of the ability of borrowers and potential borrowers to meet interest and capital repayment obligations and by changing these lending limits where it is believed to be appropriate.

#### ***Collateral***

The Group holds collateral against various credit exposures in the form of mortgage interests over property, other registered security interests over assets, fixed deposits and guarantees. Estimates of fair value of the collateral (including shares) are updated on a regular basis. Collateral generally is not held over loans and advances to banks, except when securities are held as part of reverse repurchase and securities borrowing activity. The principal collateral types for loans and advances to customers are:

- cash and marketable securities;
- mortgages over residential and commercial properties;
- charges over business assets such as premises, inventory and accounts receivable;
- charges over financial instruments such as debt securities and equities; and
- guarantees.

The estimated fair value of collateral and other security enhancements held against various credit exposures as at 31 December 2019 was AED 247,161.2 million compared to AED 178,273.9 million as at 31 December 2018 and AED 183,993.8 million as at 31 December 2017.

Collateral held as security against impaired loans primarily relates to commercial and residential properties and securities. Where the estimated fair value of collateral held exceeds the outstanding loan, any excess on realisation is paid back to the customers and is not available for offset against other loans.

For further information regarding the Group's credit risk, see *"Risk Factors – Factors that may affect the Group's ability to fulfil its obligations in respect of Notes issued under the Programme – The Group's business, results of operations and financial condition have historically been adversely affected by credit risks and may again be affected by credit risks if economic conditions do not improve"*.

#### ***Portfolio monitoring and identifying credit risk loans***

Credit risk management is actively involved in identifying and monitoring credit risk in the loan portfolio. It monitors the portfolio through system generated information and periodic reviews giving consideration to industry/general economic trends, market feedback and media reports.

Within the retail portfolios comprising homogeneous assets, statistical techniques are deployed to monitor potential weaknesses within a particular portfolio. Retail accounts are classified according to specified categories of arrears status (based on days past due), which reflects the level of contractual payments which are overdue on a loan.

The probability of default increases with the number of contractual payments missed, thus raising the associated impairment requirement. In the event where a decision is taken to write off a loan, the account is moved to the legal recovery function. However, in certain cases, an account may be charged-off directly from a performing status, such as in the case of insolvency or death.

In respect of the wholesale banking group portfolio, the Group more frequently participates in debt restructuring agreements as part of the business support process. Debt restructuring agreements may include actions to facilitate recovery of the principal and interest outstanding and may include rate negotiation and relaxing payment schedules, among others.

The Group adopts an approach to its credit risk management function that it believes is conservative. Early identification of potentially problematic exposures and the allocation of a specific impairment allowance (and/or collateral) against such loans and advances to customers (recorded in the Group's income statement) helps to mitigate the risk of incurring future losses.

The Group's management believes that the systems in place to implement the Group's loan loss impairment allowances are robust, in line with industry best practice and IFRS 9 requirements, and reflect the Group's prudent approach to credit risk management generally.

#### ***Exposure to credit risk by internal risk grades***

The Group uses an internal grading system which employs ten grades that categorise the Group's wholesale and HNWI customers based on various qualitative and quantitative factors such as borrower financial strength, industry risk factors, management quality, operational efficiency, company standing, liquidity, capital structure, peer group analysis and other factors. Some of these grades are further sub-classified with a plus or a minus sign. Lower grades are indicative of a lower likelihood of default. Credit grades between 1 to 7 are assigned to performing customers or accounts, while credit grades between 8 to 10 are assigned to non-performing or defaulting customers.

Credit ratings are used by the Group to decide the maximum lending amount per customer group and also to set minimum pricing thresholds. Retail customers or individual borrowers are not assigned a credit rating under this structure. However, CBG uses behaviour scoring for its customers.

The Group's internal credit grade is not intended to replicate external credit grades but, since factors used to grade a borrower may be similar, a borrower rated poorly by an external rating agency is typically assigned a worse internal credit grade.

Please see Note 42.3 (*Expected Credit Losses*) to the 2019 Financial Statements for further information.

The following table sets forth the credit quality of derivative financial assets as at 31 December in the years indicated:

	2019	2018
	(AED thousands)	
<b>Internal risk grades</b>		
Grades 1 to 4 .....	5,160,691	3,639,422
Grades 5 to 6 .....	1,536,539	776,407
Grade 7 .....	74,873	–
Ungraded .....	17,614	31,418
	<b>6,789,717</b>	<b>4,447,247</b>

## Funding and Liquidity Risk

Funding risk is the risk that the Group will be unable to achieve its business plans due to its capital position, liquidity position or structural position. Funding risk arises when the Group cannot obtain the funds needed to meet current and future cash flow and collateral requirements at the expected terms and when required. To reduce this risk, the Group has elected to use diversified funding sources and to manage assets with the objective of facilitating liquidity.

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Group will be unable to meet the payment obligations associated with its financial liabilities when they fall due and/or replace funds when they are withdrawn. The Group's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure, as far as possible, that it will always have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when due, under both normal and stressed conditions, without incurring unacceptable losses or risking damage to the Group's reputation.

For further information regarding the Group's liquidity risk, see "*Risk Factors — Risks relating to the Group's liquidity*".

### *Liquidity risk management process*

The ALCO sets and monitors liquidity ratios and regularly revises and calibrates the Group's liquidity management policies to enable the Group to meet its obligations as they fall due.

The Group's liquidity management process, as carried out within the Group and monitored by both the Group's treasury and investments group as well as the Group's independent market risk control function, includes:

- monitoring of the liquidity position on a daily, weekly and monthly basis. This entails forecasting of future cash inflows/outflows and seeking to ensure that the Group can meet the required outflows;
- conducting regularly liquidity stress testing of the Group's liquidity position under a variety of scenarios covering both normal and more severe market conditions with well-defined triggers and suggested actions;
- regularly monitoring compliance with the liquidity ratios, such as the LCR and NSFR, stipulated by the Central Bank in accordance with the Basel III framework and internally approved management triggers for liquidity risk; and
- conducting regular enterprise wide liquidity stress tests which estimate liquidity requirements under idiosyncratic and systemic stress conditions. The enterprise wide stress tests incorporate diverse liquidity triggers like currency de-peg, failure of a major local bank and credit rating downgrades, in addition to regular stress cash flow analysis.
- monitoring the concentration of the Group's top 10 depositors / largest single deposit.

In accordance with the Central Bank's introduction of the Basel III framework in the UAE and related Central Bank guidelines, the Group manages its liquidity position through compliance with the LCR. As part of the requirements to report its liquidity position to the Central Bank in compliance with the LCR, the Group manages its internal liquidity through periodic internal 60-day LCR stress tests which are more conservative than the Basel III requirements. Additionally, the Group's treasury division invests in various short-term or medium-term, highly marketable assets in line with Basel III guidelines for HQLAs (such as certificates of deposit held with the Central Bank and investment grade bonds). As part of its LCR compliance, as at 31 December 2019, the Group held a portfolio of HQLAs valued at AED 71.2 billion and had an LCR ratio of 127.3 per cent., as compared with a portfolio of HQLAs valued at AED 48.6 billion

and an LCR ratio of 186 per cent. as at 31 December 2018. As at 31 March 2020, the Group's LCR ratio was 115.13 per cent. and it held a portfolio of HQLAs valued at AED 69.7 billion. See *"Risk Factors – Factors that may affect the Group's ability to fulfil its obligations in respect of Notes issued under the Programme – Risks relating to the Group's liquidity– The Group's cash flow from its operations may not be sufficient at all times to meet its contractual and contingent payment obligations"* and *"The United Arab Emirates Banking Sector and Regulations – Recent Trends in Banking – Liquidity"* for more information. The ALCO and the Board monitor compliance with these ratios internally on an ongoing basis.

The Group monitors the concentration of funding sources as a percentage of the Group's total liability and equity position. Some of the ratios for monitoring are:

- euro commercial paper to total liabilities and equity;
- wholesale funds to total liabilities and equity;
- money market deposits to total liabilities and equity;
- core deposits to customer deposits; and
- offshore funds to total liabilities and equity.

### ***Tools for liquidity management***

The Group, through its treasury department, is responsible for obtaining access to diverse sources of funding, ranging from local customer deposits from both its retail and corporate customers, to long term funding such as debt securities and subordinated liabilities.

While the Group's debt securities and subordinated debt are typically issued with maturities of greater than one year, deposits from banks and customers generally have shorter maturities which increases the liquidity risk of the Group and creates an asset-liability mismatch. The Group's treasury department manages this risk by:

- diversification of funding sources and balancing between long term and short term funding sources through borrowing under its unsecured notes issuance programmes;
- monitoring the stickiness of its liability portfolio and rewarding business units for sticky deposits through the fund transfer pricing process; and
- investing in various short-term or medium-term but highly marketable assets, in line with Basel III guidelines for HQLAs, such as certificates of deposit with the Central Bank and investment grade bonds that can be repurchased at short notices.

Further, the Group also has the following facilities from the Central Bank to manage its liquidity risk during critical times:

- overdraft facility against its cash reserves at an overnight rate at a spread of 150 basis points;
- overdraft facility beyond the cash reserves at an overnight rate with a spread of 300 basis points; and
- repo facility against certificates of deposit issued by the Central Bank with a spread of 50 basis points above the one week certificates of deposit rate.

The Group also has access to the Interim Marginal Lending Facility (the **"IMLF"**) initiated by the Central Bank with effect from 15 April 2014. Under the IMLF, the Group can borrow from the Central Bank by posting eligible collateral. The Group periodically tests the IMLF with the Central Bank for its operational readiness (see *"The United Arab Emirates Banking Sector and Regulations – Recent Trends in Banking – Liquidity – Interim Marginal Lending Facility"*).

In response to the COVID-19 crisis, with effect from 15 March 2020, the Central Bank has instituted certain measures in the UAE under the TESS to support businesses and households (see *"Risk Factors – Risks relating to the Group's business – The Group's business, results of operations and financial condition may*

*be adversely affected by the impact of COVID-19*). One of these measures is a zero cost funding facility against eligible collateral which can be accessed until 31 December 31 2020. Under this facility, the Group is able to borrow funds from the Central Bank at zero interest rate and is expected to pass on the benefits to eligible clients as per Central Bank standards. As at 31 May 2020, the amount borrowed by the Group under the TESS zero cost funding facility was AED 8,358.9 million (ADCB: AED 8,309 million and AHB: AED 49.9 million).

In addition to the above, other relief measures granted by the Central Bank under the TESS include a reduction in the minimum LCR requirement from 100 per cent. to 70 per cent. and allowing UAE banks to tap into the capital conservation buffer up to a maximum of 60 per cent. without supervisory consequences and DSIBs to use 100 per cent. of their D-SIB buffer without supervisory consequences until 31 December 2021 (see *"Risk Factors – Risks relating to the Group's business – The Group's business, results of operations and financial condition may be adversely affected by the impact of COVID-19*).

The contractual maturities of assets and liabilities are determined on the basis of the remaining period at the end of the reporting period date to the contractual maturity date and do not take into account the effective maturities as indicated by the Group's deposit retention history and the availability of liquid funds. The maturity profile of the Group's assets and liabilities is monitored by management in order to maintain adequate liquidity.

## **Market Risk**

The Group's activities expose it to market risk which is the risk that changes in market prices, such as interest rates, equity prices, commodity prices, foreign exchange rates and credit spreads (not relating to changes in the obligor's/issuer's credit standing) will affect the Group's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments. The objective of the Group's market risk management is to manage and control market risk exposures within acceptable parameters, while optimising the return on risk. Market risk is broadly classified into three categories:

- interest rate risk, which is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates;
- currency risk, which is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates; and
- 'other price risk', which is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk or currency risk) whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual financial instrument or its issuer or by factors affecting all similar financial instruments traded in the market.

The Group separates its exposure to market risk between its trading portfolio and its banking book.

### ***Market risk arising from trading portfolio***

Trading portfolios are held by the treasury division, and include positions arising from market making and proprietary position taking, together with financial assets and liabilities that are managed on a fair value basis. Realised and unrealised gains and losses on these positions are generally reported in the Group's consolidated income statement.

The Group's trading activities expose it to the financial risk of changes in interest rates and foreign currency exchange rates. The Group enters into a variety of derivative financial instruments to manage its exposure to such interest rate and foreign exchange risks.

### ***Market risk arising from banking book***

Non-trading risk arises from execution of the Group's core business strategies, products and services to its customers which create interest rate risk positions and open currency positions that the Group endeavours to manage through strategic positions designed to mitigate the inherent risk caused by holding such positions.

Non-trading risk includes all positions that are not held for trading including, but not limited to, the Group's investments held to maturity or available for sale assets, loans held at amortised cost, derivatives used for hedging purposes and other assets held for longer term investment.

These exposures can result from a variety of factors including but not limited to re-pricing gaps in assets, liabilities and off-balance sheet instruments and changes in the level and shape of market interest rate curves.

### ***Risk identification and classification***

The MRCC identifies and classifies market risk for the Group and puts in place risk management policies and procedures. All business segments are responsible for comprehensive identification and verification of market risks within their business units. Regular meetings are held between market risk management and the heads of risk taking businesses to discuss and decide on risk exposures in the context of the market environment.

### ***Management of market risk***

The Board has set risk limits based on the VaR, stressed-VaR and risk greek sensitivity/stress analysis and foreign exchange open position limits which are closely monitored by the risk management division and reported regularly to the executive management and discussed by the ALCO.

Market risk is identified, measured, monitored, and controlled by an independent risk control function. Market risk management aims to reduce volatility in operating performance and make the Group's market risk profile transparent to the executive management, the Board and the Group's regulators.

Market risk management is overseen by the MRCC / BREC and performs the following primary functions:

- establishment of a comprehensive mark-to-market valuation policy framework;
- establishment of a comprehensive market risk policy framework;
- independent measurement, monitoring and control of market risk; and
- setting and monitoring of limits.

The following are the various matrices, both statistical and non-statistical, including sensitivity analysis tools, used to measure market risk.

### ***Statistical risk measures***

The Group measures the risk of loss arising from future potential adverse movements in market rates, prices and volatilities using VaR methodology. The VaR that the Group measures is an estimate, using a confidence level of 99 per cent. of the potential loss that is not expected to be exceeded if the current market positions were to be held unchanged for one day. This confidence level suggests that potential daily losses in excess of the VaR measure are likely to be experienced once every hundred days. The Board has set limits for the acceptable level of risks in managing the trading book.

The Group uses simulation models to assess the possible changes in the market value of the trading book based on historical data. VaR models are usually designed to measure the market risk in a normal market environment and therefore the use of VaR has limitations because it is based on historical correlations and volatilities in market prices and assumes that the future movements will follow a statistical distribution.

The VaR represents the risk of portfolios at the close of a business day and intra-day risk levels may vary from those reported at the end of the day. The actual trading results, however, may differ from the VaR calculations and, in particular, the calculation does not provide a meaningful indication of profits and losses in stressed market conditions.

To overcome the VaR limitations mentioned above, the Group runs both stressed VaR and expected shortfall on a daily basis to monitor the tail risk outside the confidence limit. Stressed VaR is the VaR run through a stressed year, rather than the previous year (as is used in VaR).

The table below shows the Group's VaR as at 31 December for each of the years indicated:

Daily value at risk (VaR at 99% – 1 day)	2019	2018
	(AED thousands)	
Overall risk .....	(5,136)	(5,496)
Average VaR .....	(4,843)	(6,621)

#### *Non-statistical risk measures*

Non-statistical risk measures, other than stress/sensitivity testing, include independent market valuations to test that the Group's valuations are correct, and risk greeks to confirm that trading is within the risk appetite thresholds. These measures provide granular information of the Group's market risk exposures.

Independent market valuations/greeks are validated by the market risk function in order to test whether market valuations/greeks are measured correctly. The Group uses first order risk greeks to monitor and control market risk on a daily basis. The interest rate delta and vega and the foreign exchange delta and vega are computed daily and monitored against a limit. The Board has set limits for the delta and the vega within acceptable levels of risk in managing the trading book.

#### *Sensitivity analysis*

To overcome the VaR limitations mentioned under "Statistical risk measures" above, the Group also carries out daily stress tests/sensitivity analysis of its portfolio to simulate conditions outside normal confidence intervals in order to analyse potential risk that may arise from extreme market events that are rare but plausible. The results of the stress tests are reported regularly to the ALCO for their review.

For further information regarding the Group's market risk, see "Risk Factors – Factors that may affect the Group's ability to fulfil its obligations in respect of Notes issued under the Programme – Risks relating to the Market in which the Group operates".

#### **Interest rate risk – trading portfolio**

The Group uses financial simulation modelling tools to periodically measure and monitor interest rate sensitivity. The results are analysed and monitored by the ALCO.

The following table depicts the sensitivity of fair valuations in the trading portfolio to hypothetical and instantaneous changes in the level of interest rates – with other market risks held constant – which would have an impact on the Group's consolidated income statement:

Relative instantaneous rate move shift for all tenors	2019		2018	
	(AED thousands)			
	+0.25%	-0.25%	+0.25%	-0.25%
AED.....	(29,850)	31,783	(3,941)	10,713
U.S.\$.....	3,059	(4,953)	(110)	466

#### **Interest rate risk – banking book**

The following table demonstrates the sensitivity to a reasonably possible change in interest rates, with all other variables held constant, and the impact on the Group's consolidated income statement for the banking book.

The sensitivity on the consolidated income statement is the effect of the assumed changes in interest rates on the net interest income for one year, based on the floating rate non-trading financial assets and financial liabilities, including the effect of hedging instruments.

	2019		2018	
	(AED thousands)			
	+0.25%	-0.25%	+0.25%	-0.25%
Sensitivity of net interest income.....	70,293	(62,094)	107,807	(107,807)

### Currency risk

The following table depicts the sensitivity of fair valuations in the trading portfolio and banking book to hypothetical, instantaneous changes in the level of foreign currency exchange rates – with other market risks held constant – which would have an impact on the Group's consolidated income statement:

Percentage price change	2019		2018	
	(AED thousands)			
	+5%	-5%	+5%	-5%
U.S.\$ – AUD.....	(2,578)	5,097	(207)	1,689
EUR – U.S.\$ .....	(6,770)	9,120	(15,493)	24,965
GBP – U.S.\$ .....	2,197	(2,147)	1,182	(914)
U.S.\$ – JPY.....	103	(122)	1,474	8
U.S.\$ – INR .....	(11,769)	13,143	(13,762)	6,991
U.S.\$ – EGP.....	(23,384)	25,846	(13)	14
U.S.\$ – SAR .....	105,725	(508,562)	(13,977)	(64,104)

### Legal Risk

Legal risk is the risk of losses occurring due to: (i) non-compliance with laws or regulations; or (ii) legal or regulatory action that invalidates contractual protections. The Group seeks to mitigate this risk through the use of experienced internal and external lawyers to review documentation and provide legal advice in relation to such documentation when appropriate. There is also an independent compliance department established that is responsible for monitoring compliance with UAE banking laws and compliance with laws and regulations in all other jurisdictions under which the Group and its subsidiaries operate.

### Reputational Risk

Reputational risk is the risk of loss occurring due to a decrease in the value of the ADCB brand. The Group's brand and reputation could be adversely affected by a number of factors, including, but not limited to, substandard work product, higher transactional costs than competitors, major adverse credit events, negative publicity in local and international press, legal disputes or lower than expected financial results. The Group seeks to mitigate this risk through internal risk management policies and procedures and active use of the media and advertising.

### Operational Risk

The Group defines operational risk as "the risk of loss resulting from inadequate or failed internal processes, people and systems or from external events". Operational risks can expose the Group to potentially large losses. While the Group cannot eliminate all operational risks, it has developed a comprehensive process of identifying, assessing, controlling/mitigating, monitoring and reporting operational risk.

The ultimate responsibility for bank-wide operational risk profile, as well as compliance with laws and regulations, rests with the Board, although this responsibility has been delegated to the executive management. Ongoing management of operational risk is co-ordinated by the Operational Risk Management Department and reviewed and controlled by the MEC and the MRCC, as applicable, for policy purposes.

The Group's operational risk governance framework is built on a number of elements which enable the Group to effectively manage and measure its operational risk profile and to calculate the amount of operational risk capital that the Group needs to hold to absorb potential losses.

The Group's internal audit function provides further independent review of the Group's operational risk management processes, systems and controls and reports to the Board and executive management.

## CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

The Central Bank is the Group's principal regulator and sets and monitors its capital requirements. The Group's objective is to have an adequate capital base to enable it to pursue its strategic initiatives and to support the growth of its business.

The Group's senior management, employing techniques based on the guidelines developed by the Basel Committee and the Central Bank, monitors capital adequacy and the use of regulatory capital. Returns are filed with the Central Bank on a quarterly basis. For further information on the capital adequacy regime in the UAE and the requirements applicable to the Group, see "*The United Arab Emirates Banking Sector and Regulations – Recent Trends in Banking – Capital Adequacy*" below.

Details of the Group's capital base and risk-weighted assets reported in accordance with Basel III as at 31 March 2020, 31 December 2019 and 31 December 2018 are set out in the table below:

	As at 31 December 2019	As at 31 December 2018	As at 31 March 2020
	<i>(AED millions, except for percentage)</i>		
<b>Capital Base</b>			
Tier 1 capital (before deductions).....	54,907.7	33,288.5	52,750
Deductions from Tier 1 capital.....	(7,216.9)	(818.9)	(11,414)
Total Tier 1 capital.....	<u>47,690.8</u>	<u>32,469.6</u>	<u>41,336</u>
Tier 2 capital (before deductions).....	4,853.1	4,201.1	4,779
Deductions from tier 2 capital.....	-	-	-
Total Tier 2 capital.....	<u>4,853.1</u>	<u>4,201.1</u>	<u>4,779</u>
<b>Total regulatory capital</b> .....	<u><b>52,543.9</b></u>	<u><b>36,670.7</b></u>	<u><b>46,115</b></u>
<b>Risk-weighted assets</b>			
Credit risk.....	290,161	188,748	295,158
Market risk.....	8,170	8,396	8,054
Operational risk.....	24,028	15,263	23,219
<b>Total risk-weighted assets</b> .....	<u><b>322,359</b></u>	<u><b>212,407</b></u>	<u><b>326,430</b></u>
<b>Capital Adequacy Ratio</b> .....	<u><b>16.30%</b></u>	<u><b>17.26%</b></u>	<u><b>14.13%</b></u>

The Group currently calculates its capital ratio with respect to the Basel III reports in accordance with Basel III's standardised approach.

In accordance with the Commercial Companies Law, the Group transfers 10 per cent. of its annual profits to its statutory and legal reserve and will continue to do so until such time as the reserve equals 50 per cent. of the issued share capital of ADCB. As at 31 December 2019, the value of the statutory and legal reserve was more than 50 per cent. of the issued share capital of ADCB and, accordingly, further transfers to the statutory reserve are no longer required under the provisions of the Commercial Companies Law. These reserves are not available for distribution.

Please see Note 49 (*Capital adequacy ratio and capital management*) to the 2019 Financial Statements and Note 31 (*Capital adequacy ratio*) to the 2020 Interim Financial Statements for further information.

## OVERVIEW OF THE UAE AND ABU DHABI

### THE UAE

The UAE is a federation of seven Emirates. Formerly known as the Trucial States, they were a British protectorate until they achieved independence in December 1971 and merged to form the United Arab Emirates. Each Emirate has a local government headed by the Ruler of the Emirate. There is a federal government which is headed by the President. The federal budget is principally funded by Abu Dhabi.

The federation is governed by the Supreme Council of the Rulers which consists of the Rulers of the seven Emirates. The Supreme Council elects from its own membership the President and the Vice President (for renewable five-year terms). H.H. Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the late Ruler of Abu Dhabi, held the position of President from 1971 until his death in November 2004. During his long presidency, H.H. Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan oversaw massive investment in the infrastructure of the UAE, which transformed the country. Following his death, his son H.H. Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan took over as Ruler of Abu Dhabi and has been elected as President of the UAE.

According to OPEC data, at 31 December 2018, the UAE had approximately 6.5 per cent. of the world's proven crude oil reserves (giving it the sixth largest oil reserves in the world) (*source*: OPEC Annual Statistical Bulletin 2019). Based on IMF data, real GDP growth in the UAE was 3 per cent. in 2016, 0.5 per cent. in 2017 and 1.7 per cent. in 2018 (*source*: World Economic Outlook (October 2019)). According to preliminary data produced by the FCSA, the hydrocarbon sector (mining and quarrying) accounted for 25.9 per cent. of the UAE's GDP in 2018 and crude oil revenues accounted for 36.1 per cent. of total public revenues in 2018.

On 31 May 2019, Moody's Investors Service Singapore Pte. Ltd. affirmed the UAE's credit rating of Aa2 (with a stable outlook). The principal reason cited for this high investment grade rating was the assumption that the Government (which, in turn, benefits from the sizeable sovereign assets of Abu Dhabi Investment Authority ("ADIA")) would provide unconditional financial support. The UAE is not rated by any other rating agency.

The MSCI Emerging Markets Index classifies the UAE as an "emerging market" economy with ten UAE companies (including ADCB, Abu Dhabi Stock Exchange ("ADX") and the Dubai Financial Market) included on the benchmark index.

### ABU DHABI

Abu Dhabi is the richest of the seven Emirates based on nominal GDP (*source*: FCSA) and is also the largest based on population (*source*: FCSA and the Statistics Centre). The city of Abu Dhabi is also the capital of the UAE.

The populations of both the UAE and Abu Dhabi have grown significantly since 1975, reflecting an influx of foreign labour, principally from Asia, as the Emirates have developed.

The table below illustrates this growth using official census data since 1975.

	2005	1995	1985	1980	1975
Abu Dhabi population .....	1,399,484	942,463	566,036	451,848	211,812
Total UAE population .....	4,106,427	2,411,041	1,379,303	1,042,099	557,887

*Source*: Official census data published by the FCSA.

The table below sets out the populations of UAE and Abu Dhabi in the years indicated.

	2016	2015	2014	2010
Abu Dhabi population .....	2,908,173	2,784,490	2,656,448	2,094,480
Total UAE population .....	9,121,167	N/A	N/A	8,264,070

*Source*: Abu Dhabi data sourced from mid-year estimates published by the Statistics Centre and UAE data sourced from data published by the FCSA.

In 2016, and based on the Statistics Centre's mid-year estimates, Abu Dhabi had a predominantly young population with 0.9 per cent. being 65 years and over and 16.6 per cent. being under the age of 15. According to the same data, between 2010 and 2016, Abu Dhabi's average annual population growth rate

was 5.6 per cent. The population mix in 2016 is estimated by the Statistics Centre to have comprised 19 per cent. UAE nationals and 81 per cent. non-nationals.

According to the Statistics Centre and based on mid-year estimates, Abu Dhabi's nominal GDP per capita was approximately U.S.\$90,946 in 2018, which makes it one of the highest in the Gulf region. The hydrocarbon sector (mining and quarrying) dominates Abu Dhabi's economy and, according to preliminary estimates released by the Statistics Centre, was the largest single sector, contributing 40.4 per cent. of nominal GDP in 2018.

According to ADNOC, Abu Dhabi has approximately 95 per cent. of the UAE's total oil reserves and, according to the Statistics Centre, produced 3 million barrels of oil per day in the year ended 31 December 2018. In Abu Dhabi, the non-associated Khuff natural gas reservoirs beneath the Umm Shaif and Abu al-Bukhush oil fields rank among the world's largest.

The table below shows Abu Dhabi's crude oil production, exports and the OPEC reference basket price for each of the years indicated.

	2018	2017	2016
Crude oil production (million b/d).....	3.0	3.0	3.0
Crude oil exports (million b/d).....	2.2	2.4	2.4
OPEC reference basket price (U.S.\$ per barrel).....	69.8	52.4	40.8

Source: Statistics Centre and OPEC.

The table below shows Abu Dhabi's nominal GDP, its percentage growth change, the UAE's nominal GDP and the percentage contribution of Abu Dhabi's nominal GDP to the UAE's nominal GDP for each of the years indicated.

	2018*	2017	2016
	<i>(AED billions, except for percentage)</i>		
Abu Dhabi nominal GDP (current price).....	931.0	813.6	760.4
Percentage change in Abu Dhabi nominal GDP.....	14.4	7.0	(2.3)
UAE nominal GDP (current prices) .....	1,521.1	1,387.1	1,311.2
Abu Dhabi as a percentage of UAE.....	61.2	58.7	58.0

Source: Statistics Centre (for Abu Dhabi nominal GDP) and FCSA (for UAE nominal GDP).

\* Preliminary estimates

Since July 2014, when the monthly average OPEC Reference Basket price per barrel was U.S.\$107.89, crude oil prices fell sharply, by approximately 75 per cent. to a monthly average price of U.S.\$26.50 per barrel in January 2016. Although crude oil prices then recovered slightly between 2016 – 2019 with the monthly average price being U.S.\$56.94 per barrel in December 2018 and U.S.\$66.48 per barrel in December 2019, there has been a sharp decrease in the monthly average price in 2020 with the price falling from U.S.\$65.11 per barrel in January 2020 to U.S.\$17.64 per barrel in April 2020. The sharp decline in international prices for hydrocarbon products between mid-2014 and the end of 2015 was primarily responsible for the correction in the speed of growth of Abu Dhabi's nominal GDP. During 2015, Abu Dhabi's nominal GDP fell by 18.9 per cent. from 2014. This fall principally reflected substantially lower oil prices in 2015 compared to 2014. Abu Dhabi's nominal GDP during 2016 fell again by a further 2.3 per cent. from 2015 prior to recovering in 2017 and 2018, principally reflecting low oil prices which were offset in part by increased production.

As at the date of this Base Prospectus, economic growth levels remain low when compared with the period prior to the global reduction in oil prices (when, in 2014, Abu Dhabi experienced nominal GDP growth of 3 per cent.), reflecting the prevailing volatility of crude oil prices. Abu Dhabi's hydrocarbon sector accounted for approximately 31.7 per cent., 34.1 per cent. and 40.4 per cent. of Abu Dhabi's nominal GDP in 2016, 2017 and 2018, respectively.

According to the Statistics Centre, outside the hydrocarbon sector, the principal contributors to nominal GDP in Abu Dhabi in each of 2016, 2017 and 2018 have been: construction; financial and insurance sector; public administration and defence and compulsory social security; manufacturing; wholesale, retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; and real estate, which together accounted for 47.2 per cent. of nominal GDP in 2016, 44.6 per cent. in 2017 and (according to preliminary estimates published by the Statistics Centre) 41.2 per cent. in 2018.

The following table shows Abu Dhabi's nominal GDP by economic activity and by percentage contribution, as well as the year-on-year growth rate, for each of the years indicated.

Sector	2018*			2017			2016		
	(AED millions)	(%)	(2018 compared to 2017, % change)	(AED millions)	(%)	(2017 compared to 2016, % change)	(AED millions)	(%)	(2016 compared to 2015, % change)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing.....	6,706	0.7	6706/3.9	6,454	0.8	8.8	5,932	0.8	4.1
Mining and quarrying (includes crude oil and natural gas).....	375,935	40.4	35.7	277,067	34.1	14.9	241,148	31.7	(11.7)
Manufacturing .....	62,000	6.7	13.8	54,500	6.7	9.3	49,842	6.6	(1.0)
Electricity, gas and water supply; waste management.....	35,560	3.8	1.2	35,154	4.3	15.2	30,524	4.0	2.3
Construction .....	85,841	9.2	1.2	84,845	10.4	(0.5)	85,306	11.2	(3.9)
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles .....	46,172	5.0	(1.9)	47,052	5.8	(1.3)	47,671	6.3	16.2
Transportation and storage .....	26,894	2.9	4.0	25,852	3.2	(6.4)	27,624	3.6	(25.5)
Accommodation and food services.....	10,238	1.1	0.3	10,209	1.3	3.9	9,828	1.3	6.3
Information and communication.....	24,801	2.7	4.1	23,826	2.9	7.0	22,261	2.9	4.5
Financial and insurance.....	77,922	8.4	4.5	74,547	9.2	1.8	73,244	9.6	6.8
Real estate.....	45,292	4.9	(3.7)	47,020	5.8	0.4	46,814	6.2	13.7
Professional, scientific and technical.....	19,820	2.1	4.7	18,931	2.3	(2.8)	19,467	2.6	2.4
Administrative and support services.....	12,380	1.3	4.6	11,833	1.5	(1.8)	12,047	1.6	11.4
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security .....	65,261	7.0	6.4	61,358	7.5	10.9	55,309	7.3	5.6
Education.....	14,975	1.6	5.6	14,185	1.7	7.3	13,214	1.7	12.8
Human health and social work .....	12,435	1.3	(0.5)	12,500	1.5	(0.5)	12,560	1.7	8.2
Arts, recreation and other services.....	2,750	0.3	1.2	2,717	0.3	6.0	2,563	0.3	7.6
Activities of households as employers.....	6,047	0.6	8.5	5,573	0.7	10.5	5,042	0.7	12.0
<b>Total GDP .....</b>	<b>931,035</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>813,623</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>760,396</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>—</b>

Source: Statistics Centre.

\* Preliminary estimates

The Government's ratings were affirmed at Aa2 (with a stable outlook) by Moody's on 26 March 2019. According to Moody's, the Government's credit profile is supported by the Government's strong balance sheet, with estimated assets under management by ADIA far exceeding total liabilities in the wider public sector. However, the rating is constrained by the Government's high reliance on hydrocarbons revenues, as well as limited transparency over the size and composition of the Government's financial assets, and the absence of timely, public fiscal data.

The Government's long-term sovereign credit ratings were affirmed at AA long-term (with a stable outlook) and A-1+ short-term (with a stable outlook) by Standard & Poor's on 31 May 2019. Standard & Poor's commented that the ratings are supported by the Emirate's strong fiscal and external positions. Standard & Poor's further commented that the exceptional strength of the Government's net asset position provides a buffer to counteract the effect of oil price swings on economic growth, government revenues, the external account, and increasing geopolitical uncertainty in the Gulf region. On the other hand, Standard & Poor's stated that these ratings are constrained by its assessment that the Emirate's political institutions are at a nascent stage of development compared with those of non-regional peers in the same rating category. Additionally, limited monetary policy flexibility (given the UAE dirham's peg to the U.S. dollar), gaps and delays in the provision of macro-economic, fiscal and external data and the underdeveloped local currency domestic bond market also weigh on Standard & Poor's ratings.

The Government's long-term foreign and local currency issuer default ratings were affirmed at AA (with a stable outlook) and short-term foreign currency issuer default ratings at F1+ (with a stable outlook) by Fitch on 31 October 2019. Fitch commented that the Emirate's key credit strengths are its strong fiscal and external metrics and high GDP per capita, balanced by high dependence on hydrocarbons, below AA median governance and business environment scores (although these are improving and are the best in the GCC), high contingent liabilities from state-owned enterprises and the rest of the UAE (although these are manageable in the context of Abu Dhabi's fiscal resources) as well as elevated geopolitical risks compared to AA peers.

## GOVERNMENT

Executive authority in Abu Dhabi is derived from the Ruler, H.H. Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, and the Crown Prince, H.H. Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan. The Crown Prince is also the chairman of the Abu Dhabi Executive Council, which is the principal executive authority below the Ruler and the Crown Prince. The Abu Dhabi Executive Council currently comprises 18 members appointed by the Ruler of Abu Dhabi through an Emiri Decree issued in September 2017.

Departments, authorities and councils are established by Emiri Decree and are subject to the authority of the Abu Dhabi Executive Council. Departments manage administration within the Emirate and manage specific portfolios, including, for example, the Department of Economy and Planning, the Department of Finance, the Department of Municipal Affairs, the Department of Transport and the Judicial Department. Authorities manage the Emirate's resources and strategies and include the Abu Dhabi Accountability Authority, the Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority, the Abu Dhabi Tourism and Culture Authority, the Abu Dhabi Water and Electricity Authority, the Executive Affairs Authority and the Health Authority. Councils act as controlling bodies for certain Government initiatives, projects and industry sectors by setting and monitoring policies, regulations and standards, and include the Civil Service Council, the Council for Economic Development, the Education Council, the Supreme Petroleum Council and the Urban Planning Council.

The Government owns or has material shareholdings in a number of significant companies and institutions, including:

- *ADNOC*: ADNOC was established in 1971 and manages all aspects of Abu Dhabi's oil and gas industry;
- *ADIA*: ADIA was established in 1976 and is a vehicle through which the Government invests its surplus revenues;
- *the Council*: the Council started its operations in 2007. The Council is another investment arm of the Government and is also responsible for investing the Government's financial resources. In March 2018, the Ruler of Abu Dhabi issued a law restructuring the Council, and as a result in 2018 the Council was restructured to become part of Mubadala Investment Company ("**MIC**");
- *Etihad Airways P.J.S.C. ("**Etihad**")*: Etihad was established in 2003 and is the national airline of the UAE and a key facilitator of the Government's tourism strategy;
- *General Holding Corporation ("**Senaat**")*: Senaat was established in 1973. Senaat is an industrial holding company, mandated by the Government to create, optimise, promote and champion capital-intensive assets, with holdings in companies operating in metals manufacturing, oil and gas services contracting, food and beverage production and building materials manufacturing sectors;
- *MIC*: MIC was established in 2017 and is the development and investment company leading the Government's economic diversification strategy. MIC owns 100 per cent. of each of Mubadala Development Company ("**MDC**") and International Petroleum Investment Company PJSC ("**IPIC**"). MDC was established in 2002 as a business development and investment company mandated by the Government to act as a primary catalyst in the implementation of Abu Dhabi's development strategy in a commercial and profitable manner. IPIC was established in 1984 with a mandate to invest in energy and energy-related assets globally; and
- *Tourism Development and Investment Company ("**TDIC**")*: TDIC was established in 2005 and is mandated to implement the strategy of the Abu Dhabi Tourism and Culture Authority through tourism development and is charged with fulfilling Abu Dhabi's ambition to become a leading global tourist destination.

## ABU DHABI'S ECONOMIC STRATEGY

The Government's development strategy is articulated in the Abu Dhabi Policy Agenda 2007-2008 (the "**Policy Agenda**") and the Abu Dhabi Economic Vision 2030, issued by the Government in January 2009 (the "**2030 Economic Vision**").

The Policy Agenda establishes broad, long-term policy goals to drive economic, social and geopolitical/governance change in Abu Dhabi. Under the Policy Agenda, diversifying the energy sector and the economy through investments by entities such as IPIC and Mubadala is a key step in achieving economic development, including through the strengthening of downstream hydrocarbon capabilities (refining, transportation and distribution), the application of better processes, products and technologies and the expansion of the proportion of value-added exports, such as refined and semi-refined products in the petrochemicals sector, from Abu Dhabi. The Policy Agenda also calls for the pursuit of the geographic diversification of Abu Dhabi's assets through strategic investments in upstream, midstream and downstream

hydrocarbon assets outside the UAE by entities such as IPIC and the leveraging of Abu Dhabi's strengths in the hydrocarbon sector to diversify into other industrial sectors, such as the development of Abu Dhabi as a world leader in the petrochemicals industry. Drawing on the Policy Agenda, the 2030 Economic Vision sets forth a roadmap for developing the Government's strategy for economic development over the period to 2030.

## **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

The foreign policy of the UAE is based upon a set of guiding principles, laid down by the country's first President, H.H. Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan.

The UAE participates in a number of multilateral aid-giving institutions, including the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Development Agency, the IMF and regional bodies like the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa, the Arab Gulf Fund for the United Nations, the Abu Dhabi-based Arab Monetary Fund, the Islamic Development Bank and the OPEC Fund for International Development. In addition, the UAE is a member of various other international organisations, including, among others, the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation, the GCC, the International Organisation for Industrial Development, the League of Arab States, OPEC, the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries, the Organisation of Islamic Countries, the United Nations, the World Health Organisation and the World Trade Organisation (the "WTO"). The UAE has also entered into a number of bilateral agreements with other countries (such as the UAE's bilateral agreement with the United States for peaceful nuclear co-operation which establishes the legal framework for commerce in civilian nuclear energy between the two countries).

The UAE generally enjoys good relations with the other states in the GCC. However, on 5 June 2017, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the UAE and the Kingdom of Bahrain announced that they would be severing diplomatic relations with the State of Qatar, citing Qatar's alleged support for terrorism and the Qatari violation of a 2014 agreement with the other members of the GCC. The termination of diplomatic relations has included the withdrawal of ambassadors, the imposition of trade and travel bans and the closure of airspace, territorial waters and, in the case of Saudi Arabia only, the closure of its land border with Qatar.

Additionally, the UAE has an ongoing dispute with the Islamic Republic of Iran and continuing discussions with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia over border issues. Since 1971, the three Gulf islands of Abu Musa and Greater and Lesser Tunb have been occupied by the Islamic Republic of Iran. The UAE believes that the islands should be returned to the Emirate of Sharjah and the Emirate of Ras al Khaimah (with the Emirate of Sharjah claiming sovereignty over Abu Musa and the Emirate of Ras al Khaimah claiming sovereignty over Greater and Lesser Tunb) and is seeking to resolve the dispute through negotiation.

The UAE is also seeking, through negotiation, to resolve issues related to the 1974 provisional and, as yet, unratified, agreement with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on the border between the two countries, which the UAE believes should be substantially amended. In addition, the UAE is involved in discussions with the governments of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the State of Qatar relating to a maritime corridor which the State of Qatar has purported to grant to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, from within the State of Qatar's own maritime waters, which crosses part of the route of the gas pipeline constructed by Dolphin Energy Limited. The UAE believes that this grant is in breach of existing agreements between the UAE and the State of Qatar and, in June 2009, the UAE's Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated this position in a letter to the United Nations Secretary General.

The UAE, along with other Arab states, is currently participating in the Saudi Arabian led military intervention in the Republic of Yemen which began in 2015 in response to requests for assistance from the Yemeni government. The UAE is also a member of another Saudi Arabian led military coalition formed in December 2015 to combat Islamic extremism and, in particular, Islamic State (also known as Daesh, ISIS or ISIL).

## THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES BANKING SECTOR AND REGULATIONS

### SUMMARY

According to data published by the Central Bank, as at 31 December 2019 there were a total of 48 commercial banks (21 locally incorporated commercial banks and 27 foreign commercial banks) licensed to operate in the UAE, to serve a national population of approximately 9.8 million people at the end of 2019 (*source*: Statistical Yearbook 2019 edition, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division). As a result, the UAE could be, and has historically been, viewed as an over-banked market, even by regional standards and there has traditionally been little impetus for consolidation. However, following the consummation of the merger of NBAD and FGB on 30 March 2017, which created First Abu Dhabi Bank, one of the largest banks in the Middle East and North Africa region by assets, it is anticipated that this may act as a catalyst for further consolidation amongst locally incorporated banks. This has already been observed in the Combination in 2019 and the acquisition of Noor Bank P.J.S.C by Dubai Islamic Bank P.J.S.C in 2020.

The UAE's membership of the WTO will likely require greater economic liberalisation, but it is unclear to what extent this will encourage foreign banks to further expand their presence in the market. In the long-term, however, it is likely to lead to increased competition, which should spur consolidation, both within the UAE and across the region generally.

According to preliminary estimates published by the Statistics Centre (*source*: Statistical Yearbook of Abu Dhabi 2019), the financial and insurance sectors in Abu Dhabi contributed approximately AED 78 billion (or 8.4 per cent.) to Abu Dhabi's nominal GDP in 2018. Within the UAE as a whole, the financial sector was estimated to have contributed approximately 9.2 per cent. of real GDP in 2018 (*source*: FCSA National Account information for 2010-2018).

As a banking regulator, the Central Bank, established in 1980, has grown in stature over the years and is the governing body that regulates and supervises all banks operating in the UAE. The Central Bank monitors banks through its Banking Supervision and Examination Department. It conducts reviews of banks periodically based on the risk profile of each bank. It also reviews all of the returns submitted by the banks to the Central Bank.

Historically, the Central Bank does not act as a "lender of last resort", instead this role tends to fall on the individual Emirs of each Emirate. However, the introduction by the Central Bank in 2014 of the IMLF allows non-Islamic UAE banks to use certain rated or UAE federal government entity issued assets as collateral to access Central Bank liquidity overnight in order to help their liquidity management (see "*Recent Trends in Banking – Liquidity*" below).

### CHARACTERISTICS OF THE BANKING SYSTEM

#### Historic Lack of Consolidation

The UAE may be, and has historically been, seen as being over-banked with 48 different commercial banks (comprising 21 locally incorporated commercial banks and 27 foreign commercial banks) licensed to operate inside the UAE as at 31 December 2019 (excluding the DIFC) (*source*: Central Bank), serving a population estimated to be in the region of approximately 9.8 million people at the end of 2019 (*source*: Statistical Yearbook 2019 edition, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division). Traditionally there has been little impetus for consolidation, with the federal structure of the UAE encouraging, to some extent, the fragmented nature of the banking sector, with the individual Emirates wishing to retain their own national banks. Rivalries between large local business families and a desire not to dilute shareholdings have also historically hampered the process of consolidation. As a result, during the period between the October 2007 merger of Emirates Bank International P.J.S.C. and National Bank of Dubai P.J.S.C. which created Emirates NBD and 2017 there was very limited merger activity domestically in the sector. However, following the merger of NBAD and FGB, consummated on 30 March 2017, the Combination, which became effective on 1 May 2019, and the acquisition of Noor Bank P.J.S.C by Dubai Islamic Bank P.J.S.C in January 2020, commentators have suggested that the UAE may see more consolidation of the banking sector in order to improve profitability and reduce inefficiencies.

While the anticipated attempts at consolidation would further reduce the level of concentration in the domestic banking sector, they would also likely lead to a significant alteration of the competitive

environment with fewer, larger locally incorporated banks competing for the larger financing transactions in the region with the foreign banks, which have tended to have comparatively larger franchises, with greater infrastructure and resources with which to absorb capital costs, such as information technology system development.

Going forward, the advent of WTO liberalisation should allow greater competition from foreign banks, both from new entrants to the market and from existing players expanding their operations, which may eventually result in more mergers, with the possibility of creating banks with pan-Gulf franchises.

### **Domestic Focus**

The UAE incorporated banks are predominantly focused on the domestic market but a number have small operations overseas and are showing growing interest in cross-border business, a trend which is likely to continue in the event of further merger activity in the sector.

With a large number of banks, competing for a limited number of wholesale lending opportunities, most banks historically turned to retail banking, a previously untapped market. However, increasing competition in this area has gradually eroded margins and encouraged a relaxation of lending criteria. As the market has been tested only to a limited extent under adverse conditions, it is difficult to predict the future likelihood of asset quality problems.

Expansion of retail operations has required heavy investment in distribution channels, particularly ATM networks, kiosks and telephone and Internet banking services. As a consequence, information technology costs have been a prominent feature of many UAE banks' expenses.

### **Limited Foreign Ownership**

In 1987, the UAE federal government placed a freeze on new foreign banks opening operations in the UAE. At the same time, existing foreign banks were limited to a maximum of eight branches, which restricted their ability to develop any retail potential. However, three banks of GCC state origin, the National Bank of Kuwait, SAMBA and Doha Bank, were awarded licences by the Central Bank following an agreement to permit market access to banks of GCC state origin in line with continuing efforts in regional integration.

During 2002, the Government of Dubai issued a decree establishing the DIFC. The DIFC, located in the Emirate of Dubai, is a free trade zone and financial services centre focusing on private banking, asset management, investment banking, re-insurance activities, Islamic finance, securities trading and back office operations. The DIFC has its own civil and commercial laws and has been granted authority to self-legislate in civil and commercial cases. The opening of the DIFC has enabled international banks to establish a presence and compete in the wholesale banking market and this has seen new entities entering the market place.

In 2013, the Government sought to replicate the success of the DIFC by announcing its intention to establish the ADGM in Abu Dhabi, as an international financial free zone with its own legal framework (closely based on English common law). The ADGM became operational in mid-2015 and, as at the date of this Base Prospectus, has issued 2,385 registrations, maintains assets under management of U.S.\$26 billion (*source*: ADGM) and has been awarded "Financial Centre of the Year (MENA)" for three consecutive years by The Global Investor Middle East and North Africa.

### **Exposure to the Oil Sector**

With much of the economy directly or indirectly dependent on the oil sector, UAE banks are potentially vulnerable to business erosion during long periods of low oil prices (see *"Risk Factors – Factors that may Affect ADCB's Ability to Fulfil its Obligations in respect of Notes Issued under the Programme – Risks relating to the UAE and MENA – The UAE's economy is highly dependent upon its oil revenue"*). In particular, oil revenues tend to drive levels of liquidity and government infrastructure investment. Gradually, however, private non-oil sectors are gaining ground and the UAE economy is becoming less susceptible to oil price movements. For example, according to preliminary estimates published by the Statistics Centre (Statistical Yearbook of Abu Dhabi 2019), the mining and quarrying sector (including crude oil and natural gas) contributed 40.4 per cent to Abu Dhabi's nominal GDP in 2018 as compared with a contribution of 50.9 per cent. in 2014.

## Islamic Banking

*Shari'a* (Islamic) law forbids the charging of interest on any financial transaction. A number of banks have developed in the Islamic world to serve customers who wish to observe this principle. These institutions offer a range of products which, whilst broadly corresponding with conventional banking transactions, are structured in a way which avoids the application of interest. The UAE is home to numerous institutions offering Islamic banking and financial products. Such institutions include: Dubai Islamic Bank PJSC, Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank PJSC, Emirates Islamic Bank PJSC, Noor Bank P.J.S.C, AHB, Ajman Bank, Sharjah Islamic Bank PJSC, Dubai Islamic Insurance & Reinsurance Company (AMAN), Islamic Arab Insurance Co. (PSC) (Salama), Tamweel and Amlak Finance. The number of Islamic banks continues to increase, with both new entrants to the market and existing conventional banks recasting themselves as Islamic banks. In addition, conventional financial institutions often offer *Shari'a*-compliant products.

## Legal Environment

There are three primary sources of law in the UAE: (i) federal laws and decrees; (ii) local laws; and (iii) *Shari'a* (Islamic) law. In addition, Emiri decrees can be issued by the Rulers of each of the Emirates which, when issued, have full legal effect and operation in such Emirate. The secondary form of law is trade custom or practice. In the absence of federal legislation on areas specifically reserved to federal authority, the Ruler of a given Emirate or local government will apply his or its own rules, regulations and practices.

## Supervision of Banks

The main piece of legislation applicable to the banking system is Federal Law No.14 of 2018 (the "**2018 Federal Law**") which repeals Federal Law No. 10 of 1980 concerning the status of the Central Bank. The Central Bank's primary roles are to formulate and implement banking, credit, monetary and fiscal policy and to be responsible for ensuring price and currency stability with free convertibility to foreign currencies. It is also the "bank for banks" within the UAE, although it is not the "lender of last resort". In the event of a bank experiencing financial difficulties or a solvency crisis, rescue funds – such as long-term liquidity or equity support – have historically come from the Emirate in which the institution is based. However, in the event of a run on the currency or a major banking crisis, it is likely that the UAE federal government would ultimately stand as de facto defender of the currency and the "lender of last resort".

The 2018 Federal Law grants the Central Bank powers to:

- draw up and implement monetary policy;
- exercise currency issuance;
- organise licensed financial activities, establish the foundations for carrying them on, and determine the standards required for developing and promoting prudential practices in accordance with the provisions of the 2018 Federal Law and international standards;
- set up appropriate regulations and standards for protection of customers of licensed financial institutions;
- monitor the credit condition in the UAE, in order to contribute to the achievement of balanced growth in the national economy;
- manage foreign reserves to maintain, at all times, sufficient foreign currency assets to cover the monetary base as per the provisions of the 2018 Federal Law; and
- regulate, develop, oversee and maintain soundness of the financial infrastructure systems in the UAE.

Historically, income from overseas investments has been used to fund fiscal deficits, obviating the need for the Central Bank to issue UAE federal government debt. However, the Central Bank does issue certificates of deposit ("**CDs**") to UAE banks, denominated in both U.S. dollars and UAE dirhams, in order to absorb excess liquidity rather than to meet a specific funding need. There is presently no active secondary market in these securities, but they can be redeemed at face value at the Central Bank at any time. In 2007, the Central Bank introduced an auction system which allows U.S. dollar drawings against UAE dirham CD holdings.

The UAE dirham is linked to the IMF's Special Drawing Right. However, the U.S. dollar is the intervention currency and, in practice, the UAE dirham is pegged to the U.S. dollar. This pegged exchange rate has been in place since the 1980s and has proved to be resilient both to political tensions in the region and to fluctuations in oil prices. However, see *"Risk Factors – Factors that may Affect ADCB's Ability to Fulfil its Obligations in respect of Notes Issued under the Programme – Risks relating to the UAE and MENA – Any alteration to, or abolition of, the foreign exchange "peg" of the UAE dirham or other regional currencies at a fixed exchange rate to the U.S. dollar will expose the Group to U.S. dollar foreign exchange movements against the UAE dirham or other such currencies"*.

The Central Bank is also responsible for regulating financial institutions in relation to money laundering controls and enforcing Federal Law No. 20 of 2018 regarding the procedures for Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism and Illicit Organisations. Pursuant to this, the UAE has established the National Committee to Counter Money Laundering, Combating the Financing of Terrorism and Financing of Illegal Organisations which is responsible for co-ordinating policy and systems on anti-money laundering and the combating of terrorism financing and assessing the effectiveness of such policies and systems and the representation of the UAE in international forums on these matters. Federal Law No. 20 of 2018 also recommends the establishment of an independent "Financial Information Unit" within the Central Bank to receive and investigate reports submitted by financial institutions and corporate entities regarding suspected illicit financial activity.

Although the Central Bank is responsible for regulating all banks, exchange houses, investment companies and other financial institutions in the UAE, the Dubai Financial Services Authority regulates all banking and financial services activities in the DIFC, while the ADGM Financial Services Regulatory Authority regulates activity in the financial services sector in the ADGM. The Central Bank has also been growing in stature as a banking supervisor. However, it is hampered in its role by the level of legal autonomy afforded to the individual Emirates, which at times makes it difficult to enforce directives uniformly across the banking sector.

### **Lack of Developed Capital Markets**

The absence of mature bond or equity markets in the UAE means that banks have often shouldered the burden of long-term financing. This has tended to create a maturity mismatch in their balance sheets, as most of their liabilities are short-term customer deposits. Although the two stock markets, the Dubai Financial Market and the ADX (both of which were established in 2000), have grown over recent years and have benefitted from the inclusion of the UAE in the MSCI Emerging Markets Index since 2014, they continue to experience bouts of volatility.

Nasdaq Dubai (formerly known as the Dubai International Financial Exchange) is a securities exchange located in the DIFC which commenced operations on 26 September 2005. In December 2009, the Dubai Financial Market announced its intention to acquire the Nasdaq Dubai, with completion of the acquisition having occurred in July 2010. The Dubai Financial Market and the ADX were upgraded to the MSCI Emerging Markets Index with effect from 1 June 2014 which could lead to an increase in interest and investment from international institutional investors in the UAE.

### **Government Involvement**

There is a high degree of state involvement in the UAE banking sector. Most of the larger banks have some degree of government ownership. Privatisation, though advocated in principle, has been slow to manifest in practice. The state and its related entities are together the banking sector's largest customers, in terms of both deposits and project financing.

### **Expatriate Workforce**

An unusual feature of the UAE economy is its reliance on overseas labour, with expatriates making up approximately 81 per cent. of the workforce according to estimates published by the Statistics Centre in mid-2016. The banking sector is no exception to this and expatriates are employed in the senior management of most of the major banks. This has brought expertise from more developed markets to the sector. However, the high level of expatriates in the UAE has been an increasing concern for the UAE federal government and as part of a policy of "Emiratisation", banks were instructed, in 1999, to increase the percentage of UAE nationals on their payroll by at least 4 per cent. per annum. This policy has now been replaced by the Emiratisation Circular, which has introduced a scoring system which takes into

account the employment and progression of Emirati employees in the organisation. The minimum threshold for Emirati employees for each institution is dependent on a number of factors. The Emiratisation Circular does not set any upper limit at which the policy would no longer be applicable. If UAE banks are not able to achieve their targets for recruiting and progressing UAE nationals through their organisation, they will be subject to penalties to be computed in accordance with a specific formula set out in the Emiratisation Circular.

### **Accounting Standards**

Since 1 January 1999, all UAE banks have been required to prepare their financial statements in accordance with IFRS (formerly International Accounting Standards (IAS)). Although this has led to a substantial improvement in disclosure standards, there remains some variability in the quality and depth of disclosure across the banking sector.

### **Structure of the Banking System**

Banking institutions in the UAE fall into a number of categories. Domestic commercial banks, also known as "National" banks, of which there were 21 as at 31 December 2019 (*source*: Central Bank), are required to be public shareholding companies with a minimum share capital of AED 40 million and must be majority owned by UAE nationals. Licensed foreign banks, of which there were 27 as at 31 December 2019 (*source*: Central Bank), need to demonstrate that at least AED 40 million has been allocated as capital funds for their operations in the UAE. "Financial institutions" (institutions whose principal functions are to extend credit, carry out financial transactions, invest in moveable property and other activities, but which are not permitted to accept funds by way of deposits) and financial and monetary intermediaries (money and stockbrokers) may also be licensed to operate within the UAE.

## **RECENT TRENDS IN BANKING**

### **Profitability**

The performance of the UAE economy is influenced by oil prices, which directly affect fiscal revenues and hence determine the level of investment in government projects in the country. The high oil prices and strong economic conditions experienced in the UAE between 2004 and 2008 allowed UAE banks to expand significantly.

However, much of this growth focused on the real estate sector and equity financing which, in the context of the 2008 global financial crisis, represented a significant risk to the UAE banking system. Equity prices declined generally in the UAE from 2008 to 2011 in response to the global 2008 financial crisis but rebounded between 2012 and 2019, with the ADX's General Index increasing from 2,630.9 at 31 December 2012 to 5,174.0 at 31 December 2019, and the Dubai Financial Market index increasing from 1,662.5 at 31 December 2012 to 2,764.9 at 31 December 2019 (*source*: Bloomberg).

During 2008 to 2010, a number of banks were also affected by the impact of mark to market accounting rules on their international investment portfolios. Additionally, during the same period, the UAE economy was negatively impacted by the global economic downturn and, in particular, by the sharp correction in the price of oil, which affected a number of key economic sectors including trade, tourism, real estate and commerce. This economic slowdown, along with reduced levels of liquidity in the market, constrained lending and resulted in the majority of UAE banks being less profitable in this period than in previous years.

### **Liquidity**

The Central Bank closely monitors the level of liquidity in the banking system. It also requires that banks have in place adequate systems and controls to manage their liquidity positions, as well as contingency funding plans to cope with periods of liquidity stress.

Banks must also adhere to a maximum loan to deposit ratio of 100 per cent. set by the Central Bank, although this requirement does not apply to ADCB as a LCR accredited bank. In this context, loans comprise loans and advances to customers and interbank assets maturing after three months.

UAE banks are mostly funded through on demand- or time-based customer deposits made by private individuals or private sector companies. According to data made available by the Central Bank, together, these deposits constituted approximately 56.6 per cent. of total deposits while government deposits

including GRE deposits and Non-Banking Financial Institutions (NBFIs) constituted approximately 29.2 per cent. and 2.4 per cent., respectively, of total deposits of the UAE banking sector (excluding inter-bank deposits but including commercial prepayments and borrowings under repurchase agreements) as at 31 December 2019. Non-resident sources constituted approximately 11.8 per cent. of total deposits within the UAE banking sector (excluding inter-bank deposits but including commercial prepayments and borrowings under repurchase agreements) as at the same date (source: Central Bank Statistical Bulletin December 2019).

In response to the global 2008 financial crisis, the Central Bank announced a number of measures aimed at ensuring that adequate liquidity is available to banks operating in the UAE. In September 2008, the Central Bank established an AED 50 billion liquidity facility which banks can draw upon subject to posting eligible debt securities as collateral. The liquidity facility is available only for the purpose of funding existing commitments. New lending is required to be based on growth in the customer deposit base. The Central Bank also established a CD repo facility under which banks can use CDs as collateral for dirham or U.S. dollar funding from the Central Bank.

In addition to these measures, the UAE federal government also provided AED 50 billion in deposits to UAE banks (as part of a larger AED 70 billion package) which, at the option of the banks, can be converted into Tier 2 capital in order to enhance capital adequacy ratios. A number of banks in the UAE exercised this option and converted the UAE federal government deposits made with them into Tier 2 capital.

During 2008, Government-owned institutions assisted certain Abu Dhabi banks in strengthening their capital base through the subscription of mandatory convertible securities and, in February 2009, the Government (acting through the Department of Finance) subscribed for, in aggregate, a sum of AED 16 billion in subordinated Tier 1 capital notes issued by the five largest Abu Dhabi banks: NBAD, ADCB, FGB, UNB and Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank PJSC.

In 2009, the Department of Finance of the Government of Dubai established a U.S.\$20 billion funding programme and the first tranche, valued at U.S.\$10 billion with a five year tenure and paying a coupon rate of four per cent. per annum, was issued in its entirety to the Central Bank. In November 2009, a second U.S.\$5 billion tranche was fully subscribed equally by NBAD and AHB.

In line with Basel III requirements, the Central Bank has issued the Central Bank Notice No. 33/2015 on liquidity requirements (which was issued by the Central Bank on 27 May 2015 and which entered into force with effect from 1 July 2015) (the "**Liquidity Notice**") and which includes a set of qualitative and quantitative liquidity requirements for UAE banks. The qualitative requirements set out in the Liquidity Notice elaborate on the responsibilities of a UAE bank's board of directors and senior management as well as the overall liquidity risk framework. The new regulations are intended to ensure that liquidity risks are well managed at banks operating in the UAE and are in line with the Basel Committee's recommendations and international best practices. These requirements include the following:

*Responsibilities of the board of directors:*

- to bear ultimate responsibility for liquidity risk management within the relevant UAE bank;
- to be familiar with liquidity risk management with at least one board member having a detailed understanding of liquidity risk management; and
- to enable the clear articulation of liquidity risk tolerance in line with the relevant UAE bank's objectives, strategy and risk appetite.

*Responsibilities of senior management:*

- to develop strategies, policies and practices to manage liquidity risk in accordance with the liquidity risk tolerance set by the board of directors;
- to review the UAE bank's strategy and to report to the board of directors on regulatory compliance on a regular basis; and
- to manage liquidity risk in a prudent manner using all available liquidity risk management tools.

### *Liquidity risk framework:*

The Liquidity Notice requires each UAE bank to have a robust liquidity risk framework which comprises the following elements:

- sound processes and systems to identify, measure, monitor and control liquidity risk in a timely and accurate manner;
- a robust liquidity risk management framework (which must be shared with the Central Bank upon request) with limits, warning indicators, communication and escalation procedures;
- regular internal stress testing of the portfolio for a variety of scenarios (both institution specific and market-wide); results being communicated to the board of directors and the Central Bank on request;
- incorporation of liquidity costs, benefits and risks into product pricing and approval processes;
- establishment of a forward-looking funding strategy with effective diversification of funding sources and tenors;
- setting of formal contingency funding plans which clearly set out strategies for addressing liquidity shortfalls in emergency situations (and which must be shared with the Central Bank upon request);
- establishment of an adequate cushion of unencumbered, highly liquid assets as insurance against a range of liquidity stress scenarios; and
- a transfer pricing framework (which is commensurate with the bank's liquidity risk tolerance and complexity) developed to reflect the actual cost of funding.

The quantitative requirements set out in the Liquidity Notice are intended to ensure that each UAE bank holds a minimum level of liquid assets which allow it to sustain a short-term liquidity stress (in circumstances both specific to that bank and market wide) as per the below:

	Ratio	Applicability Period
Basel III ratios:	LCR (LCR $\geq$ 100%)	1 January 2019 onwards
	NSFR (NSFR $\geq$ 100%)	1 January 2018 onwards

The LCR represents a 30 days stress scenario with combined assumptions covering both bank specific and market wide stresses. These assumptions are applied to contractual data representing the main liquidity risk drivers at banks to determine cash outflows within the 30 days stress scenario. The LCR requires that UAE banks should always be able to cover the net cash outflow with HQLAs at the minimum LCR determined by the Central Bank. The Basel III accord requires that this minimum is 100 per cent, however, under the temporary relief measures provided by the Central Bank under the TESS, the regulatory LCR limit has been decreased from 100 per cent. to 70 per cent. until 31 December 2021. The Liquidity Notice describes in detail eligible HQLAs for this purpose. See "*Risk Factors – Factors that may affect the Group's ability to fulfil its obligations in respect of Notes issued under the Programme – Risks relating to the Group's liquidity – the Group's cash flow from its operations may not be sufficient at all times to meet its contractual and contingent payment obligations*" and "*Risk Management – Principal Risks – Funding and Liquidity Risk*" for more information.

NSFR is a structural ratio that aims to ensure that banks have adequate stable funding to fund the assets on their balance sheets. It also requires an amount of stable funding to cover a portion of the relevant UAE banks contingent liabilities. The NSFR in the UAE mirrors the Basel III standards. The NSFR identifies the key uses of funds and the different types of funding sources used by the UAE banks. It assigns available stable funding ("ASF") factors to the sources of funds and required stable funding o (usage) factors to asset classes and off balance sheet contingent exposures. The assigned ASF factor depends on the terms of funding and the perceived stability of the funding sources. The assigned ASF factor will depend on the liquidity of the asset being funded under a market-wide stress. Both factors will follow the Basel III standards.

### *Interim Marginal Lending Facility*

On 15 April 2014, the Central Bank introduced the IMLF which allows non-Islamic UAE banks to use certain rated or UAE federal government entity-issued assets to access Central Bank liquidity overnight in order to help their liquidity management during times of market stress.

The IMLF allows lenders to use certain assets as collateral to obtain one-day overnight loans from the Central Bank. Eligible assets that can be used as collateral must be tradeable and include bonds, sukuk and securities issued by the UAE federal government or government-related entities in individual Emirates, as well as by UAE banks and corporations. Securities issued by foreign governments, banks, corporates and supranational agencies can also be used as collateral, but must carry a minimum 'A' credit rating from one of the three main international rating agencies. Banks accessing the IMLF must borrow a minimum of AED 10 million. In order to contain the impact of COVID-19, the Central Bank has reduced the cost of borrowing under IMLF to 50 basis points (from 100 basis points) over the official UAE "Repo Rate"

### **Position of Depositors**

There is no formal deposit protection scheme in the UAE. While no bank has, so far, been permitted to fail, during the 1980s and early 1990s a number were restructured by the relevant government authorities. In October 2008, in response to the global financial crisis, the UAE federal government announced that it intended to guarantee the deposits of all UAE banks and foreign banks with core operations in the UAE. Following therefrom, in May 2009 the UAE's National Federal Council approved a draft law guaranteeing federal deposits. However, until such time as the law is passed, there is no guaranteed government support.

### **Prudential Regulations**

The Central Bank has supervisory responsibility for banking institutions in the UAE. Supervision is carried out through on-site inspections and review of periodic submissions from the banks. The frequency of inspection depends on the perceived risk of the bank, but inspections are carried out in all banks at least once every 18 months. Prudential returns are made monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually, depending on the nature of the information they contain. An improved risk management framework has been implemented, aimed at providing the Central Bank with more up to date information on credit, market and operational risks within the banking sector.

### **Capital Adequacy**

All banks are required to follow the principles of the Basel accord in calculating their capital adequacy ratios. Basel II was introduced effective 17 November 2009 by way of Central Bank Circular Number 27/2009. Since 1993, the Central Bank had imposed a 10 per cent. minimum total capital ratio on all UAE banks. In a circular dated 30 August 2009, the Central Bank announced amendments to its capital adequacy requirements, such that UAE banks were required to have a total capital adequacy ratio of at least 11 per cent., with a Tier 1 ratio of not less than 7 per cent., by 30 September 2009. Furthermore, the Central Bank required banks operating in the UAE to increase their Tier 1 capital adequacy ratio to at least 8 per cent., with a minimum total capital adequacy ratio of at least 12 per cent., by 30 June 2010. Thereafter, through its circular dated 17 November 2009 introducing Basel II, the Central Bank stated that it was expected that the main banks in the UAE would move to the Foundation Internal Rating Based approach under Basel II in due course. Through this circular, the Central Bank reiterated that all banks operating in the UAE were required to maintain a minimum capital adequacy ratio of 11 per cent. at all times, increasing to 12 per cent. by 30 June 2010 and also laid out its expectations in relation to Pillar II and Pillar III of the Basel II framework. Profits for the current period, goodwill, other intangibles, unrealised gains on investments and any shortfall in loan loss provisions were deducted from regulatory capital.

As at the date of this Base Prospectus, the Central Bank has adopted a policy of a gradual, phased introduction of the Basel III Reforms. As part of this gradual introduction of Basel III in the UAE, and pursuant to the February 2017 Regulations and the Capital Standards, ADCB is required by the Central Bank to maintain a minimum total capital adequacy ratio of 14.5 per cent., effective from 1 January 2019. Included within this Central Bank prescribed minimum total capital adequacy ratio, ADCB, as a D-SIB, is required from 1 January 2019 to maintain a Common Equity Tier 1 buffer of 1.50 per cent.

Whilst the calculation of capital adequacy ratios in the UAE follows the Bank of International Settlements guidelines, claims on or guaranteed by GCC central governments and central banks are risk-weighted at zero per cent. and claims on GCC government non-commercial public sector entities are risk-weighted at

50 per cent. Under the 2018 Federal Law, the Central Bank may determine reserve requirements for UAE banks. All dividends paid by UAE banks have to be authorised in advance by the Central Bank.

The Basel Committee has put forward a number of fundamental reforms to the regulatory capital framework for internationally active banks. On 16 December 2010 and on 13 January 2011, the Basel Committee issued the Basel III Reforms, constituting guidance on the eligibility criteria for Tier 1 and Tier 2 capital instruments as part of a package of new capital and liquidity requirements intended to reinforce capital standards and to establish minimum liquidity standards for credit institutions. The implementation of the Basel III reforms began on 1 January 2013. However, the requirements are subject to a series of transitional arrangements and will be phased in over a period of time. The Basel Committee's press release dated 13 January 2011 entitled "Minimum requirements to ensure loss absorbency at the point of non-viability" (the "**January 2011 Press Release**") included an additional Basel III requirement (the "**Non-Viability Requirement**") as follows:

"The terms and conditions of all non-common Tier 1 and Tier 2 instruments issued by an internationally active bank must have a provision that requires such instruments, at the option of the relevant authority, to either be written off or converted into common equity upon the occurrence of the trigger event unless:

- (a) the governing jurisdiction of the bank has in place laws that:
  - (a) require such Tier 1 and Tier 2 instruments to be written off upon such event; or
  - (b) otherwise require such instruments to fully absorb losses before tax payers are exposed to loss;
- (b) a peer group review confirms that the jurisdiction conforms with clause (a); and
- (c) it is disclosed by the relevant regulator and by the issuing bank, in issuance documents going forward, that such instruments are subject to loss under clause (a).

The trigger event is the earlier of: (1) a decision that a write-off, without which the firm would become non-viable, is necessary, as determined by the relevant authority; and (2) the decision to make a public sector injection of capital, or equivalent support, without which the firm would have become non-viable, as determined by the relevant authority."

The January 2011 Press Release states that instruments issued after 1 January 2013 must meet the Non-Viability Requirement in order to be recognised as Tier 1 or Tier 2 instruments for regulatory capital purposes. The recognition of instruments issued before 1 January 2013 which do not meet these requirements will be phased out from 1 January 2013.

While the February 2017 Regulations and the Capital Standards confirm that the Non-Viability Requirement is a pre-requisite for any capital instruments issued by UAE banks to achieve Regulatory Capital classification from the Central Bank, the Non-Viability Requirement must be provided for contractually in the absence of a statutory loss absorption framework in the UAE as at the date of this Base Prospectus (see "*Risk Factors – Recent Trends in Banking – Capital Adequacy*").

On 23 February 2017, the Central Bank published the February 2017 Regulations which are intended to ensure that the capital adequacy of all banks operating in the UAE is in line with the Basel III requirements, whilst implementing the measures contained in the Central Bank's May 2016 published Consultation Document. The February 2017 Regulations are supported by the Accompanying Standards (which were published by the Central Bank on 17 January 2018 and which elaborate on the supervisory expectations of the Central Bank with respect to the relevant Basel III capital adequacy requirements) and by the Standard re Tier Capital Instruments (which requires that a periodic distribution on an additional tier 1 instrument should be cancelled if the relevant UAE bank does not have sufficient "Distributable Items" on the relevant date for payment of (i) such periodic distribution and (ii) certain other payment obligations) (see "*Risk Factors – Factors that may Affect the Group's Ability to Fulfil its Obligations in respect of Notes Issued under the Programme – Regulatory risks relating to the Group's business – The Group is a highly regulated entity and changes in applicable laws or regulations, the interpretation or enforcement of such laws or regulations or the failure to comply with such laws or regulations could have a material adverse effect on the Group's business, results of operations and financial condition*").

## Reserve Requirements

Reserve requirements are used by the Central Bank as a means of prudential supervision and to control credit expansion. The reserve requirements are 1 per cent. for term deposits and 14 per cent. for all other customer balances. As part of the temporary relief measures provided by the Central Bank under the TESS, the reserve requirement for banks to maintain 14 per cent. of customer deposits with the Central Bank has been reduced to 7 per cent.

## Credit Controls

Banks are required by the Central Bank to establish credit policies and procedures commensurate with their size and activities. They must also have a proper credit assessment and approval process and adequate controls in place to monitor credit concentrations to, among others, individual borrowers, economic sectors and foreign countries.

The Central Bank circular dated 23 February 2011 on retail banking (the "**Retail Circular**") introduced regulations regarding bank loans and other services offered to individual customers. These regulations, among other things, impose maximum loan/income and loan to value ratios for retail products. For example, the regulations require that the amount of any personal consumer loan shall not exceed 20 times the salary or total income of the borrower with the repayment period not exceeding 48 months. These regulations may be amended in the future in accordance with Notice No. 31/2013 dated 28 October 2013 (the "**Mortgage Regulations**") (which were published in the UAE official gazette (the "**Official Gazette**") on 28 November 2013 and entered into force on 28 December 2013, superseding Central Bank Notice No. 3871/2012 dated 30 December 2012), which specify that the amount of mortgage loans for non-UAE nationals should not exceed 75 per cent. of the property value for a first purchase of a home (with a value of less than or equal to AED 5 million), 65 per cent. of the property value for a first purchase of a home (with a value greater than AED 5 million) and 60 per cent. of the property value (irrespective of the value of the property) for second and subsequent homes. For UAE nationals, the corresponding limits are set at 80 per cent. in respect of a first purchase of a home with a value less than or equal to AED 5 million, 70 per cent. for a first home with a value greater than AED 5 million and 65 per cent. of the property value for a second or subsequent purchase (irrespective of the value of the property).

## Large Exposures

The Central Bank defines large exposures as any funded or unfunded exposures (less provisions, cash collaterals and deposits under lien) to a single borrower or group of related borrowers exceeding prescribed limits. The large exposure limits (defined as a percentage of the bank's capital base) were previously as follows:

- to a single borrower or group of borrowers – 7 per cent.;
- to a shareholder of the bank holding more than 5 per cent. of the bank's capital – 7 per cent.;
- overseas interbank exposures – 30 per cent. (UAE interbank exposures are subject to a 25 per cent. limit if their maturity is over one year, otherwise they are exempt from the regulations);
- to the bank's parent company, subsidiaries or affiliates – 20 per cent. (60 per cent. for all such exposures in aggregate); and
- to board members – 5 per cent. (25 per cent. for all such exposures in aggregate).

On 11 November 2013, the Central Bank published the Large Exposure Notice amending certain of the large exposure limits set out above. The Large Exposure Notice was published in the Official Gazette on 30 December 2013 and entered into force on 30 January 2014. The Large Exposure Notice introduced new limits of 100 per cent. of the bank's capital base for all lending to UAE local governments and their non-commercial entities, together with a 25 per cent. limit to any single such non-commercial entity. Exposures above these limits are subject to approval by the Central Bank. Set out below is a table showing a summary of the changes introduced by the Large Exposure Notice (defined as a percentage of the bank's capital base calculated under Basel II):

	<b>Individual</b>	<b>New Limit Aggregate</b>	<b>Old Limit Individual</b>	<b>Aggregate</b>
UAE federal government and their non-commercial entities .....	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt
UAE local government and their non-commercial entities .....	No cap for UAE local government; 25% for each non-commercial entity	100%	Exempt	Exempt
Commercial entities of UAE federal government and UAE local government .....	25%	100%	25%	None
Commercial or other (non-commercial) private sector entities and individuals.....	25% max	None	7%	None
Shareholders who own 5 per cent. or more of the bank's capital and related entities .....	20%	50%	7%	None
Exposure to bank's subsidiaries and affiliates.....	10%	25%	20%	60%
Board members .....	5%	25%	5%	25%

### Provisions for Loan Losses

The Central Bank stipulates that non-performing credits should be classified as either substandard, doubtful or loss depending on the likelihood of recovery, with provisions charged at a minimum of 25 per cent., 50 per cent. and 100 per cent. on the relevant amount (net of any eligible credit protection), respectively. Any retail and consumer loans with either interest or principal in arrears by more than 90 days must be placed on a non-accrual basis and classified as non-performing. In addition, pursuant to Circular 28/2010 concerning regulations for classification of loans and their provisions issued by the Central Bank on 11 November 2010, all banks in the UAE are required to make general provisions for unclassified loans and advances equal to 1.5 per cent. of their risk-weighted assets by 2014. In practice, several banks operate more stringent policies and place loans on a non-accrual basis as soon as their recovery is in doubt.

Banks in the UAE generally do not write off non-performing loans from their books until all legal avenues of recovery have been exhausted. This factor tends to inflate the level of impaired loans and advances to customers and/or financings carried on the balance sheets of UAE banks when compared to banks operating in other economies.

### Establishing a Credit Bureau in the UAE

AECB is a federal government company specialised in providing UAE-based credit reports and other financial information. AECB commenced operations in 2014 upon receiving formal approval from the UAE Cabinet of its regulations and its charges for producing credit reports. AECB has approached all UAE-based banks to sign data sharing agreements to enable the provision of customer credit information, with the majority having entered into such agreements and/or made successful initial data submissions to AECB by the time AECB commenced operations. As at the date of this Base Prospectus, ADCB has entered into a data and credit information supply agreement with AECB.

The implementation of regulations for the sharing of credit report data and the commercial operation of the UAE's first credit bureau is expected to reduce the risk involved in the origination of customer lending and banking business generally.

### Shari'a Compliance

The HSA Law requires financial institutions licensed by the UAE Central Bank to operate their business activities in compliance with the rules, standards and general principles established by the Higher *Shari'a* Authority and, in certain circumstances, requires such financial institutions to obtain the consent of the Higher *Shari'a* Authority before undertaking certain licensed financial activities.

### Corporate Governance

In addition, banks in the UAE are subject to the Corporate Governance Regulations and the Corporate Governance Standards which were issued by the Central Bank in 2019 to a view to ensuring banks have a comprehensive approach to corporate governance.

## BOOK-ENTRY CLEARANCE SYSTEMS

*The information set out below is subject to any change in or reinterpretation of the rules, regulations and procedures of DTC, Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg (together, the "**Clearing Systems**") in effect as at the date of this Base Prospectus. Investors wishing to use the facilities of any of the Clearing Systems are advised to confirm the continued applicability of the rules, regulations and procedures of the relevant Clearing System. Neither the Issuer nor any other party to the Agency Agreement will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to, or payments made on account of, beneficial ownership interests in the Notes held through the facilities of any Clearing System or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to such beneficial ownership interests.*

### Book-Entry Systems

#### DTC

DTC has advised the Issuer that it is a limited purpose trust company organised under the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a "**banking organisation**" within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a "**clearing corporation**" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code and a "clearing agency" registered pursuant to Section 17A of the Exchange Act. DTC holds securities that its participants ("**Direct Participants**") deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the settlement among Direct Participants of securities transactions, such as transfers and pledges, in deposited securities through electronic computerised book-entry changes in Direct Participants' accounts, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organisations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust and Clearing Corporation ("**DTCC**"). DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC System is also available to others such as securities brokers and dealers, banks and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly ("**Indirect Participants**" and, together with Direct Participants, "**Participants**"). More information about DTC can be found at [www.dtcc.com](http://www.dtcc.com) and [www.dtc.org](http://www.dtc.org).

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

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

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all DTC Notes deposited by Participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC's partnership nominee, Cede & Co., or such other name as may be requested by an authorised representative of DTC. The deposit of DTC Notes with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other DTC nominee effect no change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual Beneficial Owners of the DTC Notes; DTC's records reflect only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts such DTC Notes are credited, which may or may not be the Beneficial

Owners. The Participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to Direct Participants, by Direct Participants to Indirect Participants and by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time.

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

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

Principal and interest payments on the DTC Notes will be made to Cede & Co., or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorised representative of DTC. DTC's practice is to credit Direct Participants' accounts upon DTC's receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from the Issuer or the relevant agent (or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorised representative of DTC), on the relevant payment date in accordance with their respective holdings shown in DTC's records. Payments by Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name", and will be the responsibility of such Participant and not of DTC or the Issuer, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of principal and interest to DTC is the responsibility of the Issuer, disbursement of such payments to Direct Participants is the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of such payments to the Beneficial Owners is the responsibility of Direct Participants and Indirect Participants.

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

A Beneficial Owner shall give notice to elect to have its DTC Notes purchased or tendered, through its Participant, to the relevant agent, and shall effect delivery of such DTC Notes by causing the Direct Participant to transfer the Participant's interest in the DTC Notes, on DTC's records, to the relevant agent. The requirement for physical delivery of DTC Notes in connection with an optional tender or a mandatory purchase will be deemed satisfied when the ownership rights in the DTC Notes are transferred by Direct Participants on DTC's records and followed by a book-entry credit of tendered DTC Notes to the relevant agent's DTC account.

DTC may discontinue providing its services as depository with respect to the DTC Notes at any time by giving reasonable notice to the Issuer or the relevant agent. Under such circumstances, in the event that a successor depository is not obtained, DTC Note certificates are required to be printed and delivered.

The Issuer may decide to discontinue use of the system of book-entry-only transfers through DTC (or a successor securities depository). In that event, DTC Note certificates will be printed and delivered to DTC.

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

#### **Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg**

Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg each holds securities for its customers and facilitates the clearance and settlement of securities transactions by electronic book-entry transfer between their respective accountholders. Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg provide various services, including safekeeping,

administration, clearance and settlement of internationally traded securities and securities lending and borrowing. Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg also deal with domestic securities markets in several countries through established depository and custodial relationships. Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg have established an electronic bridge between their two systems across which their respective participants may settle trades with each other.

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

### **Book-Entry Ownership of and Payments in respect of DTC Notes**

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

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

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

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

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

Subject to compliance with the transfer restrictions applicable to the Registered Notes described under "*Subscription and Sale and Transfer and Selling Restrictions*", cross-market transfers between DTC, on the one hand, and directly or indirectly through Clearstream, Luxembourg or Euroclear account holders, on the other hand, will be effected by the relevant clearing system in accordance with its rules and through action

taken by the Registrar, the Principal Paying Agent and any custodian ("**Custodian**") with whom the relevant Registered Global Notes have been deposited.

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

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

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

## TAXATION

*The following summary of certain United States and United Arab Emirates tax consequences of ownership of Notes is based upon laws, regulations, decrees, rulings, income tax conventions, administrative practice and judicial decisions in effect at the date of this Base Prospectus. Legislative, judicial or administrative changes or interpretations may, however, be forthcoming that could alter or modify the statements and conclusions set forth herein. Any such changes or interpretations may be retroactive and could affect the tax consequences to holders of the Notes. Prospective holders should note that the Issuer is not obliged to update this section for any subsequent changes or modification to the applicable taxes. This summary does not purport to be a legal opinion or to address all tax aspects that may be relevant to a holder of Notes. Each prospective holder is urged to consult its own tax adviser as to the particular tax consequences to such holder of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of Notes, including the applicability and effect of any other tax laws or tax treaties, and of pending or proposed changes in applicable tax laws as at the date of this Base Prospectus, and of any actual changes in applicable tax laws after such date.*

### United States Federal Income Taxation

The following summary discusses the principal U.S. federal income tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of the Notes. Except as specifically noted below, this discussion applies only to:

- Notes purchased on original issuance at the offer price;
- Notes held as capital assets; and
- U.S. Holders (as defined below).

This discussion assumes that the Notes will be treated as debt for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

No rulings have been or will be sought from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") with respect to the classification of the Notes in general or with respect to any particular Notes.

This discussion does not describe all of the tax consequences that may be relevant in light of a Noteholder's particular circumstances or to Noteholders subject to special rules, such as:

- financial institutions;
- insurance companies;
- dealers in securities or foreign currencies;
- traders in securities or foreign currencies electing to mark their positions to market;
- regulated investment companies;
- real estate investment trusts;
- tax-exempt organisations;
- persons subject to the alternative minimum tax;
- persons holding Notes as part of a hedging transaction, "straddle," conversion transaction or other integrated transaction;
- former citizens or residents of the United States;
- U.S. Holders whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar;
- persons required for U.S. federal income tax purposes to accelerate the recognition of any item of gross income with respect to the Notes as a result of such income being recognised on an applicable financial statement; or
- entities or arrangements classified as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

This summary is based on the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended to the date hereof (the "**Code**"), administrative pronouncements, judicial decisions and final, temporary and proposed U.S. Treasury Regulations, as of the day hereof, changes to any of which subsequent to the date of this Base Prospectus may affect the tax consequences described below. Persons considering the purchase of the Notes should consult the relevant Final Terms for any additional discussion regarding U.S. federal income taxation and should consult their tax advisers with regard to the application of the U.S. federal income tax laws to their particular situations (including the application of the alternative minimum tax, the estate tax, gift tax and the Medicare tax on net investment income) as well as any tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local or foreign taxing jurisdiction.

The tax treatment of certain Notes, such as Index Linked Notes, Dual Currency Notes and Notes that are not principal protected, will be specified in the relevant Final Terms. Moreover, this summary does not discuss Bearer Notes. In general, U.S. federal income tax law imposes significant limitations on U.S. Holders of Bearer Notes. U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisers regarding the U.S. federal income and other tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of Bearer Notes.

As used herein, the term "**U.S. Holder**" means a beneficial owner of a Note that is for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

- a citizen or individual resident of the United States;
- a corporation created or organised in or under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia;
- an estate the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source; or
- a trust if a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust.

If an entity or arrangement that is classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes holds Notes, the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner will generally depend on the status of the partner and upon the activities of the partnership. Partners of such entities or arrangements holding Notes should consult with their tax advisers regarding the tax consequences of an investment in the Notes.

### **Payments of Stated Interest**

Interest paid on a Note will be taxable to a U.S. Holder as ordinary interest income at the time it accrues or is received in accordance with the U.S. Holder's method of accounting for U.S. federal income tax purposes, **provided that** the interest is "qualified stated interest" (as defined below).

Interest income (including original issue discount, as discussed below) earned by a U.S. Holder with respect to a Note will constitute foreign source income for U.S. federal income tax purposes, which may be relevant in calculating the U.S. Holder's foreign tax credit limitation. The rules regarding foreign tax credits are complex and prospective investors should consult their tax advisers about the application of such rules to them in their particular circumstances. Special rules governing the treatment of interest paid with respect to original issue discount notes and foreign currency notes are described under "*Original Issue Discount*," "*Contingent Payment Debt Instruments*," and "*Foreign Currency Notes*".

### **Original Issue Discount**

A Note that has an "issue price" that is less than its "stated redemption price at maturity" will be considered to have been issued with original issue discount for U.S. federal income tax purposes (and will be referred to as an "original issue discount Note") unless the Note satisfies a *de minimis* threshold (as described below) or is a short-term Note (as defined below). The "issue price" of a Note generally will be the first price at which a substantial amount of the Notes are sold to the public (which does not include sales to bond houses, brokers or similar persons or organisations acting in the capacity of underwriters, placement agents or wholesalers). The "stated redemption price at maturity" of a Note generally will equal the sum of all payments required to be made under the Note other than payments of "qualified stated interest".

"Qualified stated interest" is stated interest unconditionally payable (other than in debt instruments of the Issuer) at least annually during the entire term of the Note and equal to the outstanding principal balance of

the Note multiplied by a single fixed rate of interest. In addition, qualified stated interest includes, among other things, stated interest on a "variable rate debt instrument" that is unconditionally payable (other than in debt instruments of the issuer) at least annually at a single qualified floating rate of interest or at a rate that is determined at a single fixed formula that is based on objective financial or economic information. A rate is a qualified floating rate if variations in the rate can reasonably be expected to measure contemporaneous fluctuations in the cost of newly borrowed funds in the currency in which the Note is denominated.

If the difference between a Note's stated redemption price at maturity and its issue price is less than a *de minimis* amount, i.e., 1/4 of 1 per cent. of the stated redemption price at maturity (or, in the case of a Note that provides for payment of any amount other than qualified stated interest prior to maturity, the weighted average maturity of the Note) multiplied by the number of complete years to maturity, the Note will not be considered to have original issue discount. U.S. Holders of Notes with a *de minimis* amount of original issue discount will include this original issue discount in income, as capital gain, on a *pro rata* basis as principal payments are made on the Note.

A U.S. Holder of original discount Notes will be required to include any qualified stated interest payments in income in accordance with the U.S. Holder's method of accounting for U.S. federal income tax purposes. U.S. Holders of original issue discount Notes that mature more than one year from their date of issuance will be required to include original issue discount in income for U.S. federal tax purposes as it accrues in accordance with a constant yield method based on a compounding of interest, regardless of whether cash attributable to this income is received.

A U.S. Holder may make an election to include in gross income all interest that accrues on any Note (including stated interest, original issue discount, *de minimis* original issue discount, market discount, *de minimis* market discount and unstated interest, as adjusted by any amortisable bond premium or acquisition premium) in accordance with a constant yield method based on the compounding of interest, and may revoke such election only with the permission of the IRS (a "**constant yield election**").

A Note that matures one year or less from its date of issuance (a "**short-term Note**") will be treated as being issued at a discount and none of the interest paid on the Note will be treated as qualified stated interest. In general, a cash method U.S. Holder of a short-term Note is not required to accrue the discount for U.S. federal income tax purposes unless it elects to do so. U.S. Holders who so elect and certain other U.S. Holders, including those who report income on the accrual method of accounting for U.S. federal income tax purposes, are required to include the discount in income as it accrues on a straight-line basis, unless another election is made to accrue the discount according to a constant yield method based on daily compounding. In the case of a U.S. Holder who is not required and who does not elect to include the discount in income currently, any gain realised on the sale, exchange, or retirement of the short-term Note will be ordinary income to the extent of the discount accrued on a straight-line basis (or, if elected, according to a constant yield method based on daily compounding) through the date of sale, exchange or retirement. In addition, those U.S. Holders will be required to defer deductions for any interest paid on indebtedness incurred to purchase or carry short-term Notes in an amount not exceeding the accrued discount (which includes interest that is payable but that has not been included in gross income) until the accrued discount is included in income. A U.S. Holder's tax basis in a short-term Note is increased by the amount included in such holder's income on such a Note.

The Issuer may have an unconditional option to redeem, or U.S. Holders may have an unconditional option to require the Issuer to redeem, a Note prior to its stated maturity date. Under applicable regulations, if the Issuer has an unconditional option to redeem a Note prior to its stated maturity date, this option will be presumed to be exercised if, by utilising any date on which the Note may be redeemed as the maturity date and the amount payable on that date in accordance with the terms of the Note as the stated redemption price at maturity, the yield on the Note would be lower than its yield to maturity. If the U.S. Holders have an unconditional option to require the Issuer to redeem a Note prior to its stated maturity date, this option will be presumed to be exercised if making the same assumptions as those set forth in the previous sentence, the yield on the Note would be higher than its yield to maturity. If this option is not in fact exercised, the Note would be treated solely for purposes of calculating original issue discount as if it were redeemed, and a new Note were issued, on the presumed exercise date for an amount equal to the Note's adjusted issue price on that date. The adjusted issue price of an original issue discount Note is defined as the sum of the issue price of the Note and the aggregate amount of previously accrued original issue discount, less any prior payments other than payments of qualified stated interest.

## **Market Discount**

If a U.S. Holder purchases a Note (other than a short-term Note) for an amount that is less than its stated redemption price at maturity or, in the case of an original issue discount Note, its adjusted issue price, the amount of the difference will be treated as market discount for U.S. federal income tax purposes, unless this difference is less than a specified *de minimis* amount.

A U.S. Holder will be required to treat any principal payment (or, in the case of an original issue discount Note, any payment that does not constitute qualified stated interest) on, or any gain on the sale, exchange, retirement or other disposition of a Note, including disposition in certain non-recognition transactions, as foreign source ordinary income to the extent of the market discount accrued on the Note at the time of the payment or disposition unless this market discount has been previously included in income by the U.S. Holder pursuant to an election by the U.S. Holder to include market discount in income as it accrues, or pursuant to a constant yield election by the U.S. Holder (as described under "*Original Issue Discount*"). In addition, the U.S. Holder may be required to defer, until the maturity of the Note or its earlier disposition (including certain non-taxable transactions), the deduction of all or a portion of the interest expense on any indebtedness incurred or maintained to purchase or carry such Note.

If a U.S. Holder makes a constant yield election (as described under "*Original Issue Discount*") for a Note with market discount, such election will result in a deemed election for all market discount bonds acquired by the U.S. Holder on or after the first day of the first taxable year to which such election applies. This election may only be revoked with the consent of the IRS.

## **Acquisition Premium and Amortisable Bond Premium**

A U.S. Holder who purchases a Note for an amount that is greater than the Note's adjusted issue price but less than or equal to the sum of all amounts payable on the Note after the purchase date other than payments of qualified stated interest will be considered to have purchased the Note at an acquisition premium. Under the acquisition premium rules, the amount of original issue discount that the U.S. Holder must include in its gross income with respect to the Note for any taxable year will be reduced by the portion of acquisition premium properly allocable to that year.

If a U.S. Holder purchases a Note for an amount that is greater than the sum of the remaining payments (other than qualified stated interest), or on the earlier call date, in the case of a Note that is redeemable at the Issuer's option, the U.S. Holder will be considered to have purchased the Note with amortisable bond premium equal in amount to the excess of the purchase price over the amount payable at maturity. The U.S. Holder may elect to amortize this premium as an offset to qualified stated interest, using a constant yield method, over the remaining term of the Note (where the Note is not optionally redeemable prior to its maturity date). If the Note may be optionally redeemed prior to maturity after the U.S. Holder has acquired it, the amount of amortisable bond premium is determined by substituting the call date for the maturity date and the call price for the amount payable at maturity only if the substitution results in a smaller amount of premium attributable to the period before the redemption date. A U.S. Holder who elects to amortize bond premium must reduce his tax basis in the Note by the amount of the premium amortized in any year. An election to amortize bond premium applies to all taxable debt obligations then owned and thereafter acquired by the U.S. Holder and may be revoked only with the consent of the IRS.

If a U.S. Holder makes a constant yield election (as described under "*Original Issue Discount*") for a Note with amortisable bond premium, such election will result in a deemed election to amortize bond premium for all of the U.S. Holder's debt instruments with amortisable bond premium.

## **Sale, Exchange, Retirement or the Taxable Disposition of the Notes**

Upon the sale, exchange, retirement or other taxable disposition of a Note, a U.S. Holder will recognise taxable gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realised on the sale, exchange, retirement or other taxable disposition and the U.S. Holder's adjusted tax basis in the Note. A U.S. Holder's adjusted tax basis in a Note generally will equal the acquisition cost of the Note increased by the amount of OID and market discount included in the U.S. Holder's gross income and decreased by any bond premium or acquisition premium previously amortised and the amount of any payment received from the Issuer other than a payment of qualified stated interest. Gain or loss, if any, will generally be U.S. source income for purposes of computing a U.S. Holder's foreign tax credit limitation. For these purposes, the amount realised

does not include any amount attributable to accrued but unpaid interest on the Note. Amounts attributable to accrued but unpaid interest are treated as interest as described under "*Payments of Interest*".

Except as described below, gain or loss realized on the sale, exchange, retirement or other taxable disposition of a Note will generally be capital gain or loss and will be long-term capital gain or loss if at the time of sale, exchange, retirement or other taxable disposition the Note has been held for more than one year. Exceptions to this general rule apply to the extent of any accrued market discount or, in the case of a short-term Note, to the extent of any accrued discount not previously included in the U.S. Holder's taxable income. See "*Original Issue Discount*" and "*Market Discount*". In addition, other exceptions to this general rule apply in the case of foreign currency Notes, and contingent payment debt instruments. See "*Foreign Currency Notes*" and "*Contingent Payment Debt Instruments*". The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations.

### **Contingent Payment Debt Instruments**

If the terms of the Notes provide for certain contingencies that affect the timing and amount of payments (including certain Floating Rate Notes with a variable rate or rates that do not qualify as "variable rate debt instruments" for purposes of the original issue discount rules) they will be "contingent payment debt instruments" for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Under the rules that govern the treatment of contingent payment debt instruments, no payment on such Notes qualifies as qualified stated interest. Rather, a U.S. Holder must account for interest for U.S. federal income tax purposes based on a "comparable yield" and the differences between actual payments on the Note and the Note's "projected payment schedule" as described below. The comparable yield is determined by the Issuer at the time of issuance of the Notes and equals the greater of: (i) annual yield an issuer would pay, as of the issue date, on a fixed-rate, nonconvertible debt instrument with no contingent payments, but with terms and conditions otherwise comparable to the contingent payment debt instrument; and (ii) the applicable federal rate. The comparable yield may be greater than or less than the stated interest, if any, with respect to the Notes. Solely for the purpose of determining the amount of interest income that a U.S. Holder will be required to accrue on a contingent payment debt instrument, the Issuer will be required to construct a "projected payment schedule" that represents a series of payments the amount and timing of which would produce a yield to maturity on the contingent payment debt instrument equal to the comparable yield.

**Neither the comparable yield nor the projected payment schedule constitutes a representation by the Issuer regarding the actual amount, if any, that the contingent payment debt instrument will pay.**

For U.S. federal income tax purposes, a U.S. Holder will be required to use the comparable yield and the projected payment schedule established by us in determining interest accruals and adjustments in respect of contingent payment debt instrument, unless the U.S. Holder timely discloses and justifies the use of a different comparable yield and projected payment schedule to the IRS.

A U.S. Holder, regardless of the U.S. Holder's method of accounting for U.S. federal income tax purposes, will be required to accrue interest income on a contingent payment debt instrument at the comparable yield, adjusted upward or downward to reflect the difference, if any, between the actual and the projected amount of any contingent payments on the contingent payment instrument (as set forth below).

A U.S. Holder will be required to recognise interest income equal to the amount of any net positive adjustment, i.e., the excess of actual payments over projected payments, in respect of a contingent payment debt instrument for a taxable year. A net negative adjustment, i.e., the excess of projected payments over actual payments, in respect of a contingent payment debt instrument for a taxable year. As such, a U.S. Holder may be required to include interest in income each year in excess of any stated interest payments actually received in that year, if any:

- will first reduce the amount of interest in respect of the contingent payment debt instrument that a Noteholder would otherwise be required to include in income in the taxable year; and
- to the extent of any excess, will give rise to an ordinary loss equal to so much of this excess as does not exceed the excess of:
  - the amount of all previous interest inclusions under the contingent payment debt instrument over

- the total amount of the U.S. Holder's net negative adjustments treated as ordinary loss on the contingent payment debt instrument in prior taxable years.

A net negative adjustment will not be subject to the two per cent. floor limitation imposed on miscellaneous deductions when miscellaneous deductions become available again to individual U.S. Holders for tax years beginning on or after 1 January 2026. Any net negative adjustment in excess of the amounts described above will be carried forward to offset future interest income in respect of the contingent payment debt instrument or to reduce the amount realized on a sale, exchange or retirement of the contingent payment debt instrument. Where a U.S. Holder purchases a contingent payment debt instrument for a price other than its adjusted issue price, the difference between the purchase price and the adjusted issue price must be reasonably allocated to the daily portions of interest or projected payments with respect to the contingent payment debt instrument over its remaining term and treated as a positive or negative adjustment, as the case may be, with respect to each period to which it is allocated.

Upon a sale, exchange, retirement or other taxable disposition of a contingent payment debt instrument, a U.S. Holder generally will recognise taxable gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized on the sale, exchange, retirement or other taxable disposition and the U.S. Holder's adjusted basis in the contingent payment debt instrument. A U.S. Holder's adjusted basis in a Note that is a contingent payment debt instrument generally will be the acquisition cost of the Note, increased by the interest previously accrued by the U.S. Holder on the Note under these rules, disregarding any net positive and net negative adjustments, and decreased by the amount of any non-contingent payments and the projected amount of any contingent payments previously made on the Note. A U.S. Holder generally will treat any gain as interest income, and any loss as ordinary loss to the extent of the excess of previous interest inclusions in excess of the total net negative adjustments previously taken into account as ordinary losses, and the balance as capital loss. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations.

A U.S. Holder will have a tax basis in any property, other than cash, received upon the retirement of a contingent payment debt instrument including in satisfaction of a conversion right or a call right equal to the fair market value of the property, determined at the time of retirement. The U.S. Holder's holding period for the property will commence on the day immediately following its receipt.

Special rules apply to contingent payment debt instruments that are denominated, or provide for payments, in a currency other than the U.S. dollar ("**Foreign Currency Contingent Debt Instruments**"). Very generally, these instruments are accounted for like a contingent debt instrument, as described above, but in the currency of the Foreign Currency Contingent Debt Instruments. The relevant amounts must then be translated into U.S. dollar equivalents. The rules applicable to Foreign Currency Contingent Debt Instruments are complex and U.S. Holders are urged to consult their own tax advisors regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of such instruments.

### **Foreign Currency Notes**

The following discussion summarizes the principal U.S. federal income tax consequences to a U.S. Holder of the ownership and disposition of Notes that are denominated in a specified currency other than the U.S. dollar or the payments of interest or principal on which are payable in a currency other than the U.S. dollar ("**foreign currency Notes**"). However, the U.S. federal income tax consequences to a U.S. Holder of the ownership and disposition of non-functional currency contingent payment debt instruments are not discussed herein and, if applicable, will be discussed in the applicable Final Terms issued in connection with the issuance of such Notes and instruments.

The rules applicable to foreign currency Notes could require some or all gain or loss on the sale, exchange or other disposition of a foreign currency Note to be recharacterized as ordinary income or loss. The rules applicable to foreign currency Notes are complex and may depend on the U.S. Holder's particular U.S. federal income tax situation. For example, various elections are available under these rules, and whether a U.S. Holder should make any of these elections may depend on the U.S. Holder's particular U.S. federal income tax situation. U.S. Holders are urged to consult their own tax advisors regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of foreign currency Notes.

A U.S. Holder who uses the cash method of accounting and who receives a payment of qualified stated interest in a foreign currency with respect to a foreign currency Note will be required to include in income the U.S. dollar value of the foreign currency payment (determined on the date the payment is received) regardless of whether the payment is in fact converted to U.S. dollars at the time, and this U.S. dollar value

will be the U.S. Holder's tax basis in the foreign currency. A cash method U.S. Holder who receives a payment of qualified stated interest in U.S. dollars pursuant to an option available under such Note will be required to include the amount of this payment in income upon receipt.

An accrual method U.S. Holder will be required to include in income the U.S. dollar value of the amount of interest income (including original issue discount or market discount, but reduced by acquisition premium and amortisable bond premium, to the extent applicable) that has accrued and is otherwise required to be taken into account with respect to a foreign currency Note during an accrual period. The U.S. dollar value of the accrued income will be determined by translating the income at the average rate of exchange for the accrual period or, with respect to an accrual period that spans two taxable years, at the average rate for the partial period within the taxable year. The U.S. Holder will recognise ordinary income or loss with respect to accrued interest income on the date the income is actually received. The amount of ordinary income or loss recognised will equal the difference between the U.S. dollar value of the foreign currency payment received (determined on the date the payment is received) in respect of the accrual period (or, where a U.S. Holder receives U.S. dollars, the amount of the payment in respect of the accrual period) and the U.S. dollar value of interest income that has accrued during the accrual period (as determined above). Rules similar to these rules apply in the case of a cash method taxpayer required to currently accrue original issue discount or market discount.

An accrual method U.S. Holder may elect to translate interest income (including original issue discount) into U.S. dollars at the spot rate on the last day of the interest accrual period (or, in the case of a partial accrual period, the spot rate on the last day of the taxable year) or, if the date of receipt is within five business days of the last day of the interest accrual period, the spot rate on the date of receipt. A U.S. Holder that makes this election must apply it consistently to all debt instruments from year to year and cannot change the election without the consent of the IRS.

Original issue discount, market discount, acquisition premium and amortisable bond premium on a foreign currency Note are to be determined in the relevant foreign currency. Where the taxpayer elects to include market discount in income currently, the amount of market discount will be determined for any accrual period in the relevant foreign currency and then translated into U.S. dollars on the basis of the average rate in effect during the accrual period. Exchange gain or loss realized with respect to such accrued market discount shall be determined in accordance with the rules relating to accrued interest described above.

If an election to amortize bond premium is made, amortisable bond premium taken into account on a current basis shall reduce interest income in units of the relevant foreign currency. Exchange gain or loss is realized on amortized bond premium with respect to any period by treating the bond premium amortized in the period in the same manner as on the sale, exchange or retirement of the foreign currency Note. Any exchange gain or loss will be ordinary income or loss as described below.

If the election is not made, any loss realized on the sale, exchange or retirement of a foreign currency Note with amortisable bond premium by a U.S. Holder who has not elected to amortize the premium will be a capital loss to the extent of the bond premium.

A U.S. Holder's tax basis in a foreign currency Note, and the amount of any subsequent adjustment to the U.S. Holder's tax basis (including an increase in basis for any previously accrued original issue discount or market discount and a decrease in basis by any amortised premium and cash payments on the Note other than qualified stated interest), will be based on the U.S. dollar value amount of the foreign currency purchase price of the foreign currency Note, or of the foreign currency amount of the adjustment, determined on the date of the purchase or adjustment. A U.S. Holder who purchases a foreign currency Note with previously owned foreign currency will recognise ordinary income or loss in an amount equal to the difference, if any, between such U.S. Holder's tax basis in the foreign currency and the U.S. dollar fair market value of the foreign currency Note on the date of purchase.

Gain or loss realized upon the sale, exchange, retirement or other taxable disposition of a foreign currency Note that is attributable to fluctuation in currency exchange rates will be ordinary income or loss which will not be treated as interest income or expense. Gain or loss attributable to fluctuations in exchange rates will equal the difference between: (i) the U.S. dollar value of the foreign currency principal amount of the Note, determined on the date the payment is received or the Note is disposed of; and (ii) the U.S. dollar value of the foreign currency principal amount of the Note, determined on the date the U.S. Holder acquired the Note (adjusted, in each case, for any amortised bond premium that has been taken into account prior to the sale of the sale, exchange, retirement or other taxable disposition). Payments received attributable to

accrued interest will be treated in accordance with the rules applicable to payments of interest on foreign currency Notes described above. The foreign currency gain or loss will be recognised only to the extent of the total gain or loss realized by the U.S. Holder on the sale, exchange, retirement or other taxable disposition of the foreign currency Note. The source of the foreign currency gain or loss will be determined by reference to the residence of the U.S. Holder or the "qualified business unit" of the U.S. Holder on whose books the Note is properly reflected. Any gain or loss realized by these U.S. Holders in excess of the foreign currency gain or loss will be capital gain or loss except to the extent of any accrued market discount or, in the case of short-term Note, to the extent of any discount not previously included in the U.S. Holder's income.

U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisor with respect to the tax consequences of receiving payments in a currency different from the currency in which payments with respect to such Note accrue and with respect to the payment and receipt of amounts in a currency other than U.S. dollars.

### **Backup Withholding and Information Reporting**

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

### **Reportable Transactions**

A U.S. taxpayer that participates in a "reportable transaction" will be required to disclose its participation to the IRS. The scope and application of these rules is not entirely clear. A U.S. Holder may be required to treat a foreign currency exchange loss from the Notes as a reportable transaction if the loss exceeds U.S.\$50,000 in a single taxable year if the U.S. Holder is an individual or trust, or higher amounts for other U.S. Holders. In the event the acquisition, ownership or disposition of Notes constitutes participation in a "reportable transaction" for purposes of these rules, a U.S. Holder will be required to disclose its investment by filing Form 8886 with the IRS. Prospective purchasers should consult their tax advisors regarding the application of these rules to the acquisition, ownership or disposition of Notes.

U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisors about any additional reporting obligations that may apply as a result of the acquisition, ownership or disposition of the Notes. Failure to comply with certain reporting obligations could result in the imposition of substantial penalties.

**The U.S. federal income tax discussion set forth above is included for general information only and may not be applicable depending upon a U.S. Holder's particular situation. U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisors with respect to the tax consequences to them of the ownership and disposition of the Notes, including the tax consequences under state, local, foreign and other tax laws and the possible effects of changes in U.S. federal or other tax laws.**

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

Pursuant to Sections 1471 through 1474 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, commonly known as FATCA, a foreign financial institution (as defined by FATCA) may be required to withhold on certain payments it makes ("**foreign passthru payments**", a term not defined as at the date of this Base Prospectus) to persons that fail to meet certain certification, reporting or related requirements. The issuer is a foreign financial institution for these purposes. A number of jurisdictions (including the jurisdiction of the issuer) have entered into, or have agreed in substance to, intergovernmental agreements with the United States to implement FATCA (IGAs), which modify the way in which FATCA applies in their jurisdictions. Under the provisions of IGAs as currently in effect, a foreign financial institution in an IGA jurisdiction would generally not be required to withhold under FATCA or an IGA from payments that it makes. Certain aspects of the application of the FATCA provisions and IGAs to instruments such as Notes, including whether withholding would ever be required pursuant to FATCA or an IGA with respect to payments on instruments such as Notes, are uncertain and may be subject to change. Even if withholding would be required pursuant to FATCA or an IGA with respect to payments on instruments such as Notes, such withholding would not apply prior to the date that is two years after the publication of the final regulations defining "foreign

passthru payment" and Notes characterised as debt (or which are not otherwise characterised as equity and have a fixed term) for U.S. federal tax purposes that are issued on or prior to the date that is six months after the date on which final regulations defining foreign passthru payments are filed with the U.S. Federal Register (the "**grandfathering date**") generally would be grandfathered for purposes of FATCA withholding unless materially modified after such date (including by reason of a substitution of the issuer). However, if additional Notes (as described under "*Terms and Conditions of the Notes—Further Issues*") that have the same CUSIP or ISIN as the previously issued Notes and are not otherwise distinguishable from previously issued Notes are issued after the expiration of the grandfathering date and are subject to withholding under FATCA, then withholding agents may treat all Notes, including the Notes offered prior to the expiration of the grandfathering date, as subject to withholding under FATCA. Holders should consult their own tax advisers regarding how these rules may apply to their investment in Notes. In the event any withholding would be required pursuant to FATCA or an IGA with respect to payments on the Notes, no person will be required to pay additional amounts or indemnify any person as a result of any FATCA withholding.

### **United Arab Emirates**

The following summary of the anticipated tax treatment in the UAE in relation to the payments on the Notes is based on the taxation law and practice in force at the date of this Base Prospectus and does not constitute legal or tax advice and prospective investors should be aware that the relevant fiscal rules and practice and their interpretation may change. Prospective investors should consult their own professional advisers on the implications of subscribing for, buying, holding, selling, redeeming or disposing of Notes and the receipt of any payments with respect to such Notes under the laws of the jurisdictions in which they may be liable to taxation.

There is currently in force in Abu Dhabi legislation establishing a general corporate taxation regime (the Abu Dhabi Income Tax Decree 1965 (as amended)). The regime is, however, not enforced save in respect of companies active in the hydrocarbon industry, some related service industries and branches of foreign banks operating in the UAE. It is not known whether the legislation will or will not be enforced more generally or within other industry sectors in the future. Under current legislation, there is no requirement for withholding or deduction for or on account of UAE or Abu Dhabi taxation in respect of payments of interest or principal on debt securities (including the Notes).

The Constitution of the UAE specifically reserves to the UAE federal government the right to raise taxes on a federal basis for the purposes of funding its budget. It is not known whether this right will be exercised in the future.

### **The proposed financial transactions tax ("FTT")**

On 14 February 2013, the European Commission published a proposal (the "**Commission's proposal**") for a Directive for a common FTT in Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia and Slovakia (the "**participating Member States**"). However, Estonia has since stated that it will not participate.

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

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

However, the FTT proposal remains subject to negotiation between participating Member States. It may therefore be altered prior to any implementation, the timing of which remains unclear. Additional EU Member States may decide to participate.

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

## CERTAIN ERISA CONSIDERATIONS

The U.S. Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("**ERISA**"), and Section 4975 of the Code prohibit certain transactions involving: (a)(i) "employee benefit plans" within the meaning of Section 3(3) of ERISA and subject to Title I of ERISA ("**ERISA Plans**"); (ii) "plans" within the meaning of Section 4975(e)(1) of the Code and subject to Section 4975 of the Code, including individual retirement accounts or Keogh plans (together with ERISA Plans, "**Plans**"); or (iii) any persons or entities whose underlying assets include, or are deemed to include under the U.S. Department of Labor ("**DOL**") regulation at 29 C.F.R. § 2510.3-101, as modified by Section 3(42) of ERISA (the "**Plan Assets Regulation**"), or otherwise for purposes of Title I of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code, "plan assets" by reason of a Plan's investment in the person or entity (together with Plans, the "**Benefit Plan Investor**"); and (b) persons or entities that have certain specified relationships to such Plans, including the Plan's fiduciaries and other service providers ("parties in interest" within the meaning of ERISA and "disqualified persons" within the meaning of Section 4975 of the Code collectively, "**Parties in Interest**"). A violation of these "prohibited transaction" rules may result in the imposition of an excise tax, the rescission of the transaction or other liabilities under Section 406 of ERISA and/or Section 4975 of the Code for such persons, unless relief is available under an applicable statutory or administrative exemption. Certain exemptions from the prohibited transaction provisions of Section 406 of ERISA and Section 4975 of the Code may apply depending in part on the type of Plan fiduciary making the decision to acquire a Note and the circumstances under which such decision is made. Included among these exemptions are the statutory exemption of Section 408(b)(17) of ERISA (relating to purchases and sales of securities and related lending transactions, provided that neither the issuer of the securities nor its affiliate has or exercises any discretionary authority or control or renders any investment advice with respect to the assets of any Plan involved in the transaction (in other words, not a fiduciary) and provided further that the Plan pays no more than, and receives no less than, adequate consideration in connection with the transaction) and the administrative exemptions of Prohibited Transaction Class Exemption ("**PTCE**") 95-60 (relating to investments by insurance company general accounts), PTCE 91-38 (relating to investments by bank collective investment funds), PTCE 84-14 (relating to transactions effected by a "qualified professional asset manager"), PTCE 90-1 (relating to investments by insurance company pooled separate accounts) and PTCE 96-23 (relating to transactions determined by an in-house asset manager). There can be no assurance that any of these exemptions or any other exemption will be available with respect to any particular transaction involving the Notes.

In contemplating an investment of a portion of an ERISA Plan's assets in the Notes, the fiduciary of such ERISA Plan responsible for making such investment should carefully consider, taking into account the facts and circumstances of the ERISA Plan, whether such investment is consistent with its fiduciary responsibilities. The fiduciary of the ERISA Plan should consider, among other issues, whether: (1) the fiduciary has the authority to make the investment under the appropriate governing instrument of the ERISA Plan; (2) the investment is in accordance with the ERISA Plan's funding objectives; and (3) such investment is appropriate for the ERISA Plan under the general fiduciary standards of investment prudence and diversification, taking into account the overall investment policy of the ERISA Plan, the composition of the ERISA Plan's investment portfolio and the ERISA Plan's need for sufficient liquidity to pay benefits when due. When evaluating the prudence of an investment in the Notes, the ERISA Plan's fiduciary should consider the DOL's regulation on investment duties, which can be found at 29 C.F.R. § 2550.404a-1.

"Governmental plans" within the meaning of Section 3(32) of ERISA, "church plans" within the meaning of Section 3(33) of ERISA that have made no election under Section 410(d) of the Code, non-U.S. plans described in Section 4(b)(4) of ERISA and other plans that are not Benefit Plan Investors, while not subject to the fiduciary responsibility and prohibited transaction provisions of Title I of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code, may be subject to any U.S. federal, state or local, non-U.S. or other law or regulation that contains one or more provisions that are substantially similar to the foregoing provisions of ERISA or the Code ("**Similar Law**"). Fiduciaries of such plans should consult with their counsel before they purchase any of the Notes or any interest therein.

Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code may arise if any of the Notes are acquired by a Plan with respect to which the Issuer is a Party in Interest. Accordingly, unless otherwise stated in the Final Terms, each purchaser and transferee of a Note (or an interest therein) will be deemed to represent and agree that either: (I) it is not, and shall not at any time hold such Note (or an interest therein) for or on behalf of, (A) a Benefit Plan Investor or (B) a plan that is subject to any Similar Law; or (II) its acquisition, holding and disposition of such Note (or an interest therein), will not constitute or result in (X) a non-exempt prohibited transaction under Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code or, (Y) in the case

of a plan that is subject to any Similar Law, a violation of any applicable Similar Law. Any purported purchase or transfer of such a Note that does not comply with the foregoing shall be null and void *ab initio*.

Moreover, each purchaser and subsequent transferee of a Note (or an interest therein) that is a Benefit Plan Investor will be deemed to have represented by its investment that: (1) none of the Issuer, the Arranger, the Dealers, the Agents, the Registrar or their respective affiliates (each a "**Transaction Party**" and together the "**Transaction Parties**") has through this Base Prospectus provided any investment advice within the meaning of Section 3(21) of ERISA to the Benefit Plan Investor, or any fiduciary or other person investing on behalf of the Benefit Plan Investor or who otherwise has discretion or authority over the investment and management of "plan assets", in connection with the decision to purchase or acquire the Note (or an interest therein); and (2) the information provided in this Base Prospectus will not by itself make a Transaction Party a fiduciary to the Benefit Plan Investor.

This Base Prospectus is not directed to any particular purchaser, nor does it address the needs of any particular purchaser. None of the Transaction Parties shall provide any advice or recommendation with respect to the management of any purchase of Notes or the advisability of acquiring, holding, disposing or exchanging of any Notes.

## SUBSCRIPTION AND SALE AND TRANSFER AND SELLING RESTRICTIONS

The Dealers have, in an amended and restated programme agreement (the "**Programme Agreement**") dated 4 June 2020, agreed with the Issuer a basis upon which they or any of them may from time to time agree to purchase Notes. Any such agreement will extend to those matters stated under "*Form of the Notes*" and "*Terms and Conditions of the Notes*". In the Programme Agreement, the Issuer has agreed to reimburse the Dealers for certain of their expenses in connection with any update of the Programme and the issue of Notes under the Programme and to indemnify the Dealers against certain liabilities incurred by them in connection therewith. The Programme Agreement provides that the obligation of any Dealer to subscribe for Notes is subject to certain conditions and that, in certain circumstances, a Dealer shall be entitled to be released and discharged from its obligations under the Programme Agreement prior to the issue of the relevant Notes.

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

### TRANSFER RESTRICTIONS

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

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

- (i) that either: (a) it is a QIB, purchasing (or holding) the Notes for its own account or for the account of one or more QIBs and it is aware that any sale to it is being made in reliance on Rule 144A; or (b) it is outside the United States and is not a U.S. person;
- (ii) that it, and each account for which it is purchasing, will hold and transfer at least the minimum denomination of the Notes;
- (iii) that the Notes are being offered and sold in a transaction not involving a public offering in the United States within the meaning of the Securities Act, and that the Notes have not been and will not be registered under the Securities Act or any other applicable U.S. State securities laws and, accordingly, the Notes may not be offered or sold within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons except as set forth below;
- (iv) that, unless it holds an interest in a Regulation S Global Note and is a non-U.S. person located outside the United States, if in the future it decides to resell, pledge or otherwise transfer the Notes or any beneficial interests in the Notes, it will do so prior to the expiration of the applicable required

holding period pursuant to Rule 144A only: (a) to the Issuer or any affiliate thereof; (b) inside the United States to a person whom the seller reasonably believes is a QIB purchasing for its own account or for the account of one or more QIBs in a transaction meeting the requirements of Rule 144A; (c) outside the United States in compliance with Rule 903 or Rule 904 under the Securities Act; (d) pursuant to the exemption from registration provided by Rule 144 under the Securities Act (if available); or (e) pursuant to an effective registration statement under the Securities Act, in each case in accordance with all applicable U.S. State securities laws;

- (v) it will, and will require each subsequent holder to, notify any purchaser of the Notes from it of the resale restrictions referred to in paragraph (iv) above, if then applicable;
- (vi) that Notes initially offered in the United States to QIBs will be represented by one or more Rule 144A Global Notes and that Notes offered outside the United States in reliance on Regulation S will be represented by one or more Regulation S Global Notes;
- (vii) unless otherwise stated in the relevant Global Note: (I) it is not using the assets of, and shall not at any time hold such Note for or on behalf of, (A) a "Benefit Plan Investor" or (B) a governmental, church or non-U.S. plan which is subject to any Similar Law; or (II) its acquisition, holding and disposition of such Note or of any interest therein, will not constitute or result in (X) a non-exempt prohibited transaction under Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code or, (Y) in the case of a governmental, church or non-U.S. plan, a non-exempt violation of any applicable Similar Law;
- (viii) Each purchaser and subsequent transferee of any Note that is a Benefit Plan Investor will be deemed to have represented by its investment that: (1) none of the Transaction Parties has through this Base Prospectus provided any investment advice within the meaning of Section 3(21) of ERISA to the Benefit Plan Investor or any fiduciary or other person investing the assets of the Benefit Plan Investor in connection with the decision to purchase or acquire the Note; and (2) the information provided in this Base Prospectus will not make a Transaction Party a fiduciary to the Benefit Plan Investor.
- (ix) that the Notes in registered form, other than the Regulation S Global Notes, will bear a legend to the following effect unless otherwise agreed to by the Issuer:

"THIS SECURITY HAS NOT BEEN NOR WILL BE REGISTERED UNDER THE U.S. SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED (THE "**SECURITIES ACT**"), OR ANY OTHER APPLICABLE U.S. STATE SECURITIES LAWS, AND, ACCORDINGLY, THIS SECURITY MAY NOT BE OFFERED OR SOLD WITHIN THE UNITED STATES OR TO, OR FOR THE ACCOUNT OR BENEFIT OF, U.S. PERSONS EXCEPT AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE. BY ITS ACQUISITION HEREOF, THE HOLDER: (A) REPRESENTS THAT: IT IS A "**QUALIFIED INSTITUTIONAL BUYER**" (AS DEFINED IN RULE 144A UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT) ("**QIB**") PURCHASING THE SECURITIES FOR ITS OWN ACCOUNT OR FOR THE ACCOUNT OF ONE OR MORE QIBS IN A MINIMUM PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF U.S.\$200,000 (OR THE EQUIVALENT AMOUNT IN A FOREIGN CURRENCY); (B) AGREES THAT IT WILL NOT RESELL OR OTHERWISE TRANSFER THE SECURITIES EXCEPT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AGENCY AGREEMENT AND OTHER THAN: (1) TO THE ISSUER OR ANY AFFILIATE THEREOF; (2) INSIDE THE UNITED STATES TO A PERSON WHOM THE SELLER REASONABLY BELIEVES IS A QIB WITHIN THE MEANING OF RULE 144A UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT PURCHASING FOR ITS OWN ACCOUNT OR FOR THE ACCOUNT OF ONE OR MORE QIBS IN A TRANSACTION MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF RULE 144A; (3) OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES IN COMPLIANCE WITH RULE 903 OR RULE 904 UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT; (4) PURSUANT TO THE EXEMPTION FROM REGISTRATION PROVIDED BY RULE 144 UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT (IF AVAILABLE); OR (5) PURSUANT TO AN EFFECTIVE REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT, IN EACH CASE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ALL APPLICABLE SECURITIES LAWS OF THE STATES OF THE UNITED STATES AND ANY OTHER JURISDICTION; AND (C) IT AGREES THAT IT WILL DELIVER TO EACH PERSON TO WHOM THIS SECURITY IS TRANSFERRED A NOTICE SUBSTANTIALLY TO THE EFFECT OF THIS LEGEND. NO REPRESENTATION CAN BE MADE AS TO THE AVAILABILITY OF THE EXEMPTION PROVIDED BY RULE 144 FOR REALES OF THE SECURITY. EACH TRANSFEROR OF

THIS SECURITY WILL PROVIDE NOTICE OF THE TRANSFER RESTRICTIONS SET FORTH HEREIN AND IN THE AGENCY AGREEMENT TO ITS TRANSFEREE.

THIS SECURITY (OR ANY INTEREST HEREIN) MAY BE PURCHASED BY OR OTHERWISE ACQUIRED BY: (1) AN "**EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN**" WITHIN THE MEANING OF SECTION 3(3) OF THE U.S. EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974, AS AMENDED ("**ERISA**"), AND SUBJECT TO TITLE I OF ERISA; (2) A "**PLAN**" WITHIN THE MEANING OF AND SUBJECT TO SECTION 4975 OF THE U.S. INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986, AS AMENDED (THE "**CODE**"); (3) ANY PERSON OR ENTITY WHOSE UNDERLYING ASSETS INCLUDE "PLAN ASSETS" WITHIN THE MEANING OF 29 C.F.R. § 2510.3-101, AS MODIFIED BY SECTION 3(42) OF ERISA BY REASON OF THE FOREGOING (A) OR (B) EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN'S OR PLAN'S INVESTMENT IN SUCH PERSON OR ENTITY OR OTHERWISE FOR PURPOSES OF SECTION 406 OF ERISA OR SECTION 4975 OF THE CODE (ANY OF THE FOREGOING (1), (2) AND (3), A "**BENEFIT PLAN INVESTOR**"); OR (4) A GOVERNMENTAL, CERTAIN CHURCH OR NON-U.S. PLAN THAT IS NOT A BENEFIT PLAN INVESTOR AND IS SUBJECT TO ANY U.S. FEDERAL, STATE OR LOCAL, NON-U.S. OR OTHER LAW OR REGULATION THAT IS SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR TO THE FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBILITY AND PROHIBITED TRANSACTION PROVISIONS OF TITLE I OF ERISA OR SECTION 4975 OF THE CODE ("**SIMILAR LAW**"). EACH PURCHASER OR HOLDER WILL BE DEEMED TO HAVE REPRESENTED AND AGREED FOR SO LONG AS IT HOLDS THIS SECURITY OR INTEREST THEREIN THAT EITHER: (I) IT IS NOT (A) A BENEFIT PLAN INVESTOR OR (B) A GOVERNMENTAL, CERTAIN CHURCH OR NON-U.S. PLAN THAT IS NOT A BENEFIT PLAN INVESTOR AND IS SUBJECT TO ANY SIMILAR LAW; OR (II) THE PURCHASE, HOLDING AND SUBSEQUENT DISPOSITION OF THIS SECURITY (OR ANY INTEREST HEREIN) WILL NOT CONSTITUTE OR RESULT IN (X) A NON-EXEMPT PROHIBITED TRANSACTION UNDER SECTION 406 OF ERISA OR SECTION 4975 OF THE CODE OR, (Y) IN THE CASE OF A GOVERNMENTAL, CERTAIN CHURCH OR NON-U.S. PLAN THAT IS NOT A BENEFIT PLAN INVESTOR AND IS SUBJECT TO SIMILAR LAW, A NON-EXEMPT VIOLATION OF ANY SIMILAR LAW. ANY PURPORTED PURCHASE OR TRANSFER OF A SECURITY OR INTEREST THEREIN THAT DOES NOT COMPLY WITH THE FOREGOING SHALL BE NULL AND VOID *AB INITIO*.

MOREOVER, EACH PURCHASER AND SUBSEQUENT TRANSFEREE OF THE NOTE THAT IS A BENEFIT PLAN INVESTOR WILL BE DEEMED TO HAVE REPRESENTED BY ITS INVESTMENT IN THE NOTE THAT: (1) NONE OF THE ISSUER, THE ARRANGER, THE DEALERS, THE AGENTS, THE REGISTRAR OR ANY OF THEIR RESPECTIVE AFFILIATES (EACH A "**TRANSACTION PARTY**") HAS THROUGH THE BASE PROSPECTUS PROVIDED ANY INVESTMENT ADVICE WITHIN THE MEANING OF SECTION 3(21) OF ERISA TO THE BENEFIT PLAN INVESTOR OR ANY FIDUCIARY OR OTHER PERSON INVESTING THE ASSETS OF THE BENEFIT PLAN INVESTOR IN CONNECTION WITH THE DECISION TO PURCHASE OR ACQUIRE THE NOTE; AND (2) THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THE BASE PROSPECTUS WILL NOT MAKE A TRANSACTION PARTY A FIDUCIARY TO THE BENEFIT PLAN INVESTOR.

THIS SECURITY AND RELATED DOCUMENTATION (INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, THE AGENCY AGREEMENT REFERRED TO HEREIN) MAY BE AMENDED OR SUPPLEMENTED FROM TIME TO TIME, WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF, BUT UPON NOTICE TO, THE HOLDERS OF SUCH SECURITIES SENT TO THEIR REGISTERED ADDRESSES, TO MODIFY THE RESTRICTIONS ON AND PROCEDURES FOR REALES AND OTHER TRANSFERS OF THIS SECURITY TO REFLECT ANY CHANGE IN APPLICABLE LAW OR REGULATION (OR THE INTERPRETATION THEREOF) OR IN PRACTICES RELATING TO REALES OR OTHER TRANSFERS OF RESTRICTED SECURITIES GENERALLY. THE HOLDER OF THIS SECURITY SHALL BE DEEMED, BY ITS ACCEPTANCE OR PURCHASE HEREOF, TO HAVE AGREED TO ANY SUCH AMENDMENT OR SUPPLEMENT (EACH OF WHICH SHALL BE CONCLUSIVE AND BINDING ON THE HOLDER HEREOF AND ALL FUTURE HOLDERS OF THIS SECURITY AND ANY SECURITIES ISSUED IN EXCHANGE OR SUBSTITUTION THEREFOR, WHETHER OR NOT ANY NOTATION THEREOF IS MADE HEREON).";

- (x) that the Notes in registered form which are registered in the name of a nominee of DTC will bear an additional legend to the following effect unless otherwise agreed to by the Issuer:

"UNLESS THIS GLOBAL SECURITY IS PRESENTED BY AN AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPOSITORY TRUST COMPANY, A NEW YORK CORPORATION, ("DTC"), TO THE ISSUER OR ITS AGENT FOR REGISTRATION OF TRANSFER, EXCHANGE OR PAYMENT, AND ANY REGISTERED SECURITY ISSUED IN EXCHANGE FOR THIS GLOBAL SECURITY OR ANY PORTION HEREOF IS REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF CEDE & CO. OR IN SUCH OTHER NAME AS IS REQUIRED BY AN AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVE OF DTC (AND ANY PAYMENT IS MADE TO CEDE & CO. OR TO SUCH OTHER ENTITY AS IS REQUESTED BY AN AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVE OF DTC), ANY TRANSFER, PLEDGE, OR OTHER USE HEREOF FOR VALUE OR OTHERWISE BY OR TO ANY PERSON OTHER THAN DTC OR A NOMINEE THEREOF IS WRONGFUL IN AS MUCH AS THE REGISTERED OWNER HEREOF, CEDE & CO., HAS AN INTEREST HEREIN.

THIS GLOBAL SECURITY MAY NOT BE EXCHANGED, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, FOR A SECURITY REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF ANY PERSON OTHER THAN DTC OR A NOMINEE THEREOF EXCEPT IN THE LIMITED CIRCUMSTANCES SET FORTH IN THIS GLOBAL SECURITY, AND MAY NOT BE TRANSFERRED, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, EXCEPT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RESTRICTIONS SET FORTH IN THIS LEGEND. BENEFICIAL INTERESTS IN THIS GLOBAL SECURITY MAY NOT BE TRANSFERRED EXCEPT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS LEGEND.";

- (xi) if it holds an interest in a Regulation S Global Note, that if it should resell or otherwise transfer the Notes prior to the expiration of the distribution compliance period (defined as 40 days after the later of the commencement of the offering and the closing date with respect to the original issuance of the Notes), it will do so only: (a)(i) outside the United States in compliance with Rule 903 or 904 under the Securities Act; or (ii) to a QIB in compliance with Rule 144A; and (b) in accordance with all applicable U.S. State securities laws; and it acknowledges that the Regulation S Global Notes will bear a legend to the following effect unless otherwise agreed to by the Issuer:

"THIS SECURITY HAS NOT BEEN NOR WILL BE REGISTERED UNDER THE U.S. SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED (THE "**SECURITIES ACT**"), OR ANY OTHER APPLICABLE U.S. STATE SECURITIES LAWS AND, ACCORDINGLY, MAY NOT BE OFFERED OR SOLD WITHIN THE UNITED STATES OR TO, OR FOR THE ACCOUNT OR BENEFIT OF, U.S. PERSONS EXCEPT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AGENCY AGREEMENT AND PURSUANT TO AN EXEMPTION FROM REGISTRATION UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT."; and

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

No sale of Legended Notes in the United States to any one purchaser will be for less than U.S.\$200,000 (or its foreign currency equivalent) principal amount and no Legended Note will be issued in connection with such a sale in a smaller principal amount. If the purchaser is a non-bank fiduciary acting on behalf of others, each person for whom it is acting must purchase at least U.S.\$200,000 (or its foreign currency equivalent) of Registered Notes.

## **SELLING RESTRICTIONS**

### ***United States***

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

Each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that it will not offer, sell or, in the case of Bearer Notes, deliver such Notes: (i) as part of their distribution at any time; or (ii) otherwise until 40 days after the completion of the distribution, as determined and certified by the relevant Dealer or, in the case of an issue of Notes on a syndicated basis, the relevant lead manager, of all Notes of the Tranche of which such Notes are a part, within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons other than in offshore transactions pursuant to Regulation S or pursuant to Rule 144A, and such Dealer will have sent to each dealer to which it sells any Notes during the distribution compliance period a confirmation or other notice setting forth the restrictions on offers and sales of the Notes within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons. Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them by Regulation S under the Securities Act.

In addition, until 40 days after the commencement of the offering of any Notes comprising any Tranche, an offer or sale of such Notes within the United States by any dealer (whether or not participating in the offering) may violate the registration requirements of the Securities Act if such offer or sale is made otherwise than in accordance with Rule 144A.

The Notes are being offered and sold outside the United States to non-U.S. persons in reliance on Regulation S. Dealers may also arrange for the resale of Registered Notes to QIBs pursuant to Rule 144A and each such purchaser of Notes is hereby notified that the Dealers may be relying on the exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act provided by Rule 144A. The minimum aggregate principal amount of Notes which may be purchased by a QIB pursuant to Rule 144A is U.S.\$200,000 (or the approximate equivalent thereof in any other currency). To the extent that the Issuer is not subject to or does not comply with the reporting requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act or the information furnishing requirements of Rule 12g3-2(b) thereunder, the Issuer has agreed to furnish to holders of Notes and to prospective purchasers designated by such holders, upon request, such information as may be required by Rule 144A(d)(4).

The Bearer Notes are subject to U.S. tax law requirements and may not be offered, sold or delivered within the United States or its possessions or to a United States person, except in certain transactions permitted by U.S. Treasury regulations. Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them by the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended and U.S. Treasury regulations promulgated thereunder.

In respect of Bearer Notes where TEFRA D is specified in the applicable Final Terms the relevant Dealer will be required to represent and agree that:

- (a) except to the extent permitted under U.S. Treasury Regulations Section 1.163-5(c)(2)(i)(D) (or any substantially identical successor U.S. Treasury Regulations section including, without limitation, substantially identical successor regulations issued in accordance with Internal Revenue Service Notice 2012-20 or otherwise in connection with the U.S. Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment Act of 2010) (the "**D Rules**"): (i) it has not offered or sold, and during the restricted period it will not offer or sell, Bearer Notes to a person who is within the United States or its possessions or to a United States person; and (ii) it has not delivered and it will not deliver within the United States or its possessions definitive Bearer Notes that are sold during the restricted period;
- (b) it has and throughout the restricted period it will have in effect procedures reasonably designed to ensure that its employees or agents who are directly engaged in selling Bearer Notes are aware that such Notes may not be offered or sold during the restricted period to a person who is within the United States or its possessions or to a United States person, except as permitted by the D Rules;
- (c) if it is a United States person, it is acquiring Bearer Notes for purposes of resale in connection with their original issuance and if it retains Bearer Notes for its own account, it will only do so in accordance with the requirements of U.S. Treasury Regulations Section 1.163-5(c)(2)(i)(D)(6) (or any substantially identical successor U.S. Treasury Regulations section including, without limitation, substantially identical successor regulations issued in accordance with Internal Revenue Service Notice 2012-20 or otherwise in connection with the U.S. Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment Act of 2010);
- (d) with respect to each affiliate that acquires Bearer Notes from it for the purpose of offering or selling such Notes during the restricted period, it repeats and confirms the representations and agreements contained in subparagraphs (a), (b) and (c) on such affiliate's behalf; and

- (e) it will obtain from any distributor (within the meaning of U.S. Treasury Regulations Section 1.163-5(c)(2)(i)(D)(4)(ii)) (or any substantially identical successor U.S. Treasury Regulations section including, without limitation, substantially identical successor regulations issued in accordance with Internal Revenue Service Notice 2012-20 or otherwise in connection with the U.S. Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment Act of 2010) that purchases any Bearer Notes from it pursuant to a written contract with such Dealer (other than a distributor that is one of its affiliates or is another Dealer), for the benefit of the Issuer and each other Dealer, the representations contained in, and such distributor's agreement to comply with, the provisions of sub-paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (d) of this paragraph insofar as they relate to the D Rules, as if such distributor were a Dealer hereunder.

Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them by the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended and U.S. Treasury regulations promulgated thereunder, including the D Rules.

In respect of Bearer Notes where TEFRA C is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the relevant Dealer will be required to represent and agree that:

- (a) it has not offered, sold or delivered, and will not offer, sell or deliver, directly or indirectly, any Notes within the United States or its possessions in connection with the original issuance of the Bearer Notes; and
- (b) in connection with the original issuance of the Bearer Notes it has not communicated, and will not communicate, directly or indirectly, with a prospective purchaser if such prospective purchaser is within the United States or its possessions and will not otherwise involve the United States office of such Dealer in the offer and sale of the Bearer Notes.

#### **Prohibition of Sales to EEA and UK Retail Investors**

Unless the applicable Final Terms in respect of any Notes specifies the "Prohibition of Sales to EEA and UK Retail Investors" as "Not Applicable", each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that it has not offered, sold or otherwise made available and will not offer, sell or otherwise make available any Notes which are the subject of the offering contemplated by this Base Prospectus as completed by the applicable Final Terms in relation thereto to any retail investor in the EEA or in the UK. For the purposes of this provision:

- (a) the expression "retail investor" means a person who is one (or more) of the following:
  - (i) a retail client as defined in point (11) of Article 4(1) of Directive 2014/65/EU (as amended, "**MiFID II**"); or
  - (ii) a customer within the meaning of Directive (EU) 2016/97, where that customer would not qualify as a professional client as defined in point (10) of Article 4(1) of MiFID II; or
  - (iii) not a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Regulation; and
- (b) the expression an "offer" includes the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the Notes to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe for the Notes.

If the applicable Final Terms in respect of any Notes specifies the "Prohibition of Sales to EEA and UK Retail Investors" as "Not Applicable", in relation to each Member State of the EEA and the UK (each, a "**Relevant State**"), each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that it has not made and will not make an offer of Notes which are the subject of the offering contemplated by this Base Prospectus as completed by the Final Terms in relation thereto to the public in that Relevant State except that it may make an offer of such Notes to the public in that Relevant State:

- (a) **Qualified investors:** at any time to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Regulation;

- (b) ***Fewer than 150 offerees:*** at any time to fewer than 150 natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Regulation), subject to obtaining the prior consent of the relevant Dealer or Dealers nominated by the Issuer for any such offer; or
- (c) ***Other exempt offers:*** at any time in any other circumstances falling within Article 1(4) of the Prospectus Regulation,

**provided that** no such offer of Notes referred to in (a) to (c) above shall require the Issuer or any Dealer to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Regulation, or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 23 of the Prospectus Regulation.

For the purposes of this provision, the expression an "**offer of Notes to the public**" in relation to any Notes in any Relevant State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the Notes to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe for the Notes and the expression "**Prospectus Regulation**" means Regulation (EU) 2017/1129.

### **United Kingdom**

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

- (i) in relation to any Notes which have a maturity of less than one year: (i) it is a person whose ordinary activities involve it in acquiring, holding, managing or disposing of investments (as principal or agent) for the purposes of its business; and (ii) it has not offered or sold and will not offer or sell any Notes other than to persons whose ordinary activities involve them in acquiring, holding, managing or disposing of investments (as principal or as agent) for the purposes of their businesses or who it is reasonable to expect will acquire, hold, manage or dispose of investments (as principal or agent) for the purposes of their businesses where the issue of the Notes would otherwise constitute a contravention of section 19 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, as amended (the "**FSMA**") by the Issuer;
- (ii) it has only communicated or caused to be communicated and will only communicate or cause to be communicated an invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of section 21 of the FSMA) received by it in connection with the issue or sale of any Notes in circumstances in which section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to the Issuer; and
- (iii) it has complied and will comply with all applicable provisions of the FSMA with respect to anything done by it in relation to any Notes in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom.

### ***Japan***

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

### ***United Arab Emirates (excluding the Dubai International Financial Centre)***

Each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that the Notes have not been and will not be offered, sold or publicly promoted or advertised by it in the United Arab Emirates other than in compliance with any laws applicable in the United Arab Emirates governing the issue, offering and sale of securities.

### ***Dubai International Financial Centre***

Each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that it has not offered and will not offer the Notes to any person in the Dubai International Financial Centre unless such offer is:

- (i) an "**Exempt Offer**" in accordance with the Markets Rules (MKT Module) of the Dubai Financial Services Authority (the "**DFSA**") rulebook; and
- (ii) made only to persons who meet the Professional Client criteria set out in Rule 2.3.3 of the DFSA Conduct of Business Module of the DFSA rulebook.

### ***Kingdom of Saudi Arabia***

No action has been or will be taken in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia that would permit a public offering of the Notes. Any investor in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia or who is a Saudi person (a "**Saudi Investor**") who acquires any Notes pursuant to an offering should note that the offer of Notes is a private placement under Article 9 or Article 10 of the "Rules on the Offer of Securities and Continuing Obligations" as issued by the Board of the Capital Market Authority resolution number 3-123-2017 dated 27 December 2017, as amended by the Board of the Capital Market Authority resolution number 1-104-2019 dated 30 September 2019 (the "**KSA Regulations**"), made through a person authorised by the Capital Market Authority ("**CMA**") to carry on the securities activity of arranging and following a notification to the CMA under Article 11 of the KSA Regulations.

The Notes may thus not be advertised, offered or sold to any person in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia other than to "sophisticated investors" under Article 9 of the KSA Regulations or by way of a limited offer under Article 10 of the KSA Regulations. Each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that any offer of Notes to a Saudi Investor will be made in compliance with Article 9 or Article 10 of the KSA Regulations.

Each offer of Notes shall not therefore constitute a "public offer", an "exempt offer" or a "parallel market offer" pursuant to the KSA Regulations, but is subject to the restrictions on secondary market activity under Article 15 of the KSA Regulations. Any Saudi Investor who has acquired Notes pursuant to a private placement under Article 9 or Article 10 of the KSA Regulations may not offer or sell those Notes to any person unless the offer or sale is made through an authorised person appropriately licensed by the CMA and: (a) the Notes are offered or sold to a Sophisticated Investor (as defined in Article 9 of the KSA Regulations); (b) the price to be paid for the Notes in any one transaction is equal to or exceeds Saudi Riyals 1 million or an equivalent amount; or (c) the offer of sale is otherwise in compliance with Article 15 of the KSA Regulations.

### ***Kingdom of Bahrain***

Each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that it has not offered or sold, and will not offer or sell, any Notes except on a private placement basis to persons in the Kingdom of Bahrain who are "accredited investors".

For this purpose, an "**accredited investor**" means:

- (i) an individual holding financial assets (either singly or jointly with a spouse) of U.S.\$1,000,000 or more excluding that person's principal place of residence;
- (ii) a company, partnership, trust or other commercial undertaking which has financial assets available for investment of not less than U.S.\$1,000,000; or
- (iii) a government, supranational organisation, central bank or other national monetary authority or a state organisation whose main activity is to invest in financial instruments (such as a state pension fund).

### ***State of Qatar (excluding the Qatar Financial Centre)***

Each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that it has not offered, delivered or sold, and will not offer, deliver or sell

at any time, directly or indirectly, any Notes in the State of Qatar (including the Qatar Financial Centre), except: (a) in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations of the State of Qatar; and (b) through persons or corporate entities authorised and licensed to provide investment advice and/or engage in brokerage activity and/or trade in respect of foreign securities in the State of Qatar. This Base Prospectus (i) has not been, and will not be, registered with or approved by the Qatar Financial Markets Authority, the Qatar Central Bank, the Qatar Stock Exchange or the Qatar Financial Centre Regulatory Authority and may not be publicly distributed in the State of Qatar (including the Qatar Financial Centre); (ii) is intended for the original recipient only and must not be provided to any other person; and (iii) is not for general circulation in the State of Qatar (including the Qatar Financial Centre) and may not be reproduced or used for any other purpose.

### ***Singapore***

Each Dealer has acknowledged and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to acknowledge that this Base Prospectus has not been and will not be registered as a prospectus with the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Accordingly, each Dealer has represented and agreed that, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree that it has not offered or sold any Notes or caused the Notes to be made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase and will not offer or sell any Notes or cause the Notes to be made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase, and has not circulated or distributed, nor will it circulate or distribute, this Base Prospectus or any other document or material in connection with the offer or sale, or invitation for subscription or purchase, of the Notes, whether directly or indirectly, to any person in Singapore other than:

- (i) to an institutional investor (as defined in Section 4A of the Securities and Futures Act (Chapter 289) of Singapore, as modified or amended from time to time (the "SFA")) pursuant to Section 274 of the SFA;
- (ii) to a relevant person (as defined in Section 275(2) of the SFA) pursuant to Section 275(1) of the SFA, or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A) of the SFA, and in accordance with the conditions specified in Section 275 of the SFA; or
- (iii) otherwise pursuant to, and in accordance with the conditions of, any other applicable provision of the SFA.

Where the Notes are subscribed or purchased under Section 275 of the SFA by a relevant person which is:

- (i) a corporation (which is not an accredited investor (as defined in Section 4A of the SFA)) the sole business of which is to hold investments and the entire share capital of which is owned by one or more individuals, each of whom is an accredited investor; or
- (ii) a trust (where the trustee is not an accredited investor) whose sole purpose is to hold investments and each beneficiary of the trust is an individual who is an accredited investor,

securities or securities-based derivatives contracts (each term as defined in Section 2(1) of the SFA) of that corporation or the beneficiaries' rights and interest (howsoever described) in that trust shall not be transferred within six months after that corporation or that trust has acquired the Notes pursuant to an offer made under Section 275 of the SFA except:

- (i) to an institutional investor or to a relevant person, or to any person arising from an offer referred to in Section 275(1A) or Section 276(4)(i)(B) of the SFA;
- (ii) where no consideration is or will be given for the transfer;
- (iii) where the transfer is by operation of law;
- (iv) as specified in Section 276(7) of the SFA; or
- (v) as specified in Regulation 37A of the Securities and Futures (Offers of Investments) (Securities and Securities-based Derivatives Contracts) Regulations 2018.

### ***Hong Kong***

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

- (i) it has not offered or sold and will not offer or sell in Hong Kong, by means of any document, any Notes, except for Notes which are a "structured product" as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571) of Hong Kong (the "**SFO**"), other than: (i) to "**professional investors**" within the meaning of the SFO and any rules made under the SFO; or (ii) in other circumstances which do not result in the document being a "prospectus" as defined in the Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance (Cap. 32) of Hong Kong (the "**CO**") or which do not constitute an offer to the public within the meaning of the CO; and
- (ii) it has not issued or had in its possession for the purposes of issue, and will not issue or have in its possession for the purposes of issue (in each case whether in Hong Kong or elsewhere), any advertisement, invitation or document relating to the Notes, which is directed at, or the contents of which are likely to be accessed or read by, the public in Hong Kong (except if permitted to do so under the securities laws of Hong Kong) other than with respect to any Notes which are or are intended to be disposed of only to persons outside Hong Kong or only to "**professional investors**" within the meaning of the SFO and any rules made under the SFO.

### ***Malaysia***

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

- (i) this Base Prospectus has not been registered as a prospectus with the Securities Commission of Malaysia under the Capital Markets and Services Act 2007 of Malaysia ("**CMSA**"); and
- (ii) accordingly, the Notes have not been and will not be offered or sold, and no invitation to subscribe for or purchase the Notes has been or will be made, directly or indirectly, nor may any document or other material in connection therewith be distributed in Malaysia, other than to persons falling within any one of the categories of persons specified under Part I of Schedule 6 or Section 229(1)(b) and Part I of Schedule 7 or Section 230(1)(b), read together with Schedule 8 or Section 257(3) of the CMSA, subject to any law, order, regulation or official directive of the Central Bank of Malaysia, the Securities Commission of Malaysia and/or any other regulatory authority from time to time.

Residents of Malaysia may be required to obtain relevant regulatory approvals including approval from the Controller of Foreign Exchange to purchase the Notes. The onus is on the Malaysian residents concerned to obtain such regulatory approvals and none of the Dealers is responsible for any invitation, offer, sale or purchase of the Notes as aforesaid without the necessary approvals being in place.

### ***State of Kuwait***

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

No Notes have been licensed for offering in the State of Kuwait by the Kuwait Capital Markets Authority or any other relevant Kuwaiti government agency. The Notes have not been and will not be offered, sold, promoted or advertised by it in the State of Kuwait other than in compliance with Law No. 7 of 2010 and the bylaws thereto, as amended governing the issue, offering and sale of securities. No private or public offering of the Notes is being made in the State of Kuwait, and no agreement relating to the sale of the Notes will be concluded in the State of Kuwait. No marketing or solicitation or inducement activities are being used to offer or market the Notes in the State of Kuwait.

### ***The PRC***

Each of the Dealers has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that the Notes may not be offered or sold directly or indirectly in the People's Republic of China (the "**PRC**") (which, for the sole purpose herein, does not include Hong Kong, Macau or Taiwan). This Base Prospectus, the Notes and any material or information contained or

incorporated by reference herein relating to the Notes have not been, and will not be, submitted to or approved/verified by or registered with the China Securities Regulatory Commission ("CSRC" ) or other relevant governmental and regulatory authorities in the PRC pursuant to relevant laws and regulations and thus may not be supplied to the public in the PRC or used in connection with any offer for the subscription or sale of the Notes in the PRC. Neither this Base Prospectus nor any material or information contained or incorporated by reference herein relating to the Notes constitutes an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities in the PRC.

The Notes may only be invested by PRC investors that are authorised to engage in the investment in the Notes of the type being offered or sold. PRC investors are responsible for obtaining all relevant government regulatory approvals/licenses, verification and/or registrations themselves, including, but not limited to, any which may be required from the People's Bank of China, the State of Administration of Foreign Exchange, CSRC, the China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission and other regulatory bodies, and complying with all relevant PRC regulations, including, but not limited to, all relevant foreign exchange regulations and/or overseas investment regulations.

### ***Switzerland***

Each Dealer has acknowledged and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to acknowledge and agree, that: (i) the Notes may not be publicly offered, sold or advertised, directly or indirectly, in or from Switzerland; (ii) neither this Base Prospectus nor any other offering or marketing material relating to the Notes constitutes a prospectus as such term is understood pursuant to the Swiss Financial Services Act; and (iii) neither this Base Prospectus nor any other offering or marketing material relating to the Notes may be publicly distributed or otherwise made publicly available in Switzerland.

### ***General***

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

None of the Issuer or the Dealers represents that Notes may at any time lawfully be sold in compliance with any applicable registration or other requirements in any jurisdiction, or pursuant to any exemption available thereunder, or assumes any responsibility for facilitating such sale.

With regard to each Tranche, the relevant Dealer will be required to comply with such other restrictions as the Issuer and the relevant Dealer shall agree and as shall be set out in the relevant subscription agreement.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Authorisation

The update of the Programme and the issue of Notes thereunder was duly authorised by a resolution of the Management Executive Committee of ADCB dated 12 January 2020 and by a resolution of ADCB's shareholders at the General Assembly Meeting on 18 March 2020.

### Listing and admission to trading

Application has been made to (i) the Luxembourg Stock Exchange for Notes issued under the Programme to be admitted to the Official List and to trading on its Regulated Market and (ii) Euronext Dublin for the Notes issued under the Programme to be admitted to listing on the official list of Euronext Dublin and to trading on its regulated market.

It is expected that each Tranche of Notes which is to be admitted to the Official List and to trading on the Regulated Market will be admitted separately as and when issued, subject only to the issue of a Global Note or Notes initially representing the Notes of such Tranche.

It is further expected that the admission of Notes issued under the Programme to listing on the official list of Euronext Dublin and to trading on its regulated market will be granted after the CSSF has provided the Central Bank of Ireland (as competent authority under the Prospectus Regulation) with a certificate of approval attesting that the Base Prospectus has been drawn up in accordance with the Prospectus Regulation.

The approval of the Programme in respect of Notes is expected to be granted on or about 4 June 2020. Prior to the official listing and admission to trading, however, dealings will be permitted. Unlisted Notes may be issued pursuant to the Programme.

### Documents Available

For the period of 12 months following the date of this Base Prospectus, physical copies of the following documents will, when published, be available for inspection from the registered office of the Issuer and from the specified office of the Principal Paying Agent for the time being in London:

- (i) the Articles of Association (with an English translation thereof) of ADCB (as the same may be updated from time to time);
- (ii) the unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial statements of ADCB in respect of the three months ended 31 March 2020 and 31 March 2019 together with the review reports prepared in connection therewith;
- (iii) the audited consolidated financial statements (in English) of ADCB in respect of the financial years ended 31 December 2019 and 31 December 2018, in each case together with the auditors' reports prepared in connection therewith;
- (iv) the Agency Agreement, the Deed of Covenant, the Deed Poll and the forms of the Global Notes, the Notes in definitive form, the Receipts, the Coupons and the Talons;
- (v) a copy of this Base Prospectus; and
- (vi) any future base prospectuses, information memoranda, applicable Final Terms (save that the applicable Final Terms relating to a Note which is neither admitted to trading on a regulated market in the EEA or the UK nor offered in the EEA or the UK in circumstances where a Base Prospectus is required to be published under the Prospectus Regulation will only be available for inspection by a holder of such Note and such holder must produce evidence satisfactory to the Issuer and the Paying Agent as to its holding of Notes and identity) and supplements to this Base Prospectus and any other documents incorporated herein or therein by reference.

In addition, copies of the documents listed in (i) – (v) above will be available at <https://www.adcb.com/about/investorrelations/investor-relations.aspx>. For the avoidance of doubt, unless

specifically incorporated by reference into this Base Prospectus, information contained on such website does not form part of this Base Prospectus.

The English language translations of the Articles of Association of ADCB are accurate and direct translations of the original foreign language documents. In the event of a discrepancy between the English language translation and the foreign language version, the foreign language version will prevail.

This Base Prospectus and the Final Terms for Notes that are listed on the Official List and admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange's regulated market will be published on the website of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange ([www.bourse.lu](http://www.bourse.lu)). In addition, Final Terms for Notes that are listed on the official list of Euronext Dublin and admitted to trading on its regulated market will be published on the website of Euronext Dublin (<http://www.ise.ie>).

### **Clearing Systems**

The Notes have been accepted for clearance through Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg (which are the entities in charge of keeping the records). The appropriate Common Code, the International Securities Identification Number (ISIN), Financial Instrument Short Name (FISN) and Classification of Financial Instruments (CFI) code (as applicable) for each Tranche of Notes allocated by Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg may be specified in the applicable Final Terms. In addition, the Issuer may make an application for any Notes in registered form to be accepted for trading in book entry form by DTC. The CUSIP and/or CINS numbers for each Tranche of such Registered Notes, together with the relevant ISIN and (if applicable) common code, will be specified in the applicable Final Terms. If the Notes are to clear through an additional or alternative clearing system, the appropriate information will be specified in the applicable Final Terms.

The address of Euroclear is Euroclear Bank SA/NV 1 Boulevard du Roi Albert II, B-1210 Brussels, Belgium and the address of Clearstream, Luxembourg is Clearstream Banking S.A., 42 Avenue JF Kennedy L-1885 Luxembourg. The address of DTC is 55 Water Street, New York, New York 10041, United States of America.

### **Conditions for determining price**

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

### **Significant or Material Change**

Save as disclosed under "*Description of the Group – Recent Developments*", there has been no significant change in the financial position or financial performance of the Group since 31 March 2020. There has been no material adverse change in the prospects of the Group since 31 December 2019.

### **Litigation**

Save as disclosed under "*Description of the Group – Recent Developments – ADCB Jersey Fine*", there are no governmental, legal or arbitration proceedings (including any such proceedings which are pending or threatened of which the Issuer is aware) in the 12 months preceding the date of this Base Prospectus which may have, or have in such period had, a significant effect on the Issuer and/or the Group's financial position or profitability.

### **Independent Auditors**

The current auditors of the Issuer are EY. The address of EY is P.O. Box 136, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor, Nation Tower 2, Abu Dhabi Corniche, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

There is no professional body of auditors in the UAE and, accordingly, the auditors of the Issuer are not a member of any professional body in the UAE. However, the auditors of the Issuer are registered under the Register of Practicing Accountants at the UAE Ministry of Economy and Planning as required by the UAE Federal Law No. 22 for the year 1995.

**Dealers transacting with the Issuer**

Certain of the Dealers and their affiliates have engaged, and may in the future engage, in investment banking and/or commercial banking transactions with, and may perform services to the Issuer and its respective affiliates in the ordinary course of business.

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

**Validity of this Base Prospectus**

For the avoidance of doubt, the Issuer shall have no obligation to supplement this Base Prospectus after the end of its 12-month validity period.

**ADCB's Website**

ADCB's website is <https://www.adcb.com/about/index.aspx>. Unless specifically incorporated by reference into this Base Prospectus, the information contained on this website is not incorporated by reference into, or otherwise included in, this Base Prospectus.

## **ISSUER**

### **Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank PJSC**

P.O. Box 939  
Abu Dhabi  
United Arab Emirates

## **ISSUING AND PRINCIPAL PAYING AGENT AND EXCHANGE AGENT**

### **Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch**

Winchester House  
1 Great Winchester Street  
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United Kingdom

## **EURO REGISTRAR, PAYING AGENT AND TRANSFER AGENT**

### **Deutsche Bank Luxembourg S.A.**

2 boulevard Konrad Adenauer  
L-1115 Luxembourg

## **U.S. REGISTRAR, PAYING AGENT AND TRANSFER AGENT**

### **Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas**

Trust and Agency Services  
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New York 10005  
United States of America

## **LEGAL ADVISERS**

*To ADCB as to English law and UAE law*

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*To ADCB as to United States law*

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## **AUDITORS**

*For the financial years ended 31 December 2015  
to 31 December 2019*

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*For the period from 1 January 2020*

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United Kingdom

**Morgan Stanley & Co. International plc**

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Canary Wharf  
London E14 4QA  
England

## LISTING AGENT

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1115 Luxembourg  
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