

CREDIT SUISSE AG
Form F-3/A
May 01, 2015

Use these links to rapidly review the document

[TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

[Table of Contents](#)

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 1, 2015

Registration Nos. 333-202913 and 333-180300

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Pre-Effective
Amendment No. 1
to

FORM F-3

REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Credit Suisse Group AG

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Canton of Zurich, Switzerland
(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation or Organization)

98-0215385
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

Paradeplatz 8
CH 8001 Zurich, Switzerland
+41 44 212 1616

(Address and telephone number of Registrant's principal executive offices)

Credit Suisse AG

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Canton of Zurich, Switzerland
(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation or Organization)

13-5015677
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

Paradeplatz 8
CH 8001 Zurich, Switzerland
+41 44 333 1111

(Address and telephone number of Registrant's principal executive offices)

Credit Suisse (USA), Inc.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Edgar Filing: CREDIT SUISSE AG - Form F-3/A

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation or Organization)

13-1898818
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

**Eleven Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10010
(212) 325-2000**

(Address and telephone number of Registrant's principal executive offices)

**D. Neil Radey
General Counsel**
Credit Suisse (USA), Inc.
Eleven Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10010
(212) 325-2000

(Name, address and telephone number of agent for service)

**Copies to:
Romeo Cerutti
General Counsel**
Credit Suisse Group AG
Paradeplatz 8
CH 8001 Zurich, Switzerland
+41 44 212 1616

**Kris F. Heinzelman
David Mercado**
Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP
Worldwide Plaza
825 Eighth Avenue
New York, New York 10019
(212) 474-1000
(212) 474-3700
City Point
One Ropemaker Street
London EC2Y 9HR, United Kingdom
+44 20 7453 1000
+44 20 7860 1150

**Craig B. Brod
Michael J. Volkovitsch**
Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP
One Liberty Plaza
New York, New York 10006
(212) 225-2000

René Bösch
Homburger AG
Prime Tower
Hardstrasse 201
CH 8005 Zurich, Switzerland
+41 43 222 10 00

**Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public:
From time to time after the effective date of this Registration Statement.**

If the only securities being registered on this form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

Edgar Filing: CREDIT SUISSE AG - Form F-3/A

Table of Contents

If any of the securities being registered on this form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, check the following box.

If this form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.C. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.C. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered(1)(8)	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Price Per Unit(1)	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price(1)	Amount of Registration Fee(2)(3)
Debt Securities of Credit Suisse Group AG(4)				
Senior Debt Securities				
Subordinated Debt Securities				
Warrants of Credit Suisse Group AG(4)				
Debt Warrants				
Equity Warrants				
Other Warrants				
Shares, with a par value of CHF 0.04, of Credit Suisse Group AG(5)				
Debt Securities of Credit Suisse AG(4)				
Senior Debt Securities				
Subordinated Debt Securities				
Warrants of Credit Suisse AG(4)				

Edgar Filing: CREDIT SUISSE AG - Form F-3/A

Debt Warrants

Other Warrants

Subordinated Guarantees of Credit Suisse Group AG in connection with the Guaranteed Senior Debt Securities of Credit Suisse (USA), Inc.(6)(7)

Guarantees of Credit Suisse AG in connection with the Guaranteed Senior Debt Securities of Credit Suisse (USA), Inc.(6)(7)

Guaranteed Senior Debt Securities of Credit Suisse (USA), Inc.(7)

Total	(2)	\$69,405,680,000	\$8,064,940
-------	-----	------------------	-------------

- (1) The amount to be registered, proposed maximum aggregate price per unit and proposed maximum aggregate offering price for each class of security will be determined from time to time by the Registrants in connection with the issuance by the Registrants of the securities hereunder and is not specified as to each class of security pursuant to General Instruction II.C. of Form F-3 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, and Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act. The amount also includes such indeterminate principal amount, liquidation amount or number of identified classes of securities as may be issued upon conversion, exchange or exercise of other securities and may be offered or sold by affiliates of the Registrants in market-making transactions.
- (2) Pursuant to Rule 415(a)(6) under the Securities Act, the \$78,899,682,165 of securities covered by this Registration Statement includes \$9,494,002,165 maximum aggregate offering price of the Registrants' securities (the "Unsold Securities") that were previously registered by the Registrants on the Registration Statement on Form F-3 under the Securities Act (Registration No. 333-180300) filed on March 23, 2012, as amended by Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 filed on March 19, 2015 (the "Prior Registration Statement"). Pursuant to Rule 415(a)(6) under the Securities Act, \$1,103,203.07 of filing fees previously paid in connection with the Unsold Securities will continue to be applied to the Unsold Securities that are being carried forward to this Registration Statement. The amount of registration fee included in the table above relates to the maximum aggregate offering price of the additional \$69,405,680,000 of securities registered on this Registration Statement. In accordance with SEC rules, the Registrants may continue to use the Prior Registration Statement to offer and sell the Unsold Securities during the grace period afforded by Rule 415(a)(5). If the registrants sell any Unsold Securities during the grace period, the registrants will identify in a pre-effective amendment to this registration statement the new amount of Unsold Securities and the amount of any new securities to be registered. On March 19, 2015, the registrants paid \$1,661,000 of filing fees; the remaining \$8,064,940 are being paid in connection herewith.
- (3) Calculated pursuant to Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act.
- (4) In connection with Debt Securities or Warrants, each of Credit Suisse Group AG and Credit Suisse AG may act through its head office or any one of its branches. Any convertible Debt Securities or Warrants issued by Credit Suisse AG will not be convertible into shares of Credit Suisse Group AG or of Credit Suisse AG.
- (5) The Shares are being registered in connection with issuances from time to time of Shares upon (i) exercise of Warrants or (ii) conversion or exchange of (a) convertible or exchangeable Debt Securities or Guaranteed Senior Debt Securities or (b) other securities with terms similar to the securities described in this registration statement issued in transactions exempt from registration under the Securities Act. A separate registration statement on Form F-6 (No. 333-174478) has been used for the registration of American depositary shares evidenced by the American depositary receipts issuable upon deposit of the Shares registered hereby.
- (6) No separate consideration will be received for the Subordinated Guarantees of Credit Suisse Group AG and the Guarantees of Credit Suisse AG in connection with the Guaranteed Senior Debt Securities of Credit Suisse (USA), Inc. Pursuant to Rule 457(n) under the Securities Act, no separate registration fee will be paid in respect of any guarantees of any other securities registered hereby.

Edgar Filing: CREDIT SUISSE AG - Form F-3/A

Table of Contents

- (7) Registered for market-making purposes only, and not for initial issuance.
- (8) This registration statement also includes an indeterminate amount of securities of the classes specified above that may be reoffered and resold on an ongoing basis after their initial sale in market-making transactions by and through affiliates of the Registrants, including Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC. These securities consist of an indeterminate amount of such securities that are initially being registered, and will initially be offered and sold, under this registration statement and an indeterminate amount of such securities that were initially registered, and were initially offered and sold, under registration statements previously filed by (i) Credit Suisse Group AG, (ii) Credit Suisse AG and (iii) Credit Suisse (USA), Inc. All such market-making reoffers and resales of these securities that are made pursuant to a registration statement after the effectiveness of this registration statement are being made solely pursuant to this registration statement.

The registrants hereby amend this registration statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the registrants shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this registration statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with section 8(a) of the Securities Act or until the registration statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to said section 8(a), may determine.

Explanatory Note

Pursuant to Rule 429 of the general rules and regulations under the Securities Act, the base prospectus relating to the debt securities of Credit Suisse Group AG, warrants of Credit Suisse Group AG, shares of Credit Suisse Group AG, debt securities of Credit Suisse AG, warrants of Credit Suisse AG, subordinated guarantees of Credit Suisse Group AG, guarantees of Credit Suisse AG and guaranteed senior debt securities of Credit Suisse (USA), Inc. (collectively, the "Securities") that is part of this Registration Statement is a combined prospectus that also relates to \$9,494,002,165 of Unsold Securities that were previously registered by the Registrants on the Registration Statement on Form F-3 under the Securities Act (Registration Nos. 333-180300) filed on March 23, 2012, as amended by Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 filed on March 19, 2015 (the "Prior Registration Statement"). Upon effectiveness, this Registration Statement will constitute Post-Effective Amendment No. 2 to the Prior Registration Statement. Accordingly, the combined base prospectus relates to a total of up to \$78,899,682,165 of Securities which have been registered under this Registration Statement and the Prior Registration Statement.

Table of Contents

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED MAY 1, 2015

PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS

\$
Credit Suisse Group AG
Debt Securities
Warrants
Guarantees
Credit Suisse AG
Debt Securities
Warrants
Guarantees
Credit Suisse (USA), Inc.
Certain Guaranteed Senior Debt Securities issued previously and further described herein

Credit Suisse Group AG (Credit Suisse Group) or Credit Suisse AG (Credit Suisse) (in each case, acting through its head office or any one of its branches) may from time to time offer to sell debt securities, which may consist of senior and subordinated notes or other types of debt, including debt convertible into or exchangeable for shares or American depository shares of Credit Suisse Group (in the case of Credit Suisse Group only), securities of any entity unaffiliated with Credit Suisse Group or Credit Suisse, a basket of such securities, an index or indices of such securities or any combination of the foregoing.

In addition, Credit Suisse Group or Credit Suisse (in each case, acting through its head office or any one of its branches) may from time to time offer to sell warrants or warrants in the form of subscription rights to purchase equity securities (in the case of Credit Suisse Group only) or debt securities of Credit Suisse Group, securities of any entity unaffiliated with Credit Suisse Group or Credit Suisse, a basket of such securities, an index or indices of such securities or any combination of the foregoing.

Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse have fully and unconditionally guaranteed all the obligations of Credit Suisse (USA), Inc. (Credit Suisse (USA)) under its guaranteed senior debt securities, or the Guaranteed Senior Debt Securities, further described in "Description of the Guaranteed Senior Debt Securities of Credit Suisse (USA)" and "Description of the Guarantees of the Guaranteed Senior Debt Securities of Credit Suisse (USA)." The obligations of Credit Suisse Group under its guarantee of these securities is subordinated as described in this prospectus.

We will provide the specific terms of these securities in supplements to this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and any supplement carefully before you invest. We will not use this prospectus to issue any securities unless it is attached to a prospectus supplement.

Unless we state otherwise in a prospectus supplement, we will not list any of these securities on a securities exchange.

These securities may be offered directly or to or through underwriters, agents or dealers, including Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, an affiliate of Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse. Because of this relationship, Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC would have a "conflict of interest" within the meaning of Rule 5121 of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc., or FINRA. If Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC or our other U.S.-registered broker-dealer subsidiaries or affiliates participate in the distribution of our securities, we will conduct the offering in accordance with the applicable provisions of FINRA Rule 5121. See "Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest) Conflicts of Interest." The names of any other underwriters, agents or dealers will be included in a supplement to this prospectus.

Investing in our securities involves risks. We may include specific risk factors in an applicable prospectus supplement under the heading "Risk Factors."

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

The debt securities of Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse are not deposit liabilities and are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency of the United States, Switzerland or any other jurisdiction. Unless otherwise provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, the

Edgar Filing: CREDIT SUISSE AG - Form F-3/A

debt securities will not have the benefit of any agency or governmental guarantee.

Credit Suisse Group's registered shares are listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange under the symbol "CSGN" and, in the form of American depositary shares, on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "CS." The last reported sale price of Credit Suisse Group's shares on April 30, 2015 was CHF 24.08 and the last reported sale price of Credit Suisse Group's American depositary shares on April 30, 2015 was USD 25.77.

Any of our broker-dealer subsidiaries or affiliates, including Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, may use this prospectus and our prospectus supplements in connection with offers and sales of our securities, including outstanding securities of Credit Suisse (USA), in connection with market-making transactions by and through our broker-dealer subsidiaries or affiliates, including Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, at prices that relate to the prevailing market prices of our securities at the time of the sale or otherwise. Any of our broker-dealer subsidiaries and affiliates, including Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, may act as principal or agent in these transactions. None of our broker-dealer subsidiaries and affiliates has any obligation to make a market in any of our offered securities and may discontinue any market-making activities at any time without notice, at its sole discretion.

Credit Suisse

The date of this prospectus is May , 2015.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>LIMITATIONS ON ENFORCEMENT OF U.S. LAWS</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>CAPITALIZATION AND INDEBTEDNESS</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>CREDIT SUISSE GROUP</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>CREDIT SUISSE</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>CREDIT SUISSE (USA)</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>SPECIAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO DEBT SECURITIES DENOMINATED IN A FOREIGN CURRENCY</u>	<u>41</u>
<u>FOREIGN CURRENCY RISKS</u>	<u>44</u>
<u>DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS</u>	<u>46</u>
<u>DESCRIPTION OF SHARES</u>	<u>50</u>
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE GUARANTEED SENIOR DEBT SECURITIES OF CREDIT SUISSE (USA)</u>	<u>54</u>
<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE GUARANTEES OF THE GUARANTEED SENIOR DEBT SECURITIES OF CREDIT SUISSE (USA)</u>	<u>55</u>
<u>ERISA</u>	<u>57</u>
<u>TAXATION</u>	<u>59</u>
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION (CONFLICTS OF INTEREST)</u>	<u>70</u>
<u>MARKET-MAKING ACTIVITIES</u>	<u>73</u>
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	<u>74</u>
<u>EXPERTS</u>	<u>75</u>

WE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INFORMATION CONTAINED AND INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE IN THIS PROSPECTUS. AT THE DATE OF THIS PROSPECTUS, WE HAVE NOT AUTHORIZED ANYONE ELSE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH DIFFERENT INFORMATION, AND WE TAKE NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY OTHER INFORMATION OTHERS MAY GIVE YOU. WE ARE NOT MAKING AN OFFER OF THESE SECURITIES IN ANY JURISDICTION WHERE THE OFFER IS NOT PERMITTED. YOU SHOULD NOT ASSUME THAT THE INFORMATION IN THIS PROSPECTUS OR ANY PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT IS ACCURATE AS OF ANY DATE OTHER THAN THE DATE ON THE FRONT OF THIS DOCUMENT.

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form F-3 that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, using a "shelf" registration process. Under this shelf process, we may sell any combination of the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we sell securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with the additional information described under the heading "Where You Can Find More Information."

Unless the context otherwise requires and except as otherwise indicated:

in this prospectus, the terms "we," "our," and "us" refer to Credit Suisse Group and include Credit Suisse Group's wholly-owned bank subsidiary, Credit Suisse and our other subsidiaries;

in the sections of this prospectus titled "Description of Debt Securities," "Special Provisions Relating to Debt Securities Denominated in a Foreign Currency" and "Foreign Currency Risks," the terms "we," "our," and "us" refer to each of Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse, as applicable, as issuer of the debt securities;

in the section of this prospectus entitled "Description of Warrants," the terms "we," "our," and "us" refer to Credit Suisse Group or Credit Suisse, as issuer of the securities described in that section; and

in the section of this prospectus entitled "Description of Shares," the terms "we," "our" and "us" refer to Credit Suisse Group, as issuer of the securities described in that section, on a consolidated basis.

Credit Suisse Group's and Credit Suisse's consolidated financial statements, which are incorporated by reference into this prospectus, have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, which we refer to as U.S. GAAP. Credit Suisse Group's and Credit Suisse's financial statements are denominated in Swiss francs, the legal tender of Switzerland. When we refer to "CHF," we mean Swiss francs. When we refer to "USD" or "\$," we mean U.S. dollars. On April 30, 2015, the Swiss franc to U.S. dollar exchange rate was 1.0722 Swiss francs = 1 U.S. dollar.

As permitted by Rule 12h-5 under the Exchange Act, Credit Suisse (USA) no longer files reports under the Exchange Act with the SEC. In accordance with Rule 3-10 of Regulation S-X under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, Credit Suisse Group's financial statements include condensed consolidating financial information for Credit Suisse (USA) in a footnote to those financial statements.

Table of Contents

LIMITATIONS ON ENFORCEMENT OF U.S. LAWS

Credit Suisse Group is a holding company for financial services companies domiciled in Switzerland and Credit Suisse is a bank domiciled in Switzerland. Many of their directors and executive officers, and certain experts named in this prospectus, are resident outside the United States, and all or a substantial portion of their assets and the assets of such persons are located outside the United States. As a result, it may be difficult for you to serve legal process on Credit Suisse Group, Credit Suisse or their respective directors and executive officers or have any of them appear in a U.S. court. We have been advised by Homburger AG, Swiss counsel to Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse that, due to the lack of reciprocal legislation between Switzerland and the United States, there is doubt as to enforceability in Switzerland, in original actions or in actions for enforcement of judgments of U.S. courts, of liabilities based solely on the federal securities laws of the United States.

Table of Contents

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse file periodic reports and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any document Credit Suisse Group or Credit Suisse files at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the operation of the public reference room. In addition, the SEC maintains an Internet site at <http://www.sec.gov> that contains information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC. Reports and other information concerning the business of Credit Suisse Group or Credit Suisse may also be inspected at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange at 11 Wall Street, New York, New York 10005.

The SEC allows Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse to "incorporate by reference" the information they file with the SEC, which means that Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus, and information that Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse file later with the SEC and which is incorporated by reference will automatically update and supersede this information.

Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse filed their annual report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 (the "2014 20-F") with the SEC on March 20, 2015. Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse are incorporating the 2014 20-F by reference into this prospectus. Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse further incorporate by reference their Current Reports on Form 6-K dated February 12, 2015 (containing the Media Release entitled "Proposal of distribution to shareholders for financial year 2014 of CHF 0.70 per share, consistent with prior year"), February 12, 2015 (containing the Credit Suisse Earnings Release 4Q14, except the information on pages 4 and 21 of such Earnings Release), February 27, 2015 (containing the Media Release entitled "Credit Suisse announces increased mortgage-related litigation provisions"), February 27, 2015 (containing the Revised Credit Suisse Earnings Release 4Q14), March 10, 2015, March 20, 2015 (containing the agenda for the annual general meeting, except the information under the heading "2014 Annual Report"), April 21, 2015 (containing our 1Q15 Earnings Release, except the section entitled "Dear shareholders" of such Earnings Release), April 24, 2015 (except for the sections entitled "Statements by Urs Rohner, Chairman of the Board of Directors", "Voting Results" and "Information", as well as the last paragraph under the section entitled "Distribution against Reserves from Capital Contributions" and the last paragraph under the section entitled "Credit Suisse AG"), April 30, 2015 (containing the Credit Suisse 1Q15 Financial Report, except the sections entitled "Dear shareholders", "Investor information" and "Financial calendar and contacts" of such Financial Report), and the combined Annual Report on Form 20-F of Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse for the year ended December 31, 2014, in each case to the extent that such report expressly states that such report is incorporated by reference into the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

In addition, Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse incorporate by reference into the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part all documents that Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse file with the SEC under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act and, only to the extent designated therein, any Current Reports on Form 6-K of Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse filed with, but not furnished to, the SEC by Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse after the date of the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

Edgar Filing: CREDIT SUISSE AG - Form F-3/A

Table of Contents

You may request a copy of these filings, at no cost, by writing or telephoning Credit Suisse Group or Credit Suisse at their principal executive offices at the following address:

Credit Suisse Group AG
Paradeplatz 8
CH 8001 Zurich, Switzerland
Attention: Investor Relations
+41 44 212 1616

Credit Suisse AG
Paradeplatz 8
CH 8001 Zurich, Switzerland
Attention: Investor Relations
+41 44 333 1111

Internet: <https://www.credit-suisse.com/investors>

We are not incorporating the contents of the website into this prospectus.

We have filed or incorporated by reference exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. You should read the exhibits carefully for provisions that may be important to you.

Table of Contents

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the information incorporated by reference in this prospectus contain statements that constitute forward-looking statements. In addition, in the future we, and others on our behalf, may make statements that constitute forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements may include, without limitation, statements relating to the following:

- our plans, objectives or goals;
- our future economic performance or prospects;
- the potential effect on our future performance of certain contingencies; and
- assumptions underlying any such statements.

Words such as "believes," "anticipates," "expects," "intends" and "plans" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements but are not the exclusive means of identifying such statements. We do not intend to update these forward-looking statements except as may be required by applicable securities laws.

By their very nature, forward-looking statements involve inherent risks and uncertainties, both general and specific, and risks exist that predictions, forecasts, projections and other outcomes described or implied in forward-looking statements will not be achieved. We caution you that a number of important factors could cause results to differ materially from the plans, objectives, expectations, estimates and intentions expressed in such forward-looking statements. These factors include:

- the ability to maintain sufficient liquidity and access capital markets;
- market volatility and interest rate fluctuations and developments affecting interest rate levels;
- the strength of the global economy in general and the strength of the economies of the countries in which we conduct our operations, in particular the risk of continued slow economic recovery or downturn in the US or other developed countries in 2015 and beyond;
- the direct and indirect impacts of deterioration or slow recovery in residential and commercial real estate markets;
- adverse rating actions by credit rating agencies in respect of us, sovereign issuers, structured credit products or other credit-related exposures;
- the ability to achieve our strategic objectives, including improved performance, reduced risks, lower costs and more efficient use of capital;
- the ability of counterparties to meet their obligations to us;
- the effects of, and changes in, fiscal, monetary, exchange rate trade and tax policies, as well as currency fluctuations;

Edgar Filing: CREDIT SUISSE AG - Form F-3/A

political and social developments, including war, civil unrest or terrorist activity;

the possibility of foreign exchange controls, expropriation, nationalization or confiscation of assets in countries in which we conduct our operations;

operational factors such as systems failure, human error, or the failure to implement procedures properly;

actions taken by regulators with respect to our business and practices and possible resulting changes to our business organization practices and policies in the countries in which we conduct our operations;

Table of Contents

the effects of changes in laws, regulations or accounting policies or practices in countries in which we conduct our operations;

competition or changes in our competitive position in geographic and business areas in which we conduct our operations;

the ability to retain and recruit qualified personnel;

the ability to maintain our reputation and promote our brand;

the ability to increase market share and control expenses;

technological changes;

the timely development and acceptance of our new products and services and the perceived overall value of these products and services by users;

acquisitions, including the ability to integrate acquired businesses successfully, and divestitures, including the ability to sell non-core assets;

the adverse resolution of litigation, regulatory proceedings and other contingencies;

the ability to achieve our cost efficiency goals and cost targets; and

our success at managing the risks involved in the foregoing.

We caution you that the foregoing list of important factors is not exclusive. When evaluating forward-looking statements, you should carefully consider the foregoing factors and other uncertainties and events, as well as the risk factors and other information set forth in Credit Suisse Group's and Credit Suisse's annual report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2014, and subsequent annual reports on Form 20-F filed by Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse with the SEC; Credit Suisse Group's and Credit Suisse's Current Reports on Form 6-K filed with the SEC; and any risk factors relating to Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse, a particular security offered by this prospectus or a particular offering discussed in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless we tell you otherwise in a prospectus supplement, we will use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities described in this prospectus by Credit Suisse Group or Credit Suisse for general corporate purposes, including refinancing existing indebtedness. We may also invest the net proceeds temporarily in short-term securities. With the exception of certain situations described in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement, the net proceeds will be applied exclusively outside Switzerland unless Swiss fiscal laws allow such usage in Switzerland without triggering Swiss withholding taxes on interest payments on debt instruments.

None of Credit Suisse Group, Credit Suisse or Credit Suisse (USA) will receive any of the proceeds from the sale of the outstanding Guaranteed Senior Debt Securities of Credit Suisse (USA). All offers and sales of these securities will be for the accounts of the broker-dealer subsidiaries of Credit Suisse Group in connection with market-making transactions.

Table of Contents**RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES**

The following table sets forth Credit Suisse Group's and Credit Suisse's ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the periods indicated:

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges(1)					
Credit Suisse Group	1.27	1.26	1.11	1.14	1.33
Credit Suisse	1.22	1.23	1.08	1.09	1.29

(1)

For purposes of calculating the ratio of earnings to fixed charges, earnings consist of profit/loss from continuing operations before taxes, extraordinary items, cumulative effect of changes in accounting principles and non-controlling interests less income from investments in associates plus fixed charges. Fixed charges for these purposes consist of (a) interest expense, (b) a portion of premises and real estate expenses, deemed representative of the interest factor and (c) preferred dividend requirements in connection with preferred securities of subsidiaries.

Table of Contents**CAPITALIZATION AND INDEBTEDNESS**

The table below shows the consolidated capitalization and indebtedness of Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse as of December 31, 2014. You should read this table along with our consolidated financial statements and other financial information, which are included in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus.

	As of December 31, 2014	
	Credit Suisse Group	Credit Suisse
	(in CHF millions)	
Debt:		
Short-term borrowings	25,921	25,921
Long-term debt	177,898	172,947
All other liabilities	672,642	661,340
Total liabilities	876,461	860,208
Equity:		
Shareholders' Equity:		
Common shares	64	4,400
Additional paid-in capital	27,007	34,842
Retained earnings	32,083	15,877
Treasury shares, at cost	(192)	0
Accumulated other comprehensive income/(loss)	(15,003)	(12,224)
Total shareholders' equity	43,959	42,895
Noncontrolling interests	1,042	1,746
Total Equity	45,001	44,641
Total capitalization and indebtedness	921,462	904,849

Table of Contents

CREDIT SUISSE GROUP

Credit Suisse Group is a holding company for financial services companies and is domiciled in Switzerland. Its activities are operated and managed in two reportable segments: Private Banking & Wealth Management and Investment Banking.

Credit Suisse Group is a publicly held corporation and its registered shares are listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange and, in the form of American depositary shares, on the New York Stock Exchange. Credit Suisse Group's registered head office is located at Paradeplatz 8, CH 8001 Zurich, Switzerland, and its telephone number is +41-44-212-1616.

Credit Suisse Group may act through any of its branches in connection with the debt securities and warrants as described in this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

CREDIT SUISSE

Credit Suisse, a corporation established under the laws of, and licensed as a bank in, Switzerland, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Credit Suisse Group. Credit Suisse's registered head office is in Zurich, and it has additional executive offices and principal branches located in London, New York, Hong Kong, Singapore and Tokyo. Credit Suisse's registered head office is located at Paradeplatz 8, CH 8001 Zurich, Switzerland, and its telephone number is +41-44-333-1111.

Credit Suisse may act through any of its branches in connection with the debt securities and warrants as described in this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement. Credit Suisse, Guernsey branch, was established in 1986 in Guernsey, Channel Islands, and is, among other things, a vehicle for various funding activities of Credit Suisse. The Guernsey branch exists as part of Credit Suisse and is not a separate legal entity, although it has independent status for certain tax and Guernsey regulatory purposes. The Guernsey branch is located at Helvetia Court, Les Echelons, South Esplanade, St. Peter Port, Guernsey GY1 3ZQ, Channel Islands, and its telephone number is +44-1481-724-569.

Credit Suisse, London branch, was established in 1993 in England and Wales, and is, among other things, a vehicle for various funding activities of Credit Suisse. The London branch exists as part of Credit Suisse and is not a separate legal entity, although it has independent status for certain tax and regulatory purposes. The London branch is located at One Cabot Square, London, E14 4QJ, United Kingdom, and its telephone number is +44-20-7888-8888.

Credit Suisse, Nassau branch, was established in Nassau, Bahamas in 1971 and is, among other things, a vehicle for various funding activities of Credit Suisse. The Nassau branch exists as part of Credit Suisse and is not a separate legal entity, although it has independent status for certain tax and regulatory purposes. The Nassau branch is located at Shirley & Charlotte Streets, Bahamas Financial Centre, 4th Floor, P.O. Box N-4928, Nassau, Bahamas, and its telephone number is 242-356-8125.

Credit Suisse, New York branch, was established in 1940 in New York, New York, and is, among other things, a vehicle for various funding activities of Credit Suisse. The New York branch exists as part of Credit Suisse and is not a separate legal entity, although it has independent status for certain tax and regulatory purposes. The New York branch is located at Eleven Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10010, and its telephone number is (212) 325-2000.

Table of Contents

CREDIT SUISSE (USA)

Credit Suisse (USA) is a holding company for financial services companies. Credit Suisse (USA) is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Credit Suisse Group. Credit Suisse (USA)'s principal executive office is in New York. Credit Suisse (USA)'s principal subsidiary is Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, Credit Suisse Group's principal U.S. registered broker-dealer subsidiary.

The principal executive offices of Credit Suisse (USA) are located at Eleven Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10010, and its telephone number is (212) 325-2000.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

This section describes the general terms that will apply to any debt securities that may be offered by Credit Suisse Group or Credit Suisse, directly or through one of its branches pursuant to this prospectus (each referred to in this section as a "relevant issuer"). The specific terms of the offered debt securities, and the extent to which the general terms described in this section apply to debt securities, will be described in the related prospectus supplement at the time of the offer.

General

As used in this prospectus, "debt securities" means the senior and subordinated debentures, notes, bonds and other evidences of indebtedness that the relevant issuer issues and, in each case, the trustee authenticates and delivers under the applicable indenture.

Credit Suisse Group may issue senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities (including convertible or exchangeable debt securities), directly or through one of its branches. Convertible or exchangeable debt securities of Credit Suisse Group may be converted or exchanged into or for shares or American depositary shares of Credit Suisse Group. Credit Suisse may issue senior debt securities, subordinated debt securities (including convertible or exchangeable debt securities), directly or through one of its branches. Any convertible or exchangeable debt securities issued by Credit Suisse will not be convertible or exchangeable into or for shares of Credit Suisse Group or Credit Suisse. Senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities of Credit Suisse Group will be issued in one or more series under the senior indenture or the subordinated indenture between Credit Suisse Group and The Bank of New York Mellon, formerly known as The Bank of New York, as successor to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as trustee. Senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities of Credit Suisse will be issued in one or more series under the senior indenture or subordinated indenture between Credit Suisse and The Bank of New York Mellon, formerly known as The Bank of New York, as trustee. The senior indentures and the subordinated indentures of Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse have each been qualified under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, or the Trust Indenture Act. In this section, we sometimes refer to these indentures collectively, as amended or supplemented from time to time, as the "indentures."

This section of the prospectus briefly outlines the provisions of the indentures related to the debt securities. The terms of the indentures will include both those stated in the indentures and those made part of the indentures by the Trust Indenture Act. The forms of the indentures have been filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part, and you should read the applicable indentures for provisions that may be important to you.

Credit Suisse Group is a holding company and depends upon the earnings and cash flow of its subsidiaries to meet its obligations under the debt securities. Since the creditors of any of its subsidiaries would generally have a right to receive payment that is superior to Credit Suisse Group's right to receive payment from the assets of that subsidiary, holders of debt securities will be effectively subordinated to creditors of Credit Suisse Group's subsidiaries. In addition, there are various regulatory requirements applicable to some of Credit Suisse Group's and Credit Suisse's subsidiaries that limit their ability to pay dividends and make loans and advances to Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse, as the case may be.

The indentures do not contain any covenants or other provisions designed to protect holders of the debt securities against a reduction in the creditworthiness of the relevant issuer in the event of a highly leveraged transaction or that would prohibit other transactions that might adversely affect holders of the debt securities, including a change in control of the relevant issuer.

Table of Contents

Issuances in Series

The indentures do not limit the amount of debt that may be issued. The debt securities may be issued in one or more series with the same or various maturities, at a price of 100% of their principal amount or at a premium or a discount. Not all debt securities of any one series need be issued at the same time and, unless otherwise provided, any series may be reopened for issuances of additional debt securities of that series. The debt securities will not be secured by any property or assets of the relevant issuer.

The terms of any authorized series of debt securities will be described in a prospectus supplement. These terms may include:

the issue date;

whether the debt securities are issued by Credit Suisse Group or Credit Suisse;

whether the debt securities are senior or subordinated;

the total principal amount of the debt securities;

the percentage of the principal amount at which the debt securities will be issued and whether the debt securities will be "original issue discount" securities for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If original issue discount debt securities are issued (securities that are issued below their principal amount by more than a statutory de minimis amount because they pay no interest or pay interest that is below market rates at the time of issuance), the special U.S. federal income tax and other considerations of a purchase of original issue discount debt securities will be described (to the extent not already described herein);

the date or dates on which principal will be payable, whether the debt securities will be payable on demand by the holders on any date, and whether we can extend the maturity date of the debt securities;

the manner in which payments of principal, premium or interest will be calculated and whether any rate will be fixed or based on an index or formula or the value of one or more securities, commodities, currencies or other assets, including but not limited to:

whether the debt security bears a fixed rate of interest or bears a floating rate of interest, including whether the debt security is a regular floating rate note, a floating rate/fixed rate note or an inverse floating rate note (each as described below);

if the debt security is an indexed note (as defined below) the terms relating to the particular series of debt securities;

if the debt security is an amortizing note (as defined below), the amortization schedule and any other terms relating to the particular series of debt securities;

the interest payment dates;

whether any sinking fund is required;

Edgar Filing: CREDIT SUISSE AG - Form F-3/A

optional or mandatory redemption terms;

authorized denominations, if other than \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof;

the terms on which holders of the debt securities issued by Credit Suisse Group may or are required to exercise, convert or exchange these securities into or for securities of Credit Suisse Group or securities of one or more other entities and any specific terms relating to the exercise, conversion or exchange feature;

Edgar Filing: CREDIT SUISSE AG - Form F-3/A

Table of Contents

the terms on which holders of the debt securities issued by Credit Suisse may or are required to exercise, convert or exchange these securities into or for securities of one or more other entities other than Credit Suisse Group and Credit Suisse and any specific terms relating to the exercise, conversion or exchange feature;

the currency or currency unit in which the debt securities will be denominated and, if different, the currency or currency unit in which payments of principal, premium or interest will be payable, if the specified currency is other than U.S. dollars, and any other terms relating to the debt securities denominated in a foreign currency and the specified currency;

whether the debt securities are to be issued as individual certificates to each holder or in the form of global certificates held by a depository on behalf of holders;

information describing any book-entry features;

whether and under what circumstances additional amounts will be paid on any debt securities as a result of withholding taxes and whether the debt securities can be redeemed if additional amounts must be paid;

selling restrictions applicable to any series of debt securities, if any;

the names and duties of any co-trustees, depositories, authenticating agents, paying agents, transfer agents or registrars for any series; and

any other terms consistent with the above.

The prospectus supplement relating to any series of debt securities may also include, if applicable, a discussion of certain U.S. federal income tax considerations and considerations under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended, or ERISA.

Interest and Interest Rates

Each series of debt securities that bears interest will bear interest from its date of issue or from the most recent date to which interest on that series of debt securities has been paid or duly provided for, at the fixed or floating rate specified in the series of debt securities, until the principal amount has been paid or made available for payment. Interest will be payable on each interest payment date (except for certain original issue discount notes (as defined below) and except for a series of debt securities issued between a regular record date and an interest payment date) and at maturity or on redemption or repayment, if any. Unless otherwise provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, in the event that the maturity date of any series of debt securities is not a business day, principal and interest payable at maturity will be paid on the next succeeding business day with the same effect as if that following business day were the date on which the payment were due, except that the relevant issuer will not pay any additional interest as a result of the delay in payment except as otherwise provided under " Payment of Additional Amounts." Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, interest payments in respect of a series of debt securities will equal the amount of interest accrued from and including the immediately preceding interest payment date in respect of which interest has been paid or duly made available for payment (or from and including the date of issue, if no interest has been paid with respect to the applicable series of debt securities) to but excluding the related interest payment date, maturity date or redemption or repayment date, if any, as the case may be.

Interest will be payable to the person in whose name a debt security is registered at the close of business on the regular record date next preceding the related interest payment date, except that:

if the relevant issuer fails to pay the interest due on an interest payment date, the defaulted interest will be paid to the person in whose name the debt security is registered at the close of

Table of Contents

business on the record date the relevant issuer will establish for the payment of defaulted interest; and

interest payable at maturity, redemption or repayment will be payable to the person to whom principal shall be payable.

In addition, the interest rate on floating rate notes will in no event be higher than the maximum rate permitted by New York or other applicable law, as such law may be modified by any applicable United States law of general application.

The first payment of interest on any series of debt securities originally issued between a regular record date and an interest payment date will be made on the interest payment date following the next succeeding regular record date to the registered owner on such next succeeding regular record date.

Fixed Rate Notes

Each fixed rate debt security, which we refer to as a fixed rate note, will bear interest at the annual rate specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. The interest payment dates for fixed rate notes will be specified in the applicable prospectus supplement and the regular record dates will be the fifteenth calendar day (whether or not a business day) prior to each interest payment date unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, interest on fixed rate notes will be computed and paid on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months. In the event that any date for any payment on any fixed rate note is not a business day, payment of interest, premium, if any, or principal otherwise payable on such fixed rate note will be made on the next succeeding business day. The relevant issuer will not pay any additional interest as a result of the delay in payment.

Floating Rate Notes

Unless otherwise specified in an applicable prospectus supplement, floating rate debt securities, which we refer to as floating rate notes, will be issued as described below. Each applicable prospectus supplement will specify certain terms with respect to which such floating rate note is being delivered, including:

whether the floating rate note is a regular floating rate note, an inverse floating rate note or a floating rate/fixed rate note (if not specified, the floating rate note will be a regular floating rate note);

the interest rate basis or bases;

initial interest rate;

interest reset dates;

interest reset period;

interest payment dates;

index maturity, if any;

maximum interest rate and minimum interest rate, if any;

the spread and/or spread multiplier, if any; and

if one or more of the specified interest rate bases is LIBOR, the index currency, if any, as described below.

Edgar Filing: CREDIT SUISSE AG - Form F-3/A

Table of Contents

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, each regular record date for a floating rate note will be the fifteenth calendar day (whether or not a business day) prior to each interest payment date.

The interest rate borne by the floating rate notes will be determined as follows:

Unless a floating rate note is a floating rate/fixed rate note or an inverse floating rate note, the floating rate note will be a regular floating rate note and, except as described below or in an applicable prospectus supplement, will bear interest at the rate determined by reference to the applicable interest rate basis or bases:

plus or minus the applicable spread, if any; and/or

multiplied by the applicable spread multiplier, if any.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, commencing on the initial interest reset date, the rate at which interest on such regular floating rate note will be payable will be reset as of each interest reset date; provided, however, that the interest rate in effect for the period from the original issue date to the initial interest reset date will be the initial interest rate.

If a floating rate note is a floating rate/fixed rate note, then, except as described below or in an applicable prospectus supplement, the floating rate/fixed rate note will initially bear interest at the rate determined by reference to the applicable interest rate basis or bases:

plus or minus the applicable spread, if any; and/or

multiplied by the applicable spread multiplier, if any.

Commencing on the initial interest reset date, the rate at which interest on the floating rate/fixed rate note will be payable shall be reset as of each interest reset date, except that:

the interest rate in effect for the period from the original issue date to the initial interest reset date will be the initial interest rate; and

the interest rate in effect commencing on, and including, the fixed rate commencement date (as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement) to the maturity date will be the fixed interest rate specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, or if no fixed interest rate is so specified and the floating rate/fixed rate note is still outstanding on the fixed rate commencement date, the interest rate in effect on the floating rate/fixed rate note on the day immediately preceding the fixed rate commencement date.

If a floating rate note is an inverse floating rate note, then, except as described below or in an applicable prospectus supplement, the inverse floating rate note will bear interest equal to the fixed interest rate specified in the applicable prospectus supplement:

minus the rate determined by reference to the interest rate basis or bases;

plus or minus the applicable spread, if any; and/or

multiplied by the applicable spread multiplier, if any.

Edgar Filing: CREDIT SUISSE AG - Form F-3/A

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the interest rate on an inverse floating rate note will not be less than zero. Commencing on the initial interest reset date, the rate at which interest on such inverse floating rate note is payable will be reset as of each interest reset date; provided, however, that the interest rate in effect for the period from the original issue date to the initial interest reset date will be the initial interest rate.

Edgar Filing: CREDIT SUISSE AG - Form F-3/A

Table of Contents

Unless otherwise provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, each interest rate basis will be the rate determined in accordance with the applicable provisions below. Except as set forth above or in the applicable prospectus supplement, the interest rate in effect on each day will be:

if such day is an interest reset date, the interest rate as determined on the interest determination date (as defined below) immediately preceding such interest reset date; or

if such day is not an interest reset date, the interest rate determined on the interest determination date immediately preceding the next preceding interest reset date.

Except for the fixed rate period described above for floating rate/fixed rate notes, interest on floating rate notes will be determined by reference to an interest rate basis, which may be one or more of:

the Commercial Paper rate;

the Federal Funds rate/Federal Funds open rate;

LIBOR;

the Prime rate;

the Treasury rate; or

any other interest rate basis or interest rate formula described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

The "spread" is the number of basis points to be added to or subtracted from the related interest rate basis or bases applicable to a floating rate note. The "spread multiplier" is the percentage of the related interest rate basis or bases applicable to a floating rate note by which such interest rate basis or bases will be multiplied to determine the applicable interest rate on such floating rate note. The "index maturity" is the period to maturity of the instrument or obligation with respect to which the interest rate basis or bases will be calculated.

Each applicable prospectus supplement will specify whether the rate of interest on the related floating rate note will be reset daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, annually or such other specified interest reset period and the dates on which such interest rate will be reset. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the interest reset date will be, in the case of floating rate notes which reset:

daily, each business day;

weekly, a business day that occurs in each week as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement (with the exception of weekly reset Treasury rate notes, which will reset the Tuesday of each week except as specified below);

monthly, a business day that occurs in each month as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement;

quarterly, a business day that occurs in each third month as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement;

Edgar Filing: CREDIT SUISSE AG - Form F-3/A

semi-annually, a business day that occurs in each of two months of each year as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement; and

annually, a business day that occurs in one month of each year as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

If any interest reset date for any floating rate note would otherwise be a day that is not a business day, that interest reset date will be postponed to the next succeeding day that is a business day, except that in the case of a floating rate note as to which LIBOR is an applicable interest rate basis, if that business day falls in the next succeeding calendar month, the interest reset date will be the immediately preceding business day.

The term "business day" means, unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, any day that is not a Saturday or Sunday and that is not a day on which banking institutions are generally authorized or obligated by law, regulation or executive order to close in The City of New York and any other place of payment with respect to the applicable series of debt securities and:

with respect to LIBOR notes, "business day" will also include a London business day;

with respect to any series of debt securities denominated in euros, "business day" will also include any day on which the TransEuropean Real-Time Gross Settlement Express Transfer (TARGET) System is in place;

with respect to any series of debt securities denominated in a specified currency other than U.S. dollars or euros, "business day" will not include a day on which banking institutions are generally authorized or obligated by law, regulation or executive order to close in the principal financial center of the country of the specified currency;

"London business day" means any day that is both a business day and a day on which dealings in deposits in any currency specified in the applicable prospectus supplement are transacted, or with respect to any future date are expected to be transacted, in the London interbank market.

Except as provided below or in an applicable prospectus supplement, interest will be payable on the maturity date and in the case of floating rate notes which reset:

daily, weekly or monthly, on a business day that occurs in each month as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement;

quarterly, on a business day that occurs in each third month as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement;

semi-annually, on a business day that occurs in each of two months of each year as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement; and

annually, on a business day that occurs in one month of each year as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, if any interest payment date for any floating rate note (other than the maturity date, but including any redemption date or repayment date) would otherwise be a day that is not a business day, that interest payment date or redemption date or repayment date will be the next succeeding day that is a business day and interest shall accrue to, and be payable on, such following business day, except that if a floating rate note is a LIBOR note and if the next business day falls in the next succeeding calendar month, the interest payment date or redemption date or repayment date will be the immediately preceding business day and interest shall accrue to, and be payable on, such preceding business day. If the maturity date of a floating rate note falls on a day that is not a business day, the payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest, if any, will be made on the next succeeding business day, and we will not pay any additional interest for the period from and after the maturity date.

All percentages resulting from any calculation on floating rate notes will be to the nearest one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point, with five one millionths of a percentage point rounded upwards (e.g., 9.876545% (or .09876545) would be rounded to 9.87655% (or .0987655)), and all dollar amounts used in or resulting from such calculation will be rounded to the nearest cent (with one-half cent being rounded upward).

Table of Contents

With respect to each floating rate note, accrued interest is calculated by multiplying its face amount by an accrued interest factor. The accrued interest factor is computed by adding the interest factor calculated for each day from and including the later of (a) the date of issue and (b) the last day to which interest has been paid or duly provided for to but excluding the last date for which accrued interest is being calculated. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the interest factor for each such day will be computed by dividing the interest rate applicable to such day by 360, in the case of floating rate notes for which the interest rate basis is the Commercial Paper rate, the Federal Funds rate, the Federal Funds open rate, LIBOR or the Prime rate, or by the actual number of days in the year in the case of floating rate notes for which the interest rate basis is the Treasury rate. The accrued interest factor for floating rate notes for which the interest rate may be calculated with reference to two or more interest rate bases will be calculated in each period by selecting one such interest rate basis for such period in accordance with the provisions of the applicable prospectus supplement.

The interest rate applicable to each interest reset period commencing on the interest reset date with respect to that interest reset period will be the rate determined as of the interest determination date. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the interest determination date with respect to the Commercial Paper rate, the Federal Funds rate, the Federal Funds open rate and the Prime rate will be the second business day preceding each interest reset date for the related floating rate note; and the interest determination date with respect to LIBOR will be the second London business day preceding each interest reset date. With respect to the Treasury rate, unless otherwise specified in an applicable prospectus supplement, the interest determination date will be the day in the week in which the related interest reset date falls on which day Treasury bills (as defined below) are normally auctioned in accordance with the schedule set out by the U.S. Treasury; provided, however, that if an auction is held on the Friday on the week preceding the related interest reset date, the related interest determination date will be such preceding Friday; and provided, further, that if an auction falls on any interest reset date then the related interest reset date will instead be the first business day following such auction. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the interest determination date pertaining to a floating rate note, the interest rate of which is determined with reference to two or more interest rate bases, will be the latest business day which is at least two business days prior to each interest reset date for such floating rate note. Each interest rate basis will be determined and compared on such date, and the applicable interest rate will take effect on the related interest reset date, as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Unless otherwise provided for in the applicable prospectus supplement, The Bank of New York Mellon, formerly known as The Bank of New York, will be the calculation agent and for each interest reset date will determine the interest rate with respect to any floating rate note as described below. The calculation agent will notify the relevant issuer, the paying agent and the trustee of each determination of the interest rate applicable to a floating rate note promptly after such determination is made. The calculation agent will, upon the request of the holder of any floating rate note, provide the interest rate then in effect and, if determined, the interest rate which will become effective as a result of a determination made with respect to the most recent interest determination date relating to such floating rate note. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the "calculation date," where applicable, pertaining to any interest determination date will be the earlier of (a) the tenth calendar day after that interest determination date or, if such day is not a business day, the next succeeding business day or (b) the business day preceding the applicable interest payment date or maturity date, as the case may be.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the calculation agent will determine the interest rate basis with respect to floating rate notes as follows:

Commercial Paper Rate Notes. Commercial Paper rate debt securities, which we refer to as Commercial Paper rate notes, will bear interest at the interest rate (calculated with reference to the

Table of Contents

Commercial Paper rate and the spread and/or spread multiplier, if any) specified in the Commercial Paper rate notes and in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, "Commercial Paper rate" means, with respect to any interest determination date relating to a Commercial Paper rate note, the money market yield (as defined below) of the rate on that date for commercial paper having the index maturity designated in the applicable prospectus supplement, as published in H.15(519), under the heading "Commercial Paper Non-financial." In the event that the rate is not published prior to 3:00 p.m., New York City time, on the calculation date pertaining to such interest determination date, then the Commercial Paper rate will be the money market yield of the rate on the interest determination date for commercial paper of the specified index maturity as published in H.15 daily update under the heading "Commercial Paper Non-financial" (with an index maturity of one month, two months or three months being deemed to be equivalent to an index maturity of 30 days, 60 days or 90 days, respectively). If by 3:00 p.m., New York City time, on that calculation date, the rate is not yet available in either H.15(519) or H.15 daily update, the calculation agent will calculate the Commercial Paper rate on that interest determination date, which will be the money market yield corresponding to the arithmetic mean of the offered rates as of approximately 11:00 a.m., New York City time, on that interest determination date for commercial paper of the specified index maturity placed for a non-financial issuer whose bond rating is "AA" or the equivalent, from a nationally recognized rating agency as quoted by three leading dealers of commercial paper in The City of New York selected and identified by us or the calculation agent (after consultation with us), as applicable; provided, however, that if the dealers selected as aforesaid by us or the calculation agent, as applicable, are not quoting offered rates as set forth above, the Commercial Paper rate with respect to such interest determination date will be the same as the Commercial Paper rate for the immediately preceding interest reset period (or, if there was no preceding interest reset period, the rate of interest will be the initial interest rate).

"Money market yield" will be a yield (expressed as a percentage) calculated in accordance with the following formula:

$$\text{Money Market Yield} = \frac{D \times 360}{360 (D \times M)} \times 100$$

where "D" refers to the applicable per annum rate for commercial paper quoted on a bank discount basis and expressed as a decimal, and "M" refers to the actual number of days in the period for which interest is being calculated.

Federal Funds Rate Notes/Federal Funds Open Rate Notes. Federal Funds rate debt securities, which we refer to as Federal Funds rate notes, will bear interest at the interest rate (calculated with reference to the Federal Funds rate and the spread and/or spread multiplier, if any) specified in the Federal Funds rate notes and in the applicable prospectus supplement. Federal Funds open rate debt securities, which we refer to as Federal Funds open rate notes, will bear interest at the interest rate (calculated with reference to the Federal Funds open rate and the spread and/or spread multiplier, if any) specified in the Federal Funds open rate notes and in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the "Federal Funds rate" means, with respect to any interest determination date relating to a Federal Funds rate note, the rate applicable to such date for Federal Funds opposite the caption "Federal funds (effective)," as displayed on Reuters on page 118 (or any page which may replace such page on such service) under the heading "EFFECT" on the business day immediately following such interest determination date. If such rate is not so published by 3:00 p.m., New York City time, on the business day immediately following such interest determination date, the Federal Funds rate will be the rate applicable to such interest determination date as published in H.15 daily update (or such other recognized electronic source used for the purpose of displaying such rate) under the heading "Federal Funds (effective)." If that rate is not published in H.15 daily update (or such other recognized electronic source used for the purpose of displaying such rate) by 4:15 p.m., New York City time, on the business day immediately following such

Table of Contents

interest determination date, the calculation agent will calculate the Federal Funds rate applicable to such interest determination date, which will be the arithmetic mean of the rates for the last transaction in overnight United States dollar Federal Funds as of 9:00 a.m., New York City time, on such interest determination date arranged by three leading brokers (which may include any underwriters, agents or their affiliates) of Federal Funds transactions in The City of New York selected and identified by us or the calculation agent (after consultation with us), as applicable; provided, however, that if the brokers selected as aforesaid by us or the calculation agent, as applicable, are not quoting as set forth above, the Federal Funds rate applicable to such interest determination date will be the same as the Federal Funds rate in effect for the immediately preceding interest reset period (or, if there was no preceding interest reset period, the rate of interest will be the initial interest rate).

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the "Federal Funds open rate" means, with respect to any interest determination date relating to a Federal Funds open rate note, the rate for such day for federal funds transactions among members of the Federal Reserve System arranged by federal funds brokers on such day, as published under the heading "Federal Funds" opposite the caption "Open" as such rate is displayed on Reuters (or any successor service) on page 5 (or any page which may replace such page on such service) ("Reuters Page 5"). In the event that on any interest determination date no reported rate appears on Reuters Page 5 by 3:00 p.m., New York City time, the rate for the interest determination date will be the rate for that day displayed on FFPREBON Index page on Bloomberg which is the Fed Funds Opening Rate as reported by Prebon Yamane (or any successor) on Bloomberg. In the event that on any interest determination date no reported rate appears on Reuters Page 5 or the FFPREBON Index page on Bloomberg or another recognized electronic source by 3 p.m., New York City time, the interest rate applicable to the next interest reset period will be the arithmetic mean of the rates for the last transaction in overnight U.S. dollar Federal Funds prior to 9:00 a.m., New York City time, on such interest determination date arranged by three leading brokers (which may include any underwriters, agents or their affiliates) of Federal Funds transactions in New York City selected and identified by us or the calculation agent (after consultation with us), as applicable; provided, however, that if the brokers selected by us or the calculation agent, as applicable, are not quoting as set forth above, the Federal Funds open rate with respect to such interest determination date will be the same as the Federal Funds open rate in effect for the immediately preceding interest reset period (or, if there was no preceding interest reset period, the rate of interest will be the initial interest rate). Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Federal Funds open rate in effect for any day that is not a business day shall be the Federal Funds open rate in effect for the prior business day.

LIBOR Notes. LIBOR debt securities, which we refer to as LIBOR notes, will bear interest at the interest rate (calculated with reference to LIBOR and the spread and/or spread multiplier, if any) specified in the LIBOR notes and in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the calculation agent will determine "LIBOR" for each interest reset date as follows:

With respect to an interest determination date relating to a LIBOR note, LIBOR will be the offered rate for deposits in the London interbank market in the index currency (as defined below) having the index maturity designated in the applicable prospectus supplement commencing on the second London business day immediately following such interest determination date that appears on the Designated LIBOR Page (as defined below) or a successor reporter of such rates selected by the calculation agent and acceptable to us, as of 11:00 a.m., London time, on such interest determination date (the "reported rate"). If no rate appears on the Designated LIBOR Page, LIBOR in respect of such interest determination date will be determined as if the parties had specified the rate described in the following paragraph;

With respect to an interest determination date relating to a LIBOR note to which the last sentence of the previous paragraph applies, the calculation agent will request the principal London offices of each of four major reference banks (which may include any underwriters,

Table of Contents

agents or their affiliates) in the London interbank market selected and identified by us or the calculation agent (after consultation with us), as applicable, to provide the calculation agent with its offered quotation for deposits in the index currency for the period of the index maturity designated in the applicable prospectus supplement commencing on the second London business day immediately following such interest determination date to prime banks in the London interbank market at approximately 11:00 a.m., London time, on such interest determination date and in a principal amount that is representative for a single transaction in such index currency in such market at such time. If at least two such quotations are provided, LIBOR determined on such interest determination date will be the arithmetic mean of such quotations. If fewer than two quotations are provided, LIBOR determined on such interest determination date will be the arithmetic mean of the rates quoted at approximately 11:00 a.m. (or such other time specified in the applicable prospectus supplement), in the principal financial center of the country of the specified index currency, on that interest determination date for loans made in the index currency to leading European banks having the index maturity designated in the applicable prospectus supplement commencing on the second London business day immediately following such interest determination date and in a principal amount that is representative for a single transaction in that index currency in that market at such time by three major reference banks (which may include any underwriters, agents or their affiliates) in such principal financial center selected by us or the calculation agent (after consultation with us), as applicable; provided, however, that if fewer than three reference banks so selected by us or the calculation agent, as applicable, are quoting such rates as mentioned in this sentence, LIBOR with respect to such interest determination date will be the same as LIBOR in effect for the immediately preceding interest reset period (or, if there was no preceding interest reset period, the rate of interest will be the initial interest rate).

"Index currency" means the currency (including currency units and composite currencies) specified in the applicable prospectus supplement as the currency with respect to which LIBOR will be calculated. If no currency is specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the index currency will be U.S. dollars.

"Designated LIBOR Page" means the display on page LIBOR01 (or any other page specified in the applicable prospectus supplement) of Reuters (or any successor service) for the purpose of displaying the London interbank offered rates of major banks for the applicable index currency (or such other page as may replace that page on that service for the purpose of displaying such rates).

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, "principal financial center" means the principal financial center of the country of the specified currency or specified index currency, as applicable, except that with respect to U.S. dollars and euro, the principal financial center shall be New York City and Brussels, respectively.

Prime Rate Notes. Prime rate debt securities, which we refer to as Prime rate notes, will bear interest at the interest rate (calculated with reference to the Prime rate and the spread and/or spread multiplier, if any) specified in the Prime rate notes and in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, "Prime rate" means, with respect to any interest determination date, the rate set forth in H.15(519) for that date opposite the caption "Bank Prime Loan" or, if not published by 3:00 p.m., New York City time, on the calculation date, the rate on such interest determination date as published in H.15 daily update under the caption "Bank Prime Loan." If that rate is not yet published by 3:00 p.m., New York City time, on the calculation date pertaining to that interest determination date, the Prime rate for that interest determination date will be the arithmetic mean of the rates of interest publicly announced by each bank named on the Reuters Screen USPRIME1 Page (as defined below) as that bank's prime rate or base lending rate as in effect as of 11:00 a.m., New York City time, for that interest determination date as quoted on the Reuters Screen USPRIME1 Page on that interest determination date, or, if fewer than four of these rates appear on the Reuters Screen USPRIME1 Page for that interest determination

Table of Contents

date, the rate will be the arithmetic mean of the prime rates quoted on the basis of the actual number of days in the year divided by 360 as of the close of business on that interest determination date by at least two of the three major money center banks in The City of New York selected and identified by us or by the calculation agent (after consultation with us), as applicable, from which quotations are requested. If fewer than two quotations are provided, the calculation agent will calculate the Prime rate, which will be the arithmetic mean of the prime rates in The City of New York quoted by the appropriate number of substitute banks or trust companies organized and doing business under the laws of the United States, or any State thereof, in each case having total equity capital of at least \$500 million and being subject to supervision or examination by federal or state authority, selected and identified by us or the calculation agent (after consultation with us), as applicable, to quote prime rates. "Reuters Screen USPRIME1 Page" means the display designated as the "USPRIME1" page on Reuters (or such other page as may replace the USPRIME1 Page on that service for the purpose of displaying prime rates or base lending rates of major United States banks).

Treasury Rate Notes. Treasury rate debt securities, which we refer to as Treasury rate notes, will bear interest at the interest rate (calculated with reference to the Treasury rate and the spread and/or spread multiplier, if any) specified in the Treasury rate notes and in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the "Treasury rate" means, with respect to any interest determination date relating to a Treasury rate note, the rate from the auction held on such interest determination date, which we refer to as the "auction," of direct obligations of the United States, which we refer to as Treasury bills, having the index maturity designated in the applicable prospectus supplement under the caption "INVESTMENT RATE" on the display on Reuters (or any successor service) on page USAUCTION10 (or any other page as may replace such page on such service) or page USAUCTION11 (or any other page as may replace such page on such service) or, if not so published by 3:00 p.m., New York City time, on the calculation date pertaining to such interest determination date, the bond equivalent yield (as defined below) of the rate for such Treasury bills as published in H.15 daily update, or such other recognized electronic source used for the purpose of displaying such rate, under the caption "U.S. Government Securities/Treasury Bills/Auction High" or, if not so published by 3:00 p.m., New York City time, on the related calculation date, the bond equivalent yield of the auction rate of such Treasury bills as announced by the U.S. Department of the Treasury. In the event that the auction rate of Treasury bills having the index maturity designated in the applicable prospectus supplement is not so announced by the U.S. Department of the Treasury, or if no such auction is held, then the Treasury rate will be the bond equivalent yield of the rate on that interest determination date of Treasury bills having the index maturity designated in the applicable prospectus supplement as published in H.15(519) under the caption "U.S. Government Securities/Treasury Bills (Secondary Market)" or, if not published by 3:00 p.m., New York City time, on the related calculation date, the rate on that interest determination date of such Treasury bills as published in H.15 daily update, or such other recognized electronic source used for the purpose of displaying such rate, under the caption "U.S. Government Securities/Treasury Bills (Secondary Market)." In the event such rate is not published in H.15(519), H.15 daily update or another recognized electronic source by 3:00 p.m., New York City time, on such calculation date, the calculation agent will calculate the Treasury rate, which will be a bond equivalent yield of the arithmetic mean of the secondary market bid rates, as of approximately 3:30 p.m., New York City time, on such interest determination date, of three leading primary U.S. government securities dealers (which may include Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC) selected and identified by us or by the calculation agent (after consultation with us), as applicable, for the issue of Treasury bills with a remaining maturity closest to the index maturity designated in the applicable prospectus supplement; provided, however, that if the dealers selected by us or the calculation agent, as applicable, are not quoting bid rates as mentioned in this sentence, the Treasury rate with respect to the interest determination date will be the same as the Treasury rate in effect for the immediately preceding interest reset period (or, if there was no preceding interest reset period, the rate of interest will be the initial interest rate).

Table of Contents

The term "bond equivalent yield" means a yield (expressed as a percentage) calculated in accordance with the following formula:

$$\text{Bond equivalent yield} = \frac{D \times N \times 100}{360 (D \times M)}$$

where "D" refers to the applicable per annum rate for Treasury bills quoted on a bank discount basis, "N" refers to 365 or 366, as the case may be, and "M" refers to the actual number of days in the applicable interest reset period.

Indexed Notes

A series of debt securities also may be issued with the principal amount payable at maturity or interest to be paid on such series of debt securities, or both, to be determined with reference to the price or prices of specified commodities, stocks or indices, the exchange rate of a specified currency relative to one or more other currencies, currency units, composite currencies or units of account specified in an applicable prospectus supplement, or such other price or exchange rate as may be specified in such series of debt securities, as set forth in an applicable prospectus supplement relating to such series of debt securities ("indexed notes"). In certain cases, holders of indexed notes may receive a principal amount on the maturity date that is greater than or less than the face amount of the indexed notes, or an interest rate that is greater than or less than the stated interest rate on the indexed notes, or both, depending upon the structure of the indexed note and the relative value on the maturity date or at the relevant interest payment date, as the case may be, of the specified indexed item. However, the amount of interest or principal payable with respect to an indexed note will not be less than zero. Information as to the method for determining the principal amount payable on the maturity date, the manner of determining the interest rate, certain historical information with respect to the specified indexed item and tax considerations associated with an investment in indexed notes will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

An investment in indexed notes may be much riskier than a similar investment in conventional fixed-rate debt securities. If the interest rate of an indexed note is indexed, it may result in an interest rate that is less than that payable on conventional fixed-rate debt securities issued by us at the same time, including the possibility that no interest will be paid. If the principal amount of an indexed note is indexed, the principal amount payable at maturity may be less than the original purchase price of such indexed note, including the possibility that no principal will be paid, resulting in an entire loss of investment. Additionally, if the formula used to determine the principal amount or interest payable with respect to such indexed notes contains a multiple or leverage factor, the effect of any change in the applicable currency, commodity, stock or interest rate index may be increased. We refer you to "Foreign Currency Risks."

Dual Currency Notes

Dual currency debt securities, which we refer to as dual currency notes, are any series of debt securities as to which we have a one-time option, exercisable on a specified date in whole, but not in part, with respect to all dual currency notes issued on the same day and having the same terms, of making all payments of principal, premium, if any, and interest after the exercise of such option, whether at maturity or otherwise (which payments would otherwise be made in the face amount currency of such series of debt securities specified in the applicable prospectus supplement), in the optional payment currency specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. The terms of the dual currency notes together with information as to the relative value of the face amount currency compared to the optional payment currency and as to tax considerations associated with an investment in dual currency notes will also be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

If we elect on any option election date specified in the applicable prospectus supplement to pay in the optional payment currency instead of the face amount currency, payments of interest, premium, if

Table of Contents

any, and principal made after such option election date may be worth less, at the then current exchange rate, than if we had made such payments in the face amount currency. We refer you to "Foreign Currency Risks."

Renewable Notes

The relevant issuer may also issue from time to time variable rate renewable debt securities, which we refer to as renewable notes, which will mature on an interest payment date specified in the applicable prospectus supplement unless the maturity of all or a portion of the principal amount of the renewable notes is extended in accordance with the procedures set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Short-Term Notes

The relevant issuer may offer from time to time series of debt securities with maturities of less than one year, which we refer to as short-term notes. Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, interest on short-term notes will be payable at maturity. Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, interest on short-term notes that are floating rate notes (other than Treasury rate notes) will be computed on the basis of the actual number of days elapsed divided by 360, and interest on short-term notes that are Treasury rate notes will be computed on the basis of the actual number of days elapsed divided by a year of 365 or 366 days, as the case may be.

Extension of Maturity

The applicable prospectus supplement will indicate whether the relevant issuer has the option to extend the maturity of a series of debt securities (other than an amortizing note) for one or more periods up to but not beyond the final maturity date set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. If the relevant issuer has that option with respect to any series of debt securities (other than an amortizing note), we will describe the procedures in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Amortizing Notes

Amortizing debt securities, which we refer to as amortizing notes, are a series of debt securities for which payments combining principal and interest are made in installments over the life of such series of debt securities. Payments with respect to amortizing notes will be applied first to interest due and payable on the amortizing notes and then to the reduction of the unpaid principal amount of the amortizing notes. The relevant issuer will provide further information on the additional terms and conditions of any issue of amortizing notes in the applicable prospectus supplement. A table setting forth repayment information in respect of each amortizing note will be included in the applicable prospectus supplement and set forth on the amortizing notes.

Original Issue Discount Notes

The relevant issuer may offer series of debt securities, which we refer to as original issue discount notes, from time to time at an issue price (as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement) that is less than 100% of the principal amount of such series of debt securities (i.e., par). Original issue discount notes may not bear any interest currently or may bear interest at a rate that is below market rates at the time of issuance. The difference between the issue price of an original issue discount note and par is referred to herein as the "discount." In the event of redemption, repayment or acceleration of maturity of an original issue discount note, the amount payable to the holder of an original issue discount note will be equal to the sum of (a) the issue price (increased by any accruals of discount) and, in the event of any redemption by us of such original issue discount note (if applicable), multiplied by the initial redemption percentage specified in the applicable prospectus supplement (as adjusted by the initial redemption percentage reduction, if applicable) and (b) any unpaid interest on such original issue discount note accrued from the date of issue to the date of such redemption, repayment or acceleration of maturity.

Table of Contents

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, for purposes of determining the amount of discount that has accrued as of any date on which a redemption, repayment or acceleration of maturity occurs for an original issue discount note, the discount will be accrued using a constant yield method. The constant yield will be calculated using a 30-day month, 360-day year convention, a compounding period that, except for the initial period (as defined below), corresponds to the shortest period between interest payment dates for the applicable original issue discount note (with ratable accruals within a compounding period), a coupon rate equal to the initial coupon rate applicable to such original issue discount note and an assumption that the maturity of such original issue discount note will not be accelerated. If the period from the date of issue to the initial interest payment date, or the initial period, for an original issue discount note is shorter than the compounding period for such original issue discount note, a proportionate amount of the yield for an entire compounding period will be accrued. If the initial period is longer than the compounding period, then such period will be divided into a regular compounding period and a short period with the short period being treated as provided in the preceding sentence. The accrual of the applicable discount may differ from the accrual of original issue discount for purposes of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code").

Certain original issue discount notes may not be treated as having original issue discount for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and debt securities other than original issue discount notes may be treated as issued with original issue discount for U.S. federal income tax purposes. We refer you to "Taxation United States Taxation."

Redemption at the Option of the Relevant Issuer

Unless otherwise provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, the relevant issuer cannot redeem debt securities prior to maturity. The relevant issuer may redeem a series of debt securities at its option prior to the maturity date only if an initial redemption date is specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. If so specified, the relevant issuer can redeem the debt securities of such series at its option on any date on and after the applicable initial redemption date in whole or from time to time in part in increments of \$2,000 or such other minimum denomination specified in such applicable prospectus supplement (provided that any remaining principal amount of the debt securities of such series will be at least \$2,000 or such other minimum denomination), at the applicable redemption price, together with unpaid interest accrued to the date of redemption, on notice given not more than 60 nor less than 30 calendar days prior to the date of redemption and in accordance with the provisions of the applicable indenture. By redemption price for a debt security of a series, we mean an amount equal to the initial redemption percentage specified in the applicable prospectus supplement (as adjusted by the annual redemption percentage reduction specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, if any) multiplied by the unpaid principal amount of the debt security to be redeemed. The initial redemption percentage, if any, applicable to a series of debt securities may decline on each anniversary of the initial redemption date by an amount equal to the applicable annual redemption percentage reduction, if any, until the redemption price is equal to 100% of the unpaid principal amount to be redeemed. The redemption price of original issue discount notes is described above under " Original Issue Discount Notes."

Debt securities denominated in a foreign currency may be subject to different restrictions on redemption. We refer you to "Special Provisions Relating to Debt Securities Denominated in a Foreign Currency Minimum Denominations, Restrictions on Maturities, Repayment and Redemption."

Repayment at the Option of the Holders; Repurchase

Holders may require the relevant issuer to repay a series of debt securities prior to maturity only if one or more optional repayment dates are specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. If so specified, the relevant issuer will repay debt securities of such series at the option of the holders on any

Table of Contents

optional repayment date in whole or in part from time to time in increments of \$2,000 or such other minimum denomination specified in the applicable prospectus supplement (provided that any remaining principal amount thereof will be at least \$2,000 or such other minimum denomination specified in the applicable prospectus supplement), at a repayment price equal to 100% of the unpaid principal amount to be repaid, together with unpaid interest accrued to the date of repayment. A holder who wants the relevant issuer to repay a debt security prior to maturity must deliver the debt security, together with the form "Option to Elect Repayment" properly completed, to the trustee at its corporate trust office (or any other address that the relevant issuer specifies in the applicable prospectus supplement or notifies holders from time to time) no more than 60 nor less than 30 calendar days prior to the date of repayment. Exercise of a repayment option by the holder will be irrevocable. The repayment price of original issue discount notes is described above under " Original Issue Discount Notes." Notwithstanding the foregoing, the relevant issuer will comply with Section 14(e) under the Exchange Act to the extent applicable, and any other tender offer rules under the Exchange Act which may then be applicable, in connection with any obligation to repurchase a series of debt securities.

Only the depository may exercise the repayment option in respect of global securities representing book-entry debt securities. Accordingly, beneficial owners of global securities that desire to have all or any portion of book-entry debt securities represented by global securities repaid must direct the participant of the depository through which they own their interest to direct the depository to exercise the repayment option on their behalf by delivering the related global security and duly completed election form to the trustee as aforesaid. In order to ensure that the global security and election form are received by the trustee on a particular day, the applicable beneficial owner must so direct the participant through which it owns its interest before that participant's deadline for accepting instructions for that day. Different firms may have different deadlines for accepting instructions from their customers. Accordingly, beneficial owners should consult the participants through which they own their interest for the respective deadlines of those participants. All instructions given to participants from beneficial owners of global securities relating to the option to elect repayment will be irrevocable. In addition, at the time instructions are given by a beneficial owner, the beneficial owner must cause the participant through which it owns its interest to transfer that beneficial owner's interest in the global security or securities representing the related book-entry debt securities, on the depository's records, to the trustee. We refer you to " Book-Entry System."

Debt securities denominated in a foreign currency may be subject to different restrictions on repayment. We refer you to "Special Provisions Relating to Debt Securities Denominated in a Foreign Currency Minimum Denominations, Restrictions on Maturities, Repayment and Redemption."

The relevant issuer may at any time purchase debt securities at any price in the open market or otherwise. Such debt securities purchased by the relevant issuer may, at its discretion, be held, resold or surrendered to the trustee for cancellation.

Tax Redemption

If specifically provided by the applicable prospectus supplement, the relevant issuer may redeem a series of debt securities at its option at any time, in whole but not in part, on giving not less than 30 nor more than 60 days' notice, at the principal amount of such series of debt securities being redeemed, together with accrued interest to the date of redemption, if it has or will become obligated to pay additional interest on such series of debt securities as described under " Payment of Additional Amounts" below as a result of any change in, or amendment to, the laws (or any regulations or rulings promulgated thereunder) of Switzerland or the United States, as applicable, or any political subdivision or taxing authority thereof or therein, or any change in the application or official interpretation of such laws, regulations or rulings, which change or amendment becomes effective on or after the date of the applicable prospectus supplement, and such obligation cannot be avoided by the relevant issuer taking reasonable measures available to it, provided that no such notice of redemption will be given earlier

Table of Contents

than 90 days prior to the earliest date on which it would be obliged to pay such additional interest were a payment in respect of the debt securities of such series then due. Prior to the giving of any notice of redemption pursuant to this paragraph, the relevant issuer will deliver to the trustee a certificate stating that it is entitled to effect such redemption and setting forth a statement of facts showing that the conditions precedent to its right to redeem have occurred, and an opinion of independent counsel of recognized standing to the effect that the relevant issuer has or will become obligated to pay such additional interest as a result of such change or amendment.

Payment of Additional Amounts

If specifically provided by the applicable prospectus supplement, the relevant issuer will, subject to the exceptions and limitations set forth below, pay such additional amounts to the holder of a series of debt securities as may be necessary so that every net payment on such series of debt securities, after deduction or withholding for or on account of any present or future tax, assessment or other governmental charge imposed upon or as a result of such payment by Switzerland or the United States, as applicable, or any political subdivision or taxing authority thereof or therein, will not be less than the amount provided in such series of debt securities to be then due and payable.

Switzerland

If the relevant issuer is Credit Suisse Group or Credit Suisse, in either case, acting through a branch outside Switzerland, all payments of principal and interest in respect of the debt securities shall be made by the relevant issuer free and clear of, and without withholding or deduction for, any taxes, duties, assessments or governmental charges of whatever nature imposed, levied, collected, withheld or assessed by or within Switzerland or any authority therein or thereof having power to tax, unless such withholding or deduction is required by law. In that event, the relevant issuer shall pay such additional amounts as will result in receipt by the holders of such amounts as would have been received by them had no such withholding or deduction been required, except that no such additional amounts shall be payable by the relevant issuer to any such holder for or on account of:

- (i) any such taxes, duties, assessments or other governmental charges imposed in respect of such debt security by reason of the holder having some connection with Switzerland other than the mere holding of the debt security;
- (ii) any such taxes, duties, assessments or other governmental charges imposed in respect of any debt security presented for payment more than 30 days after the Relevant Date (as defined below) except to the extent that the holder would have been entitled to such additional amounts on presenting such debt security for payment on the last day of such period of 30 days;
- (iii) any such taxes, duties, assessments or other governmental charges where such withholding or deduction is imposed on a payment to an individual and is (A) required to be made pursuant to European Council Directive 2003/48/EC on the taxation of savings income or any law implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to, such Directive, (B) required to be made pursuant to the Agreement between the European Community and the Confederation of Switzerland dated as of 26th October 2004 (the "Swiss Savings Tax Agreement") providing for measures equivalent to those laid down in the EU Savings Tax Directive or any law or other governmental regulation implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to, the Swiss Savings Tax Agreement, or (C) required to be made pursuant to any agreements between the European Community and other countries or territories providing for measures equivalent to those laid down in the EU Savings Tax Directive or any law or other governmental regulation implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to, such agreements; or

Table of Contents

- (iv) any tax required to be withheld or deducted from a payment pursuant to laws enacted by Switzerland providing for the taxation of payments according to principles similar to those laid down (i) in the EU Savings Tax Directive or (ii) in the draft legislation proposed by the Swiss Federal Council on December 17, 2014, including the principle to have a person other than the relevant issuer withhold or deduct tax; or
- (v) any such taxes, duties, assessments or other governmental charges imposed in respect of the relevant debt security presented for payment by or on behalf of a holder who would have been able to avoid such withholding or deduction by presenting the relevant debt security to another paying agent in a member state of the European Union; or
- (vi) any such taxes, duties, assessments or other governmental charges imposed in respect of the relevant debt security where, if the relevant issuer is Credit Suisse Group or Credit Suisse, in either case, acting through its Zurich head office, such withholding or deduction is required by the Swiss Federal Withholding Tax Code of 13 October 1965 (*Bundesgesetz über die Verrechnungssteuer vom 13 Oktober 1965*);
- (vii) any withholding or deduction imposed on any payment by reason of FATCA (as defined below); or
- (viii) any combination of two or more items (i) through (vii) above.

"Relevant Date" as used herein means whichever is the later of (x) the date on which such payment first becomes due and (y) if the full amount payable has not been received by the trustee on or prior to such date, the date on which the full amount having been so received, notice to that effect shall have been given to the holders.

United States

If the relevant issuer is Credit Suisse Group or Credit Suisse, in either case, acting through a U.S. branch (or in the case of Credit Suisse, through its Cayman branch), all payments of principal and interest in respect of the debt securities shall be made by the relevant issuer free and clear of, and without withholding or deduction for, any taxes, duties, assessments or governmental charges of whatever nature imposed, levied, collected, withheld or assessed by the United States or any authority therein or thereof having power to tax, unless such withholding or deduction is required by law. In that event, the relevant issuer shall pay such additional amounts as will result in receipt by the holders of such amounts as would have been received by them had no such withholding or deduction been required, except that no such additional amounts shall be payable by the relevant issuer to any such holder for or on account of:

- (i) any tax, assessment or other governmental charge that would not have been imposed but for (a) the existence of any present or former connection between such holder and the United States, including, without limitation, such holder being or having been a citizen or resident thereof or being or having been engaged in trade or business or present therein or having or having had a permanent establishment therein or (b) such holder's past or present status as a personal holding company, foreign personal holding company or private foundation or other tax-exempt organization with respect to the United States or as a corporation that accumulates earnings to avoid U.S. federal income tax;
- (ii) any estate, inheritance, gift, sales, transfer or personal property tax or any similar tax, assessment or other governmental charge;
- (iii) any tax, assessment or other governmental charge that would not have been imposed but for the presentation by the holder of a debt security for payment more than 15 days after the date

Table of Contents

on which such payment became due and payable or on which payment thereof was duly provided for, whichever occurs later;

- (iv) any tax, assessment or other governmental charge that is payable otherwise than by deduction or withholding from a payment on such series of debt securities;
- (v) any tax, assessment or other governmental charge required to be deducted or withheld by any paying agent from a payment on such series of debt securities, if such payment can be made without such deduction or withholding by any other paying agent;
- (vi) any tax, assessment or other governmental charge that would not have been imposed but for a failure to comply with any applicable certification, documentation, information or other reporting requirement concerning the nationality, residence, identity or connection with the United States of the holder or beneficial owner of such series of debt securities if, without regard to any tax treaty, such compliance is required by statute or regulation of the United States as a precondition to relief or exemption from such tax, assessment or other governmental charge;
- (vii) any tax, assessment or other governmental charge imposed on a holder of such series of debt securities that actually or constructively owns 10 percent or more of the combined voting power of all classes of the relevant issuer's stock or that is a controlled foreign corporation related to the relevant issuer through stock ownership;
- (viii) any such taxes, duties, assessments or other governmental charges where such withholding or deduction is imposed on a payment to an individual and is (A) required to be made pursuant to European Council Directive 2003/48/EC on the taxation of savings income or any law implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to, such Directive, or (B) required to be made pursuant to any agreements between the European Community and other countries or territories providing for measures equivalent to those laid down in the EU Savings Tax Directive or any law or other governmental regulation implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to, such agreements;
- (ix) any such taxes, duties, assessments or other governmental charges required to be deducted or withheld from a payment or deemed payment that is treated as a "dividend equivalent" payment under the Code, Treasury regulations, or other law or official guidance of the United States;
- (x) any such withholding or deduction imposed on any payment by reason of FATCA (as defined below); or
- (xi) any combination of two or more items (i) through (x) above;

nor will such additional amounts be paid with respect to a payment on such series of debt securities to a holder that is a fiduciary or partnership or other than the sole beneficial owner of such payment to the extent a beneficiary or settlor with respect to such fiduciary or a member of such partnership or a beneficial owner would not have been entitled to the additional amounts had such beneficiary, settlor, member or beneficial owner been the holder of such series of debt securities.

U.S. Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act

Payments on the debt securities will be subject in all cases to any withholding or deduction required pursuant to an agreement described in Section 1471(b) of the Code, or described in any agreement between any jurisdiction and the United States relating to the foreign account provisions of the U.S. Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment Act of 2010, or otherwise imposed pursuant to Sections 1471 through 1474 of the Code, any regulations or agreements thereunder, official

Table of Contents

interpretations thereof, or any agreements, law, regulation or other official guidance implementing an intergovernmental agreement or other intergovernmental approach thereto (collectively, "FATCA").

Subordination

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, when the term "senior indebtedness" is used in the context of the subordinated debt securities, it means, with respect to an issuer:

any money such entity has borrowed, including any senior debt securities issued under the relevant senior indenture;

any money borrowed by someone else where such entity has assumed or guaranteed the obligations, directly or indirectly;

any letters of credit and acceptances made by banks on such entity's behalf; and

indebtedness that such entity has incurred or assumed in connection with the acquisition of any property.

Senior indebtedness shall not include any indebtedness that is expressed to be subordinated to or on par with the subordinated debt securities or any money owed to an entity's subsidiaries.

The subordinated indentures provide that the relevant issuer cannot:

make any payments of principal, premium or interest on the subordinated debt securities;

acquire any subordinated debt securities; or

defeas any subordinated debt securities;

if

any senior indebtedness in an aggregate principal amount of more than \$100 million has become due either on maturity or as a result of acceleration or otherwise and the principal, premium and interest on that senior indebtedness has not yet been paid in full by such entity; or

such entity has defaulted in the payment of any principal, premium or interest on any senior indebtedness in an aggregate principal amount of more than \$100 million at the time the payment was due, unless and until the payment default is cured by such entity or waived by the holders of the senior indebtedness.

If the relevant issuer is liquidated, the holders of the senior indebtedness will be entitled to receive payment in full in cash for principal, premium and interest on the senior indebtedness before the holders of subordinated debt securities receive any of such entity's assets. As a result, holders of subordinated debt securities may receive a smaller proportion of such entity's assets in liquidation than holders of senior indebtedness. In such a situation, holders of the subordinated debt securities could lose all or part of their investment.

Even if the subordination provisions prevent the relevant issuer from making any payment when due on the subordinated debt securities, the relevant issuer will be in default on its obligations under the applicable subordinated indenture if it does not make the payment when due. This means that the trustee and the holders of subordinated debt securities can take action against the relevant issuer, but they would not receive any money until the claims of the senior indebtedness have been fully satisfied.

Edgar Filing: CREDIT SUISSE AG - Form F-3/A

The subordinated indentures allow the holders of senior indebtedness to obtain specific performance of the subordination provisions from the relevant issuer or any holder of subordinated debt securities.

Table of Contents

There is no restriction on the amount of further debt securities that the relevant issuer may issue or guarantee which rank senior to or pari passu with the subordinated debt securities. The issue of any such further debt securities may reduce the amount that may be recovered by holders of subordinated debt securities in the event that the relevant issuer is wound up and/or may limit the ability of the relevant issuer to meet its obligations under the subordinated debt securities.

Consolidation, Merger or Sale

The relevant issuer will agree in the applicable indentures not to consolidate with or merge with or into any other person or convey or transfer all or substantially all of its properties and assets to any person unless:

it is the continuing person; or

the successor expressly assumes by supplemental indenture its obligations under such indenture.

In either case, the relevant issuer will also have to deliver a certificate to the trustee stating that after giving effect to the merger there will not be any defaults under the applicable indenture and, if the relevant issuer is not the continuing person, an opinion of counsel stating that the merger and the supplemental indentures comply with these provisions and that the supplemental indentures are legal, valid and binding obligations of the successor corporation enforceable against it.

Credit Suisse or Credit Suisse Group may issue debt securities directly or through one or more branches and Credit Suisse may, at any time, transfer its obligations under the debt securities from the head office to any branch of Credit Suisse or from any branch of Credit Suisse to another branch or to its head office.

Modification of the Indentures

In general, rights and obligations of the relevant issuer and the holders under each applicable indenture may be modified if the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of each series affected by the modification consent to such modification. However, each of the indentures provides that, unless each affected holder agrees, an amendment cannot:

make any adverse change to any payment term of a debt security such as extending the maturity date, extending the date on which the relevant issuer has to pay interest or make a sinking fund payment, reducing the interest rate, reducing the amount of principal the relevant issuer has to repay, reducing the amount of principal of a debt security issued with original issue discount that would be due and payable upon an acceleration of the maturity thereof or the amount thereof provable in bankruptcy, insolvency or similar proceeding, changing the currency or place in which the relevant issuer has to make any payment of principal, premium or interest, modifying any redemption or repurchase right to the detriment of the holder, modifying any right to convert or exchange the debt securities for another security to the detriment of the holder, and impairing any right of a holder to bring suit for payment;

reduce the percentage of the aggregate principal amount of debt securities needed to make any amendment to the applicable indenture or to waive any covenant or default;

waive any payment default; or

make any change to the amendment provisions of the applicable indenture.

However, other than in the circumstances mentioned above, if the relevant issuer and the trustee agree, the applicable indenture may be amended without notifying any holders or seeking their consent if the amendment does not materially and adversely affect any holder.

Table of Contents

In particular, if the relevant issuer and the trustee agree, the applicable indenture may be amended without notifying any holders or seeking their consent to add a guarantee from a third party on the outstanding and future debt securities to be issued under an applicable indenture.

Covenants

The relevant issuer may be subject to additional covenants, including restrictive covenants in respect of a particular series of debt securities. Such additional covenants will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement and, to the extent necessary, in the supplemental indenture or board resolution relating to that series of debt securities.

Events of Default

Unless otherwise specified in a prospectus supplement, an event of default with respect to a series of debt securities occurs upon:

a default in payment of the principal or any premium on any debt security of that series when due;

a default in payment of interest when due on any debt security of that series for 30 days;

a default in performing any other covenant in the indenture applicable to that series for 60 days after written notice from the trustee or from the holders of 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of such series; or

certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of the relevant issuer.

Any additional or different events of default applicable to a particular series of debt securities will be described in the prospectus supplement relating to such series.

The trustee may withhold notice to the holders of debt securities of any default (except in the payment of principal, premium or interest) if it considers such withholding of notice to be in the best interests of the holders. A default is any event which is an event of default described above or would be an event of default but for the giving of notice or the passage of time.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, if an event of default occurs and continues, the trustee or the holders of the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities specified below may require the relevant issuer to repay immediately, or accelerate:

the entire principal of the debt securities of such series; or

if the debt securities are original issue discount securities, such portion of the principal as may be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, if the event of default occurs because of a default in a payment of principal or interest on the debt securities, then the trustee or the holders of at least 25% of the aggregate principal amount of debt securities of that series can accelerate that series of debt securities. If the event of default occurs because of a failure to perform any other covenant in the applicable indenture for the benefit of one or more series of debt securities, then the trustee or the holders of at least 25% of the aggregate principal amount of debt securities of all series affected, voting as one class, can accelerate all of the affected series of debt securities. If the event of default occurs because of bankruptcy proceedings, then all of the debt securities under the applicable indenture will be accelerated automatically. Therefore, except in the case of a default on a payment of principal or interest on the debt securities of your series or a default due to bankruptcy or insolvency of the relevant issuer, it is possible that you may not be able to accelerate the debt securities of your series because of the failure of holders of other series to take action.

Table of Contents

The holders of a majority of the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of all affected series, voting as one class, can rescind this accelerated payment requirement or waive any past default or event of default or allow noncompliance with any provision of the applicable indenture. However, they cannot waive a default in payment of principal of, premium, if any, or interest on, any of the debt securities.

After an event of default, the trustee must exercise the same degree of care a prudent person would exercise under the circumstances in the conduct of her or his own affairs. Subject to these requirements, the trustee is not obligated to exercise any of its rights or powers under the applicable indenture at the request, order or direction of any holders, unless the holders offer the trustee reasonable indemnity. If they provide this reasonable indemnity, the holders of a majority in principal amount of all affected series of debt securities, voting as one class, may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding or any remedy available to the trustee, or exercising any power conferred upon the trustee, for any series of debt securities.

Defeasance

The term defeasance means discharge from some or all of the obligations under the applicable indenture. If the relevant issuer deposits with the trustee sufficient cash or government securities to pay the principal, interest, any premium and any other sums due to the stated maturity date or a redemption date of the debt securities of a particular series, then at the relevant issuer's option:

the relevant issuer will be discharged from their respective obligations with respect to the debt securities of such series; or

the relevant issuer will no longer be under any obligation to comply with the restrictive covenants, if any, contained in the applicable indenture and any supplemental indenture or board resolution with respect to the debt securities of such series, and the events of default relating to failures to comply with covenants will no longer apply to them.

If this happens, the holders of the debt securities of the affected series will not be entitled to the benefits of the applicable indenture except for registration of transfer and exchange of debt securities and replacement of lost, stolen or mutilated debt securities. Instead, the holders will only be able to rely on the deposited funds or obligations for payment.

The relevant issuer must deliver to the trustee an officers' certificate and an opinion of counsel to the effect that the deposit and related defeasance would not cause the holders of the debt securities to recognize income, gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes. In the case of a complete discharge, the relevant issuer may, in lieu of an opinion of counsel, deliver a ruling to such effect received from or published by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service if the relevant issuer is discharged from its obligations with respect to the debt securities.

Information Concerning the Trustee for the Debt Securities

The Bank of New York Mellon, formerly known as The Bank of New York (as successor to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., in the case of senior and subordinated indentures with Credit Suisse Group), with its corporate trust office at 101 Barclay Street, Floor 8W, New York, New York 10286, will be the trustee for the debt securities. The trustee will be required to perform only those duties that are specifically set forth in the applicable indenture, except when a default has occurred and is continuing with respect to the debt securities. After a default, the trustee must exercise the same degree of care that a prudent person would exercise under the circumstances in the conduct of her or his own affairs. Subject to these requirements, the trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of the powers vested in it by the applicable indenture at the request of any holder of debt securities unless the holder

Table of Contents

offers the trustee reasonable indemnity against the costs, expenses and liabilities that might be incurred by exercising those powers.

The Bank of New York Mellon, formerly known as The Bank of New York, has loaned money to Credit Suisse Group and certain of its subsidiaries and affiliates and provided other services to it and has acted as trustee or fiscal agent under certain of its and its subsidiaries' and affiliates' indentures or fiscal agency agreements in the past and may do so in the future as a part of its regular business.

Governing Law

The debt securities and the related indentures will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York, except for, in the case of subordinated debt securities issued by Credit Suisse Group or Credit Suisse, the subordination provisions thereof, which will be governed by Swiss law.

Payment and Transfer

Unless otherwise provided for in the applicable prospectus supplement, the debt securities will be issued only as registered securities, which means that the name of the holder will be entered in a register that will be kept by the applicable trustee or another agent appointed by the relevant issuer. Unless stated otherwise in a prospectus supplement, and except as described under " Book-Entry System" below, principal and interest payments will be made at the office of the paying agent or agents named in the prospectus supplement or by check mailed to you at your address as it appears in the register.

Unless other procedures are described in a prospectus supplement, and except as described under " Book-Entry System" below, you will be able to transfer registered debt securities at the office of the transfer agent or agents named in the prospectus supplement. You may also exchange registered debt securities at the office of the transfer agent for an equal aggregate principal amount of registered debt securities of the same series having the same maturity date, interest rate and other terms as long as the debt securities are issued in authorized denominations.

Neither the relevant issuer nor the applicable trustee will impose any service charge for any transfer or exchange of a debt security. The relevant issuer may, however, ask you to pay any taxes or other governmental charges in connection with a transfer or exchange of debt securities.

Book-Entry System

Debt securities may be issued under a book-entry system in the form of one or more global securities. The global securities will be registered in the name of a depository or its nominee and deposited with that depository or its custodian. Unless stated otherwise in the prospectus supplement, The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, or DTC, will be the depository if a depository is used.

Following the issuance of a global security in registered form, the depository will credit the accounts of its participants with the debt securities upon the relevant issuer's instructions. Only persons who hold directly or indirectly through financial institutions that are participants in the depository can hold beneficial interests in the global securities. Since the laws of some jurisdictions require certain types of purchasers to take physical delivery of such securities in definitive form, you may encounter difficulties in your ability to own, transfer or pledge beneficial interests in a global security.

So long as the depository or its nominee is the registered owner of a global security, the relevant issuer, the guarantor (if applicable) and the applicable trustee will treat the depository as the sole owner or holder of the debt securities for purposes of the applicable indenture. Therefore, except as set forth below, you will not be entitled to have debt securities registered in your name or to receive

Table of Contents

physical delivery of certificates representing the debt securities. Accordingly, you will have to rely on the procedures of the depositary and the participant in the depositary through whom you hold your beneficial interest in order to exercise any rights of a holder under the applicable indenture. We understand that under existing practices, the depositary would act upon the instructions of a participant or authorize that participant to take any action that a holder is entitled to take.

&nb