

ING GROEP NV
Form F-3ASR
December 04, 2008

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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 4, 2008

Registration No.

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

Form F-3
REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

ING GROEP N.V.
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

The Netherlands
(State or other jurisdiction of Incorporation or
Organization)

Not Applicable
(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

Amstelveenseweg 500
1081 KL Amsterdam
P.O. Box 810, 1000 AV Amsterdam
The Netherlands
Telephone: 011-31-20-541-54-11
(Address and telephone number of Registrant's principal executive offices)

Marcy S. Cohen
ING Financial Holdings Corporation
1325 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10019
Telephone: 646-424-6154
(Name, address, and telephone number of agent for service)

Please send copies of all communications to:

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London EC2V 7NG
United Kingdom
011-44-20-7418-1300

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: As soon as practicable after this Registration Statement becomes effective.

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

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

**Amount to be Registered/
Proposed Maximum Offering Price per Unit/
Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price/
Amount of Registration Fee(1)(2)**

Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered

Debt Securities
Ordinary Shares(3)
Bearer Depositary Receipts(3)(4)(5)

- (1) This registration statement covers an indeterminate amount of the registered securities that may be reoffered and resold on an ongoing basis after their initial sale in market-making transactions by affiliates of the Registrant.
- (2) An indeterminate aggregate initial offering price or number of securities of each identified class is being registered as may from time to time be issued at indeterminate prices. Separate consideration may not be received for registered securities that are issuable on exercise, conversion or exchange of other securities or represented by depositary shares. In accordance with Rules 456(b) and 457(r) under the Securities Act, the Registrant is deferring payment of all of the registration fee.
- (3) A separate registration statement on Form F-6 (Registration No. 333-145767) has been filed with respect to the American depositary shares (ADSs) evidenced by American depositary receipts. Each ADS represents one bearer depositary receipt issued by Stichting ING Aandelen representing one ordinary share with a nominal value of 0.24 euro (EUR 0.24).

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- (4) Assumes that all of the bearer depositary receipts offered by this document are sold in the form of ADSs.
 - (5) Includes an amount of bearer depositary receipts in respect of ordinary shares equal to the number of ordinary shares registered hereon.
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Explanatory Note

The prospectus contained herein relates to both of the following:

the initial offering of newly-issued debt securities, ordinary shares and ADSs of ING Groep N.V. on a continuous or delayed basis, at indeterminate aggregate initial public offering prices; and

market-making transactions that may occur on a continuous or delayed basis in the securities described above, after they were initially offered and sold, and in debt securities of ING Groep N.V., the initial offering and sale of which have already occurred.

When the prospectus is delivered to an investor in the initial offering described above, the investor will be informed of that fact in the confirmation of sale. When the prospectus is delivered to an investor who is not so informed, it is delivered in a market-making transaction.

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PROSPECTUS

ING GROEP N.V.
(Amsterdam, The Netherlands)

Debt Securities
Ordinary Shares
American Depositary Shares

Bearer depositary receipts representing our ordinary shares are traded on Euronext Amsterdam by NYSE Euronext, which we refer to as Euronext Amsterdam. Euronext Amsterdam is the principal trading market for the bearer depositary receipts representing our ordinary shares. The bearer depositary receipts representing our ordinary shares are also listed on Euronext Brussels. ADSs, representing bearer depositary receipts representing our ordinary shares, are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol ING.

When we offer securities, we will provide you with a prospectus supplement describing the terms of the specific issues of securities including the offering price of the securities. You should read this prospectus and the accompanying supplement carefully before you invest. We may offer and sell the securities directly to purchasers, through underwriters, dealers or agents, including ING Financial Markets LLC, one of our affiliates, or through any combination of these methods, on a continuous or delayed basis.

This prospectus describes some of the general terms that may apply to these securities and the general manner in which they may be offered. The specific terms of any securities to be offered, and the specific manner in which they may be offered, will be described in a supplement to this prospectus.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

We may use this prospectus in the initial sale of these securities. In addition, one or more of our subsidiaries may use this prospectus in a market-making transaction involving any of these securities after our initial sale. *Unless we or our agent inform the purchaser otherwise in the confirmation of sale, this prospectus is being used in a market-making transaction.*

ING WHOLESALE

Prospectus dated December 4, 2008

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PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this prospectus or incorporated by reference into this prospectus as further described below under Available Information. This summary does not contain all the information that you should consider before investing in the securities being offered by this prospectus. You should carefully read the entire prospectus, the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus and the prospectus supplement relating to the securities that you propose to buy, especially any description of investment risks that we may include in the prospectus supplement.

ING Groep N.V.

ING Groep N.V. is a holding company, which was incorporated in 1991 under the laws of The Netherlands, with its corporate seat and headquarters in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. ING Group is one of the world's largest financial service providers, offering a comprehensive range of life and non-life insurance, commercial and investment banking, asset management and related products and services in over 50 countries worldwide through its various subsidiary operations. ING Groep N.V.'s headquarters are located at Amstelveenseweg 500, 1081 KL Amsterdam, P.O. Box 810, 1000 AV Amsterdam, The Netherlands, telephone 011-31-20-541-54-11.

The Securities We Are Offering

We may offer any of the following securities from time to time:

debt securities;

ordinary shares; and

American depositary shares.

When we use the term securities in this prospectus, we mean any of the securities we may offer pursuant to this prospectus and a prospectus supplement, unless we say otherwise. This prospectus, including the following summary, describes the general terms that may apply to the securities. The specific terms of any particular securities that we may offer will be described in a separate supplement to this prospectus.

Debt Securities

Our debt securities may be senior or subordinated in right of payment. For any particular debt securities we offer, your prospectus supplement will describe the specific designation, the aggregate principal or face amount and the purchase price; the ranking, whether senior or subordinated; the stated maturity, if any; the redemption terms, if any; the rate, or manner of calculating the rate, and the payment dates for interest, if any; the amount or manner of calculating the amount payable at maturity; and any other specific terms.

We will issue the senior and subordinated debt securities under separate indentures between us and The Bank of New York Mellon, as trustee.

American Depositary Shares and Ordinary Shares

We may also offer bearer depositary receipts representing our ordinary shares, which will be held in the form of ADSs, as evidenced by ADRs. ADRs are American depositary receipts, which usually make owning foreign shares

easier. Each ADR will represent one bearer depositary receipt representing one ordinary share. The ADRs will be issued by JPMorgan Chase Bank, as depositary. See *Description of Ordinary Shares* and *Description of the Stichting Trust and the Bearer Depositary Receipts* for a description of the ordinary shares and the bearer depositary receipts that the ADRs represent.

Form of Securities

We will issue the securities in book-entry form through one or more depositaries, such as The Depository Trust Company, which we refer to as DTC, Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V., as operator of the Euroclear system, which we refer to as Euroclear, or Clearstream Banking, *société anonyme*, Luxembourg, which we refer to as Clearstream, named in your prospectus supplement. Each sale of a security in book-entry form will settle in immediately available funds through the depositary, unless otherwise stated. We will generally issue debt securities only in registered form, without coupons, although we may issue debt securities in bearer form if so specified in your prospectus supplement.

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Payment Currencies

Amounts payable in respect of the securities, (other than bearer depositary receipts representing our ordinary shares), including the purchase price, will be payable in U.S. dollars, unless your prospectus supplement says otherwise.

Listing

If any securities are to be listed on a securities exchange or quoted on a quotation system, your prospectus supplement will say so.

Use of Proceeds

Unless we indicate otherwise in your prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds from the initial sales of securities to provide additional funds for our operations and for other general corporate purposes.

Manner of Offering

The securities will be offered in connection with their initial issuance or in market-making transactions by our affiliates after initial issuance. Those offered in market-making transactions may be securities that will only be issued after the date of this prospectus, as well as debt securities that we have previously issued.

When we issue new securities, we may offer them for sale to or through underwriters, dealers and agents, including our affiliates, or directly to purchasers. Your prospectus supplement will include any required information about the firms we use and the discounts or commissions we may pay them for their services.

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AVAILABLE INFORMATION

We file annual reports on Form 20-F with, and furnish other reports and information on Form 6-K to, the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC. You may also read and copy any document we file or furnish 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 more information about the public reference rooms. Our filings with the SEC are also available through the SEC's Internet site at <http://www.sec.gov> and through the New York Stock Exchange, Inc., 11 Wall Street, New York, New York 10005, on which our ADSs are listed.

We have filed a registration statement on Form F-3 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, with the SEC covering the securities. For further information on the securities of ING Groep N.V., you should review our registration statement and its exhibits. This prospectus is a part of the registration statement and summarizes material provisions of the contracts and other documents to which we refer you. Since this prospectus may not contain all the information that you may find important, you should review the full text of these documents. We have included copies of these documents as exhibits to our registration statement.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we file with them, which means:

incorporated documents are considered part of this prospectus;

we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents; and

information that we file with the SEC in the future and incorporate by reference herein will automatically update and supersede information in this prospectus and information previously incorporated by reference herein.

We incorporate by reference the following documents or information which we filed with the SEC (other than, in each case, documents or information deemed to have been furnished and not filed in accordance with SEC rules):

our Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2007, filed on March 19, 2008; and

current reports on Form 6-K filed on (i) April 23, 2008 (relating to the appointment of Ernst & Young as our sole auditing firm), (ii) September 3, 2008 (relating to our six-month results, except for references therein to *Underlying Profit Before Tax* and any other non-GAAP financial measure as such term is defined in Regulation G under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended), (iii) October 21, 2008 (relating to the strengthening of core capital), (iv) October 24, 2008 (relating to changes in composition of the Executive Board), (v) October 24, 2008 (relating to nominations for the Supervisory Board), (vi) November 13, 2008 (relating to our nine-month results, except for references therein to *Underlying result before tax* and any other non-GAAP financial measure as such term is defined in Regulation G under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended), (vii) November 20, 2008 (relating to the voluntary delisting of our bearer depositary receipts from certain stock exchanges) and (viii) November 24, 2008 (relating to agreements on universal life cost charges).

We also incorporate by reference any future filings made by us with the SEC under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as well as any Form 6-K furnished to the SEC to the extent such Form 6-K expressly states that we incorporate such form by reference, on or after the date of this prospectus and before the termination of any offering of securities hereunder.

You may request, orally or in writing, a copy of any filings referred to above, excluding exhibits, other than those specifically incorporated by reference into the documents you request, at no cost, by contacting us at the following address: ING Groep N.V., Attention: Investor Relations, Amstelveenseweg 500, 1081 KL Amsterdam, P.O. Box 810, 1000 AV Amsterdam, The Netherlands, telephone: 011-31-20-541-54-11.

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any applicable prospectus supplement(s). We have not authorized any other person to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is prohibited. You should assume that the information appearing in this prospectus or any applicable prospectus supplement(s), as

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well as information we previously filed with, or furnished to, the SEC and incorporated by reference, is accurate as of the date on the front cover of such documents only. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Some of the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus may constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the safe harbor provisions of The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Although we have based these forward-looking statements on our expectations and projections about future events, it is possible that actual results may differ materially from our expectations. In many cases, we include a discussion of the factors that are most likely to cause forward-looking statements to differ from actual results together with the forward-looking statements themselves.

Information regarding important factors that could cause actual results to differ, perhaps materially, from those in our forward looking statements is contained under Cautionary Statement with Respect to Forward-Looking Statements in our Annual Report on Form 20-F for 2007, which is incorporated in this prospectus by reference (and will be contained in our annual reports for any subsequent year that are so incorporated). See Available Information above for information about how to obtain a copy of this annual report.

In light of the factors described in the applicable Annual Report on Form 20-F and the other factors described in this prospectus or any applicable prospectus supplement(s), events which are described might not occur at all or may occur differently than as described. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information or future events or for any other reason.

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

Unless otherwise specified, in this prospectus ING Groep N.V., refers to ING Groep N.V., the holding company incorporated under the laws of The Netherlands; and we, our and us , as well as ING, ING Group, or the Group to ING Groep N.V. and its consolidated subsidiaries. ING Groep N.V.'s primary insurance and banking subholdings are ING Verzekeringen N.V. and ING Bank N.V., respectively. When we refer to ING Bank, we mean ING Bank N.V., together with its consolidated subsidiaries. The Stichting Trust refers to the Stichting ING Aandelen, an administrative trust that holds approximately 99.9% of the outstanding ordinary shares of ING Groep N.V. and that issues bearer depositary receipts for such shares.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Except as may be described in your prospectus supplement, we will use the net proceeds from the initial sales of the securities offered under this prospectus and your prospectus supplement to provide additional funds for our operations and for other general corporate purposes. Our general corporate purposes may include the repayment or reduction of indebtedness, acquisitions and working capital requirements.

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DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES WE MAY OFFER

Please note that in this section entitled *Description of Debt Securities We May Offer*, references to *ING Groep N.V.*, *we*, *our* and *us* refer only to *ING Groep N.V.* and not to *ING*'s consolidated subsidiaries. Also, in this section, references to *holders* mean those who own debt securities registered in their own names, on the books that we or the trustee maintain for this purpose, and not those who own beneficial interests in debt securities registered in street name or in debt securities issued in book-entry form through one or more depositaries. Owners of beneficial interests in the debt securities should read the section below entitled *Legal Ownership and Book-Entry Issuance*.

This section and your prospectus supplement will summarize all the material terms of each indenture and your debt security. They do not, however, describe every aspect of each indenture and your debt security. For example, in this section and your prospectus supplement, we use terms that have been given special meaning in the indenture, but we describe the meaning for only the more important of those terms. As you read this section, please remember that the specific terms of your debt security as described in your prospectus supplement will supplement and, if applicable, may modify or replace the general terms described in this section. If there are any differences between your prospectus supplement and this prospectus, your prospectus supplement will control. Thus, the statements we make in this section may not apply to your debt security. The indentures and their associated documents, including your debt security, contain the full legal text of the matters described in this section and your prospectus supplement. We have filed a copy of the indentures with the SEC as exhibits to our registration statement. See *Available Information* above for information on how to obtain a copy.

General

The debt securities are not deposits and are not insured by any regulatory body of the United States or The Netherlands.

Because our assets consist principally of interests in the subsidiaries through which we conduct our businesses, our cash flow and our consequent ability to service our debt, including the debt securities, are largely dependent upon the cash flow and earnings of our subsidiaries, including dividends we receive from some of those subsidiaries. Since we also guarantee certain obligations of some of our subsidiaries, any liability we may incur for our subsidiaries obligations could reduce the assets that are available to satisfy claims of our direct creditors, including investors in the debt securities. Additionally, our right to participate as an equity holder in any distribution of assets of any of our subsidiaries upon the subsidiary's liquidation or otherwise, and thus the ability of our security holders to benefit from the distribution, is junior to the rights of creditors of the subsidiary, except to the extent that any claims we may have as a creditor of the subsidiary are recognized. In addition, dividends, loans and advances to us from some of our subsidiaries may be restricted by the net capital requirements of our various regulators.

Your prospectus supplement will describe the specific terms of your debt security, which will include some or all of the following:

- the title of the series of debt securities;
- whether it is a senior debt security or a subordinated debt security;
- any limit on the total principal amount of the debt securities of the same series;
- the stated maturity or maturities, if any;

the price at which we will originally issue your debt security, expressed as a percentage of the principal amount of the debt securities of the same series, and the original issue date;

any provisions for reopening the offering at a later time to offer additional debt securities having the same terms as your debt security;

the authorized denominations, if other than \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000;

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the specified currency or currencies for principal and interest, if not U.S. dollars;

if we or you have a right to choose the currency, currency unit or composite currency in which payments on any of the debt securities of the series will be made, the currency, currency unit or composite currency that we or you may elect, the period during which we or you must make the election and the other material terms applicable to the right to make such elections;

whether your debt security is a fixed rate debt security, a floating rate debt security or an indexed debt security and also whether it is an original issue discount debt security or a perpetual debt security;

if your debt security is an original issue discount debt security, the yield to maturity;

if applicable, the circumstances under which your debt security may be redeemed at our option or repaid at the holder's option before the stated maturity and other relevant terms, including any redemption commencement date, repayment date(s), redemption price(s) and redemption period(s);

the date or dates on which any interest on the debt securities of the series will be payable, the regular record date or dates we will use to determine who is entitled to receive interest payments and any right to extend or defer the interest payment periods and the duration of the extension;

the place or places where the principal and any premium and interest in respect of the debt securities of the series will be payable and where any transfer, conversion or exchange, if applicable, will occur;

the depository for your debt security, if other than DTC, and any circumstances under which the holder may request securities in non-global form, if we choose not to issue your debt security in book-entry form only;

if the debt securities may be converted into or exercised or exchanged for our ordinary shares, American depositary receipts, or other of our securities or the debt or equity securities of third parties, the terms on which conversion, exercise or exchange may occur, including whether conversion, exercise or exchange is mandatory, at the option of the holder or at our option, the period during which conversion, exercise or exchange may occur, the initial conversion, exercise or exchange price or rate and the circumstances or manner in which the amount of ordinary shares, American depositary receipts, or other securities or the debt or equity securities of third parties issuable upon conversion, exercise or exchange may be adjusted;

if applicable, the circumstances under which we will pay additional amounts on any debt securities and under which we can redeem the debt securities if we have to pay additional amounts;

whether your debt securities will be listed on the New York Stock Exchange or any other securities exchange or whether the debt securities will not be listed;

if your debt security will be issued in bearer form, any special provisions relating to bearer securities that are not addressed in this prospectus;

if applicable, any additional investment considerations relating to the debt securities;

if your debt security is subject to mandatory or optional remarketing or other mandatory or optional resale provisions, the date or period during which such resale may occur, any conditions to such resale and any right of the holder to substitute securities for the securities subject to resale;

any conditions or limitations to defeasance of the debt securities, to the extent different from those described under **Defeasance** in this prospectus;

any changes or additions to the events of default or covenants contained in the relevant indenture;

if applicable, any subordination provisions that will apply, to the extent different from those described in this prospectus;

the names and duties of any co-trustees, authenticating agents, paying agents, transfer agents or registrars for your debt security;

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any specific Dutch or U.S. federal income tax considerations relating to the debt securities not addressed in this prospectus; and

any other terms of your debt security, which could be different from those described in this prospectus.

If your debt security is a fixed rate debt security, the prospectus supplement will also describe:

the annual rate or rates at which your debt security will bear interest, if any;

the date or dates from which that interest, if any, will accrue; and

the interest payment dates to the extent different from those described herein.

If your debt security is a floating rate debt security, the prospectus supplement will also describe:

the interest rate basis;

any applicable index currency or maturity, spread or spread multiplier or initial maximum or minimum rate;

the interest reset, determination, calculation and payment dates;

the day count used to calculate interest payments for any period; and

the calculation agent.

If your debt security is an indexed debt security, the prospectus supplement will also describe:

the principal amount, if any, we will pay you at maturity;

the index that your security is based upon;

the amount of interest, if any, we will pay you on an interest payment date or the formula we will use to calculate these amounts, if any; and

the terms on which your debt security will be exchangeable for or payable in cash, securities or other property.

If your debt security is a perpetual debt security, the prospectus supplement will also describe:

the circumstances under which we have a right to defer interest payments; and

if applicable, our ability to satisfy our payment through the issuance of ordinary shares or cumulative preference shares.

While this prospectus describes terms that apply generally to all the debt securities, the prospectus supplement applicable to your debt security will summarize specific financial and other terms of your debt security. Consequently, as you read this section, please remember that the specific terms of your debt security as described in your prospectus supplement will supplement and, if applicable, may modify or replace the general terms described in this section. If there are any differences between your prospectus supplement and this prospectus, your prospectus supplement will

control. Thus, the statements we make in this section may not apply to your debt security.

Market-Making Transactions

If you purchase your debt security or any of our other securities we describe in this prospectus in a market-making transaction, you will receive information about the price you pay and your trade and settlement dates in a separate confirmation of sale. A market-making transaction is one in which ING Financial Markets LLC or another of our affiliates resells a security that it has previously acquired from another holder. A market-making transaction in a particular security occurs after the original issuance and sale of that security.

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Debt Securities May Be Senior or Subordinated

We may issue senior or subordinated debt securities. Neither the senior debt securities nor the subordinated debt securities will be secured by any property or assets of the Group. Thus, by owning a debt security, you are one of our unsecured creditors.

The senior debt securities and, in the case of senior debt securities in bearer form, any related interest coupons, will constitute part of our senior debt, will be issued under our senior debt indenture described below and will rank on a parity with all of our other unsecured and unsubordinated debt.

The subordinated debt securities and, in the case of subordinated debt securities in bearer form, any related interest coupons, will constitute part of our subordinated debt, will be issued under our subordinated debt indenture described below and, except as otherwise described in your prospectus supplement, will be subordinate in right of payment to all of our senior debt, as defined in the subordinated debt indenture. The prospectus supplement for any series of subordinated debt securities or the information incorporated in this prospectus by reference will indicate the approximate amount of senior indebtedness outstanding as of the end of our most recent fiscal quarter.

When we refer to debt securities in this prospectus, we mean both the senior debt securities and the subordinated debt securities.

The Senior Debt Indenture and the Subordinated Debt Indenture

The senior debt securities and the subordinated debt securities are each governed by a document called an indenture the senior debt indenture, in the case of the senior debt securities, and the subordinated debt indenture, in the case of the subordinated debt securities. Each indenture is a contract between us and The Bank of New York Mellon, which will initially act as trustee. The indentures are substantially identical, except for the provisions relating to subordination, which are included only in the subordinated debt indenture. Neither indenture limits our ability to incur additional indebtedness, including additional senior indebtedness.

The trustee under each indenture has two main roles:

first, the trustee can enforce your rights against us if we default. There are some limitations on the extent to which the trustee acts on your behalf, which we describe later under [Default, Remedies and Waiver of Default](#) ; and

second, the trustee performs administrative duties for us, such as sending you interest payments and notices.

See [Our Relationship with the Trustee](#) below for more information about the trustee.

The indenture and its associated documents, including any supplemental indenture and your debt security, contain the full text of the matters described in this section and the other terms described in your prospectus supplement. A copy of each indenture has been filed with the SEC as part of our registration statement. See [Available Information](#) above for information on how to obtain a copy.

When we refer to the indenture or the trustee with respect to any debt securities, we mean the indenture under which those debt securities are issued, including any supplemental indenture, and the trustee under that indenture.

Subordination Provisions

Holders of subordinated debt securities should recognize that contractual provisions in the subordinated debt indenture may prohibit us from making payments on those securities. Subordinated debt securities are subordinate in right of payment, to the extent and in the manner stated in the subordinated debt indenture, to all of our senior indebtedness, including all debt securities we have issued and will issue under the senior debt indenture.

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Except as otherwise modified with respect to a particular issuance of debt securities, the subordinated debt indenture defines senior debt as all indebtedness and obligations of, or guaranteed or assumed by, ING Groep N.V. for borrowed money or evidenced by bonds, debentures, notes or other similar instruments, whether existing now or in the future, and all amendments, renewals, extensions, modifications and refundings of any indebtedness or obligations of that kind, all the foregoing not stated in the instrument which created, incurred or guaranteed such indebtedness or obligation to be subordinated. Senior debt excludes the subordinated debt securities and any other indebtedness or obligations specifically designated as being subordinate, or not superior, in right of payment to the subordinated debt securities.

We may modify the subordination provisions, including the definition of senior indebtedness, with respect to one or more series of subordinated debt securities. We will describe any such modification in your prospectus supplement. Some of the modifications applicable to perpetual debt securities are described below in this subsection.

The subordinated debt indenture provides that, unless all principal of, and any premium or interest on, the senior indebtedness has been paid in full, no payment or other distribution may be made in respect of any subordinated debt securities in the following circumstances:

in the event of any insolvency or bankruptcy proceedings, or any receivership, liquidation, reorganization, assignment for creditors or other similar proceedings or events involving us or our assets; or

(a) in the event and during the continuation of any default in the payment of principal, premium or interest on any senior indebtedness beyond any applicable grace period or (b) in the event that any event of default with respect to any senior indebtedness has occurred and is continuing, permitting the holders of that senior indebtedness (or a trustee) to accelerate the maturity of that senior indebtedness, whether or not the maturity is in fact accelerated (unless, in the case of (a) or (b), the payment default or event of default has been cured or waived or ceased to exist and any related acceleration has been rescinded) or (c) in the event that any judicial proceeding is pending with respect to a payment default or event of default described in (a) or (b); or

in the event that any subordinated debt securities have been declared due and payable before their stated maturity.

If the trustee under the subordinated debt indenture or any holders of the subordinated debt securities receive any payment or distribution that is prohibited under the subordination provisions, then the trustee or the holders will have to repay that money to the holders of the senior indebtedness.

Even if the subordination provisions prevent us from making any payment when due on the subordinated debt securities of any series, we will be in default on our obligations under that series if we do not make the payment when due. This means that the trustee under the subordinated debt indenture, and the holders of that series, can take action against us, but they will not receive any money until the claims of the holders of senior indebtedness are fully satisfied.

The subordinated debt indenture allows the holder of senior indebtedness to obtain a court order requiring us and any holder of subordinated debt securities to comply with the subordination provisions.

In the case of perpetual debt securities, which are described in more detail below under Types of Debt Securities Perpetual Debt Securities, the definition of senior debt will be different than the definition of senior debt described above and will be specified in your prospectus supplement. Unless otherwise specified in your prospectus supplement, we will also enter into a supplemental indenture that sets out the specific terms of the perpetual debt securities, including our covenant that so long as any of the perpetual debt securities are outstanding, we will not issue any

preference shares (or other securities which are akin to preference shares as regards distributions on a return of assets upon our liquidation or in respect of distribution or payment of dividends and/or any other amounts thereunder by us) or give any guarantee or contractual support arrangement in respect of any of our preference shares or such other securities or in respect of any other entity if such preference shares, such other securities akin to preference shares, guarantees or contractual support arrangements would rank (as regards distributions on a return of assets upon our liquidation or in respect of

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distribution or payment of dividends and/or any other amounts thereunder by us) senior to the perpetual debt securities, unless we alter the terms of the perpetual debt securities such that the perpetual debt securities effectively rank *pari passu* from a financial point of view with any such preference shares, such other securities akin to preference shares or such guarantee or support undertaking.

We are a Holding Company

Because our assets consist principally of interests in the subsidiaries through which we conduct our businesses, our right to participate as an equity holder in any distribution of assets of any of our subsidiaries upon the subsidiary's liquidation or otherwise, and thus the ability of our security holders to benefit from the distribution, is junior to creditors of the subsidiary, except to the extent that any claims we may have as a creditor of the subsidiary are recognized. In addition, dividends, loans and advances to us from some of our subsidiaries may be restricted by net capital requirements of our various regulators. We also guarantee certain obligations of some of our subsidiaries. Any liability we may have for our subsidiaries' obligations could reduce our assets that are available to satisfy our direct creditors, including investors in our securities.

Our Relationship with the Trustee

The Bank of New York Mellon is initially serving as the trustee for all series of debt securities to be issued under each indenture. The Bank of New York Mellon has provided commercial banking and other services for us and our related companies in the past and may continue to do so in the future. Among other things, The Bank of New York Mellon serves as, or may serve as, trustee or agent with regard to certain of our other outstanding debt obligations.

Consequently, if an actual or potential event of default occurs with respect to any of these securities, trust agreements or subordinated guarantees, the trustee may be considered to have a conflicting interest for purposes of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939. In that case, the trustee may be required to resign under one or more of the indentures, trust agreements or subordinated guarantees and we would be required to appoint a successor trustee. For this purpose, a potential event of default means an event that would be an event of default if the requirements for giving us default notice or for the default having to exist for a specific period of time were disregarded.

Governing Law

Each indenture and the debt securities will be governed by New York law, unless otherwise specified in your prospectus supplement.

We May Issue Many Series of Debt Securities

We may issue as many distinct series of debt securities under either indenture as we wish. This section summarizes terms of the securities that apply generally to all series. The provisions of each indenture allow us not only to issue debt securities with terms different from those of debt securities previously issued under that indenture, but also to reopen a previous issue of a series of debt securities and issue additional debt securities of that series. We will only reopen an issuance if such reopening will be a qualified reopening for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Most of the financial and other specific terms of your series, whether it be a series of the senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities, will be described in your prospectus supplement. Those terms may vary from the terms described here.

When we refer to a series of debt securities, we mean a series issued under the applicable indenture. When we refer to your prospectus supplement, we mean the prospectus supplement describing the specific terms of the debt security you purchase. The terms used in your prospectus supplement will have the meanings described in this prospectus, unless otherwise specified.

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Amounts that We May Issue

Neither indenture limits the aggregate amount of debt securities that we may issue or the number of series or the aggregate amount of any particular series. Any debt securities owned by us or any of our affiliates are not deemed to be outstanding.

Neither the indentures nor the debt securities limit our ability to incur other indebtedness or to issue other securities. Also, we are not subject to financial or similar restrictions by the terms of the debt securities, unless described in your prospectus supplement.

Principal Amount, Stated Maturity and Maturity

The principal amount of a debt security means the principal amount payable at its stated maturity, if any, unless that amount is not determinable, in which case the principal amount of a debt security is its face amount.

The term *stated maturity* with respect to any debt security means the day on which the principal amount of your debt security is scheduled to become due. The principal may become due sooner by reason of redemption or acceleration after a default or otherwise in accordance with the terms of the debt security. The day on which the principal actually becomes due, whether at the stated maturity or earlier, is called the maturity of the principal. We may also issue debt securities that do not have a stated maturity and are perpetual in nature.

We also use the terms *stated maturity* and *maturity* to refer to the days when other payments become due. For example, we may refer to a regular interest payment date when an installment of interest is scheduled to become due as the *stated maturity* of that installment.

When we refer to the *stated maturity* or the *maturity* of a debt security without specifying a particular payment, we mean the stated maturity or maturity, as the case may be, of the principal.

Currency of Debt Securities

Amounts that become due and payable on your debt security in cash will be payable in a currency, composite currency, basket of currencies or currency unit or units specified in your prospectus supplement. We refer to this currency, composite currency, basket of currencies or currency unit or units as a *specified currency*. The specified currency for your debt security will be U.S. dollars, unless your prospectus supplement states otherwise. Some debt securities may have different specified currencies for principal and interest. You will have to pay for your debt securities by delivering the requisite amount of the specified currency for the principal to ING Groep N.V. or another firm that we name in your prospectus supplement, unless other arrangements have been made between you and us or you and that firm. We will make payments on your debt securities in the specified currency, except as described below in *Payment Mechanics for Debt Securities in Registered Form*. See *Considerations Relating to Securities Linked to a Foreign Currency* below for more information about risks of investing in debt securities of this kind.

Debt Securities Not Secured by Assets

No series of debt securities will be secured by any property or assets of ING Group.

Types of Debt Securities

We may issue any of the following three types of senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities:

Fixed Rate Debt Securities

A debt security of this type will bear interest at a fixed rate described in your prospectus supplement. This type includes zero coupon debt securities, which bear no interest and are instead issued at a price lower than the principal amount. See **Original Issue Discount Debt Securities** below for more information about zero coupon and other original issue discount debt securities.

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Unless otherwise specified in your prospectus supplement, each fixed rate debt security, except any zero coupon debt security, will bear interest from its original issue date or from the most recent date to which interest on the debt security has been paid or made available for payment. Interest will accrue on the principal of a fixed rate debt security at the fixed yearly rate stated in your prospectus supplement, until the principal is paid or made available for payment. Each payment of interest due on an interest payment date or the date of maturity will include interest accrued from and including the last date to which interest has been paid, or made available for payment, or from the issue date if none has been paid or made available for payment to but excluding the interest