

Base Prospectus dated 4 April 2014



## **AKZO NOBEL N.V.**

*(incorporated in the Netherlands as a public company with limited liability having its corporate seat in Amsterdam)*

## **AKZO NOBEL SWEDEN FINANCE AB (PUBL)**

*(incorporated as a public limited liability company in the Kingdom of Sweden  
(with registration number 556768-4062))*

### *Guaranteed Euro Medium Term Note Programme*

Under the Guaranteed Euro Medium Term Note Programme described in this Prospectus (the "Programme"), each of Akzo Nobel N.V. ("AkzoNobel") and Akzo Nobel Sweden Finance AB (publ) ("AkzoNobel Sweden") (in such capacity, each an "Issuer") subject to compliance with all relevant laws, regulations and directives, may from time to time issue Guaranteed Euro Medium Term Notes (the "Notes"). Notes issued by AkzoNobel will be guaranteed by AkzoNobel Sweden and Notes issued by AkzoNobel Sweden will be guaranteed by AkzoNobel (respectively a "Guarantor" and a "Guarantee", as the case may be).

Application has been made to the Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier (the "CSSF") in its capacity as competent authority under the Luxembourg Act dated 10 July 2005 relating to prospectuses for securities (the "Luxembourg Law"), for the approval of this Prospectus as a base prospectus for the purposes of Article 5.4 of Directive 2003/71/EC, as amended (the "Prospectus Directive"). By approving the Prospectus, the CSSF assumes no responsibility as to the economic or financial soundness of the Notes or the quality and solvency of the Issuers or the Guarantors in line with the provisions of article 7(7) of the Luxembourg Law. Application has also been made to the Luxembourg Stock Exchange for the Notes issued under the Programme to be admitted to the official list of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange (the "Official List") and to be admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange's regulated market. References in this Prospectus to Notes being "listed" (and all related references) shall mean that such Notes have been admitted to the Official List and admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange's regulated market. The Luxembourg Stock Exchange's regulated market is a regulated market for the purposes of Directive 2004/39/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on markets in financial instruments. However, unlisted Notes may be issued pursuant to the Programme. The relevant Final Terms in respect of the issue of any Notes will specify whether or not such Notes will be listed on the Official List and admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange's regulated market (or any other stock exchange).

Each Series (as defined in "General Description of the Programme – Method of Issue") of Notes in bearer form will be represented on issue by a temporary global note in bearer form (each a "temporary Global Note") or a permanent global note in bearer form (each a "permanent Global Note"). If the Global Notes are stated in the applicable Final Terms to be issued in new global note ("NGN") form, the Global Notes will be delivered on or prior to the original issue date of the relevant Tranche to a common safekeeper (the "Common Safekeeper") for Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. ("Euroclear") and Clearstream Banking, *société anonyme* ("Clearstream, Luxembourg"). Notes in registered form will be represented by registered certificates (each a "Certificate"), one Certificate being issued in respect of each Noteholder's entire holding of Registered Notes of one Series. Registered Notes issued in global form will be represented by registered global certificates ("Global Certificates"). If a Global Certificate is held under the New Safekeeping Structure (the "NSS") the Global Certificate will be delivered on or prior to the original issue date of the relevant Tranche to a Common Safekeeper for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg.

Global notes which are not issued in NGN form ("Classic Global Notes" or "CGNs") and Global Certificates which are not held under the NSS will be deposited on the issue date of the relevant Tranche with (i) in the case of a Series of Notes intended to be cleared through Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg, a common depository on behalf of Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg or (ii) in the case of a Series of Notes intended to be cleared through the Central Moneymarkets Unit Service, operated by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (the "CMU"), with a sub-custodian for the CMU.

The provisions governing the exchange of interests in Global Notes for other Global Notes and definitive Notes are described in "Overview of Provisions Relating to the Notes while in Global Form".

As at the date of this Prospectus, AkzoNobel has a long term senior unsecured debt rating of "BBB+" by Standard & Poor's Credit Market Services Europe Limited ("S&P") and "Baa1" by Moody's Investors Service Limited ("Moody's"). The Programme has been rated "BBB+" by S&P and "Baa1" by Moody's. Each of Moody's and S&P is established in the European Union and is registered under Regulation (EC) No 1060/2009 on credit rating agencies as amended (the "CRA Regulation"). Further information relating to the registration of rating agencies under the CRA Regulation can be found on the website of the European Securities and Markets Authority. Notes issued pursuant to the Programme may be rated or unrated. Where an issue of Notes is rated, its rating will be specified in the relevant Final Terms and may not necessarily be the same as the rating of the Programme. Whether or not a rating in relation to any Notes will be treated as having been issued by a credit rating agency established in the European Union and registered under the CRA Regulation will be disclosed in the relevant Final Terms. A rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold Notes and may be subject to suspension, reduction or withdrawal at any time by the assigning rating agency. A suspension, reduction or withdrawal of the rating assigned to any Notes may adversely affect the market price of the Notes.

Prospective investors should have regard to the factors described under the section headed "Risk Factors" in this Prospectus.

#### **Arranger for the Programme**

#### **THE ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND**

#### **Dealers**

**BOFA MERRILL LYNCH**

**BNP PARIBAS**

**DEUTSCHE BANK**

**ING**

**MIZUHO SECURITIES**

**SANTANDER GLOBAL BANKING & MARKETS**

**BARCLAYS**

**CITIGROUP**

**HSBC**

**J.P. MORGAN**

**MORGAN STANLEY**

**SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE CORPORATE & INVESTMENT  
BANKING**

**THE ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND**

*In this Prospectus, references to the “Issuer” or the “Guarantor” are to either AkzoNobel or AkzoNobel Sweden, as the case may be, in their relevant capacities, as either the relevant issuer or relevant guarantor or the relevant proposed issuer or the relevant proposed guarantor, of the Notes under the Programme as specified in the relevant Final Terms and references to “Group” are to AkzoNobel and its subsidiaries and affiliates, taken as a whole and references in this Prospectus to the “Issuer”, the “Guarantor” and the “Group” shall be construed accordingly.*

*This Prospectus comprises a base prospectus for the purposes of Article 5.4 of Directive 2003/71/EC, as amended, to the extent that such amendments have been implemented in the relevant Member State of the European Economic Area (the “Prospectus Directive”) in respect of each Issuer and for the purpose of giving information with regard to the Issuers, the Guarantors, the Group and the Notes which, according to the particular nature of the Issuers, the Guarantors and the Notes, is necessary to enable investors to make an informed assessment of the assets and liabilities, financial position, profit and losses and prospects of the Issuers and the Guarantors.*

*The Issuers and the Guarantors (the “Responsible Persons”) accept responsibility for the information contained in this Prospectus. To the best of the knowledge of the Issuers and the Guarantors (each having taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case) the information contained in this Prospectus is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information.*

*This Prospectus is to be read in conjunction with all documents which are incorporated herein by reference (see “Documents Incorporated by Reference”).*

**No person has been authorised to give any information or to make any representation other than those contained in this Prospectus in connection with the issue or sale of the Notes and, if given or made, such information or representation must not be relied upon as having been authorised by the Issuers, the Guarantors or any of the Dealers or the Arranger or the Trustee (as defined in “General Description of the Programme”). Neither the delivery of this Prospectus nor any sale made in connection herewith shall, under any circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of the Issuers or the Guarantors since the date hereof or the date upon which this Prospectus has been most recently amended or supplemented or that there has been no adverse change in the financial position of the Issuers or the Guarantors since the date hereof or the date upon which this Prospectus has been most recently amended or supplemented or that any other information supplied in connection with the Programme is correct as of any time subsequent to the date on which it is supplied or, if different, the date indicated in the document containing the same.**

**In the case of any Notes which are to be admitted to trading on a regulated market within the European Economic Area or offered to the public in a Member State of the European Economic Area in circumstances which require the publication of a prospectus under the Prospectus Directive or where the Issuer is Akzo Nobel N.V., the minimum specified denomination shall be €100,000 (or its equivalent in any other currency as at the date of issue of the Notes).**

**The distribution of this Prospectus and the offering or sale of the Notes in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law. Persons into whose possession this Prospectus comes are required by the Issuers, the Guarantors, the Dealers and the Arranger to inform themselves about and to observe any such restriction. The Notes have not been and will not be registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933, (the “Securities Act”) and include Notes in bearer form that are subject to U.S. tax law requirements. Subject to certain exceptions, Notes may not be offered, sold or delivered within the United States of America or to U.S. persons. For a description of certain restrictions on offers and sales of Notes and on distribution of this Prospectus, see “Subscription and Sale”.**

**This Prospectus does not constitute an offer of, or an invitation by or on behalf of the Issuers, the Guarantors or the Dealers to subscribe for, or purchase, any Notes.**

**To the fullest extent permitted by law, none of the Dealers or the Arranger or the Trustee accept any responsibility for the contents of this Prospectus or for any other statement, made or purported to be made by the Arranger or a Dealer or on its behalf in connection with the Issuers, the Guarantors, or the issue and offering of the Notes. The Arranger and each Dealer accordingly disclaims all and any liability whether arising in tort or contract or otherwise (save as referred to above) which it might otherwise have in respect of this Prospectus or any such statement. Neither this Prospectus nor any other financial statements are intended to provide the basis of any credit or other evaluation and should not be considered as a recommendation by any of the Issuers, the Guarantors, the Arranger or the Dealers that any recipient of this Prospectus or any other financial statements should purchase the Notes. Each potential purchaser of Notes should determine for itself the relevance of the information**

contained in this Prospectus and its purchase of Notes should be based upon such investigation as it deems necessary. None of the Dealers or the Arranger or the Trustee undertakes to review the financial condition or affairs of the Issuers or the Guarantors during the life of the arrangements contemplated by this Prospectus nor to advise any investor or potential investor in the Notes of any information coming to the attention of any of the Dealers or the Arranger.

In connection with the issue of any Tranche (as defined in “General Description of the Programme – Method of Issue”), the Dealer or Dealers (if any) named as the stabilising manager(s) (the “Stabilising Manager(s)”) (or any person acting on behalf of any Stabilising Manager(s)) in the applicable Final Terms may over-allot Notes or effect transactions with a view to supporting the market price of the Notes at a level higher than that which might otherwise prevail. However, there is no assurance that the Stabilising Manager(s) (or persons acting on behalf of any Stabilising Manager(s)) will undertake stabilisation action. Any stabilisation action may begin on or after the date on which adequate public disclosure of the terms of the offer of the relevant Tranche of Notes is made and, if begun, may be ended at any time, but it must end no later than the earlier of 30 days after the issue date of the relevant Tranche of Notes and 60 days after the date of the allotment of the relevant Tranche of Notes. Any stabilisation action or over-allotment must be conducted by the relevant Stabilising Manager(s) (or persons acting on behalf of any Stabilising Manager(s)) in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.

In this Prospectus, unless otherwise specified or the context otherwise requires, references to “€”, “Euro”, “EUR” or “euro” are to the single currency of the participating member states of the European Union, references to “\$”, “USD” and “U.S. Dollars” are to the lawful currency of the United States of America, references to “PRC” are to the People’s Republic of China and references to “CNY”, “RMB” and “Renminbi” are to the lawful currency of the People’s Republic of China.

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## DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

This Prospectus should be read and construed in conjunction with:

- (a) the audited consolidated financial statements of AkzoNobel as at, and for the financial years ended, 31 December 2013 and 31 December 2012 respectively;
- (b) the audited consolidated financial statements of AkzoNobel Sweden as at, and for the financial years ended, 31 December 2012 and 31 December 2011 respectively;
- (c) the unaudited financial statements of AkzoNobel Sweden as at, and for the six months from 1 January 2013 to and including 30 June 2013; and
- (d) the terms and conditions of the Notes set out in the Base Prospectus dated 1 March 2013,

which have been previously published or are published simultaneously with this Prospectus and which have been approved by the CSSF or filed with it together with, in each case of audited financial statements, the audit report thereon. Such documents shall be incorporated by reference in and form part of this Prospectus, save that any statement contained in a document which is incorporated by reference herein shall be modified or superseded for the purpose of this Prospectus to the extent that a statement contained herein modifies or supersedes such earlier statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not, except as so modified or superseded, constitute a part of this Prospectus.

Copies of documents incorporated by reference in this Prospectus may be obtained (without charge) from the website of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange ([www.bourse.lu](http://www.bourse.lu)) and from the website of AkzoNobel ([www.akzonobel.com](http://www.akzonobel.com)).

The tables below set out the relevant page references for (i) the audited consolidated financial statements of AkzoNobel for the financial years ended 31 December 2013 and 31 December 2012, respectively, as set out in AkzoNobel's annual report for each relevant financial year, (ii) the audited consolidated financial statements of AkzoNobel Sweden for the financial years ended 31 December 2012 and 31 December 2011, respectively, as set out in AkzoNobel Sweden's report for the financial year then ended, (iii) the unaudited financial statements of AkzoNobel Sweden as at, and for the six months ended, 30 June 2013, as set out in AkzoNobel Sweden's report for the first half of 2013 and (iv) the terms and conditions of the Notes set out in the Base Prospectus dated 1 March 2013. The parts of the above-mentioned reports which are not incorporated by reference into this Prospectus are either not relevant for the investor or are covered elsewhere in this Prospectus.

### **Audited consolidated financial statements of AkzoNobel for the financial year ended 31 December 2012**

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### **Audited consolidated financial statements of AkzoNobel for the financial year ended 31 December 2013**

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### **Audited consolidated financial statements of AkzoNobel Sweden for the financial year ended 31 December 2011**

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### **Audited consolidated financial statements of AkzoNobel Sweden for the financial year ended 31 December 2012**

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### **Terms and conditions of the Notes set out in the Base Prospectus dated 1 March 2013**

Base Prospectus dated 1 March 2013

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## RISK FACTORS

*The Issuers and the Guarantors believe that the following factors may affect their ability to fulfil their respective obligations under the Notes (or the Guarantee) issued under the Programme. Most of these factors are contingencies which may or may not occur and the Issuers and the Guarantors are not in a position to express a view on the likelihood of any such contingency occurring. Risk factors which are specific to the Notes are also described below.*

*The Issuers and the Guarantors believe that the factors described below represent the principal risks inherent in investing in the Notes issued under the Programme, but the inability of the Issuers and Guarantors to pay interest, principal or other amounts on or in connection with any Notes may occur for other reasons and the Issuers and the Guarantors do not represent that the statements below regarding the risks of holding any Notes are exhaustive. Prospective investors should also read the detailed information set out elsewhere in this Prospectus (including any documents incorporated by reference herein) and reach their own views prior to making any investment decision.*

*Words and expressions defined elsewhere in this Prospectus have the same meanings in this section. In this Prospectus, references to “we”, “us” or “our” refer to the Group.*

### **Risk Factors Relating to AkzoNobel and its Businesses**

Unless otherwise specified by reference to AkzoNobel, the risks described below apply in the Group context.

#### **Strategic Risks**

##### **Economic Downturn**

The Group operates in over 80 countries and is affected by the prevailing economic conditions in each, including risks of continued economic slowdown and concerns regarding growth in emerging markets. Macroeconomic factors that have an impact on expenditure by customers, demand for the Group’s products and the availability and cost of credit will have an effect on the Group’s business and results of operations.

One of the principal uncertainties facing the Group is the development of the global economy, how this will affect the Group’s business and results of operations, and the timing of that impact. Economic recovery remains fragile in many territories and it continues to be difficult to predict customer demands. In addition, fiscal imbalances continue to drive instability in the financial markets, which may further adversely affect the global, regional or national economies in the markets in which we operate.

A prolonged downturn, whether on a global basis or in regional or national markets, may adversely affect the Group’s business and results of operations.

By way of examples:

- (a) the Decorative Paints business area, which, as at 31 December 2013, accounted for 28 per cent. of our revenue, is susceptible to downturns, in particular in what we call the Buildings and Infrastructure market end-user segment. This segment uses a wide variety of AkzoNobel products to build, decorate, protect, maintain and renovate building interiors and exteriors. The segment has experienced a significant contraction since 2006 with limited recovery since then; and
- (b) the Specialty Chemicals business area, which, as at 31 December 2013, accounted for 34 per cent. of our revenue, is susceptible to downturns, in particular in the Industrial end-user market segment. Prolonged downturns could adversely affect the Group’s business and results of operations.

##### **Capital Market Conditions**

Adverse conditions in the domestic and international debt and equity markets may result in a rise in the cost of capital and the risk of not being able to access the global capital markets when capital is required to fund the Group. In such circumstances, the Group’s ability to raise capital in a timely and cost effective manner could be adversely affected.

Adverse constraints in the supply of liquidity, including an increase in the cost of bank credit and a contraction in the supply of bank credit, may adversely affect the cost of funding the Group and extreme liquidity constraints may limit growth possibilities.

**Counterparty risk**

We contract with a large number of commercial and financial counterparties including customers, suppliers and financial institutions. The global financial crises have placed strains on the global financial markets, reduced liquidity and impacted business conditions generally. Our initial counterparty credit controls may not prevent a material loss due to credit exposure to a major customer or financial counterparty. In addition, customers, suppliers, contractors or joint venture partners may fail to perform against existing contracts and obligations. Reduced liquidity and available sources of capital in financial markets may impact the cost and ability to fund planned investments. These factors could negatively affect our financial condition and results of operations.

**Implementation of Strategic Agenda**

A failure to properly and fully implement our strategic agenda could adversely affect the Group and its businesses. As a result, we might not be able to improve our operations and/or grasp opportunities arising.

**International Operations**

We operate internationally in over 80 countries and we conduct business in many currencies. As a result, we are exposed to a variety of risks, many of them beyond our control, which could adversely affect our business. Growth of our business in emerging markets will further expose us to these risks. Risks associated with international operations include, but are not limited to:

- (a) slowdown or recession in global, regional or national economic growth (as described further in “Economic Downturn” above);
- (b) tariffs and trade barriers;
- (c) exchange controls;
- (d) fluctuations in national currencies (as described further in “Exchange Rate Fluctuations” below);
- (e) social and political risks;
- (f) national and regional labour disputes;
- (g) compliance with local laws, regulations and standards (as described further in “Legal and Regulatory Risks” below); and
- (h) the difficulty of enforcing legal claims and agreements through some foreign legal systems.

Unfavourable developments in one or more of these areas could adversely affect the Group’s business and results of operations.

**Stakeholder Support**

We endeavour to define and implement a clear strategy and seek dialogue with internal and external stakeholders, being amongst others, our customers, suppliers, investors and employees. Failure to obtain the support of our stakeholders for our strategy and its execution could adversely affect the Group and its business.

**Acquisitions and Disposals**

From time to time the Group makes acquisitions and disposals of businesses and brands. The rationale for these may be based on incorrect assumptions or conclusions and they may not realise the anticipated benefits or there may be other unanticipated or unintended effects. In addition, significant liabilities may not be identified in due diligence or may come to light after the expiry of warranty or indemnity periods, or it may not prove practicable to secure or enforce warranty or indemnity protection. (See “Description of the Issuer – Litigation – Antitrust cases and other claims and litigation”). These factors may adversely affect the Group’s business and results of operations.

**Competition**

We have a wide portfolio of business units competing across a diverse range of geographical and product markets and we compete with other multinational corporations which have significant financial resources. We may be unable to compete effectively if our competitors’ resources are applied to change their areas of focus, enter new markets, reduce prices, or to increase investments in marketing or the development and launch of new products. Increased competition in the markets in which we operate may adversely affect the Group’s business and results of operations.

## **Technology**

Our success depends upon sustainable growth of our business through research and development, production and sale of new products. If we are not able to identify or exploit transforming technologies in a timely manner, this may lead to the loss of our leadership positions and adversely affect the Group's business and results of operations. This could also arise as a result of infringements in our intellectual property or loss of key personnel and their technological knowledge.

## **Operational Risks**

### **Loss of Customers**

The future of our customers is an important consideration for the Group. Loss of major customers or many small customers could adversely affect our businesses and results of operations.

### **The Price, Availability and Possible Discontinuation of Supply of Chemicals and Raw Materials**

Our business and results of operations may be adversely affected by the price, availability and possible discontinuation of our supply of chemicals and raw materials.

We use significant amounts of various chemicals and raw materials in manufacturing our products. Prices for some of these chemicals and raw materials can be volatile and are affected by cyclical movements in commodity prices, availability of such chemicals and raw materials, demand for a variety of products which are produced using these chemicals and raw materials, levels of price competition among local and global suppliers and general economic conditions. We are, to some extent, able to pass on higher input prices to our customers, but this ability is, to a large extent, dependent on market conditions. However, there may be times when we are not able to recover increases in the cost of chemicals and raw materials for some products due to weakness in demand for such products or the actions of our competitors. We also may be impacted by inability to access sufficient raw materials or business interruptions or product discontinuation at some of our key suppliers.

### **The Price and Supply of Energy and Emission Trading Rights**

The Group's Specialty Chemicals business operates two energy-intensive businesses, Pulp and Paper Chemicals and Industrial Chemicals. The latter conducts its business primarily in Europe. A non-level playing field for energy and emission trading rights on a global level can affect the competitive position of our businesses but it also affects our customers' businesses. Although we have long-term purchase contracts and hedging and other policies in place which seek to mitigate the effects of price increases from natural gas and electricity, we are particularly sensitive to energy price movements which may adversely affect our business and results of operations.

### **Seasonality**

Seasonality may adversely affect our business and results of operations. A portion of our business is seasonal due to weather conditions. In particular, the Decorative Paints business area is sensitive to seasonality, with business often stronger in the second and third quarters of the calendar year than in the first or fourth quarters. Consequently, seasonal lags in earnings may not be offset during the corresponding financial year and this may affect our business and results of operations.

### **Reputation**

Negative publicity could damage our brands. We have created a strong reputation over many years and many of the businesses have a high local profile. However, any negative publicity could adversely affect our business and results of operations.

### **Product Liability**

Our operations in consumer markets expose us to legal risks, regulation and potential liabilities from product liability claims asserted by consumers. Product liability claims could adversely affect our company's business and results of operations. Unexpected long-term implications with a significant impact for our organization could follow from usage of new technologies and compounds.

### **Other Operational Risks**

Our revenues are dependent on the continued operation of our various manufacturing facilities. Operational risks include:

- (a) equipment and systems failures, including, but not limited to, Information Technology (IT) platforms and applications;

- (b) failure to comply with applicable regulations and standards and to maintain necessary permits and approvals;
- (c) raw material and chemical supply disruptions;
- (d) labour force shortages or work stoppages typically referred to as industrial action;
- (e) events impeding or increasing the cost of transporting products;
- (f) extreme weather events or natural disasters; and
- (g) terrorist attacks.

While we maintain insurance at levels that we believe are appropriate, some of these operational risks could result in losses and liabilities in excess of our insurance coverage, in respect of insurance that is not available at commercially acceptable terms, or in uninsured losses or liabilities, which could adversely affect our business and results of operations.

#### **Environmental, Health and Safety Legislation**

Our businesses use, and/or have used in the past, hazardous materials, chemicals and biological and toxic compounds in several product development programmes and manufacturing processes and resultant waste materials. We have been, and can be, exposed to risks of accidental contamination. We are subject to a broad range of laws, regulations and standards in each of the jurisdictions where we operate, including those relating to pollution, the health and safety of employees, protection of the public, protection of the environment and the generation, storage handling, transportation, treatment, disposal and remediation of hazardous substances and waste materials. These regulations and standards are becoming increasingly stringent in many jurisdictions, and increasingly expose us to liability including in respect of damage to property and personal injury. While it is not feasible to predict the outcome of all pending environmental exposures, it is possible that there will be a need for future provisions for environmental costs. Provisions of this sort could be material to the Group results of operations in any one accounting period. Moreover, there can be no assurance that we will not be exposed to additional environmental liabilities in the future which could adversely affect our business and results of operations.

#### **Change Initiatives**

In order to implement our strategy, we are changing AkzoNobel's operating model including by establishing a Global Business Services department. We also undertake various restructuring projects which require significant change and stakeholder management and project management expertise. Failure to manage such projects appropriately, or to implement such projects, may lead to loss of key staff and/or knowledge or other business disruption, which could have a negative effect on our productivity and levels of service and thereby adversely affect our business and results of operations.

#### **Cost Structure**

Rapid changes in macroeconomic conditions (as described further in "Economic Downturn" above) may require adjustments to the local cost structures of the Group. To the extent that these cost structures are fixed in nature, such changes in macroeconomic conditions may adversely affect our business and results of operations.

#### **People**

The Group depends on the continued contribution of its management team and operating staff. There can be no guarantee that we will be able to attract, develop and retain high quality individuals at an appropriate cost level and ensure that the capabilities of the Group's human resources meet its business needs. Any failure to do so may adversely affect our business and results of operations.

#### **Financial Risks**

##### **Exchange Rate Fluctuations**

We have operations in more than 80 countries and report in Euros. Although we have a hedging policy which seeks to mitigate certain currency exchange rate risks, our results of operations are sensitive to the relationships between the Euro and U.S. dollar, pound sterling, Swedish krona and Latin American and Asian currencies. Fluctuations in currency prices which are not successfully mitigated by our hedging policy could adversely affect our capital structure, business and results of operations.

### **Credit Ratings**

As at the date of this Prospectus, AkzoNobel has a long term senior unsecured debt rating of “BBB+” by S&P and “Baa1” by Moody’s. The outlook in relation to the rating by S&P is stable and the outlook in relation to the rating by Moody’s is negative. A decision by any rating agency to downgrade AkzoNobel’s credit rating could be caused by a variety of factors including, amongst other things, weakening financial ratios or increased business risk of the Group. A ratings downgrade could reduce our funding options, increase our cost of borrowings and adversely affect our business and results of operations.

### **Risk of Losses in Treasury Operations**

We have a centralised treasury function to manage the liquidity and debt financing of the Group and the financial risks associated with exposure to foreign currencies, interest rates and counterparty credit. The treasury department works within a robust framework of internal control procedures to seek to minimise losses due to error or fraud, and to protect the Group against unforeseen events. However losses in relation to treasury activities could be caused, amongst other things, by the occurrence of one or more of the following events:

- (a) unexpected extraordinary movements in money or foreign exchange markets could make short-term or long-term funding more difficult and/or more expensive to obtain (as described further in “Economic Downturn” above), and an appropriate currency mix of funding difficult to achieve;
- (b) human error could result in inappropriate activity being undertaken in the markets which will incur a cost to be reversed; and
- (c) incorrect settlement of a third party payment could lead to unexpected losses and/or claims.

Our business and results of operations could be adversely affected if we do not successfully mitigate these risks.

### **Retirement and Healthcare Benefits**

The Group policy is to sponsor defined contribution pensions and post-retirement benefits wherever possible but the Group has a number of defined benefit pension and healthcare schemes from the past. Generally, these schemes have been funded through external trusts or foundations. The most significant defined benefit schemes are the ICI Pension Fund and the Akzo Nobel (CPS) Pension Scheme in the UK. The UK schemes are governed by trustees who must act in the best interests of the scheme participants. A number of pension de-risking transactions have been implemented either by the trustees or the Group in relation to the Group’s retirement benefit schemes and different potential pension de-risking strategies and opportunities are evaluated on an ongoing basis.

The Group is at risk from potential funding shortfalls in these defined benefit schemes due to a variety of factors:

- (a) the value of liabilities is calculated using prudent assumptions about, for example, life expectancy as well as the expected return on assets which is used to set the discount rates. The discount rates reflect the actual investment strategies adopted by the trustees in the UK schemes;
- (b) asset values are dependent on, among other things, the performance of debt, equity and real estate markets, which can be volatile;
- (c) the funded status of the UK schemes can also be affected by the decisions of the trustees e.g. to adopt more prudent investment strategies due to regulatory or other external factors; and
- (d) decisions to change investment strategies, to de-risk pension schemes (such as purchasing insurance policies in respect of all or some of the scheme’s liabilities) or setting a funding recovery plan are all based on a complex range of assumptions which may prove to be inaccurate or any such investment strategies or de-risking transactions may not realise the returns or benefits anticipated or may realise other unanticipated or unintended effects (for example, adverse tax consequences) or they may need to be unwound.

Any of such factors could increase the Group’s funding obligations whilst reducing its financial flexibility and/or adversely affect the Group’s business and results of operations.

Additional funding may, in the case of the UK defined benefit schemes, also result from a determination by the UK Pensions Regulator or, in certain situations, by the scheme actuary and the trustees, subject to the powers of the UK Pensions Regulator. In each case, such additional funding may adversely affect the Group’s business and results of operations.

## **Impairments**

In the current financial market conditions, further asset value decline can offer both opportunities and risks to AkzoNobel. We are selectively participating in industry consolidation, and in so doing, we may look to carry out selective acquisitions and we may hold assets for sale. Acquisition and divestment opportunities and the management of assets held for sale are kept under review by the Executive Committee of AkzoNobel.

We perform impairment tests for intangibles with indefinite lives (goodwill and certain brands) every year as well as whenever a certain impairment trigger occurs. For tangible and other fixed assets, with a finite life, we perform impairment tests only when an impairment trigger occurs.

## **Legal and Regulatory Risks**

We may be held responsible for any liabilities arising out of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We seek to monitor and adapt to significant and rapid changes in the legal systems, regulatory controls and customs and practices in the countries in which we operate. These affect a wide range of areas including the composition, production, packaging, labelling, distribution and sale of the Group's products; the Group's property rights; its ability to transfer funds and assets within the Group or externally; employment practices; data protection; environment, health and safety issues; and accounting, taxation and stock exchange regulation. Accordingly, changes to, or violation of, these systems, controls or practices could increase costs, involve actions such as product recalls, seizure of products and other sanctions and adversely affect our business and results of operations.

For example, we are involved in investigations by antitrust authorities into alleged violations of the respective antitrust laws and we are engaged in court proceedings and civil litigation resulting from (alleged) involvement in anti-competitive behaviour in the past. AkzoNobel believes that the aggregate amount of any fines and civil damages to be paid in respect of existing or pending antitrust cases will not materially adversely affect the Group's financial position. Such aggregate amount could, however, be material to the Group's results of operations or cash flows in any one accounting period. Moreover, there can be no assurance that we will not be exposed to additional legal and regulatory liabilities in the future which could adversely affect our business and results of operations.

## **Litigation and Regulatory Action**

The outcome of litigation, tax disputes, indemnification and guarantees, and regulatory action could adversely affect our business and results of operations. A number of claims are currently pending which are contested. We are also involved in disputes with tax authorities. While the outcome of these claims and disputes cannot be predicted with certainty, AkzoNobel believes, based upon legal advice and information received, that the final outcome will not materially affect the consolidated financial position of the Group but could be material to the Group's results of operations or cash flows in any one accounting period. Moreover, there can be no assurance that we will not be exposed to additional litigation or regulatory action in the future which could adversely affect our business and results of operations.

## **Risks Associated with Holding Companies**

As at the date of this Prospectus, AkzoNobel is a holding company and AkzoNobel Sweden is a holding and wholly-owned finance subsidiary of AkzoNobel and owns certain Group entities in Sweden. Each of AkzoNobel and AkzoNobel Sweden relies on a combination of interest and principal payments under intercompany loan agreements and dividends and other payments from the entities owned by it, in each case to make any payment under the Notes issued by it or the Guarantee. Accordingly, AkzoNobel's and AkzoNobel Sweden's ability to make any payments under the Notes or the Guarantee depends upon the ability of members of the Group to service such intercompany loans and the performance of these subsidiaries. Therefore, in meeting their payment obligations under the Notes or the Guarantee, AkzoNobel and AkzoNobel Sweden are dependent on the business and results of operations of members of the Group and the entities owned by it.

## **Our non-controlled assets may not comply with our standards**

Some of our assets are controlled and managed by joint venture partners or by other companies. Some joint venture partners may have divergent business objectives which may impact business and financial results. Management of our non-controlled assets may not comply with our management and operating standards, controls and procedures (including our health, safety and environment standards). Failure to adopt equivalent standards, controls and procedures at these assets could lead to higher costs and reduced production and adversely impact our results and reputation.

### **Other Risk Factors**

Our businesses are exposed to varying degrees of risk and uncertainty related to other factors including competitive pricing, consumption levels, physical risks, rates of inflation, legislative, fiscal, tax and regulatory developments and economic, political and social conditions in the environment where we operate. All of these risks could adversely affect the Group's business and results of operations. Furthermore, there may be risks which are unknown to us or which are currently believed to be immaterial.

### **Factors Which are Material for the Purpose of Assessing the Market Risks Associated with Notes issued under the Programme**

#### **The Notes may not be a Suitable Investment for all Investors**

Each potential investor in Notes must determine the suitability of that investment in light of its own circumstances. In particular, each potential investor should:

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

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

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

A wide range of Notes may be issued under the Programme. A number of these Notes may have features which contain particular risks for potential investors. Set out below is a description of certain such features:

#### **Notes subject to optional redemption by the Issuers**

An optional redemption feature is likely to limit the market value of Notes. During any period when an Issuer may elect to redeem Notes, the market value of those Notes generally will not rise substantially above the price at which they can be redeemed. This also may be true prior to any redemption period.

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

#### **Fixed/Floating Rate Notes**

Fixed/Floating Rate Notes may bear interest at a rate that an Issuer may elect to convert from a fixed rate to a floating rate, or from a floating rate to a fixed rate. An Issuer's ability to convert the interest rate will affect the secondary market and the market value of such Notes since such Issuer may be expected to convert the rate when it is likely to produce a lower overall cost of borrowing. If such Issuer converts from a fixed rate to a floating rate, the spread on the Fixed/Floating Rate Notes may be less favourable than then prevailing spreads on comparable Floating Rate Notes tied to the same reference rate. In addition, the new floating rate

at any time may be lower than the rates on other Notes. If such Issuer converts from a floating rate to a fixed rate, the fixed rate may be lower than then prevailing market rates.

#### **Notes issued at a substantial discount or premium**

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

### **Risks related to Notes Generally**

#### **Change of law**

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

#### **Withholding taxes**

The Notes may be subject to withholding taxes in circumstances where the Issuer or the Guarantor is not obliged to make gross up payments and this would result in holders receiving less interest than expected and could significantly adversely affect their return on the Notes.

#### **EU Savings Directive**

Under EC Council Directive 2003/48/EC on the taxation of savings income (the "EU Savings Directive") and amendments to the EU Savings Directive adopted by the Council of the European Union on 24 March 2014, each member state of the European Union (an "EU Member State") is required to provide to other EU Member States details of payments of interest and certain other types of income payable on securities paid by a person, or by certain trusts or other legal arrangements, within its jurisdiction to, or for the direct or indirect benefit of, an individual resident, or to certain persons established, in another EU Member State. Many of these information exchange requirements are already in force, and EU Member States will have until 1 January 2016 to adopt national legislation to implement the amendments which were adopted on 24 March 2014, in particular the extension of the rules to certain trusts and certain other legal arrangements.

For a transitional period, certain EU Member States are instead required (unless during that period they elect otherwise) to operate a withholding system in relation to such payments (subject to a procedure whereby, on meeting certain conditions, the beneficial owner of the interest or other income may request that no tax be withheld), the ending of such transitional period being dependent upon the conclusion of certain other agreements relating to information exchange with certain other territories. Once the amendments referred to above are implemented and come into force, investors should be aware that withholding in the relevant EU Member State(s) may occur in a wider range of circumstances than at present. A number of non-EU countries and territories have adopted similar measures to the EU Savings Directive.

In April 2013, the Luxembourg government announced its intention to elect out of the withholding system in favour of an automatic exchange of information with effect from 1 January 2015.

If a payment to, or for the direct or indirect benefit of, an individual is made or collected through an EU Member State which has opted for a withholding system under the EU Savings Directive and an amount of, or in respect of, tax were to be withheld from that payment pursuant to any law implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to, the EU Savings Directive or any other Directive implementing the conclusions of the ECOFIN Council meeting of 26-27 November 2000, neither the Issuers, the Guarantors, nor any Paying Agent nor any other person would be obliged to pay additional amounts with respect to any Note as a result of the imposition of such withholding tax. The Issuers are required to maintain a Paying Agent with a specified office in an EU Member State that is not obliged to withhold or deduct tax pursuant to any law implementing the EU Savings Directive or any other Directive implementing the conclusions of the ECOFIN Council meeting of 26-27 November 2000.

#### **U.S. Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act**

Legislation incorporating provisions referred to as the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act ("FATCA") was passed in the U.S. on 18 March 2010. This description is based on guidance issued to date by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS"), including regulations. Future guidance may affect the application of FATCA to the Notes.

It is possible that, in order to comply with FATCA, an Issuer or a Guarantor (or, if the Notes are held through another financial institution, such other financial institution) may be required (pursuant to an agreement with the IRS or under applicable law) to (a) request certain information from Noteholders or beneficial owners of Notes, which information may be provided to the IRS and (b) withhold U.S. tax on some portion of payments made after 31 December 2016 with respect to the Notes if such information is not provided or if payments are made to certain foreign financial institutions that have not entered into a similar agreement with the IRS.

If any Issuer, Guarantor or other person is required to withhold amounts under or in connection with FATCA from any payments made in respect of the Notes, the Noteholders and beneficial owners of the Notes will not be entitled to receive any gross-up or additional amounts under Condition 8 (Taxation) of the Notes to compensate them for such withholding.

Several jurisdictions, including the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy and Spain (but, for the avoidance of doubt, not Sweden), have entered into intergovernmental agreements with the U.S. with regard to FATCA. Subject to the implementation of the necessary legislation (to the extent required), the risk for foreign financial institutions resident in those jurisdictions of being obliged to withhold U.S. tax pursuant to FATCA, should be mitigated pursuant to these intergovernmental agreements. As a result, the risk for Noteholders and beneficial owners of the Notes of (because of FATCA) not receiving the full amount of any payments made in respect of the Notes by an Issuer or a Guarantor (or, if the Notes are held through another financial institution, such other financial institution) that is resident in such a jurisdiction, should generally also be mitigated.

FATCA is particularly complex and its application is uncertain at this time. Each potential Noteholder should consult its own tax adviser to obtain a more detailed explanation of FATCA and to learn how this legislation might affect that Noteholder in its particular circumstance.

#### **Modification, waivers and substitution**

The Trust Deed contains provisions for calling meetings of Noteholders to consider matters affecting their interests generally and to obtain Written Resolutions on matters relating to the Notes from Noteholders without calling a meeting. A Written Resolution signed by or on behalf of the holders of not less than 80 per cent. in principal amount of the Notes of the relevant Series who for the time being are entitled to receive notice of a meeting in accordance with the provisions of the Trust Deed and whose Notes are outstanding shall, for all purposes, take effect as an Extraordinary Resolution.

In certain circumstances, where the Notes are held in global form in the clearing systems, the Issuer, the Guarantor and the Trustee (as the case may be) will be entitled to rely upon:

- (I) where the terms of the proposed resolution have been notified through the relevant clearing system(s), approval of a resolution proposed by the Issuer, the Guarantor or the Trustee (as the case may be) given by way of electronic consents communicated through the electronic communications systems of the relevant clearing systems in accordance with their operating rules and procedures by or on behalf of the holders of not less than 80 per cent. in nominal amount of the Notes of the relevant Series for the time being outstanding; and
- (II) where electronic consent is not being sought, consent or instructions given in writing directly to the Issuer, the Guarantor and/or the Trustee (as the case may be) by accountholders in the clearing systems with entitlements to such global note or certificate or, where the accountholders hold such entitlement on behalf of another person, on written consent from or written instruction by the person for whom such entitlement is ultimately beneficially held (directly or via one or more intermediaries), provided that the Issuer, the Guarantor and the Trustee have obtained commercially reasonable evidence to ascertain the validity of such holding and taken reasonable steps to ensure such holding does not alter following the giving of such consent/instruction and prior to effecting such resolution.

A Written Resolution or an electronic consent as described above may be effected in connection with any matter affecting the interests of Noteholders, including the modification of the Conditions, that would otherwise be required to be passed at a meeting of Noteholders satisfying the special quorum in accordance with the provisions of the Trust Deed, and shall for all purposes take effect as an Extraordinary Resolution passed at a meeting of Noteholders duly convened and held. These provisions permit defined majorities to bind all Noteholders including Noteholders who did not attend and vote at the relevant meeting and Noteholders who voted in a manner contrary to the majority.

The Trust Deed also provides that the Trustee may, without the consent of Noteholders, agree to (i) any modification of, or to the waiver or authorisation of any breach or proposed breach of, any of the provisions of the Notes or the Trust Deed (except as mentioned in the Trust Deed) which is in the opinion of the Trustee

not materially prejudicial to the interests of the Noteholders or is, in the opinion of the Trustee, of a formal, minor or technical nature or is made to correct a manifest or proven error or (ii) determine without the consent of the Noteholders that any Event of Default or Potential Event of Default shall not be treated as such and the Trust Deed provides that the Trustee may, without the consent of Noteholders, agree to the substitution of certain entities (as provided in the Trust Deed) as principal debtor under any Notes in place of the Issuer or Guarantor, in the circumstances described in Condition 11 of the Terms and Conditions of the Notes.

**Notes where denominations involve integral multiples: definitive Notes**

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

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

**The Notes may be represented by Global Notes and holders of a beneficial interest in a Global Note must rely on the procedures of the relevant Clearing System(s)**

Notes may be represented by one or more Global Notes. Such Global Notes will be deposited with a common depository for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg or lodged with the CMU. Except in the circumstances described in the relevant Global Note, Noteholders will not be entitled to receive definitive Notes. The relevant Clearing System(s) will maintain records of the beneficial interests in the Global Notes. While the Notes are represented by one or more Global Notes, Noteholders will be able to trade their beneficial interests only through the Clearing Systems.

While the Notes are represented by one or more Global Notes, the Issuers will discharge their payment obligations under the Notes by making payments to the common depository for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg or, in the case of Notes denominated in RMB, to the Issuing and Paying Agent for distribution to the holders as appearing in the CMU instrument report provided by the CMU. A holder of a beneficial interest in a Global Note must rely on the procedures of the relevant Clearing System(s) to receive payments under the relevant Notes. The Issuers have no responsibility or liability for the records relating to, or payments made in respect of, beneficial interests in the Global Notes.

Holders of beneficial interests in the Global Notes will not have a direct right to vote in respect of the relevant Notes. Instead, such holders will be permitted to act only to the extent that they are enabled by the relevant Clearing System(s) to appoint appropriate proxies.

**Risks related to the market generally**

Set out below is a brief description of certain market risks, including liquidity risk, exchange rate risk, interest rate risk and credit risk:

**The secondary market generally**

Although application may be made to admit the Notes to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange's regulated market, the Notes may have no established trading market when issued, and one may never develop. If a market does develop, it may not be liquid. Therefore, investors may not be able to sell their Notes easily or at prices that will provide them with a yield comparable to similar investments that have a developed secondary market. This is particularly the case for Notes that are especially sensitive to interest rate, currency or market risks, are designed for specific investment objectives or strategies or have been structured to meet the investment requirements of limited categories of investors. These types of Notes generally would have a more limited secondary market and more price volatility than conventional debt securities. Illiquidity may have a severely adverse effect on the market value of Notes.

**Exchange rate risks and exchange controls**

The Issuer (and, failing the Issuer, the Guarantor) will pay principal and interest on the Notes and the Guarantors will make any payments under the Guarantee in the Specified Currency. This presents certain risks relating to currency conversions if an investor's financial activities are denominated principally in a currency or currency unit (the "Investor's Currency") other than the Specified Currency. These include the risk that exchange rates may significantly change (including changes due to devaluation of the Specified Currency or

reevaluation of the Investor's Currency) and the risk that authorities with jurisdiction over the Investor's Currency may impose or modify exchange controls. An appreciation in the value of the Investor's Currency relative to the Specified Currency would decrease (i) the Investor's Currency-equivalent yield on the Notes, (ii) the Investor's Currency-equivalent value of the principal payable on the Notes and (iii) the Investor's Currency-equivalent market value of the Notes.

Government and monetary authorities may impose (as some have done in the past) exchange controls that could adversely affect an applicable exchange rate or the ability of the Issuer or the Guarantor to make payments in respect of the Notes. As a result, investors may receive less interest or principal than expected, or no interest or principal.

#### **Interest rate risks**

Investment in Fixed Rate Notes involves the risk that subsequent changes in market interest rates may adversely affect the value of the Fixed Rate Notes.

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

One or more independent credit rating agencies may assign credit ratings to the Notes or the Group. The ratings may not reflect the potential impact of all risks related to structure, market, additional factors discussed above, and other factors that may affect the value of the Notes. A credit rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be revised, suspended or withdrawn by the rating agency at any time.

In general, European regulated investors are restricted under the CRA Regulation from using credit ratings for regulatory purposes, unless such ratings are issued by a credit rating agency established in the EU and registered under the CRA Regulation (and such registration has not been withdrawn or suspended), subject to transitional provisions that apply in certain circumstances whilst the registration application is pending. Such general restriction will also apply in the case of credit ratings issued by non-EU credit rating agencies, unless the relevant credit ratings are endorsed by an EU-registered credit rating agency or the relevant non-EU rating agency is certified in accordance with the CRA Regulation (and such endorsement action or certification, as the case may be, has not been withdrawn or suspended). Certain information with respect to the credit rating agencies and ratings will be disclosed in the Final Terms.

#### **Legal investment considerations may restrict certain investments**

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

#### **Risks related to Notes denominated in Renminbi (“RMB Notes”)**

Notes denominated in RMB (“RMB Notes”) may be issued under the Programme. RMB Notes are subject to particular risks:

##### **Renminbi is not freely convertible and there are significant restrictions on remittance of Renminbi into and outside the PRC**

Renminbi is not freely convertible at present. The PRC government continues to regulate conversion between Renminbi and foreign currencies, including the Hong Kong dollar, despite the significant reduction over the years by the PRC government of control over routine foreign exchange transactions under current accounts. Participating banks in Hong Kong have been permitted to engage in the settlement of RMB trade transactions under a pilot scheme introduced in July 2009. This represents a current account activity. The pilot scheme was extended in June 2010 to cover 20 provinces and cities in the PRC. The pilot scheme was further extended in August 2011 to cover all provinces and cities in the PRC and to make RMB trade and other current account item settlement available in all countries worldwide. Subject to limited exceptions described in “PRC Currency Controls – Capital Account Items”, there is currently no specific PRC regulation on the remittance of Renminbi into the PRC for settlement of capital account items. Foreign investors may only remit offshore Renminbi into the PRC for capital account purposes such as shareholders' loans or capital contribution upon obtaining specific approvals from the relevant authorities on a case by case basis as described in “PRC Currency Controls – Capital Account Items”.

Subject to the prior receipt of all necessary governmental approvals, an Issuer and/or the Guarantor may remit the net proceeds from the offering of RMB Notes into the PRC. There is no assurance that such approvals will be granted and, if granted, will not be revoked or amended in the future. There is no assurance that the PRC government will continue to gradually liberalise the control over cross-border RMB remittances in the future, that the pilot scheme introduced in July 2009 will not be discontinued or that new PRC regulations will not be promulgated in the future which would have the effect of restricting or eliminating the remittance of Renminbi into or outside the PRC. An Issuer and/or the Guarantor may need to source Renminbi offshore to finance its obligations under RMB Notes, and its ability to do so will be subject to the overall availability of Renminbi outside the PRC.

Noteholders may be required to provide certifications and other information (including Renminbi account information) in order to be allowed to receive payments in Renminbi in accordance with the Renminbi clearing and settlement system for participating banks in Hong Kong.

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

As a result of the restrictions by the PRC Government on cross-border Renminbi fund flows, the availability of Renminbi outside of the PRC is limited. Since February 2004, in accordance with arrangements between the PRC Central Government and the Hong Kong government, licensed banks in Hong Kong may offer limited Renminbi-denominated banking services to Hong Kong residents and specified business customers. The People's Bank of China ("PBOC"), the central bank of China, has also established a Renminbi clearing and settlement system for participating banks in Hong Kong. On July 19, 2010, further amendments were made to the Settlement Agreement on the Clearing of RMB Business (the "Settlement Agreement") between the PBOC and Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited (the "RMB Clearing Bank") to further expand the scope of RMB business for participating banks in Hong Kong. Pursuant to the revised arrangements, all corporations are allowed to open RMB accounts in Hong Kong; there is no longer any limit (other than as provided in the following paragraph) on the ability of corporations to convert RMB; and there will no longer be any restriction on the transfer of RMB funds between different accounts in Hong Kong.

However, the current size of Renminbi-denominated financial assets outside the PRC is limited. Renminbi business participating banks do not have direct Renminbi liquidity support from PBOC. The RMB Clearing Bank only has access to onshore liquidity support from PBOC to square open positions of participating banks for limited types of transactions, including open positions resulting from conversion services for corporations relating to cross-border trade settlement and for individual customers of up to RMB20,000 per person per day.

The RMB Clearing Bank is not obliged to square for participating banks any open positions resulting from other foreign exchange transactions or conversion services and the participating banks will need to source Renminbi from the offshore market to square such open positions.

Although it is expected that the offshore Renminbi market will continue to grow in depth and size, its growth is subject to many constraints as a result of PRC laws and regulations on foreign exchange. There is no assurance that new PRC regulations will not be promulgated or the Settlement Agreement will not be terminated or amended in the future which will have the effect of restricting availability of Renminbi offshore. The limited availability of Renminbi outside the PRC may affect the liquidity of RMB Notes. To the extent the Issuer and/or the Guarantor is required to source Renminbi in the offshore market to service its RMB Notes, there is no assurance that the Issuer and/or the Guarantor will be able to source such Renminbi on satisfactory terms, if at all. If Renminbi is not available in certain circumstances as described under Condition 7(i) (Payment of Relevant Currency Equivalent) of the Terms and Conditions of the Notes, the Issuer and/or the Guarantor can make payments under the RMB Notes in a currency other than Renminbi.

**Investment in RMB Notes is subject to exchange rate risks and the Issuer may make payments of interest and principal in US dollars in certain circumstances**

The value of Renminbi against the US dollar, the Hong Kong dollar and other foreign currencies fluctuates and is affected by changes in the PRC and international political and economic conditions and by many other factors. All payments of interest and principal will be made with respect to RMB Notes in Renminbi. As a result, the value of these Renminbi payments in US dollar terms may vary with the prevailing exchange rates in the marketplace. If the value of Renminbi depreciates against the US dollar or other foreign currencies, the value of investment in US dollar or other applicable foreign currency terms will decline.

**Payments in respect of RMB Notes will only be made to investors in the manner specified in such RMB Notes**

All payments to investors in respect of RMB Notes will be made solely by (i) when RMB Notes are represented by global certificates, transfer to a Renminbi bank account maintained in Hong Kong in

accordance with prevailing rules and procedures of Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg, CMU or the applicable Alternative Clearing System as applicable, or (ii) when RMB Notes are in definitive form, transfer to a Renminbi bank account maintained in Hong Kong in accordance with prevailing rules and regulations. Other than as provided in Condition 7(i), neither the Issuer nor the Guarantor can be required to make payment by any other means (including in any other currency (unless this is specified in the Final Terms of the RMB Notes) or in bank notes, by cheque or draft or by transfer to a bank account in the PRC).

## **PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT**

If at any time the Issuers shall be required to prepare a prospectus supplement pursuant to Article 13 of the Luxembourg Act dated 10 July 2005 (as amended) relating to prospectuses for securities, the Issuers will prepare and make available an appropriate supplement to this Prospectus which, in respect of any subsequent issue of Notes to be listed on the Official List and admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange's regulated market, shall constitute a prospectus supplement as required by Article 13 of the Luxembourg Act dated 10 July 2005 relating to prospectuses for securities.

Each of the Issuers and the Guarantors has given an undertaking to the Dealers that if at any time during the duration of the Programme there is a significant new factor, material mistake or inaccuracy relating to information contained in this Prospectus which is capable of affecting the assessment by investors of the assets and liabilities, financial position, profits and losses and prospects of the Issuers and the Guarantors and/or the rights attaching to the Notes and/or the Guarantee, the relevant Issuer shall prepare a supplement to this Prospectus or publish a replacement Prospectus for use in connection with any subsequent offering of the Notes and shall supply to each Dealer and the Trustee such number of copies of such supplement hereto as such Dealer and the Trustee may reasonably request.

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAMME

*The following overview does not purport to be complete and is taken from, and is qualified in its entirety by, the remainder of this Prospectus.*

|   |  |
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| <b>Issuers:</b>   | Akzo Nobel N.V. and<br>Akzo Nobel Sweden Finance AB (publ)   |
| <b>Guarantors:</b>  | Akzo Nobel N.V., in the case of Notes issued by Akzo Nobel Sweden Finance AB (publ) and<br>Akzo Nobel Sweden Finance AB (publ) in the case of Notes issued by Akzo Nobel N.V.  |
| <b>Description:</b>   | Guaranteed Euro Medium Term Note Programme   |
| <b>Arranger:</b>  | The Royal Bank of Scotland plc   |
| <b>Dealers:</b>   | Banco Santander, S.A.<br>Barclays Bank PLC<br>BNP Paribas<br>Citigroup Global Markets Limited<br>Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch<br>HSBC Bank plc<br>ING Bank N.V.<br>J.P. Morgan Securities plc<br>Merrill Lynch International<br>Mizuho International plc<br>Morgan Stanley & Co. International plc<br>Société Générale<br>The Royal Bank of Scotland plc<br>The Issuers may from time to time terminate the appointment of any dealer under the Programme or appoint additional dealers either in respect of one or more Tranches or in respect of the whole Programme. References in this Prospectus to “Permanent Dealers” are to the persons listed above as Dealers and to such additional persons that are appointed as dealers in respect of the whole Programme (and whose appointment has not been terminated) and references to “Dealers” are to all Permanent Dealers and all persons appointed as a dealer in respect of one or more Tranches. |
| <b>Trustee:</b>   | The Law Debenture Trust Corporation p.l.c.   |
| <b>Issuing and Paying Agent, Registrar, Transfer Agent and Calculation Agent:</b> | Citibank, N.A., London Branch  |
| <b>CMU Lodging Agent:</b>   | Citicorp International Limited   |
| <b>Method of Issue:</b>   | The Notes will be issued on a syndicated or non-syndicated basis. The Notes will be issued in series (each a “Series”) having one or more issue dates and on terms otherwise identical (or identical other than in respect of the first payment of interest), the Notes of each Series being intended to be interchangeable with all other Notes of that Series. Each Series may be issued in tranches (each a “Tranche”) on the same or different issue dates. The specific terms of each Tranche (which will be completed, where necessary, with the relevant terms and conditions and, save in respect of the issue date, issue price, first payment of interest and nominal amount of the Tranche, will be identical to the terms of other Tranches of the same Series) will be completed in the final terms (the “Final Terms”).  |

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|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Issue Price:</b>               | Notes may be issued at their nominal amount or at a discount or premium to their nominal amount.  |
| <b>Form of Notes:</b>             | The Notes may be issued in bearer form (“Bearer Notes”) or in registered form (“Registered Notes”) only. Each Tranche of Bearer Notes will be represented on issue by a temporary Global Note if (i) definitive Notes are to be made available to Noteholders following the expiry of 40 days after their issue date or (ii) such Notes have an initial maturity of more than one year and are being issued in compliance with the D Rules (as defined in “Selling Restrictions” below), otherwise such Tranche will be represented by a permanent Global Note. Registered Notes will be represented by Certificates, one Certificate being issued in respect of each Noteholder’s entire holding of Registered Notes of one Series. Certificates representing Registered Notes that are registered in the name of a nominee for one or more clearing systems are referred to as “Global Certificates”.   |
| <b>Clearing Systems:</b>          | Clearstream, Luxembourg, Euroclear, CMU and, in relation to any Tranche, such other clearing system as may be agreed between the relevant Issuer, the Agent, the Trustee and the relevant Dealer.   |
| <b>Initial Delivery of Notes:</b> | On or before the issue date for each Tranche, if the relevant Global Note is a NGN or the relevant Global Certificate is held under the NSS, the Global Note or Global Certificate will be delivered to a Common Safekeeper for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg. On or before the issue date for each Tranche, if the relevant Global Note is a CGN or the relevant Global Certificate is not held under the NSS or is not intended to be cleared through CMU, the Global Note representing Bearer Notes or the Global Certificate representing Registered Notes may (or, in the case of Notes listed on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, shall) be deposited with a common depositary for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg and in the case of a Tranche of Notes intended to be cleared through the CMU, deposited with a sub-custodian for the CMU. Global Notes or Global Certificates relating to Notes that are not listed on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange may also be deposited with any other clearing system or may be delivered outside any clearing system provided that the method of such delivery has been agreed in advance by the relevant Issuer, the Agent, the Trustee and the relevant Dealer. Registered Notes that are to be credited to one or more clearing systems on issue will be registered in the name of nominees or a common nominee for such clearing systems. |
| <b>Currencies:</b>                | Subject to compliance with all relevant laws, regulations and directives, Notes may be issued in any currency agreed between the Issuer, the Guarantor and the relevant Dealers.  |
| <b>Maturities:</b>                | Subject to compliance with all relevant laws, regulations and directives, the Notes will have a minimum maturity of one month.  |

**Specified Denomination:**

Definitive Notes will be in such denominations as may be specified in the relevant Final Terms save that (i) in the case of any Notes which are to be admitted to trading on a regulated market within the European Economic Area or offered to the public in a Member State of the European Economic Area in circumstances which require the publication of a prospectus under the Prospectus Directive (2003/71/EC), as amended, to the extent that such amendments have been implemented in the relevant Member State of the European Economic Area or where the Issuer is Akzo Nobel N.V., the minimum specified denomination shall be €100,000 (or its equivalent in any other currency as at the date of issue of such Notes) and (ii) unless otherwise permitted by then current laws and regulations, Notes (including Notes denominated in sterling) which have a maturity of less than one year and in respect of which the issue proceeds are to be accepted by the Issuers in the United Kingdom or whose issue otherwise constitutes a contravention of section 19 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (“FSMA”) will have a minimum denomination of £100,000 (or its equivalent in other currencies).

**Fixed Rate Notes:**

Fixed interest will be payable in arrear on the date or dates in each year specified in the relevant Final Terms.

**Floating Rate Notes:**

Floating Rate Notes will bear interest determined separately for each Series as follows:

- (i) on the same basis as the floating rate under a notional interest rate swap transaction in the relevant Specified Currency governed by an agreement incorporating the 2006 ISDA Definitions, as published by the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. or
- (ii) by reference to LIBOR or EURIBOR or EONIA as adjusted for any applicable margin.

Interest periods will be specified in the relevant Final Terms.

**Zero Coupon Notes:**

Zero Coupon Notes (as defined in “Terms and Conditions of the Notes”) may be issued at their nominal amount or at a discount to it and will not bear interest.

**Interest Periods and Interest Rates:**

The length of the interest periods for the Notes and the applicable interest rate or its method of calculation may differ from time to time or be constant for any Series. Notes may have a maximum interest rate, a minimum interest rate, or both. The use of interest accrual periods permits the Notes to bear interest at different rates in the same interest period. All such information will be set out in the relevant Final Terms.

**Redemption:**

The relevant Final Terms will specify the basis for calculating the redemption amounts payable. Unless permitted by then current laws and regulations, Notes (including Notes denominated in sterling) which have a maturity of less than one year and in respect of which the issue proceeds are to be accepted by the Issuer in the United Kingdom or whose issue otherwise constitutes a contravention of section 19 of FSMA must have a minimum redemption amount of £100,000 (or its equivalent in other currencies).

**Optional Redemption:**

The Final Terms issued in respect of each issue of Notes will state whether such Notes may be redeemed prior to their stated maturity at the option of the relevant Issuer (either in whole or in part) and/or the holders, and if so the terms applicable to such redemption.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Redemption upon a Change of Control Put Event:</b> | The Final Terms issued in respect of each issue of Notes will state whether such Notes may be redeemed prior to their stated maturity at the option of the Noteholders upon the occurrence of a Change of Control as further described in “Terms and Conditions – Redemption at the Option of Noteholders on a Put Event”.  |
| <b>Status of Notes and Guarantee:</b>                 | Subject always to the conditions described in “Terms and Conditions – Negative Pledge”, the Notes will constitute unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the Issuer and the Guarantee will constitute unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the Guarantor, respectively, all as described in “Terms and Conditions of the Notes – Guarantee and Status”.   |
| <b>Negative Pledge:</b>                               | See “Terms and Conditions of the Notes – Negative Pledge”.  |
| <b>Cross Default:</b>                                 | See “Terms and Conditions of the Notes – Events of Default”.  |
| <b>Ratings:</b>                                       | <p>The Programme has been rated “BBB+” by Standard &amp; Poor’s Credit Market Services Europe Limited and “Baa1” by Moody’s Investors Service Limited.</p> <p>Tranches of Notes will be rated or unrated. Where a Tranche of Notes is to be rated, such rating will be specified in the relevant Final Terms.</p> <p>A rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be subject to suspension, reduction or withdrawal at any time by the assigning rating agency.</p>   |
| <b>Early Redemption:</b>                              | Except as provided in “Optional Redemption” above, Notes will be redeemable at the option of the Issuers prior to maturity only for tax reasons. See “Terms and Conditions of the Notes – Redemption, Purchase and Options”.  |
| <b>Withholding Tax:</b>                               | All payments of principal and interest in respect of the Notes and the Coupons will be made free and clear of withholding taxes of The Netherlands or The Kingdom of Sweden, as the case may be, unless the withholding is required by law. In such event, the Issuers or the Guarantors, as the case may be, shall, subject to customary exceptions (including the ICMA Standard EU Tax exemption Tax Language), pay such additional amounts as shall result in receipt by the Noteholders or Couponholders of such amounts as would have been received by them had no such withholding been required, all as described in “Terms and Conditions of the Notes – Taxation”. |
| <b>Additional Issuers and Guarantors:</b>             | The Trust Deed contains provisions permitting additional issuers and guarantors to be added to the Programme.   |
| <b>Governing Law:</b>                                 | English.  |
| <b>Listing and Admission to Trading:</b>              | Application has been made to the Luxembourg Stock Exchange for Notes issued under the Programme to be admitted to the Official List and to be admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange’s regulated market or as otherwise specified in the relevant Final Terms and references to listing shall be construed accordingly. As specified in the relevant Final Terms, a Series of Notes may be unlisted.  |
| <b>Selling Restrictions:</b>                          | <p>The United States, the European Economic Area, the United Kingdom, The Netherlands, The Kingdom of Sweden, France, Japan, Hong Kong, The People’s Republic of China and Taiwan. See “Subscription and Sale”.</p> <p>Each of the Issuers and the Guarantors is Category 2 for the purposes of Regulation S under the Securities Act, as amended.</p> <p>The Notes will be issued in compliance with U.S. Treas. Reg. §1.163-5(c)(2)(i)(D) (the “D Rules”) unless (i) the relevant</p>   |

Final Terms states that Notes are issued in compliance with U.S. Treas. Reg. §1.163-5(c)(2)(i)(C) (the “C Rules”) or (ii) the Notes are issued other than in compliance with the D Rules or the C Rules but in circumstances in which the Notes will not constitute “registration required obligations” under the United States Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982 (“TEFRA”), which circumstances will be referred to in the relevant Final Terms as a transaction to which TEFRA is not applicable.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE NOTES

*The following is the text of the terms and conditions that, subject to completion in accordance with the provisions of Part A of the relevant Final Terms, shall be applicable to the Notes in definitive form (if any) issued in exchange for the Global Note(s) representing each Series. Either (i) the full text of these terms and conditions together with the relevant provisions of Part A of the Final Terms or (ii) these terms and conditions as so completed shall be endorsed on such Bearer Notes or on the Certificates relating to such Registered Notes. All capitalised terms that are not defined in these Conditions will have the meanings given to them in Part A of the relevant Final Terms. Those definitions will be endorsed on the definitive Notes or Certificates, as the case may be. References in the Conditions to “Notes” are to the Notes of one Series only, not to all Notes that may be issued under the Programme and references to the “Issuer” and any “Guarantor” shall be to the Issuer and each Guarantor respectively, of the Notes named in the heading of the relevant Final Terms.*

The Notes are constituted by an amended and restated Trust Deed (as amended or supplemented as at the date of issue of the Notes (the “Issue Date”), the “Trust Deed”) dated 4 April 2014 between the Issuer, each Guarantor, and The Law Debenture Trust Corporation p.l.c. (the “Trustee”, which expression shall include all persons for the time being the trustee or trustees under the Trust Deed) as trustee for the Noteholders (as defined below). These terms and conditions (the “Conditions”) include summaries of, and are subject to, the detailed provisions of the Trust Deed, which includes the form of the Bearer Notes, Certificates, Coupons and Talons referred to below. An amended and restated Agency Agreement (as amended or supplemented as at the Issue Date, the “Agency Agreement”) dated 4 April 2014 has been entered into in relation to the Notes between the Issuer, each Guarantor, the Trustee, Citibank, N.A., London Branch as initial issuing and paying agent and the other agents named in it. The issuing and paying agent, the CMU lodging agent, the other paying agents, the registrar, the transfer agents and the calculation agent(s) for the time being (if any) are referred to below respectively as the “Issuing and Paying Agent”, the “CMU Lodging Agent”, the “Paying Agents” (which expression shall include the Issuing and Paying Agent), the “Registrar”, the “Transfer Agents” (which expression shall include the Registrar) and the “Calculation Agent(s)”. For the purposes of these Conditions, all references to “CMU” means the Central Moneymarkets Unit Service operated by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority and all references to the “Issuing and Paying Agent” shall, with respect to a Series of Notes to be held in the CMU, be deemed to be a reference to the CMU Lodging Agent and all such references shall be construed accordingly. Copies of the Trust Deed and the Agency Agreement are available for inspection during usual business hours at the registered office of the Trustee (presently at Fifth Floor, 100 Wood Street, London EC2V 7EX, United Kingdom) and at the specified offices of the Paying Agents and the Transfer Agents.

The Noteholders and the holders of the interest coupons (the “Coupons”) relating to interest bearing Notes in bearer form and, where applicable in the case of such Notes, talons for further Coupons (the “Talons”) (the “Couponholders”) are entitled to the benefit of, are bound by, and are deemed to have notice of, all the provisions of the Trust Deed and are deemed to have notice of those provisions applicable to them of the Agency Agreement.

As used in these Conditions, “Tranche” means Notes which are identical in all respects.

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

The Notes are issued in bearer form (“Bearer Notes”) or in registered form (“Registered Notes”) in each case in the Specified Denomination(s) shown hereon provided that in the case of any Notes which are to be admitted to trading on a regulated market within the European Economic Area or offered to the public in a Member State of the European Economic Area in circumstances which require the publication of a Prospectus under the Prospectus Directive or where the Issuer is AkzoNobel (as defined in Condition 6(c)), the minimum Specified Denomination shall be €100,000 (or its equivalent in any other currency as at the date of issue of the relevant Notes).

This Note is a Fixed Rate Note, a Floating Rate Note, a Zero Coupon Note or a combination of any of the foregoing, depending upon the Interest and Redemption/Payment Basis shown hereon.

Bearer Notes are serially numbered and are issued with Coupons (and, where appropriate, a Talon) attached, save in the case of Zero Coupon Notes in which case references to interest (other than in relation to interest due after the Maturity Date), Coupons and Talons in these Conditions are not applicable.

Registered Notes are represented by registered certificates (“Certificates”) and, save as provided in Condition 2(c), each Certificate shall represent the entire holding of Registered Notes by the same holder.

Title to the Bearer Notes and the Coupons and Talons shall pass by delivery. Title to the Registered Notes shall pass by registration in the register that the Issuer shall procure to be kept by the Registrar in accordance with the provisions of the Agency Agreement (the “Register”). Except as ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction or as required by law, the holder (as defined below) of any Note, Coupon or Talon shall be deemed to be and may be treated as its absolute owner for all purposes whether or not it is overdue and regardless of any notice of ownership, trust or an interest in it, any writing on it (or on the Certificate representing it) or its theft or loss (or that of the related Certificate) and no person shall be liable for so treating the holder.

In these Conditions, “Noteholder” means the bearer of any Bearer Note or the person in whose name a Registered Note is registered (as the case may be), “holder” (in relation to a Note, Coupon or Talon) means the bearer of any Bearer Note, Coupon or Talon or the person in whose name a Registered Note is registered (as the case may be) and capitalised terms have the meanings given to them hereon, the absence of any such meaning indicating that such term is not applicable to the Notes.

## 2 No Exchange of Notes and Transfers of Registered Notes

- (a) **No Exchange of Notes:** Registered Notes may not be exchanged for Bearer Notes. Bearer Notes of one Specified Denomination may not be exchanged for Bearer Notes of another Specified Denomination. Bearer Notes may not be exchanged for Registered Notes.
- (b) **Transfer of Registered Notes:** One or more Registered Notes may be transferred upon the surrender (at the specified office of the Registrar or any Transfer Agent) of the Certificate representing such Registered Notes to be transferred, together with the form of transfer endorsed on such Certificate, (or another form of transfer substantially in the same form and containing the same representations and certifications (if any), unless otherwise agreed by the Issuer), duly completed and executed and any other evidence as the Registrar or Transfer Agent may reasonably require. In the case of a transfer of part only of a holding of Registered Notes represented by one Certificate, a new Certificate shall be issued to the transferee in respect of the part transferred and a further new Certificate in respect of the balance of the holding not transferred shall be issued to the transferor. All transfers of Notes and entries on the Register will be made subject to the detailed regulations concerning transfers of Notes scheduled to the Agency Agreement. The regulations may be changed by the Issuer, with the prior written approval of the Registrar and the Trustee. A copy of the current regulations will be made available by the Registrar to any Noteholder upon request.
- (c) **Exercise of Options or Partial Redemption in Respect of Registered Notes:** In the case of an exercise of an Issuer’s or Noteholders’ option in respect of, or a partial redemption of, a holding of Registered Notes represented by a single Certificate, a new Certificate shall be issued to the holder to reflect the exercise of such option or in respect of the balance of the holding not redeemed. In the case of a partial exercise of an option resulting in Registered Notes of the same holding having different terms, separate Certificates shall be issued in respect of those Notes of that holding that have the same terms. New Certificates shall only be issued against surrender of the existing Certificates to the Registrar or any Transfer Agent. In the case of a transfer of Registered Notes to a person who is already a holder of Registered Notes, a new Certificate representing the enlarged holding shall only be issued against surrender of the Certificate representing the existing holding.
- (d) **Delivery of New Certificates:** Each new Certificate to be issued pursuant to Conditions 2(b) or 2(c) shall be available for delivery within three business days of receipt of the form of transfer or Exercise Notice (as defined in Condition 6(e)) and surrender of the Certificate for exchange. Delivery of the new Certificate(s) shall be made at the specified office of the Transfer Agent or of the Registrar (as the case may be) to whom delivery or surrender of such form of transfer, Exercise Notice or Certificate shall have been made or, at the option of the holder making such delivery or surrender as aforesaid and as specified in the relevant form of transfer, Exercise Notice or otherwise in writing, be mailed by uninsured post at the risk of the holder entitled to the new Certificate to such address as may be so specified, unless such holder requests otherwise and pays in advance to the relevant Transfer Agent the costs of such other method of delivery and/or such insurance as it may specify. In this Condition 2(d), “business day” means a day, other than a Saturday or Sunday, on which banks are open for business in the place of the specified office of the relevant Transfer Agent or the Registrar (as the case may be).
- (e) **Transfers Free of Charge:** Transfers of Notes and Certificates on registration, transfer, exercise of an option or partial redemption shall be effected without charge by or on behalf of the Issuer, the Registrar or the Transfer Agents, but upon payment of any tax or other governmental charges that may

be imposed in relation to it (or the giving of such indemnity as the Registrar or the relevant Transfer Agent may require).

- (f) **Closed Periods:** No Noteholder may require the transfer of a Registered Note to be registered (i) during the period of 15 days ending on the due date for redemption of that Note, (ii) during the period of 15 days prior to any date on which Notes may be called for redemption by the Issuer at its option pursuant to Condition 6(d), (iii) after any such Note has been called for redemption or (iv) during the period of seven days ending on (and including) any Record Date.

### 3 Guarantee and Status

- (a) **Guarantee:** Each Guarantor has unconditionally and irrevocably guaranteed the due payment of all sums expressed to be payable by the Issuer under the Trust Deed, the Notes and the Coupons. Its obligations in that respect (the “Guarantee”) are contained in the Trust Deed.
- (b) **Status of Notes and Guarantee:** The Notes and the Coupons relating to them constitute (subject to Condition 4) unsecured obligations of the Issuer and shall at all times rank *pari passu* and without any preference among themselves. The payment obligations of the Issuer under the Notes and the Coupons relating to them and of each Guarantor under the Guarantee shall, save for such exceptions as may be provided by applicable legislation and subject to Condition 4, at all times rank at least equally with all other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness and unsecured and unsubordinated monetary obligations of the Issuer and each Guarantor respectively, present and future.

### 4 Negative Pledge

So long as any of the Notes or Coupons remains outstanding (as defined in the Trust Deed), neither the Issuer nor any Guarantor will create or have outstanding any mortgage, charge, lien, pledge or other security interest (a “Security Interest”) upon any of its present or future assets or revenues to secure any Public Debt, or any guarantee or indemnity in respect of any Public Debt, without, at the same time or prior thereto, according to the Notes and the Coupons the same security as is created or subsisting to secure any such Public Debt or such other security as either (i) the Trustee shall in its absolute discretion deem not materially less beneficial to the interests of the Noteholders or (ii) as shall be approved by an Extraordinary Resolution (as defined in the Trust Deed) of the Noteholders, except that the foregoing shall not apply to any of the following:

- (a) any Security Interest arising solely by mandatory operation of law;
- (b) any Security Interest over or affecting any asset either (i) acquired by the Issuer or any Guarantor after the date of issue of the first Tranche of the Notes and subject to which such asset is acquired or (ii) comprised within the assets of any company merged with the Issuer or any Guarantor after the date of issue of the first Tranche of the Notes, where such Security Interest is created prior to the date of such merger; and
- (c) any Security Interest over assets arising pursuant to the “*Algemene Voorwaarden*” (General Terms and Conditions of the Dutch Bankers’ Association), if and insofar as applicable to the Issuer or any Guarantor.

In this Condition 4, “Public Debt” means any loan, debt or other obligation of the Issuer or any Guarantor in the form of or represented by bonds, notes, debentures or any other publicly-issued debt securities which are, or are capable under the relevant regulatory provisions in force as at the date of issue of the first Tranche of the Notes of, being traded or listed on any stock exchange, over-the-counter or other recognised securities market and which by their terms have an initial stated maturity of more than 12 months.

### 5 Interest and other Calculations

- (a) **Interest on Fixed Rate Notes:** Each Fixed Rate Note bears interest on its outstanding nominal amount from the Interest Commencement Date at the rate per annum (expressed as a percentage) equal to the Rate of Interest, such interest being payable in arrear on each Interest Payment Date. The amount of interest payable shall be determined in accordance with Condition 5(f).
- (b) **Interest on Floating Rate Notes:**
  - (i) *Interest Payment Dates:* Each Floating Rate Note bears interest on its outstanding nominal amount from the Interest Commencement Date at the rate per annum (expressed as a percentage) equal to the Rate of Interest, such interest being payable in arrear on each Interest

Payment Date. The amount of interest payable shall be determined in accordance with Condition 5(f). Such Interest Payment Date(s) is/are either shown hereon as Specified Interest Payment Dates or, if no Specified Interest Payment Date(s) is/are shown hereon, Interest Payment Date shall mean each date which falls the number of months or other period shown hereon as the Interest Period after the preceding Interest Payment Date or, in the case of the first Interest Payment Date, after the Interest Commencement Date.

- (ii) *Business Day Convention*: If any date referred to in these Conditions that is specified to be subject to adjustment in accordance with a Business Day Convention would otherwise fall on a day that is not a Business Day, then, if the Business Day Convention specified is (A) the Floating Rate Business Day Convention, such date shall be postponed to the next day that is a Business Day unless it would thereby fall into the next calendar month, in which event (x) such date shall be brought forward to the immediately preceding Business Day and (y) each subsequent such date shall be the last Business Day of the month in which such date would have fallen had it not been subject to adjustment, (B) the Following Business Day Convention, such date shall be postponed to the next day that is a Business Day, (C) the Modified Following Business Day Convention, such date shall be postponed to the next day that is a Business Day unless it would thereby fall into the next calendar month, in which event such date shall be brought forward to the immediately preceding Business Day or (D) the Preceding Business Day Convention, such date shall be brought forward to the immediately preceding Business Day.
- (iii) *Rate of Interest*: The Rate of Interest in respect of Floating Rate Notes for each Interest Accrual Period shall be determined in the manner specified hereon and the provisions below relating to either ISDA Determination or Screen Rate Determination shall apply, depending upon which is specified hereon.

(A) ISDA Determination

Where ISDA Determination is specified hereon as the manner in which the Rate of Interest is to be determined, the Rate of Interest for each Interest Accrual Period shall be determined by the Calculation Agent as a rate equal to the relevant ISDA Rate. For the purposes of this sub-paragraph (A), "ISDA Rate" for an Interest Accrual Period means a rate equal to the Floating Rate that would be determined by the Calculation Agent under a Swap Transaction under the terms of an agreement incorporating the ISDA Definitions and under which:

- (I) the Floating Rate Option is as specified hereon;
- (II) the Designated Maturity is a period specified hereon; and
- (III) the relevant Reset Date is the first day of that Interest Accrual Period unless otherwise specified hereon.

For the purposes of this sub-paragraph (A), "Floating Rate", "Calculation Agent", "Floating Rate Option", "Designated Maturity", "Reset Date" and "Swap Transaction" have the meanings given to those terms in the ISDA Definitions.

(B) Screen Rate Determination

- (I) Where Screen Rate Determination is specified hereon as the manner in which the Rate of Interest is to be determined, the Rate of Interest for each Interest Accrual Period will, subject as provided below, be either:

- (1) the offered quotation; or
- (2) the arithmetic mean of the offered quotations,

(expressed as a percentage rate per annum) for the Reference Rate which appears or appear, as the case may be, on the Relevant Screen Page as at either 11.00 a.m. (London time in the case of LIBOR or Brussels time in the case of EURIBOR or EONIA) on the Interest Determination Date in question as determined by the Calculation Agent. Where applicable, if five or more of such offered quotations are available on the Relevant Screen Page, the highest (or, if there is more than one such highest quotation, one only of such quotations) and the lowest (or, if there is more than one such lowest quotation, one only of such quotations) shall

be disregarded by the Calculation Agent for the purpose of determining the arithmetic mean of such offered quotations.

- (II) if the Relevant Screen Page is not available or if, sub-paragraph (I)(1) applies and no such offered quotation appears on the Relevant Screen Page or if sub-paragraph (I)(2) above applies and fewer than three such offered quotations appear on the Relevant Screen Page in each case as at the time specified above, subject as provided below, the Calculation Agent shall request, if the Reference Rate is LIBOR, the principal London office of each of the Reference Banks or, if the Reference Rate is EURIBOR or EONIA, the principal Euro-zone office of each of the Reference Banks, to provide the Calculation Agent with its offered quotation (expressed as a percentage rate per annum) for the Reference Rate if the Reference Rate is LIBOR, at approximately 11.00 a.m. (London time), or if the Reference Rate is EURIBOR or EONIA, at approximately 11.00 a.m. (Brussels time) on the Interest Determination Date in question. If two or more of the Reference Banks provide the Calculation Agent with such offered quotations, the Rate of Interest for such Interest Accrual Period shall be the arithmetic mean of such offered quotations as determined by the Calculation Agent; and
- (III) if paragraph (II) above applies and the Calculation Agent determines that fewer than two Reference Banks are providing offered quotations, subject as provided below, the Rate of Interest shall be the arithmetic mean of the rates per annum (expressed as a percentage) as communicated to (and at the request of) the Calculation Agent by the Reference Banks or any two or more of them, at which such banks were offered, if the Reference Rate is LIBOR, at approximately 11.00 a.m. (London time) or, if the Reference Rate is EURIBOR or EONIA, at approximately 11.00 a.m. (Brussels time) on the relevant Interest Determination Date, deposits in the Specified Currency for a period equal to that which would have been used for the Reference Rate by leading banks in, if the Reference Rate is LIBOR, the London inter-bank market or, if the Reference Rate is EURIBOR or EONIA, the Euro-zone inter-bank market, as the case may be, or, if fewer than two of the Reference Banks provide the Calculation Agent with such offered rates, the offered rate for deposits in the Specified Currency for a period equal to that which would have been used for the Reference Rate, or the arithmetic mean of the offered rates for deposits in the Specified Currency for a period equal to that which would have been used for the Reference Rate, at which, if the Reference Rate is LIBOR, at approximately 11.00 a.m. (London time) or, if the Reference Rate is EURIBOR or EONIA, at approximately 11.00 a.m. (Brussels time), on the relevant Interest Determination Date, any one or more banks (which bank or banks is or are in the opinion of the Issuer suitable for such purpose) informs the Calculation Agent it is quoting to leading banks in, if the Reference Rate is LIBOR, the London inter-bank market or, if the Reference Rate is EURIBOR or EONIA, the Euro-zone inter-bank market, as the case may be, provided that, if the Rate of Interest cannot be determined in accordance with the foregoing provisions of this paragraph, the Rate of Interest shall be determined as at the last preceding Interest Determination Date (though substituting, where a different Margin or Maximum or Minimum Rate of Interest is to be applied to the relevant Interest Accrual Period from that which applied to the last preceding Interest Accrual Period, the Margin or Maximum or Minimum Rate of Interest relating to the relevant Interest Accrual Period, in place of the Margin or Maximum or Minimum Rate of Interest relating to that last preceding Interest Accrual Period).

(C) Linear Interpolation

Where Linear Interpolation is specified hereon as applicable in respect of an Interest Accrual Period, the Rate of Interest for such Interest Accrual Period shall be calculated by the Calculation Agent by straight line linear interpolation by reference to two rates based on the relevant Reference Rate (where Screen Rate Determination is specified hereon as applicable) or the relevant Floating Rate Option (where ISDA Determination is specified hereon as applicable), one of which shall be determined as if the Applicable Maturity were the period of time for which rates are available next shorter than the

length of the relevant Interest Accrual Period and the other of which shall be determined as if the Applicable Maturity were the period of time for which rates are available next longer than the length of the relevant Interest Accrual Period provided however that if there is no rate available for the period of time next shorter or, as the case may be, next longer, then the Calculation Agent shall determine such rate at such time and by reference to such sources as it determines appropriate.

“**Applicable Maturity**” means, in relation to Screen Rate Determination, the period of time designated in the Reference Rate and, in relation to ISDA Determination, the Designated Maturity.

- (c) **Zero Coupon Notes:** Where a Note the Interest Basis of which is specified to be Zero Coupon is repayable prior to the Maturity Date and is not paid when due, the amount due and payable prior to the Maturity Date shall be the Early Redemption Amount of such Note. As from the Maturity Date, the Rate of Interest for any overdue principal of such a Note shall be a rate per annum (expressed as a percentage) equal to the Amortisation Yield (as described in Condition 6(b)(i)).
- (d) **Accrual of Interest:** Interest shall cease to accrue on each Note on the due date for redemption unless, upon due presentation, payment is improperly withheld or refused, in which event interest shall continue to accrue (both before and after judgment) at the Rate of Interest in the manner provided in this Condition 5 to the Relevant Date (as defined in Condition 8).
- (e) **Margin, Maximum/Minimum Rates of Interest and Redemption Amounts and Rounding:**
  - (i) If any Margin is specified hereon (either (A) generally, or (B) in relation to one or more Interest Accrual Periods), an adjustment shall be made to all Rates of Interest, in the case of (A), or the Rates of Interest for the specified Interest Accrual Periods, in the case of (B), calculated in accordance with Condition 5(b) above by adding (if a positive number) or subtracting the absolute value (if a negative number) of such Margin, subject always to the next paragraph.
  - (ii) If any Maximum or Minimum Rate of Interest or Redemption Amount is specified hereon, then any Rate of Interest or Redemption Amount shall be subject to such maximum or minimum, as the case may be.
  - (iii) For the purposes of any calculations required pursuant to these Conditions (unless otherwise specified), (A) all percentages resulting from such calculations shall be rounded, if necessary, to the nearest one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point (with 0.000005 of a percentage point being rounded up), (B) all figures shall be rounded to seven significant figures (provided that if the eighth significant figure is a 5 or greater, the seventh significant figure shall be rounded up) and (C) all currency amounts that fall due and payable shall be rounded to the nearest unit of such currency (with half a unit being rounded up), save in the case of yen, which shall be rounded down to the nearest yen. For these purposes “unit” means the lowest amount of such currency that is available as legal tender in the country(ies) of such currency.
- (f) **Calculations:** The amount of interest payable per Calculation Amount in respect of any Note for any Interest Accrual Period shall be equal to the product of the Rate of Interest, the Calculation Amount specified hereon, and the Day Count Fraction for such Interest Accrual Period, unless an Interest Amount (or a formula for its calculation) is applicable to such Interest Accrual Period, in which case the amount of interest payable per Calculation Amount in respect of such Note for such Interest Accrual Period shall equal such Interest Amount (or be calculated in accordance with such formula). Where any Interest Period comprises two or more Interest Accrual Periods, the amount of interest payable per Calculation Amount in respect of such Interest Period shall be the sum of the Interest Amounts payable in respect of each of those Interest Accrual Periods. In respect of any other period for which interest is required to be calculated, the provisions above shall apply save that the Day Count Fraction shall be for the period for which interest is required to be calculated.
- (g) **Determination and Publication of Rates of Interest, Interest Amounts, Final Redemption Amounts, Early Redemption Amounts, Optional Redemption Amounts and Change of Control Redemption Amounts:** The Calculation Agent shall, as soon as practicable on each Interest Determination Date, or such other time on such date as the Calculation Agent may be required to calculate any rate or amount, obtain any quotation or make any determination or calculation, determine such rate and calculate the Interest Amounts for the relevant Interest Accrual Period, calculate the Final Redemption Amount, Early Redemption Amount, Optional Redemption Amount or Change of Control Redemption Amount, obtain such quotation or make such determination or calculation, as the case may

be, and cause the Rate of Interest and the Interest Amounts for each Interest Accrual Period and the relevant Interest Payment Date and, if required to be calculated, the Final Redemption Amount, Early Redemption Amount, Optional Redemption Amount or Change of Control Redemption Amount to be notified to the Trustee, the Issuer, each of the Paying Agents, the Noteholders, any other Calculation Agent appointed in respect of the Notes that is to make a further calculation upon receipt of such information and, if the Notes are listed on a stock exchange and the rules of such exchange or other relevant authority so require, such exchange or other relevant authority as soon as possible after their determination but in no event later than (i) the commencement of the relevant Interest Period, if determined prior to such time, in the case of notification to such exchange of a Rate of Interest and Interest Amount, or (ii) in all other cases, the fourth Business Day after such determination. Where any Interest Payment Date or Interest Period Date is subject to adjustment pursuant to Condition 5(b)(ii), the Interest Amounts and the Interest Payment Date so published may subsequently be amended (or appropriate alternative arrangements made with the consent of the Trustee by way of adjustment) without notice in the event of an extension or shortening of the Interest Period. If the Notes become due and payable under Condition 10, the accrued interest and the Rate of Interest payable in respect of the Notes shall nevertheless continue to be calculated as previously in accordance with this Condition but no publication of the Rate of Interest or the Interest Amount so calculated need be made unless the Trustee otherwise requires. The determination of any rate or amount, the obtaining of each quotation and the making of each determination or calculation by the Calculation Agent(s) shall (in the absence of manifest error) be final and binding upon all parties.

- (h) **Definitions:** In these Conditions, unless the context otherwise requires, the following defined terms shall have the meanings set out below:

“Business Day”, except in Condition 6(f) and 7(h), means:

- (i) in the case of a currency other than euro and Renminbi, a day (other than a Saturday or Sunday) on which commercial banks and foreign exchange markets settle payments in the principal financial centre for such currency and/or
- (ii) in the case of euro, a day on which the TARGET System is operating (a “TARGET Business Day”) and/or
- (iii) in the case of Renminbi, a day (other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday) on which commercial banks in Hong Kong are generally open for business and settlement of Renminbi payments in Hong Kong and/or
- (iv) in the case of a currency and/or one or more Business Centres a day (other than a Saturday or a Sunday) on which commercial banks and foreign exchange markets settle payments in such currency in the Business Centre(s) or, if no currency is indicated, generally in each of the Business Centres.

“Day Count Fraction” means, in respect of the calculation of an amount of interest on any Note for any period of time (from and including the first day of such period to but excluding the last) (whether or not constituting an Interest Period or an Interest Accrual Period, the “Calculation Period”):

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

$$\text{Day Count Fraction} = \frac{[360 \times (Y2 - Y1)] + [30 \times (M2 - M1)] + (D2 - D1)}{360}$$

where:

“Y1” is the year, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Calculation Period falls;

“Y2” is the year, expressed as a number, in which the day immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period falls;

“M1” is the calendar month, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Calculation Period falls;

“M2” is the calendar month, expressed as a number, in which the day immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period falls;

“D1” is the first calendar day, expressed as a number, of the Calculation Period, unless such number would be 31, in which case D1 will be 30; and

“D2” is the calendar day, expressed as a number, immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period, unless such number would be 31 and D1 is greater than 29, in which case D2 will be 30

- (vi) if “30E/360” or “Eurobond Basis” is specified hereon, the number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 360, calculated on a formula basis as follows:

$$\text{Day Count Fraction} = \frac{[360 \times (Y2 - Y1)] + [30 \times (M2 - M1)] + (D2 - D1)}{360}$$

where:

“Y1” is the year, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Calculation Period falls;

“Y2” is the year, expressed as a number, in which the day immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period falls;

“M1” is the calendar month, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Calculation Period falls;

“M2” is the calendar month, expressed as a number, in which the day immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period falls;

“D1” is the first calendar day, expressed as a number, of the Calculation Period, unless such number would be 31, in which case D1 will be 30; and

“D2” is the calendar day, expressed as a number, immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period, unless such number would be 31, in which case D2 will be 30

- (vii) if “30E/360 (ISDA)” is specified hereon, the number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 360, calculated on a formula basis as follows:

$$\text{Day Count Fraction} = \frac{[360 \times (Y2 - Y1)] + [30 \times (M2 - M1)] + (D2 - D1)}{360}$$

where:

“Y1” is the year, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Calculation Period falls;

“Y2” is the year, expressed as a number, in which the day immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period falls;

“M1” is the calendar month, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Calculation Period falls;

“M2” is the calendar month, expressed as a number, in which the day immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period falls;

“D1” is the first calendar day, expressed as a number, of the Calculation Period, unless (A) that day is the last day of February or (B) such number would be 31, in which case D1 will be 30; and

“D2” is the calendar day, expressed as a number, immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period, unless (A) that day is the last day of February but not the Maturity Date or (B) such number would be 31, in which case D2 will be 30

(viii) if “Actual/Actual-ICMA” is specified hereon,

(A) if the Calculation Period is equal to or shorter than the Determination Period during which it falls, the number of days in the Calculation Period divided by the product of (I) the number of days in such Determination Period and (II) the number of Determination Periods normally ending in any year; and

(B) if the Calculation Period is longer than one Determination Period, the sum of:

(I) the number of days in such Calculation Period falling in the Determination Period in which it begins divided by the product of (1) the number of days in such Determination Period and (2) the number of Determination Periods normally ending in any year; and

(II) the number of days in such Calculation Period falling in the next Determination Period divided by the product of (1) the number of days in such Determination Period and (2) the number of Determination Periods normally ending in any year

where:

“Determination Period” means the period from and including a Determination Date in any year to but excluding the next Determination Date and

“Determination Date” means the date(s) specified as such hereon or, if none is so specified, the Interest Payment Date(s)

“Euro-zone” means the region comprised of member states of the European Union that adopt the single currency in accordance with the Treaty establishing the European Community, as amended.

“Interest Accrual Period” means the period beginning on (and including) the Interest Commencement Date and ending on (but excluding) the first Interest Period Date and each successive period beginning on (and including) an Interest Period Date and ending on (but excluding) the next succeeding Interest Period Date.

“Interest Amount” means:

(i) in respect of an Interest Accrual Period, the amount of interest payable per Calculation Amount for that Interest Accrual Period and which, in the case of Fixed Rate Notes, and unless otherwise specified hereon, shall mean the Fixed Coupon Amount or Broken Amount specified hereon as being payable on the Interest Payment Date ending the Interest Period of which such Interest Accrual Period forms part; and

(ii) in respect of any other period, the amount of interest payable per Calculation Amount for that period.

“Interest Commencement Date” means the Issue Date or such other date as may be specified hereon.

“Interest Determination Date” means, with respect to a Rate of Interest and Interest Accrual Period, the date specified as such hereon or, if none is so specified, (i) the first day of such Interest Accrual Period if the Specified Currency is Sterling or Renminbi or (ii) the day falling two Business Days in London for the Specified Currency prior to the first day of such Interest Accrual Period if the Specified Currency is neither Sterling nor euro nor Renminbi or (iii) the day falling two TARGET Business Days prior to the first day of such Interest Accrual Period if the Specified Currency is euro.

“Interest Period” means the period beginning on and including the Interest Commencement Date and ending on but excluding the first Interest Payment Date and each successive period beginning on and including an Interest Payment Date and ending on but excluding the next succeeding Interest Payment Date, unless otherwise specified hereon.

“Interest Period Date” means each Interest Payment Date unless otherwise specified hereon.

“ISDA Definitions” means the 2006 ISDA Definitions, as published by the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc., unless otherwise specified hereon.

“Rate of Interest” means the rate of interest payable from time to time in respect of this Note and that is either specified or calculated in accordance with the provisions hereon.

“Reference Banks” means, in the case of a determination of LIBOR, the principal London office of four major banks in the London inter-bank market and, in the case of a determination of EURIBOR or EONIA, the principal Euro-zone office of four major banks in the Euro-zone inter-bank market, in each case selected by the Calculation Agent or as specified hereon.

“Reference Rate” means the rate specified as such hereon.

“Relevant Screen Page” means such page, section, caption, column or other part of a particular information service as may be specified hereon (or any successor or replacement page, section, caption, column or other part of such particular information service).

“Specified Currency” means the currency specified as such hereon or, if none is specified, the currency in which the Notes are denominated.

“TARGET System” means the Trans-European Automated Real-Time Gross Settlement Express Transfer (known as TARGET2) System which was launched on 19 November 2007 or any successor thereto.

- (i) **Calculation Agent:** The Issuer shall procure that there shall at all times be one or more Calculation Agents if provision is made for them hereon and for so long as any Note is outstanding (as defined in the Trust Deed). Where more than one Calculation Agent is appointed in respect of the Notes, references in these Conditions to the Calculation Agent shall be construed as each Calculation Agent performing its respective duties under the Conditions. If the Calculation Agent is unable or unwilling to act as such or if the Calculation Agent fails duly to establish the Rate of Interest for an Interest Accrual Period or to calculate any Interest Amount, Final Redemption Amount, Early Redemption Amount, Optional Redemption Amount or Change of Control Redemption Amount, as the case may be, or to comply with any other requirement, the Issuer shall (with the prior approval of the Trustee) appoint a leading bank or financial institution engaged in the interbank market (or, if appropriate, money, swap or over-the-counter index options market) that is most closely connected with the calculation or determination to be made by the Calculation Agent (acting through its principal London office or any other office actively involved in such market) to act as such in its place. The Calculation Agent may not resign its duties without a successor having been appointed as aforesaid.

## 6 Redemption, Purchase and Options

(a) **Final Redemption:**

Unless previously redeemed, purchased and cancelled as provided below, each Note shall be finally redeemed on the Maturity Date specified hereon at its Final Redemption Amount (which, unless otherwise provided hereon, is its nominal amount).

(b) **Early Redemption:**

(i) *Zero Coupon Notes:*

- (A) The Early Redemption Amount payable in respect of any Zero Coupon Note, upon redemption of such Note pursuant to Condition 6(c), 6(d), 6(e) or 6(f) or upon it becoming due and payable as provided in Condition 10 shall be the Amortised Face Amount (calculated as provided below) of such Note unless otherwise specified hereon.
- (B) Subject to the provisions of sub-paragraph (C) below, the Amortised Face Amount of any such Note shall be the scheduled Final Redemption Amount of such Note on the Maturity Date discounted at a rate per annum (expressed as a percentage) equal to the Amortisation Yield (which, if none is shown hereon, shall be such rate as would produce an Amortised Face Amount equal to the issue price of the Notes if they were discounted back to their issue price on the Issue Date) compounded annually.
- (C) If the Early Redemption Amount payable in respect of any such Note upon its redemption pursuant to Condition 6(c), 6(d), 6(e) or 6(f) or upon it becoming due and payable as provided in Condition 10 is not paid when due, the Early Redemption Amount due and payable in respect of such Note shall be the Amortised Face Amount of such Note as defined in sub-paragraph (B) above, except that such sub-paragraph shall

have effect as though the date on which the Note becomes due and payable were the Relevant Date. The calculation of the Amortised Face Amount in accordance with this sub-paragraph shall continue to be made (both before and after judgment) until the Relevant Date, unless the Relevant Date falls on or after the Maturity Date, in which case the amount due and payable shall be the scheduled Final Redemption Amount of such Note on the Maturity Date together with any interest that may accrue in accordance with Condition 5(c).

Where such calculation is to be made for a period of less than one year, it shall be made on the basis of the Day Count Fraction shown hereon.

- (ii) *Other Notes*: The Early Redemption Amount payable in respect of any Note (other than Notes described in paragraph (i)), upon redemption of such Note pursuant to Condition 6(c), 6(d), 6(e) or 6(f) or upon it becoming due and payable as provided in Condition 10, shall be the Final Redemption Amount unless otherwise specified hereon.
- (c) **Redemption for Taxation Reasons**: The Notes may be redeemed at the option of the Issuer in whole, but not in part, on any Interest Payment Date (if the Note is a Floating Rate Note) or at any time (if the Note is not a Floating Rate Note), on giving not less than 30 nor more than 60 days' notice to the Noteholders (which notice shall be irrevocable) at their Early Redemption Amount (as described in Condition 6(b) above) (together with interest accrued to the date fixed for redemption), if the Issuer satisfies the Trustee immediately before the giving of such notice that (i) it, or if the Guarantee were called, the Guarantor has or will become obliged to pay additional amounts provided or referred to in Condition 8 as a result of any change in, or amendment to, the laws or regulations of The Netherlands (in the case of a payment by Akzo Nobel N.V. ("AkzoNobel")) or the Kingdom of Sweden (in the case of a payment by Akzo Nobel Sweden Finance AB (publ) ("AkzoNobel Sweden")) or any political subdivision or, in each case, any authority thereof or therein having power to tax, or any change in the application or official interpretation of such laws or regulations, which change or amendment becomes effective on or after the date on which agreement is reached to issue the first Tranche of the Notes, and (ii) such obligation cannot be avoided by the Issuer (or any Guarantor, as the case may be) taking reasonable measures available to it at a cost acceptable to it (acting reasonably), provided that no such notice of redemption shall be given earlier than 90 days prior to the earliest date on which the Issuer (or any Guarantor, as the case may be) would be obliged to pay such additional amounts were a payment in respect of the Notes (or either Guarantee, as the case may be) then due. Prior to the publication of any notice of redemption pursuant to this Condition 6(c), the Issuer shall deliver to the Trustee a certificate signed by two Authorised Signatories (as defined in the Trust Deed), at least one of whom is a director, of the Issuer (or any Guarantor, as the case may be) stating that the obligation referred to in (i) above cannot be avoided by the Issuer (or any Guarantor, as the case may be) taking reasonable measures available to it at a cost acceptable to it (acting reasonably) and the Trustee shall be entitled to accept such certificate as sufficient evidence of the satisfaction of the conditions precedent set out in (i) and (ii) above, in which event it shall be conclusive and binding on Noteholders and Couponholders and the Trustee shall not be responsible for any loss occasioned by acting on such certificate.
- (d) **Redemption at the Option of the Issuer**
- (i) If "Issuer Call" is specified hereon, the Issuer may, unless the Issuer has given notice under Condition 6(c) to redeem the Notes or a Put Notice has been given by the Noteholder pursuant to Condition 6(f), on giving not less than 15 nor more than 30 days' irrevocable notice to the Noteholders (or such other notice period as may be specified hereon) redeem all or, if so provided, some of the Notes on any Optional Redemption Date. Any such redemption of Notes shall be at their Optional Redemption Amount specified hereon (which may be the Early Redemption Amount (as described in Condition 6(b) above)), together with interest accrued to the date fixed for redemption. Any such redemption or exercise must relate to Notes of a nominal amount at least equal to the Minimum Redemption Amount to be redeemed specified hereon and no greater than the Maximum Redemption Amount to be redeemed specified hereon.
  - (ii) If "Adjusted Redemption Price" is specified in the applicable Final Terms as the Optional Redemption Amount, the Optional Redemption Amount per Note shall be the higher of:
    - (x) the nominal amount of the Note; and

- (y) the nominal amount of the Note multiplied by the price (as reported in writing to the Issuer and the Trustee by a financial adviser selected by the Issuer and approved by the Trustee (the “Financial Adviser”)) expressed as a percentage (rounded, if necessary, to the nearest one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point (with halves being rounded up)), at which the Gross Redemption Yield on the Notes on the Optional Redemption Calculation Date is equal to the Gross Redemption Yield at the Determination Time on the Optional Redemption Calculation Date of the Reference Bond (or, where the Financial Adviser advises the Issuer and the Trustee that, for reasons of illiquidity or otherwise, such Reference Bond is not appropriate for such purpose, such other government debt security as such Financial Adviser may recommend), plus any applicable Margin.
- (iii) For the purposes of this paragraph, “Optional Redemption Calculation Date”, “Determination Time”, “Reference Bond” and “Margin” shall have the meanings specified hereon in the Final Terms and “Gross Redemption Yield” means a yield calculated in accordance with generally accepted market practice at such time, as advised to the Issuer and the Trustee by the Financial Adviser. All Notes in respect of which any such notice is given under this Condition 6(d) shall be redeemed on the date specified in such notice in accordance with this Condition 6(d).
- (iv) In the case of a partial redemption the notice to Noteholders shall also contain the certificate numbers of the Bearer Notes, or in the case of Registered Notes shall specify the nominal amount of Registered Notes drawn and the holder(s) of such Registered Notes, to be redeemed, which shall have been drawn in such place as the Issuer may approve and in such manner as may be fair and reasonable in the circumstances, taking into account prevailing market practices as it deems appropriate, subject to compliance with any applicable laws and stock exchange or other relevant authority requirements.
- (e) **Redemption at the Option of Noteholders:** If “Investor Put” is specified hereon, the Issuer shall, at the option of the holder of any such Note, upon the holder of such Note giving not less than 15 nor more than 30 days’ notice to the Issuer (or such other notice period as may be specified hereon) redeem such Note on the Optional Redemption Date(s) at its Optional Redemption Amount specified hereon (which may be the Early Redemption Amount (as described in Condition 6(b) above)), together with interest accrued to the date fixed for redemption.

To exercise such option the holder must deposit (in the case of Bearer Notes) such Note (together with all unmatured Coupons and unexchanged Talons) with any Paying Agent or (in the case of Registered Notes) the Certificate representing such Note(s) with the Registrar or any Transfer Agent at its specified office, together with a duly completed option exercise notice (“Exercise Notice”) in the form obtainable from any Paying Agent, the Registrar or any Transfer Agent (as applicable) within the notice period. No Note or Certificate so deposited and option exercised may be withdrawn (except as provided in the Agency Agreement) without the prior consent of the Issuer.

- (f) **Redemption at the option of Noteholders on a Put Event**
  - (i) If Change of Control Put Option is specified hereon and, at any time while any of the Notes remains outstanding, a Change of Control Event occurs and within the Change of Control Period (A) (if at the time that Change of Control Event occurs there are Rated Securities) a Rating Downgrade in respect of that Change of Control Event occurs or (B) (if at such time there are no Rated Securities) a Negative Rating Event in respect of that Change of Control Event occurs (that Change of Control Event and, where applicable, Rating Downgrade or Negative Rating Event, as the case may be, occurring within the Change of Control Period, together called a “Put Event”), the holder of each Note will have the option (unless, prior to the giving of the Put Event Notice referred to below, the Issuer gives notice under Condition 6(c) or 6(d) to redeem the Notes) to require the Issuer to redeem or, at the Issuer’s option, purchase (or procure the purchase of) that Note on the date which is seven days after the expiry of the Put Period (defined below) (or such other date as may be specified hereon, the “Put Date”) at the Change of Control Redemption Amount specified hereon (which may be the Early Redemption Amount (as described in Condition 6(b) above)), together with (or, where purchased, together with an amount equal to) interest (if any) accrued to but excluding the Put Date.
  - (ii) Promptly upon, and in any event within 21 days after, the Issuer or any Guarantor becoming aware that a Put Event has occurred, the Issuer or any Guarantor shall, and at any time upon the Trustee becoming similarly so aware the Trustee may, and if so requested in writing by the

holders of at least one-quarter in nominal amount of the Notes then outstanding or if so directed by an Extraordinary Resolution of the Noteholders the Trustee shall (subject in each case to the Trustee being indemnified and/or secured and/or prefunded to its satisfaction), give notice (a “Put Event Notice”) to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 16 specifying the nature of the Put Event and the procedure for exercising the put option contained in this Condition 6(f).

- (iii) To exercise the put option under this Condition 6(f), the holder of a Note must (in the case of Bearer Notes) deposit such Note (together (where applicable) with all unmatured Coupons and unexchanged Talons) with any Paying Agent or (in the case of Registered Notes) deposit the Certificate representing such Note(s) with the Registrar or any Transfer Agent at its specified office, in each case, on any Business Day falling within the period of 30 days after a Put Event Notice is given (the “Put Period”), accompanied by a duly signed and completed notice of exercise in the form (for the time being current) obtainable from the specified office of any Paying Agent, Registrar or Transfer Agent, as the case may be (a “Put Notice”). No Note or Certificate so deposited and option so exercised may be withdrawn (except as provided in the Agency Agreement) without the prior consent of the Issuer.
- (iv) If 80 per cent. or more in nominal amount of the Notes then outstanding have been redeemed or purchased pursuant to the foregoing provisions of this Condition 6(f), the Issuer may, on not less than 30 or more than 60 days’ notice to the Noteholders given within 30 days after the Put Date, redeem, at its option, the remaining Notes as a whole (but not some only) at the Change of Control Redemption Amount specified hereon together with interest (if any) accrued to but excluding the date of such redemption.
- (v) If the rating designations employed by any of S&P, Moody’s or Fitch Ratings are changed from those which are described in paragraph (B) of the definition of “Negative Rating Event” below, or if a rating is procured from another Rating Agency, AkzoNobel shall determine, with the agreement of the Trustee, the rating designations of S&P, Moody’s, Fitch Ratings or such other Rating Agency (as appropriate) as are most nearly equivalent to the prior rating designations of S&P, Moody’s or Fitch Ratings, and this Condition 6(f) shall be construed accordingly.
- (vi) The Trustee is under no obligation to ascertain or monitor whether a Change of Control Event, Negative Rating Event or Put Event or any event which could lead to the occurrence of or could constitute a Change of Control Event, Negative Rating Event or Put Event has occurred and, until it shall have actual knowledge or notice pursuant to the Trust Deed to the contrary, the Trustee may assume that no Change of Control Event, Negative Rating Event or Put Event or other such event has occurred.
- (vii) In this Condition 6(f):

“Business Day” means a day on which commercial banks and foreign exchange markets settle payments and are open for general business (including dealing in foreign exchange and foreign currency deposits) in the place of the specified office of the Paying Agent, Registrar or Transfer Agent (as the case may be) at which the relevant Note or Certificate representing the relevant Note is deposited.

A “Change of Control Event” shall be deemed to have occurred if at any time a person or group of persons acting in concert, other than a holding company (as defined in section 1159 of the Companies Act 2006) whose shareholders are or are to be the same as (or the same save for the initial subscriber of the shares of the holding company), and who hold the shares in the same proportion (save for any holding of any such initial subscriber) as, the pre-existing shareholders of AkzoNobel, gains control of more than 50 per cent. of the issued shares of AkzoNobel or of the voting rights attached to the issued shares of AkzoNobel (for these purposes, “acting in concert” means a group of persons who, pursuant to an agreement or understanding (whether formal or informal), actively co-operate through the acquisition by any of them, either directly or indirectly, of shares in AkzoNobel to obtain or consolidate control of AkzoNobel);

“Change of Control Period” means the period beginning on the date that is (A) the date of the first public announcement of the Change of Control Event or, if earlier, (B) the date of the earliest Potential Change of Control Event Announcement (if any) and ending 90 days after the occurrence of the Change of Control Event (if any) (or such longer period in which the Rated Securities are under consideration (announced publicly within the period ending 90 days after the occurrence of the Change of Control Event) for rating review or, as the case may be, rating

by a Rating Agency, such period not to exceed 60 days after the public announcement of such consideration);

A “Negative Rating Event” shall be deemed to have occurred if the Issuer or the Guarantor (A) does not, either prior to or not later than 21 days after the relevant Change of Control Event, seek, and thereupon use all reasonable endeavours to obtain, a rating of the Notes or any other unsecured and unsubordinated debt of AkzoNobel (or any subsidiary of the Issuer or the Guarantor which is guaranteed on an unsecured and unsubordinated basis by the Issuer or the Guarantor) having an initial maturity of five years or more from a Rating Agency or (B) does so seek and use such endeavours, but is unable, as a result of such Change of Control Event, to obtain such a rating of at least “investment grade” (being a rating of BBB- (in the case of Standard & Poor’s Credit Market Services Europe Limited (“S&P”)), Baa3 (in the case of Moody’s Investors Service Limited (“Moody’s”)) or BBB- (in the case of Fitch Ratings Ltd (“Fitch Ratings”)), or their respective equivalents for the time being) from at least one Rating Agency, provided that a Negative Rating Event shall not be deemed to have occurred in respect of a particular Change of Control Event if the Rating Agency declining to assign a rating of at least investment grade (as defined above) does not announce or publicly confirm or inform the Issuer, the Guarantor or the Trustee in writing that its declining to assign a rating of at least investment grade was the result, in whole or in part, of any event or circumstance comprised in or arising as a result of, or in respect of, the applicable Change of Control Event (whether or not the Change of Control Event shall have occurred at the time such investment grade rating is declined);

“Potential Change of Control Event Announcement” means any public announcement or statement by AkzoNobel, any actual or potential bidder or any adviser acting on behalf of any actual or potential bidder relating to any potential Change of Control Event where, within 90 days following the date of such announcement or statement, a Change of Control Event occurs;

“Rated Securities” means the Notes so long as they shall have an effective rating which was solicited by the Issuer or the Guarantor from any Rating Agency and otherwise any unsecured and unsubordinated debt of the Issuer or the Guarantor (or any subsidiary of the Issuer or the Guarantor which is guaranteed on an unsecured and unsubordinated basis by the Issuer or the Guarantor) having an initial maturity of five years or more which is rated by one of the Rating Agencies at the invitation of the Issuer or the Guarantor;

“Rating Agency” means S&P and its successors or Moody’s and its successors or Fitch Ratings and its successors or any other rating agency of equivalent standing specified by the Issuer or the Guarantor from time to time and approved in writing by the Trustee; and

A “Rating Downgrade” shall be deemed to have occurred in respect of a Change of Control Event if any solicited current rating assigned to the Rated Securities by a Rating Agency at the invitation of the Issuer or the Guarantor (A) is withdrawn and is not within the Change of Control Period replaced by a rating of another Rating Agency at least equivalent to that which was current immediately before the occurrence of the Change of Control Event or (B) is reduced from a rating of investment grade (as defined above) or better to a non-investment grade rating of BB+ (in the case of S&P), Ba1 (in the case of Moody’s) or BB+ (in the case of Fitch Ratings) (or their respective equivalents for the time being) or worse and not subsequently upgraded to an investment grade rating during the Change of Control Period; provided that a Rating Downgrade otherwise arising by virtue of a particular reduction in rating shall not be deemed to have occurred in respect of a particular Change of Control Event if the Rating Agency making the reduction in rating to which this definition would otherwise apply does not announce or publicly confirm or inform the Issuer or the Guarantor or the Trustee in writing that the reduction was the result, in whole or in part, of any event or circumstance comprised in or arising as a result of, or in respect of, the applicable Change of Control Event (whether or not the applicable Change of Control Event shall have occurred at the time of the Rating Downgrade).

- (g) **Purchases:** Each of the Issuer, each Guarantor and each of their respective subsidiaries may at any time purchase Notes (provided that all unmatured Coupons and unmatured Talons relating thereto are attached thereto or surrendered therewith) in the open market or otherwise at any price.
- (h) **Cancellation:** All Notes purchased by or on behalf of the Issuer, any Guarantor or any of their subsidiaries may be surrendered for cancellation, in the case of Bearer Notes, by surrendering each

such Note together with all unmatured Coupons and all unexchanged Talons to the Issuing and Paying Agent and, in the case of Registered Notes, by surrendering the Certificate representing such Notes to the Registrar and, in each case, if so surrendered, shall, together with all Notes redeemed by the Issuer, be cancelled forthwith (together with all unmatured Coupons and unexchanged Talons attached thereto or surrendered therewith). Any Notes so surrendered for cancellation may not be reissued or resold and the obligations of the Issuer and each Guarantor in respect of any such Notes shall be discharged.

## 7 Payments and Talons

- (a) **Bearer Notes:** Payments of principal and interest in respect of Bearer Notes shall, subject as mentioned below, be made against presentation and surrender of the relevant Notes (in the case of all payments of principal and, in the case of interest, as specified in Condition 7(f)(v)) or Coupons (in the case of interest, save as specified in Condition 7(f)(ii)), as the case may be:
- (i) in the case of a currency other than Renminbi, at the specified office of any Paying Agent outside the United States by a cheque payable in the relevant currency drawn on, or, at the option of the holder, by transfer to an account denominated in such currency with, a Bank; and
  - (ii) in the case of Renminbi, by transfer to a Renminbi account maintained by or on behalf of the Noteholder with a bank in Hong Kong.

In this Condition 7(a), “Bank” means a bank in the principal financial centre for such currency or, in the case of euro, in a city in which banks have access to the TARGET System.

- (b) **Registered Notes:**
- (i) Payments of principal in respect of Registered Notes shall be made against presentation and surrender of the relevant Certificates at the specified office of any of the Transfer Agents or of the Registrar and in the manner provided in paragraph (ii) below.
  - (ii) Interest on Registered Notes shall be paid to the person shown on the Register at the close of business on the fifteenth day before the due date for payment thereof (in the case of a currency other than Renminbi) or on the fifth business day before the due date for payment thereof (in the case of Renminbi) (the “Record Date”). Payments of interest on each Registered Note shall be made:
    - (A) in the case of a currency other than Renminbi, in the relevant currency by cheque drawn on a Bank and mailed to the holder (or to the first named of joint holders) of such Note at its address appearing in the Register. Upon application by the holder to the specified office of the Registrar or any Transfer Agent before the Record Date, such payment of interest may be made by transfer to an account in the relevant currency maintained by the payee with a Bank; and
    - (B) in the case of Renminbi, by transfer to the registered account of the Noteholder.

In this Condition 7(b)(ii)(B), “registered account” means the Renminbi account maintained by or on behalf of the Noteholder with a bank in Hong Kong, details of which appear in the Register at the close of business on the fifth business day before the due date for payment.

- (c) **Payments in the United States:** Notwithstanding the foregoing, if any Bearer Notes are denominated in U.S. dollars, payments in respect thereof may be made at the specified office of any Paying Agent in New York City in the same manner as aforesaid if (i) the Issuer shall have appointed Paying Agents with specified offices outside the United States with the reasonable expectation that such Paying Agents would be able to make payment of the amounts on the Notes in the manner provided above when due, (ii) payment in full of such amounts at all such offices is illegal or effectively precluded by exchange controls or other similar restrictions on payment or receipt of such amounts and (iii) such payment is then permitted by United States law, without involving, in the opinion of the Issuer, any adverse tax consequence to the Issuer.
- (d) **Payments subject to Fiscal Laws:** All payments are subject in all cases to (i) any applicable fiscal or other laws, regulations and directives in the place of payment, but without prejudice to the provisions of Condition 8 and (ii) any withholding or deduction required pursuant to an agreement described in Section 1471(b) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the “Code”) or otherwise imposed pursuant to Sections 1471 through 1474 of the Code, any regulations or agreements thereunder, official interpretations thereof, or any law implementing an intergovernmental approach thereto. No

commission or expenses shall be charged to the Noteholders or Couponholders in respect of such payments. Any such amounts withheld or deducted will be treated as paid for all purposes under the Notes, and no additional amounts will be paid on the Notes with respect to any such withholding or deduction.

- (e) **Appointment of Agents:** The Issuing and Paying Agent, the CMU Lodging Agent, the Paying Agents, the Registrar, the Transfer Agents and the Calculation Agent initially appointed by the Issuer and each Guarantor and their respective specified offices are listed below. The Issuing and Paying Agent, the CMU Lodging Agent, the Paying Agents, the Registrar, the Transfer Agents and the Calculation Agent act solely as agents of the Issuer and each Guarantor and do not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any Noteholder or Couponholder. The Issuer and each Guarantor reserve the right at any time with the approval of the Trustee to vary or terminate the appointment of the Issuing and Paying Agent, the CMU Lodging Agent, any other Paying Agent, the Registrar, any Transfer Agent or the Calculation Agent(s) and to appoint additional or other Paying Agents or Transfer Agents, provided that the Issuer shall at all times maintain (i) an Issuing and Paying Agent, (ii) a Registrar in relation to Registered Notes, (iii) a Transfer Agent in relation to Registered Notes, (iv) a CMU Lodging Agent in relation to Notes accepted for clearance through the CMU, (v) one or more Calculation Agent(s) where the Conditions so require, (vi) Paying Agents having specified offices in at least one major European city, (vii) such other agents as may be required by any other stock exchange on which the Notes may be listed in each case, as approved by the Trustee and (viii) a Paying Agent with a specified office in a European Union member state that will not be obliged to withhold or deduct tax pursuant to any law implementing European Council Directive 2003/48/EC or any other Directive implementing the conclusions of the ECOFIN Council meeting of 26-27 November 2000.

In addition, the Issuer and each Guarantor shall forthwith appoint a Paying Agent in New York City in respect of any Bearer Notes denominated in U.S. dollars in the circumstances described in Condition 7(c) above.

Notice of any such change or any change of any specified office shall promptly be given to the Noteholders.

- (f) **Unmatured Coupons and unmatured Talons:**

- (i) Upon the due date for redemption of Bearer Notes which comprise Fixed Rate Notes, such Notes should be surrendered for payment together with all unmatured Coupons (if any) relating thereto, failing which an amount equal to the face value of each missing unmatured Coupon (or, in the case of payment not being made in full, that proportion of the amount of such missing unmatured Coupon that the sum of principal so paid bears to the total principal due) shall be deducted from the Final Redemption Amount, Early Redemption Amount, Optional Redemption Amount or Change of Control Redemption Amount, as the case may be, due for payment. Any amount so deducted shall be paid in the manner mentioned above against surrender of such missing Coupon within a period of 10 years from the Relevant Date for the payment of such principal (whether or not such Coupon has become void pursuant to Condition 9).
- (ii) Upon the due date for redemption of any Bearer Note comprising a Floating Rate Note, unmatured Coupons relating to such Note (whether or not attached) shall become void and no payment shall be made in respect of them.
- (iii) Upon the due date for redemption of any Bearer Note, any unmatured Talon relating to such Note (whether or not attached) shall become void and no Coupon shall be delivered in respect of such Talon.
- (iv) Where any Bearer Note that provides that the relative unmatured Coupons are to become void upon the due date for redemption of those Notes is presented for redemption without all unmatured Coupons, and where any Bearer Note is presented for redemption without any unexchanged Talon relating to it, redemption shall be made only against the provision of such indemnity as the Issuer may require.
- (v) If the due date for redemption of any Note is not a due date for payment of interest, interest accrued from the preceding due date for payment of interest or the Interest Commencement Date, as the case may be, shall only be payable against presentation (and surrender if appropriate) of the relevant Bearer Note or Certificate representing it, as the case may be.

Interest accrued on a Note that only bears interest after its Maturity Date shall be payable on redemption of such Note against presentation of the relevant Note or Certificate representing it, as the case may be.

- (g) **Talons:** On or after the Interest Payment Date for the final Coupon forming part of a Coupon sheet issued in respect of any Bearer Note, the Talon forming part of such Coupon sheet may be surrendered at the specified office of the Issuing and Paying Agent in exchange for a further Coupon sheet (and if necessary another Talon for a further Coupon sheet) (but excluding any Coupons that may have become void pursuant to Condition 9).
- (h) **Non-Business Days:** If any date for payment in respect of any Note or Coupon is not a business day, the holder shall not be entitled to payment until the next following business day nor to any interest or other sum in respect of such postponed payment. In this Condition 7(h), “business day” means a day (other than a Saturday or a Sunday) on which banks and foreign exchange markets are open for business in the relevant place of presentation, in such jurisdictions as shall be specified as “Financial Centres” hereon and:
- (i) (in the case of a payment in a currency other than euro and Renminbi) where payment is to be made by transfer to an account maintained with a bank in the relevant currency, on which foreign exchange transactions may be carried on in the relevant currency in the principal financial centre of the country of such currency or
  - (ii) (in the case of a payment in euro) which is a TARGET Business Day or
  - (iii) (in the case of a payment in Renminbi) on which banks and foreign exchange markets are open for business and settlement of Renminbi payments in Hong Kong.
- (i) **Payment of Relevant Currency Equivalent:** Notwithstanding all other provisions in these Conditions, if by reason of Inconvertibility, Non-transferability or Illiquidity, the Issuer or the Guarantor is not able, or it would be impracticable for it, to satisfy payments due under the Notes or Coupons (or the Guarantee, as the case may be) in Renminbi in Hong Kong, the Issuer shall, on giving not less than five and not more than 30 days’ irrevocable notice to the Noteholders prior to the due date for payment, settle any such payment in the Relevant Currency on the due date for payment at the Relevant Currency Equivalent of any such Renminbi denominated amount.

In such event, payments of the Relevant Currency Equivalent of the relevant amounts due under the Notes or Coupons (or the Guarantee) shall be made in accordance with Condition 7(a)(i) or Condition 7(b), as applicable.

In this Condition 7(i):

“Governmental Authority” means any *de facto* or *de jure* government (or any agency or instrumentality thereof), court, tribunal, administrative or other governmental authority or any other entity (private or public) charged with the regulation of the financial markets (including the central bank) of Hong Kong;

“Illiquidity” means the general Renminbi exchange market in Hong Kong becomes illiquid as a result of which the Issuer (or the Guarantor, as the case may be) cannot obtain sufficient Renminbi in order to satisfy its obligation to make a payment under the Notes or Coupons (or the Guarantee);

“Inconvertibility” means the occurrence of any event that makes it impossible for the Issuer (or the Guarantor, as the case may be) to convert into Renminbi any amount due in another currency into the amount of Renminbi in respect of the Notes or Coupons (or the Guarantee) in the general Renminbi exchange market in Hong Kong, other than where such impossibility is due solely to the failure of the Issuer, the Guarantor and/or any of their respective affiliates to comply with any law, rule or regulation enacted by any Governmental Authority (unless such law, rule or regulation is enacted after the Issue Date of the first Tranche of the relevant Series and it is impossible for the Issuer, the Guarantor and/or their respective affiliates due to an event beyond its or their control, to comply with such law, rule or regulation);

“Non-transferability” means the occurrence of any event that makes it impossible for the Issuer (or the Guarantor, as the case may be) to deliver Renminbi between accounts inside Hong Kong or from an account inside Hong Kong to an account outside Hong Kong, other than where such impossibility is due solely to the failure of the Issuer, the Guarantor and/or any of their respective affiliates to comply with any law, rule or regulation enacted by any Governmental Authority (unless such law, rule or

regulation is enacted after the Issue Date of the first Tranche of the relevant Series and it is impossible for the Issuer, the Guarantor and/or their respective affiliates due to an event beyond its or their control, to comply with such law, rule or regulation);

“Rate Calculation Business Day” means a day (other than a Saturday or Sunday) on which commercial banks are open for general business (including dealings in foreign exchange) in Hong Kong and the principal financial centre of the Relevant Currency (which is, in the case of euro, a day on which the TARGET System is operating);

“Rate Calculation Date” means the day which is two Rate Calculation Business Days before the due date of the relevant amount under these Conditions;

“Relevant Currency” means the currency specified in the Final Terms;

“Relevant Currency Equivalent” means the Renminbi amount converted into the Relevant Currency using the Spot Rate for the relevant Rate Calculation Date; and

“Spot Rate”, for a Rate Calculation Date, means the spot rate between Renminbi and the Relevant Currency, as determined by the Calculation Agent (or if none has been appointed, an agent appointed by the Issuer for this purpose) at or around 11.00 a.m. (Hong Kong time) on such date in good faith and in a reasonable commercial manner; and if a spot rate is not readily available, the Calculation Agent or such agent appointed under this Condition may determine the rate taking into consideration all available information which the Calculation Agent or such agent deems relevant, including pricing information obtained from the Renminbi non-deliverable exchange market in Hong Kong or elsewhere and the PRC domestic foreign exchange market.

All notifications, opinions, determinations, certificates, calculations, quotations and decisions given, expressed, made or obtained for the purposes of the provisions of this Condition 7(i) by the Calculation Agent or such agent appointed under this Condition, will (in the absence of manifest error) be conclusive and binding on the Issuer, the Agents and all holders of the Notes.

The Calculation Agent or such agent appointed under this Condition shall not be responsible or liable to the Issuer, the Guarantor or any holders of the Notes for any determination of any Spot Rate in accordance with this Condition 7(i).

## 8 Taxation

All payments of principal and interest by or on behalf of the Issuer or any Guarantor in respect of the Notes and the Coupons or under the Guarantee shall be made 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 on behalf of The Netherlands or the Kingdom of Sweden or any authority therein or thereof having power to tax, unless such withholding or deduction is required by law. In that event, the Issuer or, as the case may be, the Guarantor shall pay such additional amounts as shall result in receipt by the Noteholders and Couponholders 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 with respect to any Note or Coupon:

- (a) **Other connection:** to, or to a third party on behalf of, a holder who is liable to such taxes, duties, assessments or governmental charges in respect of such Note or Coupon by reason of his having some connection with The Netherlands (in the case of payments by AkzoNobel) or the Kingdom of Sweden (in the case of payments by AkzoNobel Sweden) other than the mere holding of the Note or Coupon; or
- (b) **Holder able to avoid:** to a holder who would have been able to avoid such withholding or deduction (i) by presenting any form or certificate or (ii) by making a declaration of non-residence or other similar claim for exception to the relevant tax authority; or
- (c) **Presentation more than 30 days after the Relevant Date:** presented (or in respect of which the Certificate representing it is presented) for payment more than 30 days after the Relevant Date (defined below) except to the extent that the holder would have been entitled to such additional amounts on presenting their Note or Coupon for payment on the thirtieth day after the Relevant Date; or
- (d) **Payment to individuals:** where such withholding or deduction is imposed on a payment to an individual and is required to be made pursuant to European Council Directive 2003/48/EC or any other

Directive implementing the conclusions of the ECOFIN Council meeting of 26-27 November 2000 on the taxation of savings income or any law implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to, such Directive; or

- (e) **Payment by another Paying Agent:** (except in the case of Registered Notes) 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 Note or Coupon to another Paying Agent in a member state of the European Union.

As used in these Conditions, “Relevant Date” in respect of any Note or Coupon means the date on which payment in respect of it first becomes due or (if any amount of the money payable is improperly withheld or refused) the date on which payment in full of the amount outstanding is made or (if earlier) the date seven days after that on which notice is duly given to the Noteholders that, upon further presentation of the Note (or relative Certificate) or Coupon being made in accordance with the Conditions, such payment will be made, provided that payment is in fact made upon such presentation. References in these Conditions to (i) “principal” shall be deemed to include any premium payable in respect of the Notes, all Final Redemption Amounts, Early Redemption Amounts, Optional Redemption Amounts, Change of Control Redemption Amount, Amortised Face Amounts and all other amounts in the nature of principal payable pursuant to Condition 6 or any amendment or supplement to it, (ii) “interest” shall be deemed to include all Interest Amounts and all other amounts payable pursuant to Condition 5 or any amendment or supplement to it and (iii) “principal” and/or “interest” shall be deemed to include any additional amounts that may be payable under this Condition or any undertaking given in addition to or in substitution for it under the Trust Deed.

## 9 Prescription

Claims against the Issuer and/or any Guarantor for payment in respect of the Notes and Coupons (which, for this purpose, shall not include Talons) shall be prescribed and become void unless made within 10 years (in the case of principal) or five years (in the case of interest) from the appropriate Relevant Date in respect of them.

## 10 Events of Default

The Trustee at its discretion may, and if so requested in writing by the holders of at least one-quarter in nominal amount of the Notes then outstanding or if so directed by an Extraordinary Resolution of the Noteholders shall, subject, in each case, to its being indemnified and/or secured and/or prefunded to its satisfaction, (but, in the case of the happening of any of the events mentioned in paragraphs (b) and (f) below, only if the Trustee shall have certified in writing to the Issuer that such event is, in its opinion, materially prejudicial to the interests of the Noteholders), give notice to the Issuer that the Notes are, and they shall accordingly thereby forthwith become, immediately due and repayable at their Early Redemption Amount together (if applicable) with accrued interest if any of the following events (each an “Event of Default”) shall have occurred (unless such event has been remedied to the satisfaction of the Trustee):

- (a) default is made in the payment of principal or interest on the Notes on the due date for payment thereof and such failure continues, in the case of principal, for a period of seven days and, in the case of interest, for a period of 14 days; or
- (b) the Issuer or any Guarantor fails to perform or observe any of its other obligations under the Notes or the Trust Deed and (except where the Trustee shall have certified to the Issuer in writing that it considers such failure to be incapable of remedy, in which case no such notice or continuation as is hereinafter mentioned will be required) such failure continues for the period of 30 days (or such longer period as the Trustee may in its absolute discretion permit) following the service by the Trustee of notice on the Issuer or any Guarantor, as the case may be, specifying such failure and requiring the same to be remedied; or
- (c) the Issuer or any Guarantor is dissolved or wound up; or
- (d) the Issuer or any Guarantor enters into a composition with its creditors, files a petition for a suspension of payments, admits in writing that it cannot pay its debts generally as they become due, initiates a proceeding in bankruptcy or is adjudicated bankrupt; or
- (e) the Issuer and/or any Guarantor and/or any Major Subsidiary (as defined below) defaults in the making of any payment in respect of Indebtedness for Borrowed Moneys (as defined below) of, assumed or guaranteed by, the Issuer and/or any Guarantor and/or any Major Subsidiary, as the case may be, when

and as the same shall become due and payable, if such default shall continue for more than the period of grace, if any, applicable thereto and the time for such payment has not been effectively extended, or if any Indebtedness for Borrowed Moneys of, or assumed by, the Issuer and/or any Guarantor and/or any Major Subsidiary shall have become repayable before the due date thereof as a result of acceleration of maturity by reason of the occurrence of an event of default thereunder, provided that the aggregate amount of the relevant Indebtedness for Borrowed Moneys in respect of which one or more of the events mentioned above in this paragraph (e) have occurred is greater than €60,000,000 or the equivalent thereof in any other currency or currencies.

In this paragraph (e):

“Indebtedness for Borrowed Moneys” shall mean any indebtedness for borrowed money having an original maturity of 12 months or more; and

“Major Subsidiary” shall mean at any relevant time any company or entity of which AkzoNobel directly or indirectly has control and (i) whose total sales shall have exceeded 10 per cent. of AkzoNobel’s consolidated sales for the immediately preceding financial year, all as calculated by reference to the then latest audited accounts of the relevant company or entity and the then latest consolidated audited accounts of AkzoNobel, or (ii) to which is transferred all or substantially all the assets and undertaking of any company or entity of which AkzoNobel directly or indirectly has control which immediately prior to such transfer is a Major Subsidiary. A report by two Authorised Signatories, at least one of whom is a director, of AkzoNobel (whether or not addressed to the Trustee) that in their opinion any company or entity is or is not or was or was not at any particular time or throughout any specified period a Major Subsidiary may be relied upon by the Trustee without liability to any person and without further enquiry or evidence and, if relied upon by the Trustee, shall, in the absence of manifest error, be conclusive and binding on all relevant parties; or

- (f) if the Issuer or any Guarantor merges or otherwise amalgamates with any other incorporated or unincorporated legal entity, unless the legal entity surviving such merger or amalgamation expressly assumes all obligations of the Issuer or such Guarantor, as applicable, in respect of the Notes (in the case of the Issuer) or the Guarantee (in the case of such Guarantor) and has obtained all necessary authorisations therefor; or
- (g) if for any reason the Guarantee ceases to be in full force and effect.

## 11 Meetings of Noteholders, Modification, Waiver and Substitution

- (a) **Meetings of Noteholders:** The Trust Deed contains provisions for convening meetings of Noteholders to consider any matter affecting their interests, including the sanctioning by Extraordinary Resolution (as defined in the Trust Deed) of a modification of any of these Conditions or any provisions of the Trust Deed. Such a meeting may be convened by Noteholders holding not less than 10 per cent. in nominal amount of the Notes for the time being outstanding. The quorum for any meeting convened to consider an Extraordinary Resolution shall be two or more persons holding or representing a clear majority in nominal amount of the Notes for the time being outstanding, or at any adjourned meeting two or more persons being or representing Noteholders whatever the nominal amount of the Notes held or represented, unless the business of such meeting includes consideration of proposals, *inter alia*, (i) to amend the dates of maturity or redemption of the Notes or any date for payment of interest or Interest Amounts on the Notes, (ii) to reduce or cancel the nominal amount of or any premium payable on redemption of the Notes, (iii) to reduce the rate or rates of interest in respect of the Notes or to vary the method or basis of calculating the rate or rates or amount of interest or the basis for calculating any Interest Amount in respect of the Notes, (iv) if a Minimum and/or a Maximum Rate of Interest or Redemption Amount is shown hereon, to reduce any such Minimum and/or Maximum, (v) to vary any method of, or basis for, calculating the Final Redemption Amount, the Early Redemption Amount, the Optional Redemption Amount or the Change of Control Redemption Amount, including the method of calculating the Amortised Face Amount, (vi) to vary the currency or currencies of payment or denomination of the Notes, (vii) to modify the provisions concerning the quorum required at any meeting of Noteholders or the majority required to pass the Extraordinary Resolution or (viii) to modify or cancel the Guarantee, in which case the necessary quorum shall be two or more persons holding or representing not less than two-thirds, or at any adjourned meeting not less than one-third, in nominal amount of the Notes for the time being outstanding. Any Extraordinary Resolution duly passed shall be binding on Noteholders (whether or not they were present at the meeting at which such resolution was passed) and on all Couponholders.

The Trust Deed provides that a resolution in writing signed by or on behalf of the holders of not less than 80 per cent. in nominal amount of the Notes outstanding shall for all purposes be as valid and effective as an Extraordinary Resolution passed at a meeting of Noteholders duly convened and held. Such a resolution in writing may be contained in one document or several documents in the same form, each signed by or on behalf of one or more Noteholders.

- (b) **Modification of the Trust Deed:** The Trustee may agree, without the consent of the Noteholders or Couponholders, to (i) any modification of any of the provisions of the Trust Deed which is, in the opinion of the Trustee, of a formal, minor or technical nature or is made to correct a manifest error or an error which is, in the opinion of the Trustee, proven, and (ii) any other modification (except as mentioned in the Trust Deed), and any waiver or authorisation of any breach or proposed breach, of any of the provisions of the Trust Deed, and may determine that any Event of Default or Potential Event of Default (as defined by the Trust Deed) shall not be treated as such, which in any such case is in the opinion of the Trustee not materially prejudicial to the interests of the Noteholders. Any such modification, authorisation, waiver or determination shall be binding on the Noteholders and the Couponholders and, if the Trustee so requires, such modification shall be notified to the Noteholders as soon as practicable.
- (c) **Substitution:** The Trust Deed contains provisions permitting the Trustee to agree, subject to such amendment of the Trust Deed and such other conditions as the Trustee may require, but without the consent of the Noteholders or the Couponholders, to the substitution of certain other entities (as provided in the Trust Deed) in place of the Issuer or any Guarantor, or of any previous substituted company, as principal debtor or Guarantor under the Trust Deed and the Notes. In the case of such a substitution the Trustee may agree, without the consent of the Noteholders or the Couponholders, to a change of the law governing the Notes, the Coupons, the Talons and/or the Trust Deed provided that such change would not in the opinion of the Trustee be materially prejudicial to the interests of the Noteholders.
- (d) **Entitlement of the Trustee:** In connection with the exercise of its functions (including, but not limited to, those referred to in this Condition) the Trustee shall have regard to the interests of the Noteholders as a class and shall not have regard to the consequences of such exercise for individual Noteholders or Couponholders and the Trustee shall not be entitled to require, nor shall any Noteholder or Couponholder be entitled to claim, from the Issuer or any Guarantor any indemnification or payment in respect of any tax consequence of any such exercise upon individual Noteholders or Couponholders. The Trustee may rely, without liability to Noteholders, on a report, confirmation or certificate of any accountants, financial advisers or investment bank, whether or not addressed to it and whether their liability in relation thereto is limited (by its terms or by any engagement letter relating thereto entered into by the Trustee or any other person or in any other manner) by reference to a monetary cap, methodology or otherwise. The Trustee shall be obliged to accept and be entitled to rely on any such report, confirmation or certificate where the Issuer or any Guarantor procures delivery of the same pursuant to its obligation to do so under a condition hereof and such report, confirmation or certificate shall be binding on the Issuer, each Guarantor, the Trustee and the Noteholders in the absence of manifest or proven error.

## 12 Enforcement

At any time after the Notes become due and payable, the Trustee may, at its discretion and without further notice, institute such proceedings against the Issuer and/or each Guarantor as it may think fit to enforce the terms of the Trust Deed, the Notes and the Coupons, but it need not take any such proceedings or take any step or action unless (a) it shall have been so directed by an Extraordinary Resolution or so requested in writing by Noteholders holding at least one-quarter in nominal amount of the Notes outstanding, and (b) it shall have been indemnified and/or secured and/or prefunded to its satisfaction in respect of all costs, claims, expenses and liabilities to or for which it may, in its opinion, thereby become liable. No Noteholder or Couponholder may proceed directly against the Issuer or any Guarantor unless the Trustee, having become bound so to proceed, fails to do so within a reasonable time and such failure is continuing.

## 13 Indemnification of the Trustee

The Trust Deed contains provisions for the indemnification of the Trustee and for its relief from responsibility including relieving it from taking proceedings or any step or action unless indemnified and/or secured and/or prefunded to its satisfaction. The Trustee is entitled to enter into business transactions with the Issuer, each Guarantor and any entity related to the Issuer or each Guarantor without accounting for any profit.

## 14 Replacement of Notes, Certificates, Coupons and Talons

If a Note, Certificate, Coupon or Talon is lost, stolen, mutilated, defaced or destroyed, it may be replaced, subject to applicable laws, regulations and stock exchange or other relevant authority regulations, at the specified office of the Issuing and Paying Agent in Luxembourg (in the case of Bearer Notes, Coupons or Talons) and of the Registrar (in the case of Certificates) or such other Paying Agent or Transfer Agent, as the case may be, as may from time to time be designated by the Issuer for the purpose and notice of whose designation is given to Noteholders, in each case on payment by the claimant of the fees and costs incurred in connection therewith and on such terms as to evidence, security and indemnity (which may provide, *inter alia*, that if the allegedly lost, stolen or destroyed Note, Certificate, Coupon or Talon is subsequently presented for payment or, as the case may be, for exchange for further Coupons, there shall be paid to the Issuer on demand the amount payable by the Issuer in respect of such Notes, Certificates, Coupons or further Coupons) and otherwise as the Issuer may require. Mutilated or defaced Notes, Certificates, Coupons or Talons must be surrendered before replacements will be issued.

## 15 Further Issues

The Issuer may from time to time without the consent of the Noteholders or Couponholders create and issue further securities either having the same terms and conditions as the Notes in all respects (or in all respects except for the first payment of interest on them) and so that such further issue shall be consolidated and form a single series with the outstanding securities of any series (including the Notes) or upon such terms as the Issuer may determine at the time of their issue. References in these Conditions to the Notes include (unless the context requires otherwise) any other securities issued pursuant to this Condition and forming a single series with the Notes. Any further securities forming a single series with the outstanding securities of any series (including the Notes) constituted by the Trust Deed or any deed supplemental to it shall, and any other securities may (with the consent of the Trustee), be constituted by the Trust Deed. The Trust Deed contains provisions for convening a single meeting of the Noteholders and the holders of securities of other series where the Trustee so decides.

## 16 Notices

Notices to the holders of Registered Notes shall be mailed to them at their respective addresses in the Register and deemed to have been given on the fourth weekday (being a day other than a Saturday or a Sunday) after the date of mailing. Notices to the holders of Bearer Notes shall be valid if published in a daily newspaper of general circulation in London (which is expected to be the *Financial Times*). So long as the Notes are listed on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, notices to the holders of the Notes shall also be published either on the website of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange ([www.bourse.lu](http://www.bourse.lu)) or in a daily newspaper with general circulation in Luxembourg (which is expected to be the *Luxemburger Wort*). If in the opinion of the Trustee any such publication is not practicable, notice shall be validly given if published in another leading daily English language newspaper with general circulation in Europe. Any such notice shall be deemed to have been given on the date of such publication or, if published more than once or on different dates, on the first date on which publication is made, as provided above.

Couponholders shall be deemed for all purposes to have notice of the contents of any notice given to the holders of Bearer Notes in accordance with this Condition.

## 17 Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999

No person shall have any right to enforce any term or condition of the Notes under the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999.

## 18 Governing Law and Jurisdiction

- (a) **Governing Law:** The Trust Deed, the Notes, the Coupons and the Talons and any non-contractual obligations arising out of or in connection with them are governed by, and shall be construed in accordance with, English law.
- (b) **Jurisdiction:** The Courts of England are to have jurisdiction to settle any disputes that may arise out of or in connection with the Trust Deed, any Notes, Coupons or Talons or the Guarantee and accordingly any legal action or proceedings arising out of or in connection with the Trust Deed, any Notes, Coupons or Talons or the Guarantee (“Proceedings”) may be brought in such courts. Pursuant to the

Trust Deed, each of the Issuer and any Guarantor has in the Trust Deed irrevocably submitted to the jurisdiction of such courts.

- (c) **Service of Process:** Each of the Issuer and each Guarantor has in the Trust Deed irrevocably appointed an agent in England to receive, for it and on its behalf, service of process in any Proceedings in England.

## **OVERVIEW OF PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE NOTES WHILE IN GLOBAL FORM**

### **1 Initial Issue of Notes**

If the Global Notes or the Global Certificates are stated in the applicable Final Terms to be issued in NGN form or to be held under the NSS (as the case may be), (i) the Global Notes or the Global Certificates will be delivered on or prior to the original issue date of the Tranche to a Common Safekeeper; and (ii) the relevant clearing systems will be notified whether or not such Global Notes or Global Certificates are intended to be held in a manner which would allow Eurosystem eligibility. Depositing the Global Notes or the Global Certificates with the Common Safekeeper does not necessarily mean that the Notes will be recognised as eligible collateral for Eurosystem monetary policy and intra-day credit operations by the Eurosystem either upon issue, or at any or all times during their life. Such recognition will depend upon satisfaction of the Eurosystem eligibility criteria.

Global notes which are issued in CGN form and Global Certificates which are not held under the NSS may be delivered on or prior to the original issue date of the Tranche, (i) to a Common Depositary (defined below) or (ii) in relation to Notes accepted for clearance through the Central Moneymarkets Unit Service operated by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (the “CMU”), to a sub-custodian for the CMU.

If the Global Note is a CGN, upon the initial deposit of a Global Note with a common depositary for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg (the “Common Depositary”) or with a sub-custodian for the CMU or registration of Registered Notes in the name of any nominee for (i) Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg or (ii) the CMU and delivery of the relative Global Certificate to the Common Depositary or the sub-custodian for the CMU (as the case may be), Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg or the CMU (as the case may be) will credit each subscriber with a nominal amount of Notes equal to the nominal amount thereof for which it has subscribed and paid. If the Global Note is a NGN, the nominal amount of the Notes shall be the aggregate amount from time to time entered in the records of Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg. The records of such clearing system shall be conclusive evidence of the nominal amount of Notes represented by the Global Note and a statement issued by such clearing system at any time shall be conclusive evidence of the records of the relevant clearing system at that time.

Notes that are initially deposited with the Common Depositary may also be credited to the accounts of subscribers with (if indicated in the relevant Final Terms) other clearing systems through direct or indirect accounts with Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg held by such other clearing systems. Conversely, Notes that are initially deposited with any other clearing system may similarly be credited to the accounts of subscribers with Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg or other clearing systems.

### **2 Relationship of Accountholders with Clearing Systems**

Each of the persons shown in the records of Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg or any other permitted clearing system (“Alternative Clearing System”) as the holder of a Note represented by a Global Note or a Global Certificate must look solely to Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg or any such Alternative Clearing System (as the case may be) for his share of each payment made by the Issuer to the bearer of such Global Note or the holder of the underlying Registered Notes, as the case may be, and in relation to all other rights arising under the Global Notes or Global Certificates, subject to and in accordance with the respective rules and procedures of Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg, or such Alternative Clearing System (as the case may be). Such persons shall have no claim directly against the Issuer in respect of payments due on the Notes for so long as the Notes are represented by such Global Note or Global Certificate and such obligations of the Issuer will be discharged by payment to the bearer of such Global Note or the holder of the underlying Registered Notes, as the case may be, in respect of each amount so paid.

If a Global Note or a Global Certificate is lodged with a sub-custodian for or registered with the CMU, the person(s) for whose account(s) interests in such Global Note or Global Certificate are credited as being held in the CMU in accordance with the CMU Rules as notified by the CMU to the CMU Lodging Agent in a relevant CMU Instrument Position Report or any other relevant notification by the CMU (which notification, in either case, shall be conclusive evidence of the records of the CMU save in the case of manifest error) shall be the only person(s) entitled (in the case of Registered Notes, directed or deemed by the CMU as entitled) to receive payments in respect of Notes represented by such Global Note or Global Certificate and the Issuer will be discharged by payment to, or to the order of, such person(s) for whose account(s) interests in such Global Note or Global Certificate are credited as being held in the CMU in respect of each amount so paid. Each of the persons shown in the records of the CMU, as the beneficial holder of a particular nominal amount

of Notes represented by such Global Note or Global Certificate, must look solely to the CMU Lodging Agent for his share of each payment so made by the Issuer in respect of such Global Note or Global Certificate.

### **3 Exchange**

#### **3.1 Temporary Global Notes**

Each temporary Global Note will be exchangeable, free of charge to the holder, on or after its Exchange Date:

- (i) if the relevant Final Terms indicate that such Global Note is issued in compliance with the C Rules or in a transaction to which TEFRA is not applicable (as to which, see “General Description of the Programme – Selling Restrictions”), in whole, but not in part, for the Definitive Notes defined and described below; and
- (ii) otherwise, in whole or in part upon certification as to non-U.S. beneficial ownership substantially in the form set out in the Agency Agreement for interests in a permanent Global Note or, if so provided in the relevant Final Terms, for Definitive Notes.

The CMU may require that any such exchange for a permanent Global Note is made in whole and not in part and in such event, no such exchange will be effected until all relevant account holders (as set out in a CMU Instrument Position Report (as defined in the rules of the CMU) or any other relevant notification supplied to the CMU Lodging Agent by the CMU) have so certified.

#### **3.2 Permanent Global Notes**

Each permanent Global Note will be exchangeable, free of charge to the holder, on or after its Exchange Date in whole but not, except as provided under paragraph 3.4 below, in part for Definitive Notes if the permanent Global Note is held on behalf of Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg or the CMU or an Alternative Clearing System and any such clearing system is closed for business for a continuous period of 14 days (other than by reason of holidays, statutory or otherwise) or announces an intention permanently to cease business or in fact does so.

In the event that a Global Note is exchanged for Definitive Notes, such Definitive Notes shall be issued in Specified Denomination(s) only. A Noteholder who holds a principal amount of less than the minimum Specified Denomination will not receive a definitive Note in respect of such holding and would need to purchase a principal amount of Notes such that it holds an amount equal to one or more Specified Denominations.

#### **3.3 Permanent Global Certificates**

If the Final Terms state that the Notes are to be represented by a permanent Global Certificate on issue, the following will apply in respect of transfers of Notes held in Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg or the CMU or an Alternative Clearing System. These provisions will not prevent the trading of interests in the Notes within a clearing system whilst they are held on behalf of such clearing system, but will limit the circumstances in which the Notes may be withdrawn from the relevant clearing system.

Transfers of the holding of Notes represented by any Global Certificate pursuant to Condition 2(b) may only be made in part:

- (i) if the relevant clearing system is closed for business for a continuous period of 14 days (other than by reason of holidays, statutory or otherwise) or announces an intention permanently to cease business or does in fact do so; or
- (ii) with the consent of the Issuer,

provided that, in the case of the first transfer of part of a holding pursuant to paragraph 3.3(i) or 3.3(ii) above, the Registered Holder has given the Registrar not less than 30 days’ notice at its specified office of the Registered Holder’s intention to effect such transfer.

### **3.4 Partial Exchange of Permanent Global Notes**

For so long as a permanent Global Note is held on behalf of a clearing system and the rules of that clearing system permit, such permanent Global Note will be exchangeable in part on one or more occasions for Definitive Notes if so provided in, and in accordance with, the Conditions.

### **3.5 Delivery of Notes**

If the Global Note is a CGN, on or after any due date for exchange, the holder of a Global Note may surrender such Global Note or, in the case of a partial exchange, present it for endorsement to or to the order of the Issuing and Paying Agent (or in the case of Notes lodged with the CMU, the CMU Lodging Agent). In exchange for any Global Note, or the part thereof to be exchanged, the Issuer will (i) in the case of a temporary Global Note exchangeable for a permanent Global Note, deliver, or procure the delivery of, a permanent Global Note in an aggregate nominal amount equal to that of the whole or that part of a temporary Global Note that is being exchanged or, in the case of a subsequent exchange, endorse, or procure the endorsement of, a permanent Global Note to reflect such exchange or (ii) in the case of a Global Note exchangeable for Definitive Notes, deliver, or procure the delivery of, an equal aggregate nominal amount of duly executed and authenticated Definitive Notes or if the Global Note is a NGN, the Issuer will procure that details of such exchange be entered *pro rata* in the records of the relevant clearing system. In this Prospectus, “Definitive Notes” means, in relation to any Global Note, the definitive Bearer Notes for which such Global Note may be exchanged (if appropriate, having attached to them all Coupons in respect of interest that has not already been paid on the Global Note and a Talon). Definitive Notes will be security printed in accordance with any applicable legal and stock exchange requirements in or substantially in the form set out in the Schedules to the Trust Deed. On exchange in full of each permanent Global Note, the Issuer will, if the holder so requests, procure that it is cancelled and returned to the holder together with the relevant Definitive Notes.

### **3.6 Exchange Date**

“Exchange Date” means, in relation to a temporary Global Note, the day falling after the expiry of 40 days after its issue date and, in relation to a permanent Global Note, a day falling not less than 60 days after that on which the notice requiring exchange is given and on which banks are open for business in the city in which the specified office of the Issuing and Paying Agent is located and in the city in which the relevant clearing system is located.

## **4 Amendment to Conditions**

The temporary Global Notes, permanent Global Notes and Global Certificates contain provisions that apply to the Notes that they represent, some of which modify the effect of the terms and conditions of the Notes set out in this Prospectus. The following is a summary of certain of those provisions:

### **4.1 Payments**

No payment falling due after the Exchange Date will be made on any Global Note unless exchange for an interest in a permanent Global Note or for Definitive Notes is improperly withheld or refused. Payments on any temporary Global Note issued in compliance with the D Rules before the Exchange Date will only be made against presentation of certification as to non-U.S. beneficial ownership substantially in the form set out in the Agency Agreement. Except with respect to a Global Note held through the CMU, all payments in respect of Notes represented by a Global Note in CGN form will be made against presentation for endorsement and, if no further payment falls to be made in respect of the Notes, surrender of that Global Note to or to the order of the Issuing and Paying Agent or such other Paying Agent as shall have been notified to the Noteholders for such purpose. If the Global Note is a CGN, a record of each payment so made will be endorsed on each Global Note, which endorsement will be *prima facie* evidence that such payment has been made in respect of the Notes. Condition 7(f)(v) and Condition 8(e) will apply to the Definitive Notes only. If the Global Note is a NGN or if the Global Certificate is held under the NSS, the Issuer shall procure that details of each such payment shall be entered *pro rata* in the records of the relevant clearing system and in the case of payments of principal, the nominal amount of the Notes recorded in the records of the relevant clearing system and represented by the Global Note or the Global Certificate will be reduced accordingly. Payments under a NGN will be made to its holder. Each payment so made will discharge the Issuer’s obligations in respect thereof. Any failure to make the entries in the records of the relevant clearing system shall not

affect such discharge. For the purpose of any payments made in respect of a Global Note, the relevant place of presentation shall be disregarded in the definition of “business day” set out in Condition 7(h) (*Non-Business Days*).

All payments in respect of Notes represented by a Global Certificate will be made to, or to the order of, the person whose name is entered on the Register at the close of business on the record date which shall be the Clearing System Business Day immediately prior to the date for payment, where Clearing System Business Day means Monday to Friday inclusive except 25 December and 1 January.

In respect of a Global Note or Global Certificate held through the CMU, any payments of principal, interest (if any) or any other amounts shall be made to the person(s) for whose account(s) interests in the relevant Global Note are credited (as set out in a CMU Instrument Position Report or any other relevant notification supplied to the CMU Lodging Agent by the CMU as at the business day before the date for payment) and, save in the case of final payment, no presentation of the relevant bearer Global Note or Global Certificate shall be required for such purpose.

#### **4.2 Prescription**

Claims against the Issuer in respect of Notes that are represented by a permanent Global Note will become void unless it is presented for payment within a period of 10 years (in the case of principal) and five years (in the case of interest) from the appropriate Relevant Date (as defined in Condition 8).

#### **4.3 Meetings**

The holder of a permanent Global Note or of the Notes represented by a Global Certificate shall (unless such permanent Global Note or Global Certificate represents only one Note) be treated as being two persons for the purposes of any quorum requirements of a meeting of Noteholders and, at any such meeting, the holder of a permanent Global Note shall be treated as having one vote in respect of each integral currency unit of the Specified Currency of the Notes. All holders of Registered Notes are entitled to one vote in respect of each integral currency unit of the Specified Currency of the Notes comprising such Noteholder’s holding, whether or not represented by a Global Certificate.

#### **4.4 Cancellation**

Cancellation of any Note represented by a permanent Global Note that is required by the Conditions to be cancelled (other than upon its redemption) will be effected by reduction in the nominal amount of the relevant permanent Global Note.

#### **4.5 Purchase**

Notes represented by a permanent Global Note may only be purchased by the Issuer, the Guarantor or any of their respective subsidiaries if they are purchased together with the rights to receive all future payments of interest (if any) thereon.

#### **4.6 Issuer’s Option**

Any option of the Issuer provided for in the Conditions of any Notes while such Notes are represented by a permanent Global Note shall be exercised by the Issuer giving notice to the Noteholders within the time limits set out in and containing the information required by the Conditions, except that the notice shall not be required to contain the serial numbers of Notes drawn in the case of a partial exercise of an option and accordingly no drawing of Notes shall be required. In the event that any option of the Issuer is exercised in respect of some but not all of the Notes of any Series, the rights of accountholders with a clearing system in respect of the Notes will be governed by the standard procedures of Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg (to be reflected in the records of Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg as either a pool factor or a reduction in nominal amount, at their discretion) or the CMU or any other Alternative Clearing System (as the case may be).

#### **4.7 Noteholders’ Options**

Any option of the Noteholders provided for in the Conditions of any Notes while such Notes are represented by a permanent Global Note may be exercised by the holder of the permanent Global Note giving notice to the Issuing and Paying Agent or in respect of Notes represented by a Global Certificate, to the Registrar or Transfer Agent or in respect of Notes lodged with the CMU, to the CMU

Lodging Agent, within the time limits relating to the deposit of Notes with a Paying Agent set out in the Conditions substantially in the form of the notice available from any Paying Agent, except that the notice shall not be required to contain the serial numbers of the Notes in respect of which the option has been exercised, and stating the nominal amount of Notes in respect of which the option is exercised and at the same time, where the permanent Global Note is a CGN or in the case of a Global Certificate, presenting the permanent Global Note or Global Certificate to the Issuing and Paying Agent or the Registrar or Transfer Agent (or, in the case of Notes lodged with the CMU, the CMU Lodging Agent) for notation. Where the Global Note is a NGN or where the Global Certificate is held under the NSS, the Issuer shall procure that details of such exercise shall be entered *pro rata* in the records of the relevant clearing system and the nominal amount of the Notes recorded in those records will be reduced accordingly.

#### **4.8 NGN nominal amount**

Where the Global Note is a NGN, the Issuer shall procure that any exchange, payment, cancellation, exercise of any option or any right under the Notes, as the case may be, in addition to the circumstances set out above shall be entered in the records of the relevant clearing systems and upon any such entry being made, in respect of payments of principal, the nominal amount of the Notes represented by such Global Note shall be adjusted accordingly.

#### **4.9 Trustee's Powers**

In considering the interests of Noteholders while any Global Note is held on behalf of, or Registered Notes represented in the form of a Global Certificate are registered in the name of any nominee for, a clearing system, the Trustee may have regard to and rely on any information provided to it by such clearing system or its operator as to the identity (either individually or by category) of its accountholders with entitlements to such Global Note or Registered Notes and may consider such interests as if such accountholders were the holders of the Notes represented by such Global Note or Global Certificate.

#### **4.10 Events of Default**

Each Global Note provides that the holder may cause such Global Note, or a portion of it, to become due and repayable in the circumstances described in, and in accordance with, Condition 10 by stating in the notice to the Issuing and Paying Agent or the CMU Lodging Agent the nominal amount of such Global Note that is becoming due and repayable.

#### **4.11 Notices**

So long as any Notes are represented by a Global Note and such Global Note is held on behalf of (i) Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg or any other clearing system, except as provided in (ii) below, notices to the holders of Notes of that Series may be given by delivery of the relevant notice to that clearing system for communication by it to entitled accountholders in substitution for publication as required by the Conditions or by delivery of the relevant notice to the holder of the Global Note or (ii) the CMU, notices to the holders of Notes of that Series may be given by the delivery of the relevant notice to the persons shown in a CMU Instrument Position Report issued by the CMU on the second business day preceding the date of despatch of such notice as holding interests in the relevant Global Note or Global Certificate, except that so long as the Notes are listed on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange's regulated market and the rules of that exchange so require, notices shall also be published either on the website of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange ([www.bourse.lu](http://www.bourse.lu)) or in a leading newspaper having general circulation in Luxembourg (which is expected to be the *Luxemburger Wort*).

### **5 Electronic Consent and Written Resolution**

While any Global Note is held on behalf of, or any Global Certificate is registered in the name of any nominee for, a clearing system, then:

- (a) approval of a resolution proposed by the Issuer, the Guarantor or the Trustee (as the case may be) given by way of electronic consents communicated through the electronic communications systems of the relevant clearing system(s) in accordance with their operating rules and procedures by or on behalf of the holders of not less than 80 per cent. in nominal amount of the Notes outstanding (an "Electronic Consent" as defined in the Trust Deed) shall, for all purposes (including matters that would otherwise

require an Extraordinary Resolution to be passed at a meeting for which the special quorum was satisfied), take effect as an Extraordinary Resolution passed at a meeting of Noteholders duly convened and held, and shall be binding on all Noteholders and holders of Coupons and Talons whether or not they participated in such Electronic Consent; and

- (b) where Electronic Consent is not being sought, for the purpose of determining whether a Written Resolution (as defined in the Trust Deed) has been validly passed, the Issuer, the Guarantor and the Trustee shall be entitled to rely on consent or instructions given in writing directly to the Issuer, the Guarantor and/or the Trustee, as the case may be, by accountholders in the clearing system with entitlements to such Global Note or Global Certificate or, where the accountholders hold any such entitlement on behalf of another person, on written consent from or written instruction by the person for whom such entitlement is ultimately beneficially held, whether such beneficiary holds directly with the accountholder or via one or more intermediaries and provided that, in each case, the Issuer, the Guarantor and/or the Trustee have obtained commercially reasonable evidence to ascertain the validity of such holding and have taken reasonable steps to ensure that such holding does not alter following the giving of such consent or instruction and prior to the effecting of such amendment. Any resolution passed in such manner shall be binding on all Noteholders and Couponholders, even if the relevant consent or instruction proves to be defective. As used in this paragraph, “**commercially reasonable evidence**” includes any certificate or other document issued by Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg, the CMU or any other relevant clearing system, or issued by an accountholder of them or an intermediary in a holding chain, in relation to the holding of interests in the Notes. Any such certificate or other document shall, in the absence of manifest error, be conclusive and binding for all purposes. Any such certificate or other document may comprise any form of statement or print out of electronic records provided by the relevant clearing system (including Euroclear’s EUCLID or Clearstream, Luxembourg’s CreationOnline system) in accordance with its usual procedures and in which the accountholder of a particular principal or nominal amount of the Notes is clearly identified together with the amount of such holding. None of the Issuer, the Guarantor or the Trustee shall be liable to any person by reason of having accepted as valid or not having rejected any certificate or other document to such effect purporting to be issued by any such person and subsequently found to be forged or not authentic.

## **USE OF PROCEEDS**

The net proceeds from the issue of each Tranche of Notes will be applied by the Issuer for the general corporate purposes of the Group. If, in respect of any particular issue, there is a particular identified use of proceeds, this will be stated in the applicable Final Terms.

## BUSINESS DESCRIPTION OF AKZONOBEL

### History and Development

Akzo Nobel N.V. (“AkzoNobel” or the “Company”) is a public limited liability company (*naamloze vennootschap*) incorporated under the law of The Netherlands, having its corporate seat in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. AkzoNobel was incorporated on 8 May 1911 with the name N.V. Nederlandsche Kunstzijdefabriek. AkzoNobel’s registered office is at Strawinskylaan 2555, 1077 ZZ Amsterdam, The Netherlands (telephone number +31 20 502 7555). AkzoNobel is registered with the Chamber of Commerce for Amsterdam under registration number 09007809.

As at the date of this Prospectus, AkzoNobel is the top holding company in the Group. AkzoNobel’s common shares are admitted to listing and trading on Euronext Amsterdam by NYSE Euronext. As at the date of this Prospectus, AkzoNobel has subsidiaries in more than 80 countries and employs approximately 50,000 people through its various business units worldwide.

AkzoNobel’s objects, as set out in Article 3 of its Articles of Association, are as follows:

“The objects of the Company are to participate directly or indirectly in partnerships, and in companies and other legal entities; to manage and finance such partnerships, companies, and legal entities; and to do all such things as are incidental to the attainment of the above objects, including providing security, whether or not for debts of third parties entering into and providing loans as well as the holding and administering of patents and other rights of intellectual property.”

N.V. Nederlandsche Kunstzijdefabriek was renamed AKU N.V. (“AKU”), and in the years from its incorporation in 1911 grew into an international concern with interests in cellulose fibres and, following the Second World War, synthetic textiles, carpet fibres and industrial fibres. In 1969, AKU merged with Koninklijke Zout-Organon N.V., and in 1994 was renamed AkzoNobel, after the merger with Nobel Industries AB (“Nobel”).

Koninklijke Zout-Organon N.V. was set up in 1967 as a holding company in connection with the merger of Koninklijke Zout-Ketjen N.V. and N.V. Koninklijke Zwanenberg-Organon, with interests in companies active in salt refining, basic chemicals, specialty chemicals and coatings on the one hand, and in food/non-food products, chemical products, brand-name drugs, non-prescription products and raw materials for the pharmaceutical industry on the other.

Nobel was formed in 1984 through the merger of Bofors (established in 1646) and KemaNobel, which had been founded in 1871 with the name Stockholms Superfosfat Fabriks AB. At the time of the merger with AkzoNobel in 1994, Nobel was a leading European producer of chemicals (including pulp and paper chemicals and surfactants) and coatings (including paints for professional and consumer markets, industrial coatings and industrial products).

In July 1998, AkzoNobel acquired Courtaulds plc (“Courtaulds”), an international chemical company operating in the markets for high tech industrial coatings and man-made fibres. Several brands, such as International Paints, Courtelle acrylic fibres and Tencell®, at that time, a new cellulosic fibre, were included in the acquisition. In the 1960s, Courtaulds acquired The International Paint Company Limited (formerly Pinchin Johnson & Associates Limited).

After the Courtaulds acquisition, the fibres operations of AkzoNobel and Courtaulds were combined into a newly established company named Acordis B.V. (“Acordis”). On 31 December 1999, the Acordis business was sold, with AkzoNobel retaining a 21 per cent. stake in the business at that date.

Between 2004 and 2006, AkzoNobel disposed of the non-core assets in its chemicals business, including businesses operating in the catalysts and phosphorus chemicals industry, the resins industry and 14 smaller operations.

In March 2007, AkzoNobel sold its pharmaceuticals business, Organon BioSciences N.V. (“Organon”), including the “Intervet” veterinary businesses to the American pharmaceutical firm Schering-Plough Company for €11.0 billion.

AkzoNobel used the proceeds of the sale of Organon to purchase UK-based firm Imperial Chemical Industries plc (“ICI”) for £8.1 billion, significantly increasing the presence of its core businesses in the coatings and specialty chemicals markets. This acquisition was completed on 2 January 2008.

In April 2008, AkzoNobel sold ICI's Adhesives and Electronic Material businesses to Henkel KG a.A ("Henkel") for an amount of €3.6 billion before final settlement adjustments.

In October 2010, AkzoNobel sold its National Starch business (formerly ICI's Specialty Starches business) for €1.1 billion to Corn Products International.

On 1 April 2013, AkzoNobel finalised the sale of its North American Decorative Paints business to PPG Industries, Inc. with net cash proceeds of €777 million. The sale included AkzoNobel's Decorative Paints business in the US, Canada and Puerto Rico.

In recent years, AkzoNobel acquired or divested many other smaller businesses, which were not significant to the consolidated financial statements.

## Recent developments

On 18 December 2013, AkzoNobel announced that it had agreed to transfer its obligations for monthly pension payments for current retirees in the US to insurance company MetLife, which is expected to reduce AkzoNobel's US pension obligations by approximately \$655 million, or 65 per cent. of the total US pension plan. In recognition of the premium payable to MetLife, and in order to maintain its pre-transaction funded status, AkzoNobel paid a contribution to the pension plan of \$170 million. The payment administration for the pension benefits is expected to transfer to MetLife by the end of the first quarter of 2014.

On 1 October 2013, AkzoNobel announced that it had finalised the €260 million divestment of its Building Adhesives business to Sika AG. Under the terms of the deal, all of Building Adhesives' approximately 550 employees have transferred to the new owners, along with the business' two manufacturing facilities in Rosendahl (Germany) and Damville (France) and its products and brands.

On 26 March 2014, AkzoNobel announced that the Trustee of the ICI Pension Fund in the UK had entered into two annuity buy-in agreements in line with their on-going strategy of de-risking. The two agreements are with Legal & General plc and Prudential Retirement Income Limited and cover, in aggregate, £3.6 billion of pensioner liabilities, which is broadly equivalent to one quarter of the Company's pension liabilities and one third of the ICI Pension Fund liabilities. The buy-ins involve the purchase of bulk annuity policies under which the insurers will pay to the ICI Pension Fund amounts equivalent to the benefits payable to a subset of current pensioners. The pension liabilities remain with the fund, and the matching annuity policies will be held within the fund, so the benefits of the members are unaffected by this transaction. The triennial review of the current recovery plan is due to be completed in 2015, taking these bulk annuities into consideration. It is likely that there will be a one-off increase in the top-ups in 2018 as a result of this transaction, in the order of £125 million. The accounting effects of the transaction on AkzoNobel will be fully assessed after completion; however the estimated impact will be increased financing expenses of £25 million per year from 2015 in the income statement and a reduction in the balance sheet equity of approximately £640 million.

## Management Structure

AkzoNobel has a two-tier board structure consisting of a Board of Management and a Supervisory Board. Of these, the Board of Management is the highest executive authority and the Supervisory Board is constituted of non-executive directors. The Board of Management operates in the context of an Executive Committee. The members of the Executive Committee are the two members of the Board of Management, together with five senior executives who hold delegated responsibilities for Human Resources, Legal, Specialty Chemicals, Performance Coatings and Decorative Paints.

As at the date of this Prospectus, the Members of the Board of Management, Executive Committee and the Supervisory Board, whose business addresses are AkzoNobel, Strawinskylaan 2555, 1077 ZZ Amsterdam, The Netherlands and their functions and their principal activities outside AkzoNobel and its subsidiaries, where these are significant, are as follows:

### Board of Management

### Position within Company

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Ton Büchner

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Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Management and the Executive Committee

Keith Nichols

Chief Financial Officer and Member of the Board of Management and the Executive Committee

In January 2014, AkzoNobel announced that Keith Nichols will step down from the Board of Management

and the Executive Committee with effect from 30 June 2014.

| <b>Other members of the Executive Committee</b> | <b>Position within Company</b>  |
|---|---|
| Marten Booisma                                  | Member of the Executive Committee<br>Responsible for Human Resources      |
| Sven Dumoulin                                   | Member of the Executive Committee<br>General Counsel                      |
| Werner Fuhrmann                                 | Member of the Executive Committee<br>Responsible for Specialty Chemicals  |
| Ruud Joosten                                    | Member of the Executive Committee<br>Responsible for Decorative Paints    |
| Conrad Keijzer                                  | Member of the Executive Committee<br>Responsible for Performance Coatings |

  

| <b>Supervisory Board</b>                               | <b>Principal activities outside AkzoNobel</b>   |
|--|---|
| Karel Vuursteen<br>Chairman Supervisory Board          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Former CEO of Heineken</li> <li>• Deputy Chairman and Member of the Board of Directors of Heineken Holding</li> <li>• Chairman of the Supervisory Board of TOMTOM N.V.</li> <li>• Member of the Supervisory Board of ING Group and Henkel AG</li> </ul>  |
| Uwe-Ernst Bufe<br>Deputy Chairman of Supervisory Board | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Former CEO of Degussa AG</li> <li>• Member of the Supervisory Boards of Solvay SA, Umicore SA and Kali + Salz AG</li> <li>• Non-executive Director of SunPower Inc.</li> </ul>   |
| Sari Baldauf<br>Board Member                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-executive Director and Chairman of the Executive Committee of F-Secure Oyj</li> <li>• Chairman of the Board of Fortum Oyj</li> <li>• Non-executive Director of Daimler AG</li> <li>• Chairman of the Board of Savonlinna Opera Festival</li> <li>• Former member of the Group Executive Board of Nokia Oy</li> </ul> |
| Dolf van den Brink<br>Board Member                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Former Member of the Managing Board of ABN AMRO Bank</li> <li>• Professor Financial Institutions University of Amsterdam</li> <li>• Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Nyenrode University</li> </ul>  |
| Peggy Bruzelius<br>Board Member                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Former CEO ABB Financial Services</li> <li>• Former Executive Vice-President SEB</li> </ul>  |

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Antony Burgmans<br>Board Member | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vice-Chairman AB Electrolux</li> <li>• Non-executive Director of Scania AB, Axfood AB, Syngenta AG, Husqvarna AB and Diageo plc.</li> <li>• Chairman of the Board of Directors of Lancelot Asset Management</li> <li>• Director Axel Johnson AB</li> <li>• Governor of Stockholm School of Economics</li> <li>• Chairman of the Swedish National Agency for Higher Education</li> <li>• Former Chairman and CEO of Unilever N.V. and plc.</li> <li>• Non-executive Director of BP plc.</li> <li>• Member of the Supervisory Boards of SHV Holdings N.V. and AEGON N.V.</li> </ul> |
| Peter Ellwood<br>Board Member   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Former Chairman of ICI plc.</li> <li>• Former Group Chief Executive of Lloyds TSB Group</li> <li>• Former Chairman of Rexam plc.</li> </ul>   |
| Louis Hughes<br>Board Member    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Former President and COO of Lockheed Martin</li> <li>• Former Executive Vice-President of General Motors</li> <li>• Chairman and CEO of In ZeroSystems LLC</li> <li>• Member of the Boards of Directors of ABB Group AG and Alcatel-Lucent SA</li> <li>• Executive Advisor of Wind Point Partners</li> </ul>  |
| Ben Verwaayen<br>Board Member   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Former Non-executive Director UPS</li> <li>• Former Chief Executive/Chairman of the Board's operating Committee BT group</li> <li>• Former Vice Chairman Management Board Lucent Technologies</li> <li>• Former President and Managing Director of KPN's subsidiary PTT Telecom</li> </ul>  |

None of the members of the Supervisory Board or the Board of Management have any potential conflicts of interests between duties to the Issuers and the Guarantors and their private interests or other duties.

On February 6, 2014, the Supervisory Board announced changes to its membership that will be proposed for adoption by the Company's Annual General Meeting of Shareholders on April 29, 2014 ("AGM").

Current Chairman Karel Vuursteen will retire from the Supervisory Board. Antony Burgmans will be put forward for re-appointment after reaching the end of his second term at the AGM. Following such re-appointment the Supervisory Board intends to elect Mr Burgmans as Chairman to succeed Mr Vuursteen.

Louis Hughes will also reach the end of his second term this year and will be nominated for re-appointment.

Sir Peter Ellwood will step down at the AGM after six years on the Supervisory Board. The Supervisory Board is putting forward Mr Byron Grote for appointment, who has extensive experience of complex multinational environments as well as deep financial expertise, having been a member of the Board of BP plc from 2000 to 2013, during which time he headed the petrochemicals business before becoming CFO. Mr

Grote currently holds the role of non-executive director at Unilever, chairing the Audit Committee, and is also a non-executive director at Anglo-American plc.

Following the proposed changes, the Supervisory Board will have eight members instead of the current nine.

## BUSINESS DESCRIPTION OF AKZONOBEL SWEDEN

### History and Development

Akzo Nobel Sweden Finance AB (publ) (“AkzoNobel Sweden”) was incorporated as a public limited liability company under the laws of the Kingdom of Sweden on 13 October 2008 with registration number 556768-4062 at Bolagsverket. It is domiciled in the Kingdom of Sweden. The registered office of AkzoNobel Sweden is at Akzo Nobel Sweden Finance AB (publ) c/o Akzo Nobel Pulp and Performance Chemicals AB, SE-445 80 Bohus, Sweden and the telephone number of its registered office is +46 8 743 4000.

The objects of AkzoNobel Sweden (to be found in Section 3 of the Articles of Association of AkzoNobel Sweden) are to carry on the business of a finance company, including lending, borrowing and the issuing of guarantees; directly or indirectly to own and manage movable and immovable property including holding subsidiaries; and any other activities compatible therewith, as well as to provide administrative and other corporate services to companies in which the company directly or indirectly owns shares and carry on any other activities compatible therewith. However, AkzoNobel Sweden shall not carry on such business as is subject to regulatory authorisation in accordance with the Swedish Act (2004: 297) on Banking Business and Financing Operations.

As at the date of this Prospectus, AkzoNobel Sweden is a holding and finance company for the Group and lends funds to other companies in the Group. AkzoNobel Sweden is a wholly-owned direct subsidiary of AkzoNobel. It is also a holding company for the following Swedish members of the Group: Akzo Nobel AB, Akzo Nobel Bygglim AB, Akzo Nobel Car Refinishes AB, Akzo Nobel Decorative Coatings AB, Akzo Nobel Functional Chemicals AB, Akzo Nobel Industrial Chemicals AB, Akzo Nobel Industrial Coatings AB, Akzo Nobel Industrial Finishes AB, Akzo Nobel Surface Chemistry AB, Carbide Sweden AB, Casco Adhesives AB, Akzo Nobel Pulp and Performance Chemicals AB and International Färg AB.

AkzoNobel Sweden’s authorised share capital is €208,000. AkzoNobel Sweden’s issued share capital is €52,000, divided into 1,000 shares with a nominal value of €52 each.

By a deed poll guarantee dated 18 December 2008, AkzoNobel Sweden guaranteed certain payment obligations of AkzoNobel in respect of AkzoNobel’s public debt and external credit arrangements as well as certain pensions funding obligations.

AkzoNobel Sweden prepares and publishes audited financial statements on the basis of International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU on an annual basis which will be filed in accordance with Swedish law. AkzoNobel Sweden also prepares half yearly reports.

### Management Structure

In accordance with applicable Swedish law, AkzoNobel Sweden has a Board of Directors consisting of seven members. The Board of Directors is responsible for managing the business of AkzoNobel Sweden in accordance with Swedish law. The Board of Directors also represents AkzoNobel Sweden in its dealings with third parties and in court.

As at the date of this Prospectus, the members of the Board of Directors of AkzoNobel Sweden, whose business addresses are Akzo Nobel Sweden Finance AB (publ) c/o Akzo Nobel Pulp and Performance Chemicals AB, SE-445 80 Bohus, Sweden, and their functions and their principal activities outside AkzoNobel Sweden and its subsidiaries, where these are significant, are as follows:

| <b>Name</b>                     | <b>Principal activities outside AkzoNobel Sweden</b>    |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Harry Blok<br>Chairman          | Director Corporate Finance – AkzoNobel                  |
| Pernilla Heidenvall<br>Director | Manager Legal Affairs – Sweden – AkzoNobel Sweden       |
| Gijsberth de Ruyter<br>Director | Controller Business Unit Pulp and Performance Chemicals |
| Jacq Derckx<br>Director         | Director Specialist Accounting & Governance – AkzoNobel |

Anita Lindqvist  
Director

Country HR Director, Sweden

Anna-Lena Palm  
Director

HSE Supervisor, AN Surface Chemistry EMEIA Plant  
Stenungsund  
Employee Representative

Rolf Eriksson  
Director

Property technician, Infrastructure, AN PPC Plant  
Stockvik  
Employee Representative

Robert Svensson and Esbjörn Boman have been elected as deputy members of the Board of Directors of AkzoNobel Sweden. The Managing Director of AkzoNobel Sweden is Bjarne Kristiansson.

None of the members of the Board of Directors have any potential conflict of interests between duties to AkzoNobel Sweden or AkzoNobel and their private interests or other duties.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE BUSINESS OF THE GROUP

### Overview of Business Areas

AkzoNobel's operations are carried out in business units grouped into three business areas on the basis of affinities between activities: Decorative Paints, Performance Coatings and Specialty Chemicals. Based on revenue in 2013, the three business areas represent 28 per cent., 38 per cent. and 34 per cent. of the Group, respectively.

At the AkzoNobel corporate level, key tasks are coordinated across the Group in the fields of strategy; finance and control; human resources; technology; legal affairs and intellectual property; communications; health, safety, and environment; information management; and risk and insurance management.

The business units and their main products (as at the date of this Prospectus) are summarised below.

#### Decorative Paints

The Decorative Paints unit includes businesses focusing on a full range of interior and exterior decoration and protection products for both the professional and do-it-yourself markets. These include paints, lacquers, varnishes, as well as products for surface preparation (pre-deco products). The Decorative Paints business is divided into three geographical reporting units: Europe, Asia and Latin America.

#### Performance Coatings

AkzoNobel is one of the world's leading manufacturers and suppliers of performance coatings. Its brands include Sikkens, International and Interpon.

The activities of the Performance Coatings business are divided into four business units: Marine and Protective Coatings, Automotive and Aerospace Coatings, Industrial Coatings and Powder Coatings. Together, they supply businesses in industries as diverse as construction, consumer electronics, shipping and sports equipment.

Performance Coatings is active in research and development and product stewardship, including in the field of sustainable technology.

#### Specialty Chemicals

The Specialty Chemicals business manufactures more than 2,000 different products used for a wide variety of consumer and industrial applications and products. Its activities are grouped into four businesses: Functional Chemicals, Industrial Chemicals, Pulp and Performance Chemicals and Surface Chemistry.

### Decorative Paints – Description

Decorative Paints activities have long been a core part of both AkzoNobel's and ICI's businesses and supply a full range of interior and exterior decoration and protection products for both the professional and do-it-yourself markets, including paints, lacquers and varnishes. The extensive product range is marketed under international and local brand names, including Dulux®, Sikkens®, Astral®, Alabastine®, Levis®, Marshall® and Flexa®. In October 2011, AkzoNobel announced a single global brand identity for its retail consumer paint range, "Let's Colour". The "Let's Colour" identity includes the brands Dulux®, Flexa®, Levis®, Alba®, Coral®, Marshall®, Astral®, Bruguer®, Dulux Valentine®, Inca®, Sadolin®, Nordsjö® and Vivechrom®. Decorative Paints also offers services such as mixing machines, colour concepts and advice, as well as training courses for applicators.

Decorative Paints has its own sales distribution network in addition to selling through agents and distributors.

### Performance Coatings – Description

#### Marine and Protective Coatings

The Marine and Protective Coatings business unit produces paints and antifouling materials for ships and yachts. It also supplies protective coatings and fire protection for steel structures in a wide range of industries, including some major world landmarks, such as the London Eye, Sydney Harbor Bridge and the National Aquatics Center in Beijing. International® is the most successful of the brands within the Group by sales.

The markets for Marine Coatings are new-building, repair and maintenance of deep sea, coastal and navy vessels. Protective Coatings provides corrosion and fire protection products across a wide range of industries

including power generation, upstream and downstream oil and gas facilities, chemical and petrochemical installations, high value infrastructure (including airports and sports stadia), mining and minerals and water and wastewater markets. Yacht Coatings supplies its products to the superyacht industry and the general professional (original equipment and maintenance and repair), retail and do-it-yourself yacht businesses.

#### **Automotive and Aerospace Coatings**

AkzoNobel Automotive and Aerospace Coatings is one of the world's leading suppliers of paints and services for the vehicle refinish, commercial vehicle, automotive plastics, specialty plastics and aerospace coatings markets. It provides coatings for original equipment and refinishing applications to bodyshops, aircraft manufacturers, fleet owners, automotive suppliers and major bus and truck producers. Brands include Sikkens®, Lesonal®, Dynacoat® and Wanda®.

The vehicle refinish business provides paints and services for collision repairers and commercial vehicle refinishers, while the commercial vehicles business supplies paints and services to bus and truck manufacturers and specialised commercial vehicle builders. The automotive plastics business produces coatings for the automotive components industry and the aerospace coatings business focuses on external and internal coatings for commercial, general aviation and defence markets for both original equipment manufacture application and maintenance and repair. The specialty plastics coatings business provides coatings and film for consumer electronics, cosmetic packaging, automotive components and sporting goods.

#### **Industrial Coatings**

AkzoNobel's industrial coatings decorate and protect thousands of products made from steel, aluminum and wood and includes three businesses – packaging coatings, coil and extrusion coatings and wood finishes and adhesives.

The packaging coatings business supplies coatings and inks for metal packaging: for beer and beverage cans, food cans, caps and closures and general line cans. The coil and extrusion coatings business produces and sells coatings for metal building products (commercial and residential) and home appliances.

The wood finishes business provides coatings for wood furniture, cabinetry and wood building products (flooring, panelling, windows, doors and exterior siding). The wood adhesives business supplies adhesives and bonding solutions for the wood working industry (furniture, flooring, structural elements and wood panels). The board resins business sells and produces bonding resins for the manufacturers of engineered wood panels such as particleboard, MDF and HDF, oriented strand board and plywood.

#### **Powder Coatings**

AkzoNobel Powder Coatings is a world leader in powder coatings technology and in supplying the appliance, architectural, automotive, furniture, IT and general industrial markets with its products. Powder coatings are solvent-free paints applied to metal and other conductive surfaces which are used on products ranging from metal furniture to window frames, radiators, pipes, cars and wood and plastic products. AkzoNobel Powder Coatings' brands include Interpon® and Resicoat®.

### **Specialty Chemicals – Description**

#### **Functional Chemicals**

AkzoNobel Functional Chemicals operates in a variety of chemical intermediates, formulation ingredients and process aids that serve a broad range of industries, including: paints, detergents, automotive parts, agricultural products, building materials, pharmaceuticals, foods, adhesives, plastics and cosmetics. It is a leading supplier worldwide of chelates, cross-linking peroxides, thermoset chemicals and polymer additives, ethylene amines, high polymers, salt specialties, sulfur derivatives and performance additives for a wide variety of industrial and agricultural uses and consumer products.

#### **Industrial Chemicals**

The Industrial Chemicals business unit produces salt and energy, chlor-alkali products, and derivatives such as monochloroacetic acid. It is Europe's largest producer of vacuum salt and a leading supplier of chlorine, chlorine derivatives and caustic lye in Europe. Its products are used in the manufacture of, for example, vehicles, glass, pharmaceuticals, textiles and disinfectants. Cogeneration units, partly operated jointly with a Dutch energy company, enable the Industrial Chemicals businesses to make efficient use of combined heat and power to assist in the production of chlorine and vacuum salt.

## **Pulp and Performance Chemicals**

AkzoNobel Pulp and Performance Chemicals, which trades as Eka Chemicals, is a leading producer of bleaching chemicals used in the manufacture of paper pulp. Eka Chemicals supplies process chemicals and performance chemicals that improve the properties of paper, as well as systems and integrated services for the pulp and paper industry. Eka Chemicals also produces specialty chemicals, having synergies in the pulp and paper business, with applications in areas such as water treatment, explosives, coatings and the pharmaceutical industry.

## **Surface Chemistry**

The Surface Chemistry business unit develops, manufactures and markets a spectrum of specialty surfactants and polymers. Its products are used in agricultural chemicals and processes, consumer products (including personal care products) and industrial applications. Surfactants are used to combine or separate two different materials to emulsify, disperse, clean, wet, anti-cake, aggregate, foam, defoam, disinfect and soften. Key markets include agro-chemicals, household and institutional cleaning, oil field applications and petroleum additives. In addition, surfactants products are used in fabric care, personal care, asphalt paving, mining and coatings.

## **Litigation**

### **Environmental matters**

The Group is confronted with substantial costs arising out of environmental laws and regulations, which include obligations to eliminate or limit the effects on the environment of the disposal or release of certain wastes or substances at various sites. Proceedings involving environmental matters, such as the alleged discharge of chemicals or waste materials into the air, water, or soil, are pending against us in various countries. In some cases this concerns sites divested in prior years or derelict sites belonging to companies acquired in the past. It is the Company's policy to accrue and charge against earnings environmental clean-up costs when it is probable that a liability has materialised and an amount is reasonably estimable. These accruals are reviewed periodically and adjusted, if necessary, as assessments and clean-ups proceed and additional information becomes available. Environmental liabilities can change substantially due to the emergence of additional information on the nature or extent of the contamination, the geological circumstances, the necessity of employing particular methods of remediation, actions by governmental agencies or private parties, or other factors. Cash expenditures often lag behind the period in which an accrual is recorded by a number of years. While it is not feasible to predict the outcome of all pending environmental exposures, it is possible that there will be a need for future provisions for environmental costs which, in management's opinion, based on information currently available, would not have a material effect on the Company's consolidated financial position but could be material to the Company's results of operations in any one accounting period.

### **Antitrust cases and other claims and litigation**

AkzoNobel is – together with others – involved in civil proceedings initiated by Cartel Damages Claims HP SA/NV before the Dortmund court in Germany in relation to the alleged Hydrogen Peroxide infringement in the 1990s. CDC Project 13 SA has initiated civil proceedings against AkzoNobel and other companies before the Amsterdam District Court in relation to alleged Sodium Chlorate infringements in the 1990s. These claims are disputed. An appeal by the Company is pending with the General Court against the decision by the European Commission to impose fines on the Company for violations of EU competition laws regarding Heat Stabilizers.

AkzoNobel has provided various indemnities and guarantees in respect of historic disposals to the relevant purchasers and their permitted assigns (if applicable), which in general are subject to time limits in which claims can be made and/or limits on the amount which can be claimed (generally by reference to the value received). In connection with the Organon BioSciences divestment to Schering-Plough, AkzoNobel has limited its maximum exposure to claims to €850 million. These indemnities and guarantees have varying maturity periods. AkzoNobel has received various claims under these indemnities and guarantees. In some instances, AkzoNobel has been named as a direct defendant in proceedings despite the fact that the relevant businesses have been disposed of by it. A number of other claims are pending, all of which are contested. The Group is also involved in disputes with tax authorities in several jurisdictions.

Provisions are recognized when an outflow of economic benefits for settlement is probable and the amount is reliably estimable. It should be understood that, in light of possible future developments, such as (a) potential additional lawsuits, (b) possible future settlements, and (c) rulings or judgments in pending law suits, certain cases may result in additional liabilities and related costs. At this point in time, we cannot estimate any

additional amount of loss or range of loss in excess of recorded amounts with sufficient certainty to allow such amount or range of amounts to be meaningful. Moreover, if and to the extent that the contingent liabilities materialise, they are typically paid over a number of years and the timing of such payments cannot be predicted with confidence.

While the outcome of these cases, claims and disputes cannot be predicted with certainty, management believes, based upon legal advice and information received, that the final outcome will not materially affect the Company's consolidated financial position but could be material to our results of operations or cash flows in any one accounting period.

## TAXATION

The comments below are of a general nature and are based on the Issuers' understanding of certain aspects of current tax laws and practice, regulations, rulings and decisions in the United Kingdom, The Netherlands, the Kingdom of Sweden, Luxembourg, the European Union and Hong Kong, respectively, as at the date of this Prospectus, all of which are subject to change (with or without retroactive effect). The comments relate to the position of persons (other than Dealers) who are the absolute beneficial owners of the Notes and interest thereon, but are not exhaustive and may not apply to certain classes of persons. Neither the comments below nor any other statements in this Prospectus are to be regarded as advice on the tax position of any Noteholder or any person acquiring, selling or otherwise dealing in Notes. Prospective holders of Notes and Noteholders who may be unsure of their tax position or who may be subject to tax in any other jurisdiction should consult their own professional advisers.

In addition, prospective holders of Notes and Noteholders should note that the European Commission and various Member States have announced their intention to introduce a financial transaction tax. Prospective holders of Notes and Noteholders should consult their own professional advisers if they have any doubts about the impact of such financial transaction tax.

### 1 United Kingdom

The comments below assume that none of the Issuers nor the Guarantors is UK tax resident and that none of the Issuers nor the Guarantors acts through a permanent establishment in the United Kingdom in relation to the Notes. The comments also assume that there will be no substitution of the Issuer and do not address the consequences of any such substitution (notwithstanding that such substitution may be permitted by the terms and conditions of the Notes). Any Noteholders who are in doubt as to their own tax position should consult their professional advisers.

#### 1.1 Interest on the Notes

On the basis that interest on the Notes is not expected to have a United Kingdom source, there should be no United Kingdom withholding tax.

HM Revenue & Customs have powers to obtain information, including in relation to interest or payments treated as interest and payments derived from securities. This may include details of the beneficial owners of the Notes (or the persons for whom the Notes are held), details of the persons to whom payments derived from the Notes are or may be paid and information in connection with transactions relating to the Notes. Information obtained by HM Revenue & Customs may be provided to tax authorities in other countries.

#### 1.2 Payments in respect of the Guarantee

On the basis that neither interest on the Notes nor payments in respect of the Guarantee are expected to have a United Kingdom source, there should be no United Kingdom withholding tax.

### 2 The Netherlands

For Dutch tax purposes, a Noteholder may include an individual who or an entity that does not have the legal title of the Notes, but to whom nevertheless the Notes are attributed based either on such individual or entity owning a beneficial interest in the Notes or based on specific statutory provisions. These include statutory provisions pursuant to which Notes are attributed to an individual who is, or who has directly or indirectly inherited from a person who was, the settlor, grantor or similar originator of a trust, foundation or similar entity that holds the Notes.

For the purpose of this paragraph, "Dutch Taxes" shall mean taxes of whatever nature levied by or on behalf of the Netherlands or any of its taxing authorities. The Netherlands means the part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands located in Europe.

The statements below are based on the assumption that the Final Terms of any Series of Notes will not materially deviate from the Terms and Conditions as described in this Prospectus, in particular with regard to the status of the Notes and the Guarantee.

#### 2.1 Withholding Tax

Any payments made under the Notes will not be subject to withholding or deduction for, or on account of, any Dutch Taxes.

## 2.2 Taxes on Income and Capital Gains

This section does not describe the possible Dutch tax considerations or consequences that may be relevant to a Noteholder who is an individual and for whom the income or capital gains derived from the Notes are attributable to employment activities, the income from which is taxable in the Netherlands.

This section does not describe the possible Dutch tax considerations or consequences that may be relevant to a Noteholder which is (i) a corporate entity and an exempt investment institution (*vrijgestelde beleggingsinstelling*) or investment institution (*beleggingsinstelling*) for the purposes of Netherlands corporate income tax, a pension fund, or otherwise not a taxpayer or exempt for tax purposes; or (ii) which is a corporate entity and a resident of Aruba, Curaçao or Sint Maarten.

A Noteholder will not be subject to any Dutch Taxes on any payment made to the Noteholder under the Notes or on any capital gain made by the Noteholder from the disposal, or deemed disposal, or redemption of, the Notes, except if:

- (i) the Noteholder is, or is deemed to be, resident in the Netherlands for Dutch (corporate) income tax purposes;
- (ii) the Noteholder is an individual and has opted to be treated as if resident in the Netherlands for Dutch income tax purposes;
- (iii) the Noteholder derives profits from an enterprise, whether as entrepreneur (*ondernemer*) or pursuant to a co-entitlement to the net worth of such enterprise other than as an entrepreneur or a shareholder, which enterprise is, in whole or in part, carried on through a permanent establishment (*vaste inrichting*) or a permanent representative (*vaste vertegenwoordiger*) in the Netherlands to which the Notes are attributable;
- (iv) the Noteholder is an individual and has a substantial interest (*aanmerkelijk belang*), or a fictitious substantial interest (*fictief aanmerkelijk belang*), in the Issuer or derives benefits from miscellaneous activities (*overige werkzaamheden*) carried out in the Netherlands in respect of the Notes, including (without limitation) activities which are beyond the scope of active portfolio investment activities;
- (v) the Noteholder is not an individual and has a substantial interest, or a fictitious substantial interest, in the Issuer, which (fictitious) substantial interest is not part of the assets of an enterprise and (one of) the main purposes of the chosen ownership structure is the evasion of Dutch income tax or dividend withholding tax;
- (vi) the Noteholder is not an individual and is entitled to a share in the profits of an enterprise or a co-entitlement to the net worth of an enterprise, other than by way of the holding of securities, which is effectively managed in the Netherlands and to which enterprise the Notes are attributable; or
- (vii) the Noteholder is an individual and is entitled to a share in the profits of an enterprise, other than by way of securities, which is effectively managed in the Netherlands and to which enterprise the Notes are attributable.

Generally, a Noteholder has a substantial interest if such Noteholder, alone or together with his partner, directly or indirectly:

- (i) owns, or holds certain rights on, shares representing five per cent. or more of the total issued and outstanding capital of the Issuer, or of the issued and outstanding capital of any class of shares of the Issuer;
- (ii) holds rights to, directly or indirectly, acquire shares, whether or not already issued, representing five per cent. or more of the total issued and outstanding capital of the Issuer, or of the issued and outstanding capital of any class of shares of the Issuer; or
- (iii) owns, or holds certain rights on, profit participating certificates that relate to five per cent. or more of the annual profit of the Issuer or to five per cent. or more of the liquidation proceeds of the Issuer.

A Noteholder who owns shares of the Issuer will also have a substantial interest if his partner or one of certain relatives of the Noteholder or of his partner has a (fictitious) substantial interest.

For Dutch tax purposes, the ownership of the shares of the Issuer is attributed to the Noteholder based either on the Noteholder owning a beneficial interest in the shares or based on specific statutory provisions. These include statutory provisions pursuant to which shares are attributed to an individual who is, or who has directly or indirectly inherited from a person who was, the settlor, grantor or similar originator of a trust, foundation or similar entity that holds the shares, although the Noteholder does not have the legal title of the shares.

Generally, a Noteholder has a fictitious substantial interest if without having an actual substantial interest in the Issuer:

- (i) an enterprise has been contributed in exchange for shares of the Issuer on an elective non-recognition basis;
- (ii) the shares have been obtained under gift law, inheritance law or matrimonial law, on a non-recognition basis, while the previous shareholder had a substantial interest in the Issuer;
- (iii) the shares have been acquired pursuant to a share merger, legal merger or legal demerger, on an elective non-recognition basis, while the Noteholder prior to this transaction had a substantial interest in an entity that was party thereto; or
- (iv) the shares held by the Noteholder, prior to dilution, qualified as a substantial interest and, by election, no gain was recognised upon disqualification of these shares.

### **2.3 Gift tax or inheritance tax**

No Dutch gift tax or inheritance tax is due in respect of any gift of the Notes by, or inheritance of the Notes on the death of, a Noteholder, except if:

- (i) at the time of the gift or death of the Noteholder, the Noteholder is a resident, or is deemed to be a resident, in the Netherlands;
- (ii) the Noteholder passes away within 180 days after the date of the gift of the Notes and is not, or not deemed to be, at the time of the gift, but is, or deemed to be, at the time of his death, resident in the Netherlands; or
- (iii) the gift of the Notes is made under a condition precedent and the Noteholder is resident, or deemed to be resident, in the Netherlands at the time the condition is fulfilled.

### **2.4 Other Taxes**

No other Dutch Taxes, including turnover tax and taxes of a documentary nature, such as capital tax, stamp or registration tax or duty, are payable by or on behalf of a Noteholder by reason only of the issue, acquisition or transfer of the Notes.

### **2.5 Residency**

Subject to the exceptions above, a Noteholder will not become resident, or a deemed resident, in the Netherlands for tax purposes, or become subject to Dutch Taxes, by reason only of the Issuer's performance, or the Noteholder's acquisition (by way of issue or transfer to it), holding and/or disposal of the Notes.

## **3 The Kingdom of Sweden**

### **Noteholders not resident in the Kingdom of Sweden**

Payments of any principal amount or any amount that is considered to be interest for Swedish tax purposes to a Noteholder are normally not subject to Swedish income tax, provided that such Noteholder is not resident in the Kingdom of Sweden for Swedish tax purposes and provided that such Noteholder does not have a permanent establishment in the Kingdom of Sweden for Swedish tax purposes to which the Notes are effectively connected.

Swedish withholding tax, or Swedish tax deduction, is not imposed on payments of any principal amount or any amount that is considered to be interest for Swedish tax purposes, except for certain payments of interest (and other return on Notes) to a private individual (or an estate of a deceased individual) with residence in the Kingdom of Sweden for Swedish tax purposes (see "Noteholders resident in the Kingdom of Sweden" below).

## **Noteholders resident in the Kingdom of Sweden**

Generally, for Swedish corporations and private individuals (and estates of deceased individuals) with residence in the Kingdom of Sweden for Swedish tax purposes, all capital income (e.g. income that is considered to be interest for Swedish tax purposes and capital gains on Notes) will be taxable. Specific tax consequences are, however, applicable to certain categories of corporations, e.g. life insurance companies and in respect of Notes that are held in an investment savings account (Sw. investeringssparkonto). Further, specific tax consequences may be applicable if, and to the extent, a holder of Notes realizes a capital loss on the Notes and to any currency exchange gains or losses.

If amounts that are considered to be interest for Swedish tax purposes are paid by a legal entity domiciled in the Kingdom of Sweden, including a Swedish branch, to a private individual (or an estate of a deceased individual) with residence in the Kingdom of Sweden for Swedish tax purposes, Swedish preliminary taxes should normally be withheld by the legal entity on such payments. Swedish preliminary taxes should normally be withheld also on other return on Notes (but not capital gains), if the return is paid out together with such a payment of interest referred to above.

## **4 Luxembourg Taxation**

### **4.1 Interest Withholding Tax – General**

Under Luxembourg tax law currently in effect and with the possible exception of interest paid to individual Noteholders and to certain residual entities, there is no Luxembourg withholding tax on payments of interest (including accrued but unpaid interest). There is also no Luxembourg withholding tax, with the possible exception of payments made to individual Noteholders and to certain residual entities, upon repayment of principal in the case of reimbursement, redemption or repurchase of the Notes.

### **4.2 Interest Withholding Tax – Luxembourg non-resident**

Under the Luxembourg laws dated 21 June 2005 as amended, implementing the European Council Directive 2003/48/EC on the taxation of savings income (the “Savings Directive”) and several agreements concluded between Luxembourg and certain dependent or associated territories of the European Union, a Luxembourg-based paying agent (within the meaning of the Savings Directive) has been required since 1 July 2005 to withhold tax on interest and other similar income paid by it to (or under certain circumstances, to the benefit of) an individual resident in another Member State or a residual entity established in another Member State, unless the beneficiary of the interest payments elects for an exchange of information or for the tax certificate procedure. The same regime applies to payments to individuals resident and/or residual entities established in certain of such EU dependent or associated territories. As from 1 July 2011 the withholding tax rate is 35 per cent. Responsibility for the 35 per cent. withholding tax will be assumed by the Luxembourg paying agent. The withholding tax system will only apply during a transitional period, the ending of which depends on the conclusion of certain agreements relating to information exchange with certain third countries.

The Luxembourg government has announced its intention to elect out of the withholding tax system under the Savings Directive in favour of an automatic exchange of information with effect as from 1 January 2015.

### **4.3 Interest Withholding Tax – Luxembourg resident**

Under the Luxembourg law dated 23 December 2005, a 10 per cent. withholding tax is due on interest payments made by Luxembourg paying agents (defined in the same way as in the Savings Directive) to Luxembourg individual residents or to certain foreign residual entities securing the interest payment for such Luxembourg resident individual Noteholders. This withholding tax represents the final tax liability for the Luxembourg individual resident taxpayers receiving the interest payment in the course of their private wealth. Responsibility for the 10 per cent. withholding tax will be assumed by the Luxembourg paying agent.

## **5 EU Savings Directive**

Under EC Council Directive 2003/48/EC on the taxation of savings income (the “EU Savings Directive”) and amendments to the EU Savings Directive adopted by the Council of the European Union on 24 March 2014, each member state of the European Union (an “EU Member State”) is required to provide to other EU Member States details of payments of interest and certain other types of income payable on securities paid by a person, or by certain trusts or other legal arrangements, within its jurisdiction to, or for the direct or indirect benefit of, an individual resident, or to certain persons established, in another EU Member State. Many of

these information exchange requirements are already in force, and EU Member States will have until 1 January 2016 to adopt national legislation to implement the amendments which were adopted on 24 March 2014, in particular the extension of the rules to certain trusts and certain other legal arrangements.

For a transitional period, certain EU Member States are instead required (unless during that period they elect otherwise) to operate a withholding system in relation to such payments (subject to a procedure whereby, on meeting certain conditions, the beneficial owner of the interest or other income may request that no tax be withheld), the ending of such transitional period being dependent upon the conclusion of certain other agreements relating to information exchange with certain other territories. Once the amendments referred to above are implemented and come into force, investors should be aware that withholding in the relevant EU Member State(s) may occur in a wider range of circumstances than at present. A number of non-EU countries and territories have adopted similar measures to the EU Savings Directive.

In April 2013, the Luxembourg government announced its intention to elect out of the withholding system in favour of an automatic exchange of information with effect from 1 January 2015.

If a payment to, or for the direct or indirect benefit of, an individual is made or collected through an EU Member State which has opted for a withholding system under the EU Savings Directive and an amount of, or in respect of, tax were to be withheld from that payment pursuant to any law implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to, the EU Savings Directive or any other Directive implementing the conclusions of the ECOFIN Council meeting of 26-27 November 2000, neither the Issuers, the Guarantors, nor any Paying Agent nor any other person would be obliged to pay additional amounts with respect to any Note as a result of the imposition of such withholding tax. The Issuers are required to maintain a Paying Agent with a specified office in an EU Member State that is not obliged to withhold or deduct tax pursuant to any law implementing the EU Savings Directive or any other Directive implementing the conclusions of the ECOFIN Council meeting of 26-27 November 2000.

## **6 Hong Kong**

### **6.1 Withholding Tax**

No withholding tax is payable in Hong Kong in respect of payments of principal or interest on the Notes or in respect of any capital gains arising from the sale of the Notes.

### **6.2 Profits Tax**

Hong Kong profits tax is chargeable on every person carrying on a trade, profession or business in Hong Kong in respect of profits arising in or derived from Hong Kong from such trade, profession or business (excluding profits arising from the sale of capital assets).

Interest on the Notes may be deemed to be profits arising in or derived from Hong Kong from a trade, profession or business carried on in Hong Kong in the following circumstances:

- (i) interest on the Notes is derived from Hong Kong and is received by or accrues to a company carrying on a trade, profession or business in Hong Kong; or
- (ii) interest on the Notes is derived from Hong Kong and is received by or accrues to a person, other than a company, carrying on a trade, profession or business in Hong Kong and is in respect of the funds of that trade, profession or business; or
- (iii) interest on the Notes is received by or accrues to a financial institution (as defined in the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) of Hong Kong) and arises through or from the carrying on by the financial institution of its business in Hong Kong.

Sums received by or accrued to a financial institution by way of gains or profits arising through or from the carrying on by the financial institution of its business in Hong Kong from the sale, disposal and redemption of Notes will be subject to profits tax.

Sums derived from the sale, disposal or redemption of Notes will be subject to Hong Kong profits tax where received by or accrued to a person, other than a financial institution, who carries on a trade, profession or business in Hong Kong and the sum has a Hong Kong source. The source of such sums will generally be determined by having regard to the manner in which the Notes are acquired and disposed.

### **6.3 Stamp Duty**

Stamp duty will not be payable on the issue of Bearer Notes provided either:

- (i) such Notes are denominated in a currency other than the currency of Hong Kong and are not repayable in any circumstances in the currency of Hong Kong; or
- (ii) such Notes constitute loan capital (as defined in the Stamp Duty Ordinance (Cap. 117) of Hong Kong).

If stamp duty is payable it is payable by the Issuer on the issue of Bearer Notes at a rate of 3 per cent. of the market value of the Notes at the time of issue.

No stamp duty will be payable on any subsequent transfer of Bearer Notes.

No stamp duty is payable on the issue of Registered Notes. Stamp duty may be payable on any transfer of Registered Notes if the relevant transfer is required to be registered in Hong Kong. Stamp duty will, however, not be payable on any transfers of Registered Notes provided either:

- (i) the Registered Notes are denominated in a currency other than the currency of Hong Kong and are not repayable in any circumstances in the currency of Hong Kong; or
- (ii) the Registered Notes constitute loan capital (as defined in the Stamp Duty Ordinance (Cap. 117) of Hong Kong).

If stamp duty is payable in respect of the transfer of Registered Notes it will be payable at the rate of 0.2 per cent. (of which 0.1 per cent. is payable by the seller and 0.1 per cent. is payable by the purchaser) normally by reference to the consideration or its value. If, in the case of either the sale or purchase of such Registered Notes, stamp duty is not paid, both the seller and the purchaser may be liable jointly and severally to pay any unpaid stamp duty and also any penalties for late payment. If stamp duty is not paid on or before the due date (two days after the sale or purchase if effected in Hong Kong or 30 days if effected elsewhere) a penalty of up to 10 times the duty payable may be imposed. In addition, stamp duty is payable at the fixed rate of HK\$5 on each instrument of transfer executed in relation to any transfer of the Registered Notes if the relevant transfer is required to be registered in Hong Kong.

#### **6.4 Estate Duty**

No estate duty will be payable in respect of Notes.

## PRC CURRENCY CONTROLS

The following is a general description of certain currency controls in the PRC and is based on the law and relevant interpretations thereof in effect as at the date of this Prospectus, all of which are subject to change, and does not constitute legal advice. It does not purport to be a complete analysis of all applicable currency controls in the PRC relating to the Notes. Prospective holders of Notes who are in any doubt as to PRC currency controls are advised to consult their own professional advisers.

### Remittance of Renminbi into and outside the PRC

The Renminbi is not a freely convertible currency. The remittance of Renminbi into and outside the PRC is subject to controls imposed under PRC law.

### Current Account Items

Under PRC foreign exchange control regulations, current account item payments include payments for imports and exports of goods and services, payments of income and current transfers into and outside the PRC.

Prior to July 2009, all current account items were required to be settled in foreign currencies. Since July 2009, the PRC has commenced a scheme pursuant to which Renminbi may be used for settlement of imports and exports of goods between approved pilot enterprises in five designated cities in the PRC including Shanghai, Guangzhou, Dongguan, Shenzhen and Zhuhai and enterprises in designated offshore jurisdictions including Hong Kong and Macau. On 17 June 2010, the PRC government promulgated the Circular on Issues concerning the Expansion of the Scope of the Pilot Program of Renminbi Settlement of Cross-Border Trades (Yin Fa (2010) No. 186) (“Circular 186”), pursuant to which (i) Renminbi settlement of imports and exports of goods and of services and other current account items became permissible, (ii) the list of designated pilot districts was expanded to cover 20 provinces including Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin, Chongqing, Guangdong, Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Liaoning, Shandong and Sichuan (this was expanded to cover the whole of the PRC in August 2011), (iii) the restriction on designated offshore jurisdictions was lifted and (iv) any enterprise qualified for the export and import business in 16 selected provinces is permitted to use Renminbi as settlement currency for exports of goods, provided that the relevant provincial government has submitted to PBOC and five other PRC authorities (together, the “Six Authorities”) a list of recommended participating enterprises and the Six Authorities have verified and signed off such list. On 3 February 2012, the Six Authorities further issued the Circular on Relevant Issues concerning Administration over Enterprises Engaging in RMB Settlement of Export of Goods (Yin Fa (2012) No. 23) (“Circular 23”) and started administration over enterprises participating in RMB settlement of cross-border trades by designating a list of enterprises which had committed breach or violation under trade and finance related laws in the past two years and will be subject to stricter monitoring and supervision (the “Supervision List”). On 12 June 2012, the PBOC issued a notice stating that the Six Authorities had jointly verified and announced a Supervision List and, upon the issuance of the Supervision List, any enterprise qualified for the export and import business is permitted to use Renminbi as settlement currency for exports.

As new regulations, Circular 186 and Circular 23 will be subject to interpretation and application by the relevant PRC authorities. Local authorities may adopt different practices in applying such circulars and impose conditions for settlement of current account items.

### Capital Account Items

Under PRC foreign exchange control regulations, capital account items include cross-border transfers of capital, direct investments, securities investments, derivative products and loans.

Prior to October 2011, capital account items of foreign invested entities were generally required to be made in foreign currencies. For instance, foreign investors (including any Hong Kong investors) were generally required to make any capital contribution to foreign invested enterprises in a foreign currency in accordance with the terms set out in the relevant joint venture contracts and/or articles of association as approved by the relevant authorities. Foreign invested enterprises or any other relevant PRC parties were also generally required to make capital item payments, including proceeds from liquidation, transfer of shares, reduction of capital in a foreign currency. That said, the relevant PRC authorities might approve a foreign entity to make a capital contribution or a shareholder’s loan to a foreign invested enterprise with Renminbi lawfully obtained by it outside the PRC and for the foreign invested enterprise to service interest and principal repayment to its

foreign investor outside the PRC in Renminbi on a trial basis. The foreign invested enterprise might also be required to complete a registration and verification process with the relevant PRC authorities before such Renminbi remittances.

On 25 February 2011, the Ministry of Commerce of the PRC (“MOFCOM”) promulgated the Circular on Issues concerning Foreign Investment Management (the “MOFCOM Circular”). The MOFCOM Circular states that if a foreign investor intends to make investments by way of (i) establishing a new enterprise, (ii) increasing the registered capital of an existing enterprise, (iii) acquiring an onshore enterprise or (iv) providing a loan in the PRC, in each case, with Renminbi that is generated from cross-border trade settlement or that is lawfully obtained outside the PRC, such investments need to be approved by MOFCOM. On 7 April 2011, the State Administration of Foreign Exchange (“SAFE”) promulgated the Circular on Issues Concerning the Capital Account Items in connection with Cross-Border Renminbi (the “SAFE Circular”), which provides that borrowing by an onshore entity of Renminbi loans from an offshore entity shall in principle follow the current regulations on borrowing foreign debts.

On 3 June 2011, PBOC issued the Notice on Relevant Issues Clarifying the Cross-Border Renminbi Business (the “PBOC Notice”), which provided that the pilot programme of foreign direct investment in RMB would be launched on a case by case basis, and approval by the PBOC is required for foreign direct investment in RMB. For industries under restrictions or strictly regulated by the PRC government, foreign direct investment in RMB is prohibited.

On 13 October 2011, PBOC issued the Measures on Administration of the RMB Settlement in relation to Foreign Direct Investment (“PBOC RMB FDI Measures”), pursuant to which, the PBOC special approval for RMB FDI and shareholder loans which was required by the PBOC Notice is no longer necessary. The PBOC RMB FDI Measures provide that, among other things, (i) foreign invested enterprises are required to conduct registrations with the local branch of PBOC within ten working days after obtaining the business licenses for the purpose of RMB settlement, (ii) a foreign investor is allowed to open a RMB expense account to reimburse some expenses before the establishment of a foreign invested enterprise and the balance in such an account can be transferred to the RMB capital account of such foreign invested enterprise when it is established, (iii) commercial banks can remit a foreign investor’s RMB proceeds from distribution (dividends or otherwise) by its PRC subsidiaries out of the PRC after reviewing certain requisite documents, (iv) if a foreign investor intends to use its RMB proceeds from distribution (dividends or otherwise) by its PRC subsidiaries, the foreign investor may open a RMB re-investment account to pool the RMB proceeds, and (v) the PRC parties selling an interest in domestic enterprises to foreign investors can open RMB accounts and receive the purchase price in RMB paid by foreign investors. The PBOC RMB FDI Measures also state that the foreign debt quota of a foreign invested enterprise constitutes its RMB debt and foreign currency debt from its offshore shareholders, offshore affiliates and offshore financial institutions, and a foreign invested enterprise may open a RMB account to receive its RMB proceeds borrowed offshore by submitting the RMB loan contract to the commercial bank and make repayments of principal of and interest on such debt in RMB by submitting certain documents as required to the commercial bank.

On 19 November 2012, SAFE issued the Further Adjustments to Measures for the Administration of Foreign Exchange for Direct Investment (“Circular 59”) which relaxes many of the registration and verification processes required to be undertaken in relation to Renminbi remittance involving a foreign invested enterprise.

On 3 December 2013, MOFCOM issued the Circular on Relevant Issues with regard to Cross-border RMB Direct Investment (“Circular 87”), which became effective on 1 January 2014. Pursuant to Circular 87, the previous Circular on Issues in relation to Cross-border RMB Foreign Direct Investment (the “MOFCOM RMB FDI Circular”) ceased to be effective. Circular 87 further requires that the currently effective PRC laws and regulations governing the foreign investment sector shall be applicable to foreign direct investments made in Renminbi, which means the preliminary approval by the provincial counterpart of MOFCOM and the consent of MOFCOM for exceptional cases previously required under the MOFCOM RMB FDI Circular are no longer required. Circular 87 reiterates the position that the proceeds of RMB FDI cannot be invested, either directly or indirectly, in securities or financial derivatives (except for the strategic investments in PRC domestic listed companies) and entrustment loans in the PRC.

As the MOFCOM Circular, the SAFE Circular, the PBOC Notice, the PBOC RMB FDI Measures, Circular 59 and Circular 87 are relatively new regulations, they will be subject to interpretation and application by the relevant PRC authorities.

Further, if any new PRC regulations are promulgated in the future which have the effect of permitting or restricting (as the case may be) the remittance of Renminbi for payment of transactions categorised as capital

account items, then such remittances will need to be made subject to the specific requirements or restrictions set out in such rules.

## SUBSCRIPTION AND SALE

### Summary of Dealer Agreement

Subject to the terms and on the conditions contained in an amended and restated dealer agreement dated 4 April 2014 (the “Dealer Agreement”) between the Issuers, the Guarantors, the Permanent Dealers and the Arranger, the Notes will be offered on a continuous basis by the Issuers to the Permanent Dealers. However, the Issuers have reserved the right to sell Notes directly on their own behalf to Dealers that are not Permanent Dealers. The Notes may be resold at prevailing market prices, or at prices related thereto, at the time of such resale, as determined by the relevant Dealer. The Notes may also be sold by the Issuers through the Dealers, acting as agents of the Issuers. The Dealer Agreement also provides for Notes to be issued in syndicated Tranches that are jointly and severally underwritten by two or more Dealers.

The Issuers will pay each relevant Dealer a commission as agreed between them in respect of Notes subscribed by them. The Issuers have agreed to reimburse the Arranger for certain of its expenses incurred in connection with the establishment of the Programme and the Dealers for certain of their activities in connection with the Programme. The commissions in respect of an issue of Notes on a syndicated basis will be stated in the relevant Final Terms.

The Issuers have agreed to indemnify the Dealers against certain liabilities in connection with the offer and sale of the Notes. The Dealer Agreement entitles the Dealers to terminate any agreement that they make to subscribe Notes in certain circumstances prior to payment for such Notes being made to the Issuers.

### United States

The Notes have not been and will not be registered under the Securities Act, and the Notes may not be offered or sold within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons except in certain transactions exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act. Terms used in this paragraph have the meaning given to them by Regulation S under the Securities Act.

The Notes in bearer form are subject to U.S. tax law requirements and may not be offered, sold or delivered within the United States or its possessions or to a U.S. person, except in certain transactions permitted by U.S. tax regulations. Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them by the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and regulations thereunder.

Each Dealer has agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to agree that, except as permitted by the Dealer Agreement, it will not offer, sell or deliver the Notes, (i) as part of their distribution at any time or (ii) otherwise until 40 days after the completion of the distribution of an identifiable tranche of which such Notes are a part, as determined and certified to the Issuing and Paying Agent by such Dealer (or, in the case of an identifiable tranche of Notes sold to or through more than one Dealer, by each of such Dealers with respect to Notes of an identifiable tranche purchased by or through it, in which case the Issuing and Paying Agent shall notify such Dealer when all such Dealers have so certified), within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons, and it will have sent to each Dealer to which it sells Notes during the distribution compliance period a confirmation or other notice setting out the restrictions on offers and sales of the Notes within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons.

In addition, until 40 days after the commencement of the offering of any identifiable tranche of Notes, an offer or sale of Notes within the United States by any dealer whether or not participating in the offering of such Notes may violate the registration requirements of the Securities Act.

### Public Offer Selling Restriction Under the Prospectus Directive

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a “Relevant Member State”), each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that with effect from and including the date on which the Prospectus Directive is implemented in that Relevant Member State (the “Relevant Implementation Date”) it has not made and will not make an offer of Notes which are the subject of the offering contemplated by this Prospectus as completed by the final terms in relation thereto to the public in that Relevant Member State except that it may, with effect from and including the Relevant Implementation Date, make an offer of such Notes to the public in that Relevant Member State:

- (i) at any time to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Directive;

- (ii) at any time to fewer than 100 or, if the Relevant Member State has implemented the relevant provision of the 2010 PD Amending Directive, 150, natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive), subject to obtaining the prior consent of the relevant Dealer or Dealers nominated by the Issuer for any such offer; or

- (iii) at any time in any other circumstances falling within Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive,

provided that no such offer of Notes referred to in (i) to (iii) above shall require the Issuer or any Dealer to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.

For the purposes of this provision, the expression an “offer of Notes to the public” in relation to any Notes in any Relevant Member State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the Notes to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe the Notes, as the same may be varied in that Relevant Member State by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that Relevant Member State, the expression “Prospectus Directive” means Directive 2003/71/EC (and amendments thereto, including the 2010 PD Amending Directive, to the extent implemented in the Relevant Member State), and includes any relevant implementing measure in each Relevant Member State and the expression “2010 PD Amending Directive” means Directive 2010/73/EU.

#### **United Kingdom**

Each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that:

- (i) in relation to any Notes which have a maturity of less than one year, (a) it is a person whose ordinary activities involve it in acquiring, holding, managing or disposing of investments (as principal or agent) for the purposes of its business and (b) it has not offered or sold and will not offer or sell any Notes other than to persons whose ordinary activities involve them in acquiring, holding, managing or disposing of investments (as principal or agent) for the purposes of their businesses or who it is reasonable to expect will acquire, hold, manage or dispose of investments (as principal or agent) for the purposes of their businesses where the issue of the Notes would otherwise constitute a contravention of section 19 of the FSMA by the Issuer;
- (ii) it has only communicated or caused to be communicated and will only communicate or cause to be communicated any invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of section 21 of the FSMA) received by it in connection with the issue or sale of any Notes in circumstances in which section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to the Issuer or the Guarantor; and
- (iii) it has complied and will comply with all applicable provisions of the FSMA with respect to anything done by it in relation to any Notes in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom.

#### **The Netherlands**

- (a) Each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that it will not make an offer of Notes that are not to be admitted to trading to a regulated market within the European Economic Area to the public in The Netherlands in reliance on Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive unless:

- (i) such offer is made exclusively to legal entities which are qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive; or
- (ii) standard exemption wording is disclosed as required by Section 5:20(5) of the Dutch Financial Supervision Act (*Wet op het financieel toezicht*),

provided that no such offer of Notes shall require the Issuer or any Dealer to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.

For the purposes of this provision, the expressions an “offer of Notes to the public” in relation to any Notes in the Netherlands and “Prospectus Directive” have the meanings given to them above in the paragraph headed “*Public Offer Selling Restriction Under the Prospectus Directive*”.

- (b) Each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that Bearer zero coupon Notes and other Notes which qualify as savings certificates as defined in the Savings Certificates Act (*Wet inzake spaarbewijzen*) may only be transferred or accepted through the intermediary of the Issuer of those notes or a Member of NYSE

Euronext in Amsterdam and with due observance of the Savings Certificates Act (including registration requirements). However, no such intermediary services are required in respect of (i) the initial issue of those notes to the first holders thereof, (ii) any transfer and acceptance by individuals who do not act in the conduct of a profession or trade, and (iii) the transfer or acceptance of those notes, if they are physically issued outside the Netherlands and are not distributed in the Netherlands in the course of primary trading or immediately thereafter.

#### **The Kingdom of Sweden**

Each Dealer has confirmed and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to confirm and agree, that it will not (directly or indirectly) offer for subscription or purchase or issue invitations to subscribe for or purchase or sell Notes or distribute any draft or definitive document in relation to any such offer, invitation or sale in the Kingdom of Sweden, except in circumstances that will not result in a requirement to prepare a prospectus pursuant to the provisions of the Swedish Financial Instruments Trading Act (*lag (1991:980) om handel med finansiella instrument*), including but not limited to that it may make an offer of such Notes to the public in the Kingdom of Sweden provided that:

- (i) the offer is directed exclusively to "qualified investors" (as defined in the Swedish Financial Instruments Trading Act (*lag (1991:980) om handel med finansiella instrument*));
- (ii) the offer is directed to fewer than 150 individuals or legal entities in an EEA-member state, which do not qualify as qualified investors;
- (iii) the minimum investment amount is at least the equivalent of EUR 100,000 per investor;
- (iv) each such Note has a minimum denomination of the equivalent of EUR 100,000; or
- (v) the aggregate sum which the investors shall pay during a 12-month period within the EEA is not more than the equivalent of EUR 2,500,000.

#### **France**

Each of the Dealers has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that:

##### **(i) Offer to the public in France:**

it has only made and will only make an offer of Notes to the public in France in the period beginning on the date of notification to the Autorité des marchés financiers ("AMF") of the approval of the prospectus relating to those Notes by the competent authority of a member state of the European Economic Area, other than the AMF, which has implemented the EU Prospectus Directive 2003/71/EC (as amended by Directive 2010/73/EU), all in accordance with Articles L.412-1 and L.621-8 of the French Code *monétaire et financier* and the *Règlement général* of the AMF, and ending at the latest on the date which is 12 months after the date of the approval of this Prospectus; or

##### **(ii) Private placement in France:**

it has not offered or sold and will not offer or sell, directly or indirectly, any Notes to the public in France and it has not distributed or caused to be distributed and will not distribute or cause to be distributed to the public in France, this Prospectus, the relevant Final Terms or any other offering material relating to the Notes and such offers, sales and distributions have been and will be made in France only to (a) persons providing investment services relating to portfolio management for the account of third parties (*personnes fournissant le service d'investissement de gestion de portefeuille pour compte de tiers*), and/or (b) qualified investors (*investisseurs qualifiés*), and/or (c) a limited circle of investors (*cercle restreint*) acting for their own account, as defined in, and in accordance with, Articles L.411-1, L.411-2, D.411-1 and D.411-4 of the French *Code monétaire et financier*.

#### **Japan**

The Notes have not been and will not be registered under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Act of Japan (Act No. 25 of 1948, as amended, the "Financial Instruments and Exchange Act"). Accordingly, each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that it has not, directly or indirectly, offered or sold and will not, directly or indirectly, offer or sell any Notes in Japan or to, or for the benefit of, any resident of Japan (which term as used herein means any person resident in Japan, including any corporation or other entity organised under the laws of Japan) or to others for re-offering or re-sale, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to, or for the benefit of, any resident of Japan except pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of, and otherwise in

compliance with, the Financial Instruments and Exchange Act and other relevant laws and regulations of Japan.

### **Hong Kong**

In relation to each Tranche of Notes to be issued by an Issuer under the Programme, each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent, warrant and agree, that:

- (i) it has not offered or sold and will not offer or sell in Hong Kong, by means of any document, any Notes except for Notes which are a “structured product” as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571 of the laws of Hong Kong) (the “Securities and Futures Ordinance”) other than (a) to “professional investors” as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance and any rules made under that Ordinance; or (b) in other circumstances which do not result in the document being a “prospectus” as defined in the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 32 of the laws of Hong Kong) or which do not constitute an offer to the public within the meaning of that Ordinance; and
- (ii) it has not issued or had in its possession for the purposes of issue, and will not issue or have in its possession for the purposes of issue, whether in Hong Kong or elsewhere, any advertisement, invitation or document relating to the Notes, which is directed at, or the contents of which are likely to be accessed or read by, the public of Hong Kong (except if permitted to do so under the securities laws of Hong Kong) other than with respect to Notes which are or are intended to be disposed of only to persons outside Hong Kong or only to “professional investors” as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance and any rules made under that Ordinance.

### **The People’s Republic of China**

Each Dealer has represented, warranted and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent, warrant and agree, that neither it nor any of its affiliates has offered or sold or will offer or sell any of the Notes in the People’s Republic of China (which, for such purposes, shall not include Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan) or to residents of the People’s Republic of China unless such offer or sale is made in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations of the People’s Republic of China.

### **Taiwan**

The Notes offered have not been and will not be registered with the Financial Supervisory Commission, and will not be offered, sold or delivered at any time, directly or indirectly, in the Republic of China or to, or for the account or benefit of, any resident of the Republic of China. No person or entity in the Republic of China has been authorized to offer, sell, give advice regarding or otherwise intermediate the offering and sale of the Notes.

### **General**

These selling restrictions may be modified by the agreement of the Issuers, the Guarantors and the Dealers following a change in a relevant law, regulation or directive. Any such modification will be set out in a supplement to this Prospectus.

No representation is made that any action has been taken in any jurisdiction that would permit a public offering of any of the Notes, or possession or distribution of the Prospectus or any other offering material or any Final Terms, in any country or jurisdiction where action for that purpose is required.

Each Dealer has agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to agree, that it shall, to the best of its knowledge, comply with all relevant laws, regulations and directives in each jurisdiction in which it purchases, offers, sells or delivers Notes or has in its possession or distributes the Prospectus, any other offering material or any Final Terms in all cases at its own expense and none of the Issuers, the Guarantors nor any other Dealer shall have responsibility therefor.

## FORM OF FINAL TERMS

The form of Final Terms that will be issued in respect of each Tranche, subject only to the deletion of non-applicable provisions, is set out below:

**[Akzo Nobel N.V./Akzo Nobel Sweden Finance AB (publ)]<sup>1</sup>**  
**Issue of [Aggregate Nominal Amount of Tranche] [Title of Notes]**  
**Guaranteed by [Akzo Nobel N.V./Akzo Nobel Sweden Finance AB (publ)]<sup>2</sup>**  
**under the**  
**Guaranteed Euro Medium Term Note Programme**

### PART A – CONTRACTUAL TERMS

Terms used herein shall be deemed to be defined as such for the purposes of the Conditions set forth in the Prospectus dated 4 April 2014 (the “Prospectus”) [and the supplement(s) to the Prospectus dated [●]] which [together] constitute[s] a base prospectus for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive (Directive 2003/71/EC), as amended (the “Prospectus Directive”). This document constitutes the Final Terms of the Notes described herein for the purposes of Article 5.4 of the Prospectus Directive and must be read in conjunction with such Prospectus [as so supplemented]. Full information on the Issuer, the Guarantor(s) and the offer of the Notes is only available on the basis of the combination of these Final Terms and the Prospectus [as so supplemented]. The Prospectus [and the supplement(s) to the Prospectus] [is] [are] available for viewing during normal business hours at the specified office of the Agent at 21st Floor, Citigroup Centre 2, Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5LB, United Kingdom and on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange’s website at [www.bourse.lu](http://www.bourse.lu) and copies may be obtained from the specified office of the Agent.

*(The following alternative language applies if the first tranche of an issue which is being increased was issued under a Prospectus with an earlier date.)*

Terms used herein shall be deemed to be defined as such for the purposes of the Conditions set forth in the Prospectus dated 1 March 2013 and the supplement thereto dated 13 August 2013 which are incorporated by reference in the Prospectus dated 4 April 2014. This document constitutes the Final Terms of the Notes described herein for the purposes of Article 5.4 of the Prospectus Directive (Directive 2003/71/EC), as amended (the “Prospectus Directive”) and must be read in conjunction with the Prospectus dated 4 April 2014 [and the supplement(s) thereto dated [●]], which [together] constitute[s] a base prospectus for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive (the “Prospectus”), save in respect of the Conditions which are extracted from the Prospectus dated 1 March 2013 and the supplement thereto dated 13 August 2013. Full information on the Issuer, the Guarantor(s) and the offer of the Notes is only available on the basis of the combination of these Final Terms and the Prospectus [and the supplements thereto dated [●]]. The Prospectus [and the supplement(s) thereto] are available for viewing during normal business hours at the specified office of the Agent at 21st Floor, Citigroup Centre 2, Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5LB, United Kingdom and on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange’s website at [www.bourse.lu](http://www.bourse.lu) and copies may be obtained from the specified office of the Agent.

*(Include whichever of the following apply or specify as “Not Applicable” (N/A). Note that the numbering should remain as set out below, even if “Not Applicable” is indicated for individual paragraphs or sub-paragraphs. Italics denote guidance for completing the Final Terms.)*

*(When completing final terms or information consideration should be given as to whether such terms or information constitute “significant new factors” and consequently trigger the need for a supplement to the Prospectus under Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.)*

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| 1 | [(i)] Series Number:                             | [●]  |
|   | [(ii)] Tranche Number:                           | [●]  |
|   | [(iii)] Date on which the Notes become fungible: | [Not Applicable/The Notes shall be consolidated, form a single series and be interchangeable for trading purposes with the <i>[insert title of the Series]</i> on <i>[insert date]</i> of the Issue Date/exchange of the Temporary Global Note for interests in the Permanent Global Note, as referred to in paragraph |

<sup>1</sup> Delete as applicable, depending on Issuer.

<sup>2</sup> Delete as applicable, depending on Guarantor.

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
|   |  | [21] below [which is expected to occur on or about [insert date]]].]  |
| 2 | [(i) Specified Currency:<br>(ii) Relevant Currency:                | [●]<br>[●] (N.B. only relevant in relation to Condition 7(i) when the Specified Currency is Renminbi, otherwise, delete)]   |
| 3 | Aggregate Nominal Amount of Notes:<br>(i) Series:<br>(ii) Tranche: | [●]<br>[●]<br>[●]   |
| 4 | Issue Price:   | [●] per cent. of the Aggregate Nominal Amount [plus accrued interest from [insert date] (in the case of fungible issues only, if applicable)]   |
| 5 | (i) Specified Denominations:                                       | [●]<br>(N.B. where multiple denominations above €100,000 or equivalent are being used the following sample wording should be followed:<br>“[€100,000] and integral multiples of [€1,000] in excess thereof up to and including [€199,000]. No Notes in definitive form will be issued with a denomination above [€199,000]”)<br><br>(N.B. Unless Akzo Nobel N.V. is the issuer, if an issue of Notes is (i) NOT admitted to trading on a European Economic Area exchange; and (ii) only offered in the European Economic Area in circumstances where a prospectus is not required to be published under the Prospectus Directive the €100,000 minimum denomination is not required)<br><br>(N.B. Notes issued by Akzo Nobel N.V. must have a minimum denomination of €100,000 (or its equivalent in other currencies))<br><br>(N.B. Notes (including Notes denominated in Sterling) in respect of which the issue proceeds are to be accepted by the Issuer in the United Kingdom or whose issue otherwise constitutes a contravention of Section 19 FSMA and which have a maturity of less than one year must have a minimum redemption value of £100,000 (or its equivalent in other currencies)) |
|   | (ii) Calculation Amount:   | [●]<br>(If only one Specified Denomination, insert the Specified Denomination. If more than one Specified Denomination, insert the highest common factor. NB: There must be a common factor in the case of two or more Specified Denominations)   |
| 6 | (i) Issue Date:  | [●]   |
|   | (ii) Interest Commencement Date:                                   | [Specify/Issue Date/Not Applicable]   |
| 7 | Maturity Date:   | [Specify date or (for Floating Rate Notes) Interest Payment Date falling in or nearest to [specify the relevant month and year]] <sup>3</sup>   |

<sup>3</sup> Note that for Renminbi denominated Fixed Rate Notes where the Interest Payment Dates are subject to modification, it will be necessary to use the second option here.

- 8 Interest Basis: [[●] per cent. Fixed Rate]  
[[specify reference rate] +/- [●] per cent. Floating Rate]  
[Zero Coupon]
- (further particulars specified below in paragraph [13, 14 and 15], as applicable)
- 9 Redemption/Payment Basis: Subject to any purchase and cancellation or early redemption, the Notes will be redeemed on the Maturity Date at [100]/[●] per cent. of their Aggregate Nominal Amount
- 10 Change of Interest / Payment Basis: [Applicable/Not Applicable]
- 11 Put/Call Options: [Issuer Call]  
[Investor Put]  
[Change of Control Put Option]  
[Not Applicable]  
(further particulars specified below in paragraph [16, 17 and 18], as applicable)
- 12 Date [Board] approval for issuance of Notes [and Guarantee] obtained: [[●] [and [●], respectively]/Not Applicable]  
(N.B. Only relevant where Board (or similar) authorisation is required for the particular tranche of Notes or related Guarantee)

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

- 13 Fixed Rate Note Provisions [Applicable/Not Applicable]  
(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)
- (i) Rate(s) of Interest: [●] per cent. per annum [payable annually/semi-annually /quarterly/monthly/other (specify)] in arrear]
- (ii) Interest Payment Date(s): [●] in each year [adjusted in accordance with (specify Business Day Convention and any applicable Business Centre(s) for the definition of "Business Day")/not adjusted]
- (iii) Fixed Coupon Amount[(s)]: [●] per Calculation Amount  
[Each Fixed Coupon Amount shall be calculated by multiplying the product of the Rate of Interest and the Calculation Amount by the Day Count Fraction and rounding the resultant figure to the nearest CNY 0.01, CNY 0.005 for the case of Renminbi denominated Fixed Rate Notes, being rounded upwards]<sup>4</sup>
- (iv) Broken Amount(s): [[●] per Calculation Amount payable on the Interest Payment Date falling [in/on] [●]/Not Applicable]  
[The Broken Amount payable on the Interest Payment Date falling [in/on] [●] shall be calculated by multiplying the product of the Rate of Interest and the Calculation Amount by the Day Count Fraction and rounding the resulting figure to nearest CNY0.01, CNY0.005 being rounded upwards]<sup>5</sup>
- (v) Day Count Fraction: [30/360 / Actual/Actual (ICMA/ISDA) / Actual/365 (Fixed) / Actual/365 (Sterling) / Actual/360 / 30E/360 / 30E/360 (ISDA)]
- (vi) [Determination Dates: [●] in each year (insert regular interest payment dates, ignoring issue date or maturity date in the case of a long or short first or last coupon. N.B. only relevant where Day

<sup>4</sup> Appropriate for Renminbi denominated Fixed Rate Notes where the Interest Payment Dates are subject to modification.

<sup>5</sup> Appropriate for Renminbi denominated Fixed Rate Notes where the Interest Payment Dates are subject to modification.

|    |                               |   |
|----|-------------------------------|---|
| 14 | Floating Rate Note Provisions | <p><i>Count Fraction is Actual/Actual (ICMA))]</i></p> <p>[Applicable/Not Applicable]</p> <p><i>(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)</i></p> <p>(i) Interest Period(s): [[●]/Not Applicable]</p> <p>(ii) Specified Interest Payment Dates: [●]</p> <p>(iii) Interest Period Date: [[●]/Not Applicable]</p> <p><i>(Not applicable unless different from Interest Payment Date)</i></p> <p>(iv) Business Day Convention: [Floating Rate Business Day Convention/Following Business Day Convention/Modified Following Business Day Convention/Preceding Business Day Convention]</p> <p>(v) Business Centre(s): [●]</p> <p>(vi) Manner in which the Rate(s) of Interest is/are to be determined: [Screen Rate Determination/ISDA Determination]</p> <p>(vii) Party responsible for calculating the Rate(s) of Interest and/or Interest Amount(s) (if not the Agent): [●]</p> <p>(viii) Screen Rate Determination:</p> <p>– Reference Rate: [●] month<br/>[LIBOR/EURIBOR/EONIA]</p> <p>– Interest Determination Date(s): [●]</p> <p>– Relevant Screen Page: [●]</p> <p><i>(For example, if not Reuters LIBOR01/ EURIBOR01/ EONIA)</i></p> <p>– Reference Banks: [[●]/Not Applicable]</p> <p>(ix) ISDA Determination:</p> <p>– Floating Rate Option: [●]</p> <p>– Designated Maturity: [●]</p> <p>– Reset Date: [●]</p> <p>– [ISDA Definitions: [2006]]</p> <p>(x) Linear Interpolation: [Not Applicable / Applicable – the Rate of Interest for the [long/short] [first/last] Interest Accrual Period shall be calculated using Linear Interpolation (<i>specify for each short or long interest period</i>)]</p> <p>(xi) Margin(s): [+/-][●] per cent. per annum</p> <p>(xii) Minimum Rate of Interest: [●] per cent. per annum</p> <p>(xiii) Maximum Rate of Interest: [●] per cent. per annum</p> <p>(xiv) Day Count Fraction: [30/360 / Actual/Actual (ICMA/ISDA) / Actual/365 (Fixed) / Actual/365 (Sterling) / Actual/360 / 30E/360 / 30E/360 (ISDA)]</p> |
| 15 | Zero Coupon Note Provisions   | <p>[Applicable/Not Applicable]</p> <p><i>(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)</i></p> <p>(i) Amortisation Yield: [●] per cent. per annum</p> <p>(ii) Day Count Fraction (Condition 5(h)) [30/360 / Actual/Actual (ICMA/ISDA) / Actual/365 (Fixed) / Actual/365 (Sterling) / Actual/360 / 30E/360 / 30E/360 (ISDA)]</p>  |

## PROVISIONS RELATING TO REDEMPTION

- 16 Issuer Call [Applicable/Not Applicable]  
*(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)*
- (i) Optional Redemption Date(s): [●]
  - (ii) Optional Redemption Amount(s) of each Note and method, if any, of calculation of such amount(s): [[●] per Calculation Amount/Condition 6(b) applies/ Adjusted Redemption Price]
    - Optional Redemption Calculation Date: [[●] Business Days prior to the Optional Redemption Date]
    - Determination Time: [●]
    - Reference Bond: [●]
    - Margin: [●]
  - (iii) If redeemable in part:
    - (a) Minimum Redemption Amount: [●] per Calculation Amount
    - (b) Maximum Redemption Amount: [●] per Calculation Amount
  - (iv) Notice period: [●]
- 17 Investor Put [Applicable/Not Applicable]  
*(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)*
- (i) Optional Redemption Date(s): [●]
  - (ii) Optional Redemption Amount(s) of each Note and method, if any, of calculation of such amount(s): [[●] per Calculation Amount/Condition 6(b) applies]
  - (iii) Notice period: [●]
- 18 Change of Control Put [Applicable/Not Applicable]  
*(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)*
- (i) Put Date: [7 days after the Put Period/specify]
  - (ii) Change of Control Redemption Amount(s) of each Note and method, if any, of calculation of such amount(s): [[●] per Calculation Amount/Condition 6(b) applies]
- 19 Final Redemption Amount of each Note [●] per Calculation Amount
- 20 Early Redemption Amount  
Early Redemption Amount(s) per Calculation Amount payable on redemption for taxation reasons or on event of default or other early redemption: [●] per Calculation Amount

## GENERAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO THE NOTES

- 21 Form of Notes
- (i) Form: **[Bearer Notes:**  
[Temporary Global Note exchangeable for a Permanent Global Note which is exchangeable for Definitive Notes in the limited circumstances specified in the Permanent Global Note]  
[Temporary Global Note exchangeable for Definitive Notes

on or after the Exchange Date]<sup>6</sup>

[Permanent Global Note exchangeable for Definitive Notes in the limited circumstances specified in the Permanent Global Note]]

**[Registered Notes:**

[Global Certificate registered in the name of a nominee for [a common depository for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg/a common safekeeper for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg (that is, held under the New Safekeeping Structure)]]]

(ii) New Global Note:

[Yes] [No]

(iii) CMU Note:

[Yes] [No] *(If the Notes are intended to be cleared through the Central Moneymarkets Unit Service, the CMU Note should be used)*

22 Financial Centre(s) or other special provisions relating to payment dates:

[Not Applicable/[•]]

*(Note that this paragraph relates to the date and place of payment, and not interest period end dates, to which subparagraphs [13(ii)] and [14(v)] relate)*

23 Talons for future Coupons to be attached to Definitive Notes (and dates on which such Talons mature):

[No/Yes. As the Notes have more than 27 coupon payments, talons may be required if, on exchange into definitive form, more than 27 coupon payments are still to be made.]

Signed on behalf of *[insert name of the Issuer]*:

By: .....

Duly authorised

Signed on behalf of *[insert name of the Guarantor]*:

By: .....

Duly authorised

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<sup>6</sup> If the Temporary Global Note is exchangeable for Definitive Notes at the option of the holder, the Notes shall be tradable only in amounts of at least the Specified Denomination (or if more than one Specified Denomination, the lowest Specified Denomination) provided in paragraph 5 and multiples thereof.

## PART B – OTHER INFORMATION

### 1 LISTING AND ADMISSION TO TRADING

- (i) Listing and admission to trading: [Application has been made by the Issuer (or on its behalf) for the Notes to be admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange’s Regulated Market and listed on the Official List of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange with effect from [●].]
- [Application is expected to be made by the Issuer (or on its behalf) for the Notes to be admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange’s Regulated Market and listed on the Official List of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange with effect from [●].]
- [Not Applicable.]
- [The Notes will be consolidated and form a single Series with the existing Notes which are admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange’s Regulated Market.] *(Include where documenting a fungible issue whereby original Notes are already admitted to trading.)*
- (ii) Estimate of total expenses related to admission to trading: [●]

### 2 RATINGS

The Notes to be issued [have been/are expected to be] rated:

[S&P: [●]]

[Moody’s: [●]]

[Fitch: [●]]

[[Other]: [●]]

[Not Applicable]

*(The above disclosure should reflect the rating allocated to Notes of the type being issued under the Programme generally or, where the issue has been specifically rated, that rating.)*

*Insert one (or more) of the following options, as applicable:*

**Option 1: CRA is (i) established in the EU and (ii) registered under the CRA Regulation:**

*[Insert legal name of particular credit rating agency entity providing rating]* is established in the EU and registered under Regulation (EC) No 1060/2009 (the “CRA Regulation”).

**Option 2: CRA is (i) established in the EU, (ii) not registered under the CRA Regulation; but (iii) has applied for registration:**

*[Insert legal name of particular credit rating agency entity providing rating]* is established in the EU and has applied for registration under Regulation (EC) No 1060/2009 (the “CRA Regulation”), although notification of the registration decision has not yet been provided.

**Option 3: CRA is (i) established in the EU; and (ii) has not applied for registration and is not registered under the CRA Regulation:**

*[Insert legal name of particular credit rating agency entity providing rating]* is established in the EU and is neither registered nor has it applied for registration under Regulation (EC) No 1060/2009 (the “CRA Regulation”).

**Option 4: CRA is not established in the EU but the**

**relevant rating is endorsed by a CRA which is established in the EU and registered under the CRA Regulation:**

[*Insert legal name of particular credit rating agency entity providing rating*] is not established in the EU but the rating it has given to the [Notes] is endorsed by [*insert legal name of credit rating agency*], which is established in the EU and registered under Regulation (EC) No 1060/2009 (the “CRA Regulation”).

**Option 5: CRA is not established in the EU and the relevant rating is not endorsed under the CRA Regulation, but the CRA is certified under the CRA Regulation:**

[*Insert legal name of particular credit rating agency entity providing rating*] is not established in the EU but is certified under Regulation (EC) No 1060/2009 (the “CRA Regulation”).

**Option 6: CRA is neither established in the EU nor certified under the CRA Regulation and the relevant rating is not endorsed under the CRA Regulation:**

[*Insert legal name of particular credit rating agency entity providing rating*] is not established in the EU and is not certified under Regulation (EC) No 1060/2009 (the “CRA Regulation”) and the rating it has given to the [Notes] is not endorsed by a credit rating agency established in the EU and registered under the CRA Regulation.

3 **INTERESTS OF NATURAL AND LEGAL PERSONS INVOLVED IN THE [ISSUE/OFFER]**

*(Need to include a description of any interest, including conflicting ones, that is material to the issue/offer, detailing the persons involved and the nature of the interest. May be satisfied by the inclusion of the following statement:)*

[“Save for any fees payable to the [Managers/Dealers], so far as the Issuer is aware, no person involved in the issue of the Notes has an interest material to the offer. The [Managers/Dealers] and their affiliates have engaged, and may in the future engage, in investment banking and/or commercial banking transactions with, and may perform other services for, the Issuer and the Guarantor and their affiliates in the ordinary course of business.”/Not Applicable]

*(When adding any other description, consideration should be given as to whether such matters described constitute “significant new factors” and consequently trigger the need for a supplement to the Prospectus under Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.)*

4 **Fixed Rate Notes only – YIELD**

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

5 **OPERATIONAL INFORMATION**

ISIN Code: [●]

Common Code: [●]

CMU Instrument Number: [●]

Any clearing system(s) other than Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. and Clearstream Banking, société anonyme and the CMU and the relevant identification number(s): [Not Applicable/give name(s) and number(s) [and address(es)]]

Delivery: Delivery [against/free of] payment

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Names and addresses of initial Paying Agent(s):                           | [●]   |
| Names and addresses of additional Paying Agent(s) (if any):               | [[●]/Not Applicable]  |
| Intended to be held in a manner which would allow Eurosystem eligibility: | [Yes][No]<br><i>[Include this text if “yes” selected:</i> Note that the designation “yes” simply means that the Notes are intended upon issue to be deposited with one of the ICSDs as common safekeeper and does not necessarily mean that the Notes will be recognized as eligible collateral for Eurosystem monetary policy and intra day credit operations by the Eurosystem either upon issue or at any or all times during their life. Such recognition will depend upon the ECB being satisfied that Eurosystem eligibility criteria have been met.]<br><i>[Include this text if “no” selected:</i> Whilst the designation is set at “no”, should the Eurosystem eligibility criteria be amended in the future the Notes may then be deposited with one of the ICSDs as common safekeeper. Note that this does not necessarily mean that the Notes will then be recognised as eligible collateral for Eurosystem monetary policy and intra day credit operations by the Eurosystem at any time during their life. Such recognition will depend upon the ECB being satisfied that Eurosystem eligibility criteria have been met.] |

6 **DISTRIBUTION**

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| If syndicated, names of Managers:  | [Not Applicable/ <i>give names</i> ]                                       |
| Stabilising Manager(s) (if any):   | [Not Applicable/ <i>give name</i> ]  |
| If non-syndicated, name of Dealer: | [Not Applicable/ <i>give name</i> ]  |
| U.S. Selling Restrictions:         | [Reg. S Compliance Category [1]/[2]; TEFRA C/TEFRA D/TEFRA not applicable] |

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- (1) Application has been made to the Luxembourg Stock Exchange for Notes issued under the Programme to be admitted to the Official List and to be admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange's regulated market.
- (2) Each of the Issuers and the Guarantors has obtained all necessary consents, approvals and authorisations in connection with the establishment and update of the Programme and the Guarantee. The establishment and update of the Programme and the giving of the Guarantee was authorised by resolutions of the Board of Management of AkzoNobel passed on 23 November 2011 and 3 February 2014 and resolutions of the Supervisory Board of AkzoNobel passed on 29 November 2011 and 19 February 2014 and resolutions of the Board of Management of AkzoNobel Sweden passed on 25 November 2011 and 21 February 2014.
- (3) In relation to any Tranche of Fixed Rate Notes, an indication of the yield in respect of such Notes will be specified in the applicable Final Terms. The yield is calculated at the Issue Date of the Notes on the basis of the relevant Issue Price. The yield indicated will be calculated as the yield to maturity as at the Issue Date of the Notes and will not be an indication of future yield.
- (4) There has been no significant change in the financial or trading position of AkzoNobel or of AkzoNobel and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole, since 31 December 2013 and no material adverse change in the prospects of AkzoNobel or of AkzoNobel and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole, since 31 December 2013.
- (5) There has been no significant change in the financial or trading position of AkzoNobel Sweden or of AkzoNobel Sweden and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole, since 30 June 2013 and no material adverse change in the prospects of AkzoNobel Sweden or of AkzoNobel Sweden and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole, since 31 December 2012.
- (6) Except as disclosed in "Description of the Business of the Group — Litigation" on pages 65 to 66 of this Prospectus, neither AkzoNobel nor AkzoNobel Sweden has been involved in any governmental, legal or arbitration proceedings (including any such proceedings which are pending or threatened of which AkzoNobel or AkzoNobel Sweden is aware) during the 12 months preceding the date of this Prospectus which may have or has had in the recent past significant effects on the financial position or profitability of AkzoNobel or AkzoNobel Sweden or of their respective subsidiaries, taken as a whole.
- (7) Each Bearer Note having a maturity of more than one year, Coupon and Talon will bear the following legend: "Any United States person who holds this obligation will be subject to limitations under the United States income tax laws, including the limitations provided in Sections 165(j) and 1287(a) of the Internal Revenue Code".
- (8) Notes have been accepted for clearance through the Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg systems (which are the entities in charge of keeping the records). The Common Code, the International Securities Identification Number (ISIN) and (where applicable) the identification number for any other relevant clearing system for each Series of Notes will be set out in the relevant Final Terms. In addition, the Issuer has also applied to have Notes accepted for clearance through the CMU. The relevant CMU instrument number will be set out in the relevant Final Terms.

The address of Euroclear is 1 Boulevard du Roi Albert II, B-1210 Brussels, Belgium and the address of Clearstream, Luxembourg is 42 Avenue JF Kennedy, L-1855 Luxembourg. The address of any alternative clearing system will be specified in the applicable Final Terms.
- (9) The issue price and the amount of the relevant Notes will be determined, before filing of the relevant Final Terms of each Tranche, based on the prevailing market conditions. The Issuer does not intend to provide any post-issuance information in relation to any issues of Notes.
- (10) For so long as Notes may be issued pursuant to this Prospectus, the following documents will be available, during usual business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and public holidays excepted), for inspection at the office of the Agent on 21st Floor, Citigroup Centre 2, Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5LB, United Kingdom:
  - (i) the Trust Deed (which includes the form of the Global Notes, the definitive Bearer Notes, the Certificates, the Coupons and the Talons);

- (ii) the Agency Agreement;
- (iii) the constitutional documents of AkzoNobel and AkzoNobel Sweden;
- (iv) the published annual report and audited financial statements of AkzoNobel for the two financial years most recently ended 2013, the published annual report and audited financial statements of AkzoNobel Sweden for the two financial years most recently ended 2012 and the unaudited financial statements of AkzoNobel Sweden as at, and for the six months ended, 30 June 2013;
- (v) each Final Terms (save that Final Terms relating to a Note which is neither admitted to trading on a regulated market within the European Economic Area nor offered in the European Economic Area in circumstances where a prospectus is required to be published under the Prospectus Directive will only be available for inspection by a holder of such Note and such holder must produce evidence satisfactory to the Issuer and the Issuing and Paying Agent as to its holding of Notes and identity); and
- (vi) a copy of this Prospectus together with any prospectus supplement to this Prospectus or further Prospectus.

This Prospectus and the Final Terms for Notes that are listed on the Official List and admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange's regulated market will be published on the website of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange (*www.bourse.lu*).

- (11) Copies of the latest annual report and consolidated audited financial statements of AkzoNobel and AkzoNobel Sweden and the latest interim unaudited financial statements of AkzoNobel Sweden may be obtained, and copies of the Trust Deed (including the Guarantee) and the Agency Agreement will be available for inspection, at the specified offices of each of the Paying Agents during normal business hours, so long as any of the Notes is outstanding.
- (12) KPMG Accountants N.V. have audited the consolidated financial statements of AkzoNobel for the two years ended 31 December 2013 and 31 December 2012, incorporated by reference in this Prospectus, as stated in their reports appearing therein.

The business address of KPMG Accountants N.V. is Laan van Langerhuize 1, 1186 DS Amstelveen, The Netherlands and KPMG Accountants N.V. is registered with the Royal Dutch Institute of Chartered Accountants (*Nederlandse Beroepsorganisatie van Accountants*).

- (13) KPMG AB have audited the financial statements of AkzoNobel Sweden for the two years ended 31 December 2012 and 31 December 2011, incorporated by reference in this Prospectus, as stated in their reports appearing therein.

The business address of KPMG AB is Norra Hamngatan 22, 40439, Göteborg, Sweden and KPMG AB is registered with the Swedish Supervisory Board of Public Accountants (*Revisorsnämnden*).

- (14) Certain of the Dealers and their affiliates have engaged, and may in the future engage, in investment banking and/or commercial banking transactions with, and may perform services to, AkzoNobel, AkzoNobel Sweden and/or their affiliates in the ordinary course of business. In addition, in the ordinary course of their business activities, the Dealers and their affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers. Such investments and securities activities may involve securities and/or instruments of the Issuers or Issuers' affiliates. Certain of the Dealers or their affiliates that have a lending relationship with the Issuers routinely hedge their credit exposure to the Issuers consistent with their customary risk management policies. Typically, such Dealers and their affiliates would hedge such exposure by entering into transactions which consist of either the purchase of credit default swaps or the creation of short positions in securities, including potentially the Notes. Any such short positions could adversely affect future trading prices of Notes. The Dealers and their affiliates may also make investment recommendations and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such securities or financial instruments and may hold, or recommend to clients that they acquire, long and/or short positions in such securities and instruments.

**REGISTERED OFFICE OF AKZO NOBEL N.V.**

**Akzo Nobel N.V.**  
Strawinskylaan 2555  
1077 ZZ Amsterdam  
The Netherlands

**REGISTERED OFFICE OF AKZO NOBEL SWEDEN FINANCE AB (PUBL)**

**Akzo Nobel Sweden Finance AB (publ)**  
c/o Akzo Nobel Pulp and Performance Chemicals AB  
SE-445 80 Bohus  
Sweden

**ARRANGER**

**The Royal Bank of Scotland plc**  
135 Bishopsgate  
London EC2M 3UR  
United Kingdom

**DEALERS**

**Banco Santander, S.A.**  
Ciudad Grupo Santander  
Edificio Encinar  
Avda de Cantabria s/n  
28660, Boadilla del Monte  
Madrid  
Spain

**BNP PARIBAS**  
10 Harewood Avenue  
London NW1 6AA  
United Kingdom

**Deutsche Bank AG, London  
Branch**  
Winchester House  
1 Great Winchester Street  
London EC2N 2DB  
United Kingdom

**ING Bank N.V.**  
Foppingadreef 7  
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The Netherlands

**Merrill Lynch International**  
2 King Edward Street  
London EC1A 1HQ  
United Kingdom

**Barclays Bank PLC**  
5 The North Colonnade  
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London E14 4BB  
United Kingdom

**Citigroup Global Markets Limited**  
Canada Square  
Canary Wharf  
London E14 5LB  
United Kingdom

**HSBC Bank plc**  
8 Canada Square  
London E14 5HQ  
United Kingdom

**J.P. Morgan Securities plc**  
25 Bank Street  
Canary Wharf  
London E14 5JP  
United Kingdom

**Mizuho International plc**  
Bracken House  
One Friday Street  
London EC4M 9JA  
United Kingdom

**Morgan Stanley & Co.  
International plc**  
25 Cabot Square  
Canary Wharf  
London E14 4QA  
United Kingdom

**Société Générale**  
29, Boulevard Haussmann  
75009 Paris  
France

**The Royal Bank of Scotland plc**  
135 Bishopsgate  
London EC2M 3UR  
United Kingdom

**TRUSTEE**

**The Law Debenture Trust Corporation p.l.c.**  
Fifth Floor  
100 Wood Street  
London EC2V 7EX  
United Kingdom

**ISSUING AND PAYING AGENT, REGISTRAR, TRANSFER AGENT AND CALCULATION AGENT**

**Citibank, N.A., London Branch**  
21st Floor  
Citigroup Centre 2  
Canada Square  
Canary Wharf  
London E14 5LB  
United Kingdom

**CMU LODGING AGENT**

**Citicorp International Limited**  
50/F Citibank Tower  
Citibank Plaza  
3 Garden Road  
Central  
Hong Kong

**LISTING AGENT**

**Deutsche Bank Luxembourg S.A.**  
2 Boulevard Konrad Adenauer  
L-1115 Luxembourg  
Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

**LEGAL ADVISERS**

*To Akzo Nobel N.V. and  
Akzo Nobel Sweden Finance AB (publ)*

*as to English law*

**Slaughter and May**  
One Bunhill Row  
London EC1Y 8YY  
United Kingdom

*as to Swedish law*

**Advokatfirman Vinge KB**  
Smålandsgatan 20  
Box 1703  
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Sweden

*as to Dutch law*

**De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek  
London B.V.  
17th Floor**  
125 Old Broad Street  
London EC2N 1AR  
United Kingdom

*To the Dealers and the Trustee*

*as to English law*

**Linklaters LLP**  
One Silk Street  
London EC2Y 8HQ  
United Kingdom

*as to Dutch law*

**Linklaters LLP**  
WTC Amsterdam  
Zuidplein 180  
1077 XV Amsterdam  
The Netherlands

**AUDITORS OF AKZO NOBEL N.V.**

**KPMG Accountants N.V.**  
Laan van Langerhuize 1  
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**AUDITORS OF AKZO NOBEL SWEDEN FINANCE AB (PUBL)**

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