

## BASE PROSPECTUS



### Koninklijke DSM N.V.

*(incorporated in The Netherlands with its corporate seat in Heerlen)*

**EUR 4,000,000,000**

### Debt Issuance Programme

This base prospectus (the "**Base Prospectus**") has been approved by The Netherlands Authority for the Financial Markets (*Autoriteit Financiële Markten*, the "**AFM**") in its capacity as competent authority in The Netherlands for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive (as defined below). Koninklijke DSM N.V. (the "**Issuer**" or "**DSM**" or the "**Company**") has requested the AFM to provide the competent authorities in Luxembourg and the United Kingdom with a certificate of approval attesting that the Base Prospectus has been drawn up in accordance with the Prospectus Directive (a "**Notification**"). The Issuer may request the AFM to provide the competent authorities in other Member States of the European Economic Area (the "**EEA**") with a Notification.

Application has been made to Euronext Amsterdam N.V. to list notes ("**Notes**") to be issued under this EUR 4,000,000,000 Debt Issuance Programme (the "**Programme**") during the period of 12 months from the date of this Base Prospectus on Euronext in Amsterdam ("**Euronext Amsterdam**"). The Programme also permits Notes to be issued on the basis that they will not be admitted to listing, trading and/or quotation by any competent authority, stock exchange and/or quotation system or to be admitted to listing, trading and/or quotation by such other or further competent authorities, stock exchanges and/or quotation systems as may be agreed with the Issuer.

The rating of certain Series of Notes to be issued under the Programme may be specified in the applicable Final Terms. Whether or not each credit rating applied for in relation to the relevant Series of Notes will be issued by a credit rating agency established in the European Union and registered under Regulation (EC) No. 1060/2009 (the "**CRA Regulation**") will be disclosed in the applicable Final Terms.

***Investing in Notes issued under the Programme involves certain risks. The principal risk factors that may affect the ability of the Issuer to fulfil its obligations under the Notes are discussed under "Risk Factors" below.***

*Arranger*

**Deutsche Bank**

*Dealers*

**Citigroup  
Deutsche Bank  
ING  
Rabobank**

**Credit Suisse  
HSBC  
J.P. Morgan  
The Royal Bank of Scotland**

A copy of this Base Prospectus can be obtained from the registered office of DSM and from the specified office of the Fiscal and Paying Agent and will be made available electronically at [www.dsm.com/corporate/investors/bonds-credit-rating/debt-issuance-program.html](http://www.dsm.com/corporate/investors/bonds-credit-rating/debt-issuance-program.html).

The date of this Base Prospectus is 16 September 2016.

## RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

**The Issuer accepts responsibility for the information contained in this Base Prospectus and for information incorporated by reference herein. To the best of the knowledge of the Issuer (which has taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case) the information contained in this Base Prospectus is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information.**

### NOTICE

This Base Prospectus comprises a base prospectus for the purposes of Article 5.4 of the Prospectus Directive (as implemented in the Dutch Financial Supervision Act (*Wet op het financieel toezicht*) and supplementing regulations ("FSA")) for the purpose of giving information with regard to the Issuer and the Notes which, according to the particular nature of the Issuer 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 Issuer and the rights attached to the Notes.

This Base Prospectus is to be read in conjunction with any supplements hereto and with all documents which are incorporated herein by reference (see "*Documents Incorporated by Reference*"). This Base Prospectus shall be read and construed on the basis that such supplements or documents are incorporated into, and form part of, this Base Prospectus and, in relation to any Tranche (as defined in "*General Description*" below) of Notes, must be read and construed together with the relevant Final Terms.

None of the Arranger or the Dealers appointed by the Issuer or their respective affiliates have separately verified the information contained herein or authorised the whole or any part of this Base Prospectus. Accordingly, no representation, warranty or undertaking, express or implied, is made and no responsibility is accepted by such Arranger and Dealers or their respective affiliates as to the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in this Base Prospectus or any other information provided by the Issuer. None of the Arranger, the Dealers or their respective affiliates accept any liability in relation to the information contained in this Base Prospectus or any other information provided by the Issuer in connection with the Programme.

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

Neither this Base Prospectus nor any other information supplied in connection with the Programme should be considered as a recommendation by the Issuer or any of the Dealers that any recipient of this Base Prospectus or any other information supplied in connection with the Programme should purchase any Notes. This Base Prospectus identifies in a general way the information that a prospective investor should consider prior to making an investment in the Notes. However, a prospective investor should conduct its own thorough analysis (including its own accounting, legal and tax analysis) and consult with its own professional advisors (including its financial, accounting, legal and tax advisors) if it considers it necessary prior to deciding whether to invest in the Notes, as any evaluation of the suitability for an investor of an investment in the Notes depends upon a prospective investor's particular financial and other circumstances, as well as on specific terms of the Notes. Each investor contemplating purchasing any Notes should make its own independent investigation of the financial condition and affairs, and its own appraisal of the creditworthiness, of the Issuer. Neither this Base Prospectus nor any other information supplied in connection with the Programme or the issue of any Notes constitutes an offer or invitation by or on behalf of the Issuer or any of the Dealers to any person to subscribe for or to purchase any Notes.

Each prospective investor of Notes must determine, based on its own independent review and such professional advice as it deems appropriate under the circumstances, that its acquisition of the Notes (i) is fully consistent with its (or if it is acquiring the Notes in a fiduciary capacity, the beneficiary's) financial needs, objectives and condition, (ii) complies and is fully consistent with any investment policies, guidelines and restrictions applicable to it (whether acquiring the Notes as principal or in a fiduciary capacity) and (iii) is a fit, proper and suitable investment for it (or, if it is acquiring the Notes in a fiduciary capacity, for the beneficiary). In particular, investment activities of certain investors are subject to investment laws and regulations, or review or regulation by certain authorities. Each prospective

investor should therefore consult its legal advisers to determine whether and to what extent (i) the Notes are legal investments for it, (ii) the Notes can be used as underlying securities for various types of borrowing and (iii) other restrictions apply to its purchase or pledge of any Notes.

The Issuer, including any group company, is acting solely in the capacity of an arms' length contractual counterparty and not as a purchaser's financial adviser or fiduciary in any transaction unless the Issuer has agreed to do so in writing. If a prospective investor does not have experience in financial, business and investment matters sufficient to permit it to make such a determination, the investor should consult with its financial adviser prior to deciding to make an investment on the suitability of the Notes. Investors risk losing their entire investment or part of it.

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.

Prospective investors should consider all information provided in the Base Prospectus. Neither the delivery of this Base Prospectus or any Final Terms nor the offering, sale or delivery of any Notes shall in any circumstances imply that the information contained herein concerning the Issuer is correct at any time subsequent to the date hereof or the date upon which this Base Prospectus has been most recently supplemented or that there has been no adverse change, or any event reasonably likely to involve any adverse change, in the prospects or financial or trading position of the Issuer since such date, or that any other information supplied in connection with the Programme is correct as of any time subsequent to the date indicated in the document containing the same. The Arranger and the Dealers expressly do not undertake to review the financial condition or affairs of the Issuer during the life of the Programme. Investors should carefully review and evaluate, *inter alia*, the most recent financial statements of the Issuer when deciding whether or not to purchase any Notes.

This Base Prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any Notes in any jurisdiction to any person to whom it is unlawful to make the offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction.

The distribution of this Base Prospectus, any supplements hereto and any Final Terms and the offering, sale and delivery of the Notes in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law. Persons into whose possession this Base Prospectus, any supplements hereto or any Final Terms comes are required by the Issuer and the Dealers to inform themselves about and to observe any such restrictions. For a description of certain restrictions on offers, sales and deliveries of Notes and on the distribution of the Base Prospectus, any supplements hereto or any Final Terms and other offering material relating to the Notes, see "*Subscription and Sale*". In particular, Notes have not been and will not be registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "**Securities Act**"), or any securities regulatory authorities of any state or other jurisdiction of the United States and the Notes are subject to U.S. tax law requirements. Subject to certain exceptions, the Notes may not be offered, sold or delivered within the United States or to, or for the account of, U.S. persons. Neither this Base Prospectus or any supplements hereto nor any Final Terms may be used for the purpose of an offer or solicitation by anyone in any jurisdiction in which such offer or solicitation is not authorised or to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such an offer or solicitation.

In this Base Prospectus, unless otherwise specified, references to a "**Member State**" are references to a Member State of the EEA, references to "**U.S.\$**", "**U.S. dollars**" or "**dollars**" are to United States dollars, references to "**EUR**" or "**euro**" are to the currency introduced at the start of the third stage of European economic and monetary union, and as defined in Article 2 of Council Regulation (EC) No 974/98 of 3 May 1998 on the introduction of the euro, as amended, references to "**Sterling**", "**£**" refer to the currency of the United Kingdom and references to "**Renminbi**" or "**RMB**" means the lawful currency of the People's Republic of China (for such purposes, not including Hong Kong and Macau Special Administrative Regions or Taiwan) (the "**PRC**").

This Base Prospectus has been prepared on the basis that any offer of Notes in any Member State which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a "**Relevant Member State**") will be made pursuant to an exemption under the Prospectus Directive, as implemented in that Relevant Member State, from the requirement to publish a prospectus for offers of the Notes. Accordingly any person making or intending to make an offer in that Relevant Member State of the Notes may only do so in circumstances in which no obligation arises for the Issuer or any Dealer to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive, in each case, in relation to such offer. Neither the Issuer nor any Dealer has authorised, nor do they

authorise, the making of any offer of Notes in any other circumstances. The expression "**Prospectus Directive**" means Directive 2003/71/EC (as amended, including by Directive 2010/73/EU) and includes any relevant implementing measures in the Relevant Member State.

In connection with the issue of any Tranche of Notes, the Dealer or Dealers (if any) named as the Stabilising Manager(s) (or persons acting on behalf of any Stabilising Manager(s)) in the applicable Final Terms may over-allot 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, stabilisation may not necessarily occur. 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 cease at any time, but it must end no later than the earlier of 30 days after the issue date of the relevant Tranche of Notes and 60 days after the date of the allotment of the relevant Tranche of Notes. Any stabilisation action or over-allotment must be conducted by the relevant Stabilising Manager(s) (or persons acting on behalf of any Stabilising Manager(s)) in accordance with all applicable laws and rules.

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## RISK FACTORS

*The following is a description of risk factors which are material in respect of the Notes and the financial situation of the Issuer and which may affect the Issuer's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes. Prospective investors should carefully consider these risk factors before deciding to purchase Notes. The sequence in which the following risk factors are listed is not an indication of their likelihood to occur or of the extent of their commercial consequences. Prospective investors should consider these risk factors before deciding to purchase Notes issued under the Programme. The inability of the Issuer to pay interest, principal or other amounts on or in connection with any Notes may occur for other reasons. The risks described below are not the only risks the Issuer faces. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to the Issuer or that it currently believes to be immaterial could also have a material impact on its business operations.*

*In addition, investors should be aware that the risks described herein may combine and thus intensify another.*

### **Risk Factors Relating to the Issuer**

*The following section on risks may include forward-looking statements and may therefore involve uncertainty (the actual results may differ from those projected).*

#### ***Generic/Strategic risks***

##### *Global financial and economic developments*

In a Corporate Risk Assessment the likelihood and impact of events that could jeopardize the achievement of the targets set in the 'Driving Profitable Growth' strategy for 2016 - 2018 have been identified. In setting these targets, assumptions were made about the macro-economic and financial conditions in the global markets. Although DSM positioned itself to be able to adjust quickly to sudden adverse market conditions, those cannot be ruled out. If an economic downturn or financial instability were to occur, this could have a significant detrimental effect on the achievement of the targets. This effect could be aggravated by major movements of currency exchange rates.

##### *Risks related to high growth economies*

The strategy to grow the Company through increased presence and business in high growth economies such as China, India, Latin America and Russia is being successfully implemented. This implies that the relative exposure to the business climate in these regions is also increasing. DSM is further reinforcing its governance and resources in these regions in order to benefit from the opportunities and manage the downside risks these regions present. There is, however, a risk that such markets will not grow as expected or that opportunities in these markets will be missed. In addition, price pressure from these countries may jeopardise profitability in the established markets where the Issuer operates. These risks might have an impact on the results of operations and financial condition of the Company, which in turn could have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

##### *Risks of competition and commoditisation in existing markets*

DSM has considerably reduced its exposure to cyclical and commodity markets. Price pressure and other competitive challenges may, however, still cause the profitability of DSM's activities to deviate from the projected levels. These risks might have an impact on the results of operations and financial condition of the Company, which in turn could have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

##### *Political and country risks*

DSM has subsidiaries in more than 50 countries. These subsidiaries can be exposed to potentially unfavourable changes in (financial) regulations and political climate that might hamper the exploitation of projected opportunities or might impair the value of the local business. This includes, but is not limited to, the implications of a potential Brexit, which could have an impact on the broader economic environment and therefore potentially have a detrimental effect on the achievement of targets.

### *Risks related to acquisitions and partnerships*

In the current strategy period, DSM's main focus is on organic growth and – unlike in the previous period – not on sizeable acquisitions. Hence, this type of risk should inherently be lower in this period. However, this does not mean DSM will not consider smaller acquisitions and partnerships, with the corresponding risks (mainly related to making the wrong forecasts, failing to effectively integrate the new activities, or getting into a conflict with the partner). Through the multiple acquisitions and partnerships that DSM has executed in the previous strategy periods (and the actual performance of those undertakings), DSM has developed very solid practices for finding the right targets, assessing their attractiveness, executing value creating deals, integrating the new activities, optimising synergies and dealing with partners and following up on performance, thereby providing risk mitigation.

Nevertheless, also smaller acquisitions and partnerships have the inherent risk of not being successfully integrated, which might have an impact on the results of operations and financial condition of the Company, which in turn could have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

### *Risks related to divestments*

Fully exiting the activities in Pharma and Base Materials – all put in partnerships as a first step towards a full exit in the previous strategy period – is one of the main priorities in the current strategy period. The risks associated to this relate particularly to warranties and indemnities given within the scope of the divestment process and to business performance at the desired time of exit, generating sufficient buyer interest, and striking the most value creating deal for DSM. Through the multiple divestments made or initiated in the previous strategy periods, DSM has developed very solid practices and a certain savviness in this, providing risk mitigation. Nevertheless, these risks might have an impact on the results of operations and financial condition of the Company, which in turn could have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

### *Innovation risks (new markets, products and technologies)*

Innovation is another main growth driver in DSM's strategy. The Company has strengthened its market intelligence and enhanced its market and customer orientation. In addition it has taken a multitude of actions to create an excellent innovation process and the Company has reinforced its product launch capabilities. Nevertheless, the actual developments in the targeted markets, the speed with which new products and technologies are accepted and the emergence of new competition will always constitute risks to the success of the chosen strategy.

In the Emerging Business Areas, the units within the DSM Innovation Centre for the development of defined new business, efforts have been concentrated in the areas of Biomedical, Bio-based Products and Services and Advanced Surfaces. The developments in these areas are subject to the uncertainties inherent in new technologies and markets. This implies that there is a risk that the innovation costs will yield less results than anticipated or that the Company will have to abandon projects on which it has already spent substantial sums of money. This could affect DSM's profitability.

### *People, organisation and culture risks*

DSM's success in implementing its strategy is highly dependent on an effective organisational structure, the ability to attract and retain capable people with the right and diverse backgrounds, the appropriate leadership and behaviours and the creation of an entrepreneurial yet responsible culture. The DSM talent agenda addresses these key areas through

- A ONE DSM Culture Agenda and a Leadership Model, setting common behavioural standards for employees and leaders
- A focused talent acquisition agenda including potential assessment for all executive levels
- A new talent management approach focused on development, and linked to DSM's diversity aspirations
- A set of tools and training to enhance people management effectiveness

Special attention is being given to enhancing regional and functional effectiveness and creating a diverse workforce. Nevertheless, not realizing strategic targets as a consequence of organization inefficiencies, a lack of key people and/or an unsupportive culture might have an impact on the results of operations and financial condition of the Company, which in turn could have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

#### *Intellectual property protection risks*

DSM has reinforced its processes and capabilities to establish, protect and exploit intellectual property rights as these rights are of increasing importance to DSM's strategic development. Nevertheless, the risk exists that, in certain situations, DSM will not be able to value or protect its intellectual property effectively (for example in patent or license disputes or other litigation). This, in turn, may lead to negative financial impacts, which could have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

#### *Raw material / energy price and availability risks*

DSM implements various policies to avoid supply chain disruptions (for example multiple supplier-strategy) and decrease price volatility (for example commodity hedging). Nevertheless, the increasing complexity and interdependence of worldwide supply streams as well as increasing (perceived) pressure on availability of resources may lead to price fluctuations and availability issues, influencing DSM's profitability and/or business continuity.

#### *Sustainability risks*

Sustainability, behaving socially, environmentally and economically without harming the position of future generations, is DSM's core value and plays a central role in its strategy implementation. It is seen as a measure of responsible behaviour (implementing high standards in social, environmental and business-ethical matters as described in the DSM Code of Business Conduct) as well as a business driver (developing products, processes and behaviours that make the value chains in which DSM takes part more socially and environmentally sustainable in an economically viable way). The risks related to sustainability as a measure of responsible behaviour are described in this overview in the category Safety, health and environment and those related to non-compliance with DSM rules and external laws and regulation under Legal and compliance. For sustainability as a business driver, DSM has set ambitious targets, and although it has put rigorous programs in place to clarify and achieve these targets, there is considerable risk that difficulties will occur in doing so for every target, particularly as the activities are highly innovative and, for their success, dependent on cooperation in novel stakeholder relationships. Sustainability is gradually changing from a differentiator to a qualifier. Not achieving clear and accepted definitions on the sustainability standards and/or not reaching the set targets may lead to reputation damage for DSM and hence to financial damage related to credibility issues in (financial) markets and/or to extra internal management attention.

#### *Brand risk*

The DSM brand is a key intangible business asset which brings DSM's mission and core value to expression and has grown considerably in value over the last five years to € 729 million in 2015 (as measured by BrandFinance). The value of the brand is related to the awareness, consideration and preference levels of DSM's key stakeholders globally. The main risks are that the DSM brand promise is not lived up to by DSM and that the brand is not protected well enough across the globe from an IP/Trademark point of view. Related to the former risk mitigation actions have been put in place by training key audiences within DSM as well as key suppliers (brand e-learning program) on the proper application of the DSM brand. In terms of IP, an annual strategic global trademark review takes place through which mitigating actions are defined. Nevertheless, these risks might have an impact on the results of operations and financial condition of the Company, which in turn could have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

#### *Operational risks*

##### *Reputation risks*

Any failure by any of its business units to meet production safety, social, environmental or ethical standards could harm DSM's reputation and thereby impact on its business and results.



DSM has confirmed sustainability to be its core value and, on the basis of this, has formulated a Code of Business Conduct specifying desired behaviour in respect of the social, environmental and economic dimensions. The Code is distributed in 17 languages, (e-) learning has to be followed by all employees and compliance is being actively monitored and followed up. This should reasonably assure appropriate employee conduct. Moreover, the Company mitigates its reputation risk by making substantial efforts to reduce the probability that any of its units will fail to comply with internal requirements and/or external laws and regulations. DSM implemented Issue Management (IM) to make DSM prepared, to enable adequate response in the shortest possible time, and to secure continuing follow-up to mitigate/take advantage of the impact on share price, LtO and/or reputation (eg. global, regional, local impact). Nevertheless, incidents, accidents or mistakes by individual employees may occur that negatively impact DSM's reputation. This risk might have an impact on the results of operations and financial condition of the Company, which in turn could have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

#### *Customer risks*

The risk of non-compliance with respect to product specifications and customer agreements could lead to customer complaints, liabilities, loss of business and / or customers, and overall reputational damages. Furthermore, the risk of non-compliance with trade embargoes could lead to overall reputational damages and sanctions. Infringement and/or improper handling of privacy and customer data may lead to reputational damage, loss of business and potentially fines. Negative publicity on social media can lead to overall reputational damage and loss of business.

The successful implementation of the strategy "Driving Profitable Growth" requires world class Marketing and Sales (M&S) performance. Over the past years DSM has made progress in catching up with respectively outpacing peer companies with respect to M&S skills, capabilities and processes. DSM Marketing and Sales is driving the further professionalization of the M&S disciplines across DSM. In addition the Net Promoter Score (NPS), a mandatory customer feedback process, has been defined to increase customer loyalty, reduce customer churn, evaluate the DSM company brand and is the Key Performance Indicator for external orientation. Appropriate Quality Assurance systems and processes are in place to mitigate the risks of non-compliance with respect to product specifications and customer agreements. Similarly, extensive measures have been put in place to comply with the complexities of trade embargoes. Although digital still is in its infancy in B2B marketing, the Company has taken appropriate measures as defined in requirements and guidelines, to mitigate risks on privacy / customer data as well as the use of social media. Nevertheless, it cannot be ruled out that the risks described above will materialize, potentially leading to customer complaints, liabilities, loss of business and / or customers, overall reputational damages and/or sanctions, which in turn could have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

#### *Production process risks*

DSM tries to mitigate production process risks by spreading production where possible, but concentration is also necessary in order to achieve economies of scale. The design of any new facilities and/or production processes requires incorporation of state-of-the-art safety and security facilities. Plants are designed according to high technical and technological standards and are regularly and systematically inspected against predefined risk and maintenance standards. Nevertheless, technical and technological risks may not always be sufficiently well known or controlled so as to exclude any mishaps. These could affect the quality, costs or availability of products, resulting in a financial loss. These risks might have an impact on the results of operations and financial condition of the Company, which in turn could have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

#### *Business continuity risks*

The influence of major physical disruptions caused by mishaps affecting the supply line or facilities in the Company (for example a plant that does not work properly and causes losses due to lower production or lower quality) has been reviewed and business continuity plans have been put in place. Unexpected developments may nevertheless result in interruptions of supply to customers, causing financial and reputational damage. These risks might have an impact on the results of operations and financial condition of the Company, which in turn could have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

### *Product-liability risks*

As a result of DSM's strategy "Driving Profitable Growth " the Company's product portfolio has shifted. This has been accompanied by a corresponding shift in the product liability risk profile. To protect itself against these risks, DSM has put in place highly demanding process and product requirements and is putting in a great deal of effort on an ongoing basis to assure that all its units comply with internal and external regulatory requirements (for example from US Food and Drug Administration). Additionally, DSM has stepped up its efforts to structurally assess product liability exposures, and the Company has enhanced its sales contracting policies. Nevertheless, it can never be totally excluded that product-liability issues may lead to financial or reputational damages. This might have an impact on the results of operations and financial condition of the Company, which in turn could have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

### *Insurable risks*

Global insurance policies are in place to reduce the financial impact of potential losses due to damage to property, business interruption and general liability exposures, including the liability risks related to the products produced. At the moment, all products in DSM's portfolio are covered under the Company's corporate liability insurance programs. For losses covered by the various policies the self-insured retention at corporate level for any one incident is limited at about €20 million per occurrence with an annual aggregate maximum of €35 million. DSM has in place insurance cover for excess risks related to property damage/business interruption as well as general liability up to contracted maximum amounts that are deemed to be appropriate in view of the risk profile of the Company. In the event that damages nevertheless exceed these maximum amounts this might have an impact on the results of operations and financial condition of the Company, which in turn could have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

### *Information and Communication Technology (ICT) risks*

DSM continuously improves its measures to mitigate ICT risks. We also recognize that ICT incidents are today's reality. A cyber resilience strategy has been defined in 2015 to address the need for additional cyber security detection and response capabilities. An agile risk management process is in place to assess ICT risks, define necessary controls and monitor compliance of all ICT services. Although DSM has implemented industry standard risk mitigating measures, ICT complexity and shortcomings in technology, processes and employee behaviour could still lead to ICT risks materializing which can have a material impact on DSM assets, operations and reputation. The digital transformation could increase the impact of incidents as the business becomes more dependent on secure and reliable ICT services. These risks might have an impact on the results of operations and financial condition of the Company, which in turn could have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

### *Programme and Project Management risks*

A large part of the implementation of DSM's strategy takes place through the implementation of major projects in a variety of fields, such as innovation and new business development, capacity expansions for existing businesses, mergers and acquisitions, organisational change, business process development, ICT, construction and human resources. DSM has recognized that it needs to further improve its capability to manage programs and projects and has a Project Management Excellence program in place to support this. This includes specific project management training courses. Independent Value Assurance Reviews and Unit owned Roadmaps are in place to mitigate the risk of failure of major projects and support the journey towards excellence in Project Management. Programmes and projects may nevertheless fail to deliver the (financial) results projected, for example because of cost reductions, output increases, and/or because the investments needed to achieve the results may be more than anticipated. This would affect DSM's profitability and might have an impact on the results of operations and financial condition of the Company, which in turn could have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

### *(Information) security and Internal Control related risks*

DSM employs strict practices with regard to the assessment and control of (information) security risks. In the design of the processes governing the goods and money flows, strict standards of Internal Control have been taken into account and the functioning of these controls is being monitored regularly.

Nevertheless, (information) security incidents and/or misappropriation of goods or money through mistakes or fraud may still occur, possibly causing material damage to the Company. These risks might have an impact on the results of operations and financial condition of the Company, which in turn could have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

#### *Industrial relations risks*

DSM invests in a good relationship with its employees and tracks employee engagement, amongst other things by conducting worldwide surveys. Nevertheless, it cannot be excluded that risks materialize in the area of industrial relations, in particular the risk of labour conflicts which may lead to strikes with potential loss of production. These risks might have an impact on the results of operations and financial condition of the Company, which in turn could have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

#### *Safety, health and environmental risks*

DSM implements strict policies with regard to the containment of safety, health and environmental risks. Nevertheless, safety, health or environmental elements may not always be sufficiently well known or controlled so as to prevent any possible mishaps. SHE-risks are mitigated via a SHE-management system that is kept up-to-date and includes, amongst others, requirements, audits, a multi-year program and competence management. The residual risks might nevertheless have an impact on the results of operations and financial condition of the Company, which in turn could have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

#### **Financial risks**

##### *Liquidity and market risk*

The main financial risks faced by DSM relate to liquidity risk and market risk (comprising interest rate risk, currency risk and price risk). DSM's financial policy is aimed at minimizing the effects of fluctuations in currency-exchange and interest rates on its results in the short term and following market rates in the long term. DSM uses financial derivatives to manage financial risks relating to business operations and does not enter into speculative derivative positions. DSM's financial policy is discussed extensively in the Integrated Annual Report 2015, which also contains specific information on liquidity risks and market risks. Nevertheless, developments in currencies and interest rates keep having an impact on DSM's finance cost and therefore also on DSM's profitability. This might have an impact on the results of operations and financial condition of the Company, which in turn could have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

##### Reporting integrity risks

DSM maintains internal controls over external reporting in order to ensure that external reporting is complete, transparent and free from material inaccuracies. Failure of these controls may result in shortcomings that may cause that the external reporting does not provide the desired true and fair view of the financial position and business performance of DSM.

##### *Pension risks*

Although DSM has replaced several defined benefit plans with defined contribution plans in the last years, the Company still has defined benefit pension plans in a number of countries. The funded status and pension cost of defined benefit pension plans are impacted by financial markets (mostly through investment returns and interest rates) and by changes in life expectancy. Low interest rates cause DSM's pension cost to increase and therefore have an adverse effect on profitability and cash flows. To control pension risks for DSM, a Pension Committee (chaired by the Chief Executive Officer of DSM) is in place. The pension committee determines DSM's pension strategy and monitors and anticipates on pension risks worldwide. Pension plans are managed by local trustees in accordance to local regulations. The investment strategy of the pension plans are aligned with the risk profile of the underlying pension liabilities through an integrated balance sheet management approach. This integrated approach improves the risk management process, risk identification and strategic decision making, leading to a more balanced approach towards risk. The volatility in pension costs for DSM of these plans is limited by contractual arrangements. Defined contribution schemes in a low interest rate environment, give rise to a new type of risk. As a result of the low interest rates the price of an annuity has increased, leading to

lower results in defined contribution schemes. A deterioration of the value of assets or an increase in the value of liabilities in any pension obligations of the Company may, however, still impact DSM's financial position and cost structure. This could in turn have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes. The pension deficit is clarified in note 25 (*Post-employment benefits*) to the financial statements in the 2015 Integrated Annual Report, which are incorporated by reference in this Base Prospectus.

#### *Credit Rating risk*

The major credit rating agencies may change their assessments of DSM creditworthiness, thereby affecting the Company's borrowing capacity and/or the conditions under which it can borrow money and causing fluctuations in the cost of finance. The Company aims to maintain a strong investment grade long-term credit rating and spread the maturity profile of outstanding bonds in order to have adequate financial flexibility. However these risks might have an impact on the results of operations and financial condition of the Company, which in turn could have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

#### *Legal and compliance risks*

##### *Risks of non-compliance with the DSM Code of Business Conduct and with Corporate Policies, Requirements and Directives*

DSM has put in place a DSM Code of Business Conduct, Policies, Requirements and Directives in order to induce ethical behaviour in the Company and clearly mark the limits of risk taking to be observed in (operational) processes. The implementation of these principles, policies, requirements and directives is monitored and reported by the units themselves and through independent full operational audits. It can nevertheless not be excluded that non-compliances may occur, leading to risks and possible financial and/or reputational damage. This could in turn have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

##### *Risk related to legal non-compliances*

DSM operates in fields to which a multitude of (international) laws and regulations apply. Although a great deal of attention is being given to full compliance with all these laws and regulations, breaches may still go unnoticed, possibly leading to fines, loss of permits, damages for breach of contract and/or reputational damage. These risks might have an impact on the results of operations and financial condition of the Company, which in turn could have an impact on the Company's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes.

##### *Risks related to regulatory developments*

DSM anticipates regulatory developments and contributes to such developments where appropriate. Changes in laws and regulations relating to the regulation of the Company's business may nevertheless impact the Company's ability to implement its strategy and/or may have detrimental effects on profitability.

#### **Risk Factors Relating to the Notes**

*In addition to the risks identified in "Risk Factors – General Risk Factor" and "Risk Factors – Risk Factors Relating to the Issuer" above, potential investors in Notes should consider the following:*

##### ***Risks Relating to the Notes Generally***

The Notes will be represented by the Global Notes except in certain limited circumstances described in the Permanent Global Note. The Global Notes will be deposited with a common depository for Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. ("**Euroclear**") and Clearstream Banking, société anonyme ("**Clearstream, Luxembourg**"), or with a common safekeeper. Except in certain limited circumstances described in the Permanent Global Note, investors will not be entitled to receive definitive Notes. Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg will maintain records of the beneficial interests in the Global Notes. While the Notes are represented by the Global Notes, investors will be able to trade their beneficial interests only through Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg.

The Issuer will discharge its payment obligations under the Notes by making payments to the common depository for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg or to the common safekeeper for distribution to their account holders. A holder of a beneficial interest in a Global Note must rely on the procedures of Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg to receive payments under the Notes. The Issuer has 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 Notes. Instead, such holders will be permitted to act only to the extent that they are enabled by Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg to appoint appropriate proxies.

#### *Dealers transacting with the Issuer*

Certain of the Dealers and their affiliates (which includes for the purpose of this risk factor, parent companies) have engaged, and may in the future engage, in investment banking and/or commercial banking transactions and may perform services for the Issuer and its affiliates in the ordinary course of business. In addition, in the ordinary course of their business activities, the Dealers may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers. Such investments and securities activities may involve securities and/or instruments of the Issuer or Issuer's affiliates. The relevant Final Terms will specify any other interests of natural and legal persons involved in each issue/offer of Notes under the Programme.

The Issuer, the Dealers and their respective affiliates may engage in trading activities (including hedging activities) related to interests underlying any Notes and other instruments or derivative products based on or related to interests underlying any Notes for their proprietary accounts or for other accounts under their management. The Issuer and its affiliates may also issue other derivative instruments in respect of interests underlying any Notes. Such activities could present certain conflicts of interest, could influence the prices of such shares or other securities and Noteholders should be aware that such activities could also adversely affect the value of such Notes.

#### ***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 the most common features:

#### *Notes Subject to Optional Redemption by the Issuer*

An optional redemption feature in any Notes may negatively impact their market value. During any period when the 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.

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

#### *Fixed/Floating Rate Notes*

Fixed/Floating Rate Notes may bear interest at a rate that the Issuer may elect to convert from a fixed rate to a floating rate, or from a floating rate to a fixed rate. The Issuer's ability to convert the interest rate will affect the secondary market and the market value of the Notes since the Issuer may be expected to convert the rate when it is likely to produce a lower overall cost of borrowing. If the Issuer converts from a fixed rate to a floating rate, 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 the Issuer converts from a floating rate to a fixed rate, the fixed rate may be lower than then prevailing rates on its Notes.

### *Notes Issued at a Substantial Discount or Premium*

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

### *Notes where denominations involve integral multiples*

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 (i) may not be able to transfer such Notes and (ii) may not receive a definitive Note in respect of such holding (should definitive Notes be printed) and in each case 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.

### ***Risks relating to Notes denominated in Renminbi***

A description of risks which may be relevant to an investor in Notes denominated in Renminbi ("**Renminbi Notes**") are set out below.

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

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

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

On the other hand, remittance of Renminbi by foreign investors into the PRC for the settlement of capital account items, such as capital contributions, is generally only permitted upon obtaining specific approvals from, or completing specific registrations or filings with, the relevant authorities on a case-by-case basis and is subject to a strict monitoring system. Regulations in the PRC on the remittance of Renminbi into the PRC for settlement of capital account items are developing.

Although Renminbi has been added to the Special Drawing Rights basket created by the International Monetary Fund since 1 October 2015, there is no assurance that the PRC Government will continue to gradually liberalise control over cross-border remittance of Renminbi in the future, that the schemes for Renminbi cross-border utilisation will not be discontinued or that new regulations in the PRC will not be promulgated in the future which have the effect of restricting or eliminating the remittance of Renminbi into or out of the PRC. In the event that funds cannot be repatriated out of the PRC in Renminbi, this may affect the overall availability of Renminbi outside the PRC and the ability of the Issuer to source Renminbi to finance its obligations under Notes denominated in Renminbi.

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

As a result of the restrictions by the PRC Government on cross-border Renminbi fund flows, the availability of Renminbi outside the PRC is limited. While the People's Bank of China ("**PBoC**") has entered into agreements on the clearing of Renminbi business with financial institutions in a number of financial centres and cities (the "**Renminbi Clearing Banks**"), including but not limited to Hong Kong

and are in the process of establishing Renminbi clearing and settlement mechanisms in several other jurisdictions (the "**Settlement Arrangements**"), the current size of Renminbi denominated financial assets outside the PRC is limited.

There are restrictions imposed by PBoC on Renminbi business participating banks in respect of cross-border Renminbi settlement, such as those relating to direct transactions with PRC enterprises. Furthermore, Renminbi business participating banks do not have direct Renminbi liquidity support from PBoC. The Renminbi Clearing Banks only have access to onshore liquidity support from PBoC for the purpose of squaring open positions of participating banks for limited types of transactions and are not obliged to square for participating banks any open positions resulting from other foreign exchange transactions or conversion services. In such cases, the participating banks will need to source Renminbi from outside the PRC to square such open positions.

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

*Investment in the Renminbi Notes is subject to exchange rate risks*

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

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

If the Issuer is not able, or it is impracticable for it, to satisfy its obligation to pay interest and principal on the Renminbi Notes as a result of Inconvertibility, Non-transferability or Illiquidity (each, as defined in the Conditions), the Issuer shall be entitled, on giving not less than five or more than 30 calendar days' irrevocable notice to the investors prior to the due date for payment, to settle any such payment in U.S. dollars on the due date at the U.S. Dollar Equivalent (as defined in the Conditions) of any such interest or principal, as the case may be.

*Investment in the Renminbi Notes is subject to interest rate risks*

The PRC Government has gradually liberalised its regulation of interest rates in recent years. Further liberalisation may increase interest rate volatility. In addition, the interest rate for Renminbi in markets outside the PRC may significantly deviate from the interest rate for Renminbi in the PRC as a result of foreign exchange controls imposed by PRC law and regulations and prevailing market conditions.

As Renminbi Notes may carry a fixed interest rate, the trading price of the Renminbi Notes will consequently vary with the fluctuations in the Renminbi interest rates. If holders of the Renminbi Notes propose to sell their Renminbi Notes before their maturity, they may receive an offer lower than the amount they have invested.

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

All payments to investors in respect of the Renminbi Notes will be made solely (i) for so long as the Renminbi Notes are represented by global certificates held with the common depositary or common safekeeper, as the case may be, for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg or any alternative clearing

system, by transfer to a Renminbi bank account maintained in Hong Kong or a financial centre in which a Renminbi Clearing Bank clears and settles Renminbi, if so specified in the Final Terms or (ii) for so long as the Renminbi Notes are in definitive form, by transfer to a Renminbi bank account maintained in Hong Kong or a financial centre in which a Renminbi Clearing Bank clears and settles Renminbi, if so specified in the Final Terms in accordance with prevailing rules and regulations. The Issuer cannot be required to make payment by any other means (including in any other currency or by transfer to a bank account in the PRC).

#### *Remittance of proceeds in Renminbi into or out of the PRC*

In the event that the Issuer decides to remit some or all of the proceeds into the PRC in Renminbi, its ability to do so will be subject to obtaining all necessary approvals from, and/or registration or filing with, the relevant PRC government authorities. However, there is no assurance that the necessary approvals from, and/or registration or filing with, the relevant PRC government authorities will be obtained at all or, if obtained, they 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 Renminbi remittances in the future, that the pilot schemes introduced will not be discontinued or that new PRC regulations will not be promulgated in the future which have the effect of restricting or eliminating the remittance of Renminbi into or outside the PRC. In the event that the Issuer does remit some or all of the proceeds into the PRC in Renminbi and the Issuer subsequently is not able to repatriate funds out of the PRC in Renminbi, it will need to source Renminbi outside the PRC to finance its obligations under the Renminbi Notes, and its ability to do so will be subject to the overall availability of Renminbi outside the PRC.

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

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

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

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

#### *Exchange rates and exchange controls*

The Issuer will pay principal and interest on the Notes in a 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 revaluation 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 (1) the Investor's Currency-



equivalent yield on the Notes, (2) the Investor's Currency equivalent value of the principal payable on the Notes and (3) the Investor's Currency equivalent market value of the Notes.

Government and monetary authorities may impose (as some have done in the past) exchange controls that could adversely affect an applicable exchange rate. As 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*

One or more independent credit rating agencies may assign credit ratings to the Notes or the Issuer. 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 or withdrawn by the rating agency at any time.

There is no assurance that a rating will remain for any given period of time or that a rating will not be lowered or withdrawn by the relevant rating agency if, in its judgment, circumstances in the future so warrant. In the event that a rating assigned to the Notes or the Issuer is subsequently lowered for any reason, no person or entity is obliged to provide any additional support or credit enhancement with respect to the Notes and the market value of the Notes is likely to be adversely affected.

#### *Liquidity Risk*

Application has been made to list and trade the Notes to be issued under the Programme on Euronext Amsterdam appearing on the list of regulated markets issued by the European Commission. In addition, the Programme provides that Notes may be listed on other or further stock exchanges or may not be listed at all. Regardless of whether the Notes are listed or not, there can be no assurance that a liquid secondary market for the Notes will develop or, if it does develop, that it will continue. The fact that the notes may be listed does not necessarily lead to a greater liquidity as compared to unlisted Notes. If Notes are not listed on any exchange, pricing information for such Notes may, however, be more difficult to obtain which may affect the liquidity of the Notes adversely. In an illiquid market, an investor might not be able to sell his Notes at any time at fair market prices. The possibility to sell the Notes might additionally be restricted by country specific reasons.

#### *Market Price Risk*

The development of market prices of the Notes depends on various factors, such as changes of market interest rate levels, the policy of central banks, overall economic developments, inflation rates or the lack of or excess demand for the relevant type of Note. The holder of Notes is therefore exposed to the risk of an unfavourable development of market prices of its Notes which materialises if the holder sells the Notes prior to the final maturity of such Notes.

#### *Taxation Risks*

##### *The proposed financial transactions tax ("FTT")*

On 14 February 2013, the European Commission published a proposal (the "**Commission's Proposal**") for a Directive for a common FTT in Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia and Slovakia (the "**participating Member States**").

The Commission's Proposal has very broad scope and could, if introduced, apply to certain dealings in Notes (including secondary market transactions) in certain circumstances.

Under the Commission's Proposal the FTT could apply in certain circumstances to persons both within and outside of the participating Member States. Generally, it would apply to certain dealings in Notes where at least one party is a financial institution, and at least one party is established in a participating Member State. A financial institution may be, or be deemed to be, "established" in a participating

Member State in a broad range of circumstances, including (a) by transacting with a person established in a participating Member State or (b) where the financial instrument which is subject to the dealings is issued in a participating Member State.

The FTT proposal remains subject to negotiation and the scope and implementation of any such tax is uncertain. While Estonia stated in late 2015 that it will not any longer participate, additional EU Member States may decide to participate.

Prospective holders of Notes are advised to seek their own professional advice in relation to the FTT.

*Payments on the Notes may be subject to U.S. withholding tax under FATCA*

The United States has enacted rules, commonly referred to as “**FATCA**,” that generally impose a new reporting and withholding regime with respect to certain U.S. source payments (including dividends and interest), gross proceeds from the disposition of property that can produce U.S. source interest and dividends and certain payments made by entities that are classified as financial institutions under FATCA. The United States has entered into Model I intergovernmental agreements with the Netherlands to implement FATCA (the “**Model I IGA**”). Under the Model I IGA, as currently drafted, we do not expect the Issuers to be required to withhold amounts on payments it makes under FATCA. However, significant aspects of whether or how FATCA will apply remain unclear, and no assurance can be given that withholding under FATCA will not become relevant with respect to payments made by the Issuers in the future. Prospective investors should consult their own tax advisors regarding the potential impact of FATCA.

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION

*The following general description does not purport to be complete and is taken from, and qualified by, the remainder of this Base Prospectus and, in relation to the terms and conditions of any particular Tranche of Notes, the applicable Final Terms. Words and expressions defined in "Form of the Notes" and "Terms and Conditions of the Notes" herein, respectively, shall have the same meanings in this general description.*

**Issuer:** Koninklijke DSM N.V.  
Koninklijke DSM N.V. is the holding company under Dutch law of a group that is active worldwide in health, nutrition and materials.

**Arranger:** Deutsche Bank Aktiengesellschaft

**Dealers:** Citigroup Global Markets Limited  
Coöperatieve Rabobank U.A. (Rabobank)  
Credit Suisse Securities (Europe) Limited  
Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch  
HSBC Bank plc  
ING Bank N.V.  
J.P. Morgan Securities plc  
The Royal Bank of Scotland plc

and any other dealer appointed from time to time by the Issuer either generally in respect of the Programme or in relation to a particular Tranche of Notes (as defined below).

The arrangements under which Notes may from time to time be agreed to be sold by the Issuer to, and purchased by, the Dealers are set out in the amended and restated Dealer Agreement relating to the Programme, dated 16 September 2016, as amended from time to time (the "**Dealer Agreement**"). The Dealer Agreement makes provisions for the resignation or termination of appointment of existing Dealers and for the appointment of additional or other Dealers either generally in respect of the Programme or in relation to a particular Tranche of Notes (as defined below).

**Fiscal and Paying Agent:** Citibank, N.A., London Branch

**Risk Factors:** There are certain factors that may affect the Issuer's ability to fulfil its obligations under Notes issued under the Programme. These are set out under "*Risk Factors*" and include generic risks relating to the Issuer, risks relating to the Notes and risks relating to investment markets generally. For more details of the risk factors affecting to Notes to be issued under the Programme see "*Risk Factors*".

**Method of Issuance:** Under its EUR 4,000,000,000 Debt Issuance Programme, Koninklijke DSM N.V. may from time to time issue Notes. These Notes may or may not be listed on a stock exchange. The applicable terms of any Notes will be determined by the Issuer and the relevant Dealer(s) prior to the issue of the Notes. Such terms will be set out in the Terms and Conditions of the Notes endorsed on, or incorporated by reference into, the Notes, as modified and supplemented by the applicable Final Terms attached to, or endorsed on, or applicable to such Notes, as more fully described in the "*Terms and Conditions of the Notes*"

section of this Base Prospectus.

- Programme Amount:** This Base Prospectus and any supplement will only be valid for the issue of Notes in an aggregate nominal amount which, when added to the aggregate nominal amount then outstanding of all Notes previously or simultaneously issued under the Programme, does not exceed EUR 4,000,000,000 or its equivalent in other currencies.
- Issuance in Series:** Notes will be issued in series (each a "**Series**"). Each Series may comprise one or more tranches ("**Tranches**" and each a "**Tranche**") issued on different issue dates. The Notes of each Series will all be subject to identical terms, except that the issue date, interest commencement date and the issue price may be different in respect of different Tranches. The Notes of each Tranche will all be subject to identical terms in all respects save that a Tranche may comprise Notes of different denominations.
- Form of Notes:** Notes will be issued in bearer form only.
- Each Tranche of Notes will initially be in the form of either a Temporary Global Note or a Permanent Global Note, in each case as specified in the relevant Final Terms. Each Global Note which is not intended to be issued in new global note form (a "**CGN**"), as specified in the relevant Final Terms, will be deposited on or around the relevant issue date with a depository or a common depository for Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and/or any other agreed clearing system and each Global Note which is intended to be issued in new global note form (an "**NGN**"), as specified in the relevant Final Terms, will be deposited on or around the relevant issue date with a common safekeeper for Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg. Each Temporary Global Note will be exchangeable for a Permanent Global Note or, if so specified in the relevant Final Terms, for Definitive Notes. If the TEFRA D Rules are specified in the relevant Final Terms as applicable, certification as to non-U.S. beneficial ownership will be a condition precedent to any exchange of an interest in a Temporary Global Note or receipt of any payment of interest in respect of a Temporary Global Note. Interests in a Permanent Global Note will be exchangeable for definitive Notes in bearer form as described under "*Summary of Provisions Relating to the Notes while in Global Form*".
- Currencies:** Subject to compliance with all relevant laws, regulations and directives, Notes may be issued in any legal currency agreed by the Issuer and the relevant Dealer(s).
- Status of the Notes:** Notes will constitute direct, unconditional and unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the Issuer and rank at least *pari passu* and rateably without any preference among themselves and (subject to any applicable statutory exceptions and without prejudice as aforesaid) equally with all other present and future unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the Issuer.
- Interest:** Interest on the Notes may accrue at a fixed or floating rate and may vary during the lifetime of the relevant Series.
- Fixed Rate Notes:** Fixed Rate Notes will bear interest at a fixed rate, payable on such date or dates as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer(s) and on redemption and will be calculated on the basis of such Day Count Fraction as may be agreed between

the Issuer and the relevant Dealer(s) (as set out in the applicable Final Terms).

**Floating Rate Notes:**

Floating Rate Notes will bear interest at a rate determined:

- (i) on the basis of a reference rate appearing on the agreed screen page of a commercial quotation service; or
- (ii) on such other basis as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer(s) (as set out in the applicable Final Terms).

The margin (if any) relating to such floating rate will be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer(s) for each Series of Floating Rate Notes (as set out in the applicable Final Terms).

**Issue Price:**

Notes may be issued at any price or at a discount or premium to their nominal amount, as specified in the relevant Final Terms.

**Maturities:**

Such maturities as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer, subject to such minimum or maximum maturity as may be allowed or required from time to time by the relevant central bank (or equivalent body) or any laws or regulations applicable to the Issuer or the relevant Specified Currency. Save as provided above, the Notes are not subject to any maximum maturity.

Where Notes have a maturity of less than one year and either (a) the issue proceeds are received by the Issuer in the United Kingdom or (b) the activity of issuing the Notes is carried on from an establishment maintained by the Issuer in the United Kingdom, such Notes must: (i) have a minimum redemption value of £100,000 (or its equivalent in other currencies) and be issued only 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; or (ii) be issued in other circumstances which do not constitute a contravention of section 19 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 of England and Wales ("**FSMA**") by the Issuer.

**Optional Redemption:**

Notes may be redeemed before their stated maturity at the option of the Issuer and / or the Noteholders to the extent (if at all) specified in the relevant Final Terms.

**Tax Redemption:**

Except as described in "*Optional Redemption*" above, early redemption may be permitted for taxation reasons as mentioned in "*Terms and Conditions of the Notes – Condition 5(c) (Redemption for Taxation Reasons)*".

**Denominations:**

Notes will be issued in such denominations as may be specified in the relevant Final Terms, subject to compliance with all applicable legal and/or regulatory and/or central bank requirements, provided that in the case of any Notes which are to be admitted to trading on a regulated market within the EEA or offered to the public in a Member State in circumstances which require the publication of a prospectus under the Prospectus Directive, the minimum denomination shall be EUR100,000 (or its equivalent in any other currency as at the date of issue of the

relevant Notes). If this proviso applies, so long as the Notes are represented by a Temporary Global Note or Permanent Global Note and the relevant clearing system(s) so permit, the Notes shall be tradeable only in principal amounts of at least such minimum denomination and integral multiples of the Calculation Amount specified in the Terms and Conditions of the Notes in excess thereof.

**Taxation:**

Payments in respect of Notes issued by the Issuer will be made without withholding or deduction for, or on account of, any present or future taxes, duties, assessments or governmental charges of whatever nature imposed or levied by or on behalf of the jurisdiction of incorporation of the Issuer or any political subdivision thereof or any authority or agency therein or thereof having power to tax, unless the withholding or deduction of such taxes, duties, assessments or governmental charges is required by law. In that event, the Issuer will, if so specified in the relevant Final Terms (subject to certain exceptions as more fully set out in "*Terms and Conditions of the Notes - Condition 7(b)*"), pay such additional amounts as will result in the holders of Notes or Coupons receiving such amounts as they would have received in respect of such Notes or Coupons had no such withholding or deduction been required.

**Governing Law:**

The Notes will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, Dutch law.

**Listing:**

Each Series may be admitted to listing on Euronext Amsterdam. The Programme also permits Notes to be issued on the basis that they will not be admitted to listing, trading and/or quotation by any competent authority, stock exchange and/or quotation system or to be admitted to listing, trading and/or quotation by such other or further competent authorities, stock exchanges and/or quotation systems as may be agreed with the Issuer. The Issuer may also issue unlisted and/or privately placed Notes. References in this Programme to Notes being "**listed**" (and all related references) shall mean that such Notes have been admitted to trading and have been listed on Euronext Amsterdam or another regulated market.

**Terms and Conditions:**

Final Terms will be prepared in respect of each Tranche of Notes, a copy of which will, in the case of Notes to be listed on Euronext Amsterdam be delivered to such stock exchange on or before the date of issue of such Notes. The terms and conditions applicable to each Tranche of Notes will be those set out herein under *Terms and Conditions of the Notes* as supplemented or modified by the relevant Final Terms.

**Clearing Systems:**

Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg, Clearstream Banking AG, Frankfurt am Main ("**Clearstream Frankfurt**") and/or, in relation to any Series of Notes, any other internationally recognised clearing system as may be specified in the relevant Final Terms.

**Selling Restrictions:**

For a description of certain restrictions on offers, sales and deliveries of Notes and on the distribution of offering material in the United States, the EEA, the United Kingdom, The Netherlands, Japan, and the People's Republic of China (for such purposes, not including Hong Kong and Macau Special Administrative Regions or Taiwan) see "*Subscription and Sale*".

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE NOTES

*The following are the Terms and Conditions of the Notes which will be incorporated by reference into each Global Note (as defined below) and each Note in definitive form, in the latter case only if permitted by the relevant stock exchange or other relevant authority (if any) and agreed by the Issuer and the relevant Dealer at the time of issue but, if not so permitted and agreed, such Note in definitive form will have endorsed thereon or attached thereto such Terms and Conditions. The applicable Final Terms in relation to any Tranche of Notes may specify other terms and conditions which shall, to the extent so specified or to the extent inconsistent with the following Terms and Conditions, replace or modify the following Terms and Conditions for the purpose of such Notes. The applicable Final Terms (or the relevant provisions thereof) will be endorsed upon, or attached to, each Global Note and Note in definitive form.*

The Notes are issued pursuant to an amended and restated fiscal agency agreement dated 16 September 2016, as amended or supplemented from time to time (the "**Fiscal Agency Agreement**") between Koninklijke DSM N.V. (the "**Issuer**") and Citibank, N.A., London Branch as fiscal agent and paying agent (the "**Fiscal Agent**" and the "**Paying Agent**" and together with any additional or other paying agents in respect of the Notes from time to time appointed, the "**Paying Agents**"). The Calculation Agent (if any) is specified on this Note. The Noteholders (as defined below), the holders of the coupons (the "**Coupons**") appertaining 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 bound by and deemed to have notice of all of the provisions of the Fiscal Agency Agreement applicable to them and these Terms and Conditions. A copy of the Fiscal Agency Agreement is available for inspection at the specified office of each of the Paying Agents.

The Final Terms for this Note (or the relevant provisions thereof) are attached to or endorsed on this Note and supplement these Terms and Conditions (the "**Conditions**") and may specify other terms and conditions which shall, to the extent so specified or to the extent inconsistent with the Conditions, replace or modify the Conditions for the purposes of this Note. References to the Final Terms are to the Final Terms (or the relevant provisions thereof) attached to or endorsed on this Note.

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

In these Conditions, "**Noteholder**" means the bearer of any Bearer Note (as defined hereunder), "**holder**" means (in relation to a Note, Coupon or Talon) the bearer of any Bearer Note, Coupon or Talon (as the case may be) and capitalised terms have the meanings given to them on this Note, the absence of any such meaning indicating that such term is not applicable to the Notes. In these Conditions, capitalised terms have the meanings given to them on this Note, the absence of any such meaning indicating that such term is not applicable to the Notes.

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

The Notes are issued in bearer form ("**Bearer Notes**") in the denomination of the Specified Denomination(s). 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 (as defined below), the minimum denomination shall be EUR100,000 (or its equivalent in any other currency as at the date of issue of the relevant Notes). The expression "**Prospectus Directive**" means Directive 2003/71/EC (as amended, including by Directive 2010/73/EC), to the extent implemented in the relevant Member State, and includes any relevant implementing measure in the relevant Member State.

The Notes may have such maturities as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer, subject to such minimum or maximum maturity as may be allowed or required from time to time by the relevant central bank (or equivalent body) or any laws or regulations applicable to the Issuer or the relevant Specified Currency. Save as provided above, the Notes are not subject to any maximum maturity.

This Note may be a Fixed Rate Note, a Floating Rate Note or a combination thereof, depending upon the Interest and Redemption/Payment Basis shown in the applicable Final Terms.

The Bearer Notes are serially numbered and are issued with Coupons (and, where appropriate, a Talon) attached.

Title to the Bearer Notes and the Coupons and Talons appertaining thereto shall pass by delivery unless applicable law provides otherwise or provides for additional requirements for transfer of title. Except as ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction or as required by law, the holder of any Note, Coupon or Talon shall be deemed to be and may be treated as the absolute owner of such Note, Coupon or Talon, as the case may be, for the purpose of receiving payment thereon or on account thereof and for all other purposes, whether or not such Note, Coupon or Talon shall be overdue and notwithstanding any notice of ownership, theft or loss thereof or any writing thereon made by anyone.

For so long as any of the Notes is represented by a Global Note held on behalf of Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. ("**Euroclear**") and/or Clearstream Banking, société anonyme ("**Clearstream, Luxembourg**"), each person (other than Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg) who is for the time being shown in the records of Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg as the holder of a particular nominal amount of such Notes (in which regard any certificate or other document issued by Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg as to the nominal amount of Notes standing to the account of any person shall be conclusive and binding for all purposes save in the case of manifest error) shall be treated by the Issuer and any Paying Agent as the holder of such nominal amount of such Notes for all purposes other than with respect to the payment of principal or interest on the Notes, for which purpose the bearer of the relevant Global Note shall be treated by the Issuer and any Paying Agent as the holder of such Notes in accordance with and subject to the terms of the relevant Global Note which, for so long as the relevant Global Note is held by a depositary or common depositary, in the case of a CGN, or a common safekeeper, in the case of an NGN, for Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg and / or (except in the case of an NGN) any other relevant clearing system, will be that depositary or common depositary or, as the case may be, common safekeeper (and the expressions Noteholder and holder of Notes and related expressions shall be construed accordingly). Notes which are represented by a Global Note held by a common depositary for Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg will be transferable only in accordance with the rules and procedures for the time being of Euroclear or of Clearstream, Luxembourg, as the case may be.

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

Words and expressions defined in the Fiscal Agency Agreement and the applicable Final Terms shall have the same meanings when used in these Conditions, unless the context otherwise requires or unless otherwise stated in these Conditions.

## 2. **Status**

The Notes and Coupons constitute direct, unconditional and (without prejudice to the provisions of Condition 3 (*Negative Pledge*)) unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the Issuer and rank at least *pari passu* and rateably without any preference among themselves and (subject to any applicable statutory exceptions and without prejudice as aforesaid) equally with all other present and future unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the Issuer.

## 3. **Negative Pledge**

So long as any of the Notes remains outstanding, the Issuer undertakes that if it shall, after the Issue Date of the Notes, secure any Public Debt or Private Debt, then or thereafter existing, by any lien, pledge or other charge upon any of its present or future assets or revenues, the Notes shall share in and be equally and rateably secured by such lien, pledge or other charge, and the instrument creating such lien, pledge or other charge shall expressly so provide.

For the purposes of the foregoing paragraph, (i) "**Public Debt**" means any loan, debt, guarantee or other obligation of the Issuer represented by bonds, notes, debentures or any other publicly-issued debt securities which are, or are intended to be, from time to time quoted, listed or ordinarily dealt in on any stock exchange, automated trading system, over the counter or other securities market and (ii) "**Private**



**Debt**" means loans, debts, guarantees or other obligations of the Issuer (other than Public Debt) in excess (whether alone or in aggregate with other loans, debts, guarantees or other obligations of the Issuer (other than Public Debt)) of EUR 100,000,000.

#### 4. **Interest**

(a) *Rate of Interest on Fixed Rate Notes and Accrual*

Each Note specified as being a Fixed Rate Note in the applicable Final Terms (each a "**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 payable in arrear on each Interest Payment Date.

If a Fixed Coupon Amount or a Broken Amount is specified hereon, the amount of interest payable on each Interest Payment Date will amount to the Fixed Coupon Amount or, if applicable, the Broken Amount so specified and in the case of the Broken Amount will be payable on the particular Interest Payment Date(s) specified hereon.

If a Fixed Coupon Amount or a Broken Amount is not specified hereon, the amount of interest payable on each Interest Payment Date shall be calculated in accordance with Condition 4(e) (*Calculations*).

(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. 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 Specified Period after the preceding Interest Payment Date or, in the case of the first Interest Payment Date, after the Interest Commencement Date.

(ii) Rate of Interest on Floating Rate Notes: the Rate of Interest in respect of Floating Rate Notes for each Interest 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 for Floating Rate Notes

(a) 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 Period shall be determined by the Calculation Agent as a rate equal to the relevant ISDA Rate plus or minus (as indicated hereon) the Margin (if any). For the purposes of this sub-paragraph (A), "**ISDA Rate**" for an Interest 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 Period unless otherwise specified hereon.

For the purposes of this sub-paragraph (A)(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) If on any relevant Interest Determination Date the Rate of Interest cannot be determined according to sub-paragraph (A)(a), then the Rate of Interest for the respective Interest Period shall be the reserve interest rate (the "**Reserve**

**Interest Rate**"). The Reserve Interest Rate shall be the rate expressed as a rate per annum which the Calculation Agent determines to be the arithmetic mean (rounded, if necessary, to the nearest one thousandth of a percentage point (0.0005 being rounded upwards), if the Reference Rate is EURIBOR, or to the nearest one hundred thousandth of a percentage point (0.000005 being rounded upwards), if the Reference Rate is not EURIBOR) of the lending rates in the Specified Currency which the Reference Banks are quoting on the relevant Interest Determination Date or (if this date is not a Business Day in the Relevant Financial Centre) on the next succeeding Business Day in the Relevant Financial Centre for the next Interest Period (I) to leading banks carrying on business in Europe, or (if the Calculation Agent determines that fewer than two of such Reference Banks are so quoting to leading banks in Europe) (II) to leading banks carrying on business in the Relevant Financial Centre.

If the Calculation Agent determines that it is not possible to ascertain the Reserve Interest Rate in respect of any Interest Period for which such ascertainment is required, the Reserve Interest Rate for such Interest Period shall be the interest rate in effect on the Interest Determination Date.

(B) Screen Rate Determination for Floating Rate Notes

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 Period shall be the interest rate as determined by the Calculation Agent at or about the Relevant Time on the Interest Determination Date in respect of such Interest Period in accordance with the following, plus or minus (as indicated hereon) the Margin (if any):

- (x) Subject as provided below, the Rate of Interest shall be:
  - (I) the Reference Rate (where such Reference Rate on such Relevant Screen Page is a composite quotation or is customarily supplied by one entity); or
  - (II) the arithmetic mean of the Reference Rates of the persons whose Reference Rates appear on that Relevant Screen Page,

in each case appearing on such Relevant Screen Page at the Relevant Time on the Interest Determination Date;

- (y) if sub-paragraph (x)(I) or (x)(II) applies and neither the Relevant Screen Page is published nor another agency deemed acceptable by the Calculation Agent publishes the Reference Rate, or the Calculation Agent cannot make such determination for any other reason, or if sub-paragraph (x)(I) applies and no Reference Rate appears on the Relevant Screen Page at the Relevant Time on the Interest Determination Date, or if sub-paragraph (x)(II) applies and fewer than two Reference Rates appear on the Relevant Screen Page at the Relevant Time on the Interest Determination Date, subject as provided below, the Rate of Interest shall be the arithmetic mean (rounded, if necessary, to the nearest one thousandth of a percentage point (0.0005 being rounded upwards), if the Reference Rate is EURIBOR, or to the nearest one hundred thousandth of a percentage point (0.000005 being rounded upwards), if the Reference Rate is not EURIBOR) of the Reference Rates that each of the Reference Banks is quoting to leading banks in the Relevant Financial Centre at or about the Relevant Time on the Interest Determination Date, as determined by the Calculation Agent (it being understood that, should one or two of the Reference Banks fail to provide the relevant quotation the arithmetic mean shall be calculated as described above on the basis of the quotations supplied); and
- (z) if paragraph (y) above applies and the Calculation Agent determines that fewer than two Reference Banks are so quoting Reference Rates, subject as provided

below, the Rate of Interest shall be the arithmetic mean of the rates per annum (expressed as a percentage) that the Calculation Agent determines to be the rates (being the nearest equivalent to the benchmark) in respect of a Representative Amount of the Specified Currency that at least two out of five leading banks selected by the Calculation Agent in the Relevant Financial Centre are quoting at or about the Relevant Time on the date on which such banks would customarily quote such rates for a period commencing on the Effective Date for a period equivalent to the Specified Duration (I) to leading banks carrying on business in Europe, or (if the Calculation Agent determines that fewer than two of such banks are so quoting to leading banks in Europe) (II) to leading banks carrying on business in the Relevant Financial Centre; except that, if fewer than two of such banks are so quoting to leading banks in the Relevant Financial Centre, the Rate of Interest shall be the Rate of Interest determined on the previous Interest Determination Date (after readjustment for any difference between any Margin or Maximum or Minimum Rate of Interest applicable to the preceding Interest Period and to the relevant Interest Period).

(c) *Accrual of Interest*

Interest shall cease to accrue on each Note at the end of the day preceding the date on which they become due for redemption (even if payment is made on the next following Business Day in accordance with Condition 6(f) (*Non-Business Days*)) unless, upon due presentation, payment is improperly withheld or refused, in which event interest shall continue to accrue (as well after as before judgment) at the Rate of Interest in the manner provided in this Condition 4 until the payment of such principal has been effected, however, not beyond the fourteenth day after the date on which the necessary funds have been provided to the Fiscal Agent and notice thereof has been given by publication in accordance with Condition 13 (*Notices*).

(d) *Margin, Maximum/Minimum Rates of Interest and Redemption Amounts and Rounding*

- (i) If any Margin is specified hereon (either (x) generally, or (y) in relation to one or more Interest Periods), an adjustment shall be made to all Rates of Interest, in the case of (x), or the Rates of Interest for the specified Interest Periods, in the case of (y), calculated in accordance with (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), (x) all percentages resulting from such calculations shall be rounded, if necessary, to the nearest one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point (with halves being rounded up), (y) all figures shall be rounded to seven significant figures (with halves being rounded up) and (z) all currency amounts that fall due and payable shall be rounded to the nearest unit of such currency (with halves 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 or, as appropriate, countries of such currency.

(e) *Calculations*

The amount of interest payable in respect of any Note for any period shall be calculated by multiplying the product of the Rate of Interest and the calculation amount as specified in the applicable Final Terms (the "**Calculation Amount**") by the Day Count Fraction and rounding the resultant figure to the nearest sub-unit of the Specified Currency (half a sub-unit being rounded upwards) and multiplying such rounded figure by a fraction equal to the Specified Denomination of such Note divided by the Calculation Amount, unless an Interest Amount (or a formula for its calculation) is specified in respect of such period, in which case the amount of interest payable in respect of such Note for such period shall equal such Interest Amount (or be calculated in accordance with such formula). Where any Interest Period comprises two or more Interest Periods, the amount of interest payable in respect of such Specified Interest Period will be the sum of the amounts of interest payable in respect of each of those Interest Periods. For this

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

(f) *Determination and Publication of Rates of Interest, Interest Amounts, Final Redemption Amounts, Early Redemption Amounts and Optional Redemption Amounts*

As soon as practicable after the relevant 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, it shall determine such rate and calculate the Interest Amounts in respect of each Specified Denomination of the Notes for the relevant Interest Period, calculate the Final Redemption Amount, Early Redemption Amount or Optional 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 Period and the relevant Interest Payment Date and, if required to be calculated, the Final Redemption Amount, Early Redemption Amount or any Optional Redemption Amount to be notified to the Fiscal Agent, the Issuer, each of the Paying Agents, the Noteholders, the Clearing System, any other Calculation Agent appointed in respect of the Notes that is to make a further calculation upon receipt of such information without delay but in no event later than the first day of the relevant Interest Period, if determined prior to such time. The Fiscal Agent shall without delay publish the interest rate, the interest amounts payable in respect of each Note and, the case being, each Coupon and the respective Interest Payment Date in accordance with Condition 13 (*Notices*). In the event of an extension or a shortening of the Interest Period, the amount of interest payable and the Interest Payment Date may be subsequently amended, or appropriate alternative arrangements may be made by way of adjustment by the Calculation Agent without a publication being necessary with regard thereto. If the Notes become due and payable under Condition 9 (*Events of Default*), 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. 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 be made in consultation with the Issuer and shall (in the absence of manifest error) be final and binding upon all parties.

(g) *Calculation Agent and Reference Banks*

The Issuer will procure that there shall at all times be at least four Reference Banks (or such other number as may be required) with offices in the Relevant Financial Centre and a Calculation Agent if provision is made for them in the Conditions applicable to this Note and for so long as it is outstanding. The Issuer reserves the right at any time to terminate the appointment of the Calculation Agent or of any Reference Bank. In the event of such termination or if any Reference Bank (acting through its relevant office) is unable or unwilling to continue to act as a Reference Bank, then the Issuer will appoint another Reference Bank with an office in the Relevant Financial Centre to act as such in its place. In the event of such termination or 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 any Interest Period or to calculate any Interest Amount, Final Redemption Amount, Early Redemption Amount or Optional Redemption Amount, as the case may be, or to comply with any other requirement, the Issuer shall appoint an appropriate office of another leading bank to act as Calculation Agent. The Calculation Agent may not resign its duties without a successor having been appointed as aforesaid.

The appointment of another Reference Bank or Calculation Agent shall be published without delay by the Issuer in accordance with Condition 13 (*Notices*).

(h) *Business Day Convention*

If any date which is specified to be subject to adjustment in accordance with a Business Day Convention would otherwise fall on a day which 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 which 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 which is a Business Day, (C) the Modified Following Business Day Convention, such date shall be postponed to the next day which is a Business Day unless it would thereby fall into the next

calendar month, in which event such 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.

(i) *Definitions*

As used in these Conditions, unless the context otherwise requires, the following defined terms shall have the meanings set out below:

**"Business Day"** means:

- (i) in the case of a currency other than euro, 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 TARGET2 is operating (a TARGET Business Day); and/or
- (iii) in the case of Renminbi, a day on which commercial banks in Hong Kong settle Renminbi payments.

**"CGN"** means Classic Global Note.

**"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, the **"Calculation Period"**), such day count fraction as may be specified in these Conditions or the relevant Final Terms and:

- (i) if "Actual/365 or Actual/Actual-ISDA" is so specified, means 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 (i) the actual number of days in that portion of the Calculation Period falling in a leap year divided by 366 and (ii) 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 so specified, means the actual number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 365;
- (iii) if "Actual/360" is so specified, means the actual number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 360;
- (iv) if "30/360 (2000 ISDA Definitions)" is so specified, means the number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 360 (the number of days to be calculated on the basis of a year of 360 days with 12 30-day months (unless (a) the last day of the Calculation Period is the 31st day of a month but the first day of the Calculation Period is a day other than the 30th or 31st day of a month, in which case the month that includes that last day shall not be considered to be shortened to a 30-day month, or (b) the last day of the Calculation Period is the last day of the month of February, in which case the month of February shall not be considered to be lengthened to a 30-day month));
- (v) if "30/360 (2006 ISDA Definitions)" is so specified, means the number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 360, calculated on a formula basis as follows:

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

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 (2000 ISDA Definitions)" or "Eurobond Basis (2000 ISDA Definitions)" is so specified, means the number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 360 (the number of days to be calculated on the basis of a year of 360 days with 12 30-day months, without regard to the date of the first day or last day of the Calculation Period unless, in the case of the final Calculation Period, the date of final maturity is the last day of the month of February, in which case the month of February shall not be considered to be lengthened to a 30-day month);
- (vii) if "30E/360 (2006 ISDA Definitions)" or "Eurobond Basis (2006 ISDA Definitions)" is so specified, means the number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 360, calculated on a formula basis as follows:

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

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;

- (viii) if "30E/360 (ISDA)" is so specified, means the number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 360, calculated on a formula basis as follows:

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

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 (i) that day is the last day of February or (ii) 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 (i) that day is the last day of February but not the Maturity Date or (ii) such number would be 31, in which case D2 will be 30,

- (ix) if "Actual/Actual-ICMA" is so specified, means
- (a) where the Calculation Period is equal to or shorter than the Regular Period during which it falls, the actual number of days in the Calculation Period divided by the product of (x) the actual number of days in such Regular Period and (y) the number of Regular Periods in any year; and
  - (b) where the Calculation Period is longer than one Regular Period, the sum of:
    - (a) the actual number of days in such Calculation Period falling in the Regular Period in which it begins divided by the product of (1) the actual number of days in such Regular Period and (2) the number of Regular Periods in any year; and
    - (b) the actual number of days in such Calculation Period falling in the next Regular Period divided by the product of (1) the actual number of days in such Regular Period and (2) the number of Regular Periods in any year;

**"Effective Date"** means, with respect to any Floating Rate to be determined on an Interest Determination Date, the date specified as such hereon or, if none is so specified, the first day of the Interest Period to which such Interest Determination Date relates.

**"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 by the Treaty on the European Union.

**"Global Note"** means a CGN or a NGN;.

**"Interest Amount"** means the amount of interest payable and, in the case of Fixed Rate Notes, means the Fixed Coupon Amount or Broken Amount if specified thereon, as the case may be.

**"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 an Interest Period, the date specified as such hereon or, if none is so specified, (i) the first day of such Interest Period if the Specified Currency is Sterling or (ii) the day falling two Business Days in London for the Specified Currency prior to the first day of such Interest Period if the Specified Currency is neither Sterling nor euro or (iii) the day falling two TARGET Business Days prior to the first day of such Interest Period if the Specified Currency is euro.

**"Interest Payment Date"** means the First Interest Payment Date and any date or dates specified as such in, or determined in accordance with the provisions of, the relevant Final Terms and, if a Business Day Convention is specified in the relevant Final Terms:

- (a) as the same may be adjusted in accordance with the relevant Business Day Convention; or
- (b) if the Business Day Convention is the Floating Rate Business Day Convention and an interval of a number of calendar months is specified in the relevant Final Terms as being the Specified Period, each of such dates as may occur in accordance with the Floating Rate Business Day Convention at such Specified Period of calendar months following the Interest Commencement Date (in the case of the first Interest Payment Date) or the previous Interest Payment Date (in any other case);

**"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.

**"ISDA Definitions"** means the 2000 ISDA Definitions (the "**2000 ISDA Definitions**") or, if so specified in the Final Terms, the 2006 ISDA Definitions (the "**2006 ISDA Definitions**") (each as amended and updated as at the date of issue of the first Tranche of the Notes of the relevant Series (as specified in the relevant Final Terms) as published by the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc.).

**"NGN"** means New Global Note.

**"Relevant Screen Page"** means such page, section, caption, column or other part of a particular information service (including, but not limited to, Reuters Markets 3000 (Reuters), Bloomberg and Bridge) as may be specified for the purpose of providing a Reference Rate, or, if this page, section, caption, column or other part of a particular information service, or its provider, is replaced or discontinued, such other page, section, caption, column or other part as selected by the Calculation Agent.

**"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 at least four major banks selected by the Calculation Agent (which banks, if the Reference Rate is EURIBOR, will be, at the time of such selection, member banks of the EURIBOR panel) in the interbank market (or, if appropriate, money, swap or over-the-counter index options market) that are most closely connected with the benchmark (which, if EURIBOR is the relevant benchmark, shall be the Euro-zone).

**"Regular Period"** means:

(a) in the case of Notes where interest is scheduled to be paid only by means of regular payments, each period from and including the Interest Commencement Date to but excluding the first Interest Payment Date and each successive period from and including one Interest Payment Date to but excluding the next Interest Payment Date;

(b) in the case of Notes where, apart from the first Interest Period, interest is scheduled to be paid only by means of regular payments, each period from and including a Regular Date falling in any year to but excluding the next Regular Date, where "**Regular Date**" means the day and month (but not the year) on which any Interest Payment Date falls; and

(c) in the case of Notes where, apart from one Interest Period other than the first Interest Period, interest is scheduled to be paid only by means of regular payments, each period from and including a Regular Date falling in any year to but excluding the next Regular Date, where "**Regular Date**" means the day and month (but not the year) on which any Interest Payment Date falls other than the Interest Payment Date falling at the end of the irregular Interest Period;

**"Relevant Financial Centre"** means, with respect to any Floating Rate to be determined in accordance with a Screen Rate Determination on an Interest Determination Date, the financial centre as may be specified as such hereon or, if none is so specified, the financial centre with which the relevant benchmark is most closely connected (which, in the case of EURIBOR, shall be the Euro-zone) or, if none is so connected, London.

**"Reference Rate"** means the benchmark for a Representative Amount of the Specified Currency for a period (if applicable or appropriate to the benchmark) equal to the Specified Duration commencing on the Effective Date.

**"Relevant Time"** means, with respect to any Interest Determination Date, the local time in the Relevant Financial Centre specified on this Note or, if none is specified, the local time in the Relevant Financial Centre at which it is customary to determine bid and offered rates in respect of deposits in the Specified Currency in the interbank market in the Relevant Financial Centre and, for this purpose, local time means, with respect to the Euro-zone as a Relevant Financial Centre, Central European Time.



**"Representative Amount"** means, with respect to any Floating Rate to be determined in accordance with a Screen Rate Determination on an Interest Determination Date, the amount specified as such hereon or, if none is specified, an amount that is representative for a single transaction in the relevant market at the time.

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

**"Specified Duration"** means, with respect to any Floating Rate to be determined in accordance with a Screen Rate Determination on an Interest Determination Date, the duration specified hereon or, if none is specified, a period of time equal to the relative Interest Period, ignoring any adjustment pursuant to Condition 4(h).

**"TARGET2"** means the Trans-European Automated Real-Time Gross Settlement Express Transfer payment system.

## 5. **Redemption, Purchase and Options**

### (a) *Redemption, Final Redemption and Redenomination*

- (i) 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 relevant Issuer in the United Kingdom or whose issue otherwise constitutes a contravention of section 19 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 of England and Wales will have a minimum redemption amount of £100,000 (or its equivalent in other currencies).
- (ii) Unless previously redeemed, purchased and cancelled as provided below or its maturity is extended pursuant to any Issuer's or Noteholder's option in accordance with Condition 5(d) (*Redemption at the Option of the Issuer and Exercise of Issuer's Options*) or 5(e) (*Redemption at the Option of Noteholders and Exercise of Noteholders' Options*), each Note shall be finally redeemed on the Maturity Date specified hereon at its Final Redemption Amount (specified in the applicable Final Terms).
- (iii) If the country of the Specified Currency has become a participating Member State in the Economic and Monetary Union, the Issuer may, if so specified in the applicable Final Terms, without the consent of the Noteholders, by giving notice (the "**Redenomination Notice**") in accordance with this Condition 5(a)(iii), with effect from a date to be determined by it (the "**Redenomination Date**"), re-denominate the Notes in euro. Simultaneously the Issuer may adjust the provisions regarding the accrual basis in respect of interest payments for less than a year and regarding the business day definition to existing or anticipated market practice. Notwithstanding Condition 4, the Rate of Interest that shall apply to the Notes after the redenomination shall be the interest rate which applied to the Notes prior to the redenomination (provided that all references to the Specified Currency shall be replaced by references to the euro), unless the Issuer elects, at the time of the redenomination, with the consent of the Fiscal Agent, to apply to the Notes the interest rate which is consistent with the then existing or anticipated market practice for euro-denominated floating rate notes issued in the international capital market and held in international clearing systems.

The redenomination and any additional measures which may be taken pursuant to this Condition 5(a)(iii) shall, to the extent not governed by mandatory laws or regulations, occur by way of amendment of the Conditions (the "**Amendment**"), as the Issuer may determine in its reasonable discretion, taking into account the interests of the Noteholders as a class as well as any existing or anticipated market practice. Redenomination shall be made by applying the conversion rate which has been irrevocably fixed pursuant to the Treaty establishing the European Community, as amended by the Treaty on the European Union and as may be further amended or superseded.

The Redenomination Notice shall be given by publication in accordance with Condition 13 (*Notices*) at least one month prior to the Redenomination Date. It shall:

- (A) identify the Notes the subject of the Redenomination Notice;

- (B) specify the Redenomination Date; and
- (C) describe the Amendment and specify the wording of the amended or additional provisions.

The Issuer shall not be obliged to exchange the Global Note representing the Notes for a new Global Note denominated in euro.

- (iv) To the extent that applicable provisions of law allow the Issuer to re-denominate the Notes in euro and to take additional measures, the Issuer may exercise the rights provided by law instead of or in addition to the rights set out in Conditions 5(a)(i) to (iii).

(b) *Early Redemption*

The Early Redemption Amount payable in respect of any Note, upon redemption of such Note pursuant to Condition 5(c) (*Redemption for Taxation Reasons*) or upon it becoming due and payable as provided in Condition 9 (*Events of Default*), shall be its principal amount.

(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 (in the case of Floating Rate Notes) or at any time (in the case of Notes other than Floating Rate Notes), 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 5(b) (*Early Redemption*) above) (together with interest accrued to the date fixed for redemption), if (i) the Issuer has or will become obliged to pay additional amounts as provided or referred to in Condition 7 (*Taxation*) as a result of any change in, or amendment to, the laws or regulations of The Netherlands or any political subdivision or 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 Issue Date, and (ii) such obligation cannot be avoided by the Issuer taking reasonable measures available to it, provided that no such notice of redemption shall be given earlier than (where the Notes may be redeemed at any time) 90 days prior to the earliest date on which the Issuer would be obliged to pay such additional amounts were a payment in respect of the Notes then due or (where the Notes may be redeemed only on an Interest Payment Date) 60 days prior to the Interest Payment Date occurring immediately before the earliest date on which the Issuer would be obliged to pay such additional amounts were a payment in respect of the Notes then due. Any such notice shall be given by publication in accordance with Condition 13 (*Notices*). It must specify the date fixed for redemption and must set forth a statement in summary form of the facts constituting the basis for the right of the Issuer so to redeem.

(d) *Redemption at the Option of the Issuer and Exercise of Issuer's Options*

(i) *Issuer Call Option*

If Call Option is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the Issuer may, on giving not less than 30 nor more than 90 days' irrevocable notice to the Noteholders (or such other notice period as may be specified in the Final Terms) redeem, or exercise any Issuer's option (as may be described hereon) in relation to all, but not less than all, Notes of the same issue of the Notes on any Optional Redemption Date. Any such redemption of Notes shall be at their Optional Redemption Amount together with interest accrued to the date fixed for redemption.

All Notes in respect of which any such notice is given shall be redeemed, or the Issuer's option shall be exercised, on the date specified in such notice in accordance with this Condition.

(ii) *Issuer Refinancing Call*

If Issuer Refinancing Call is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the Issuer may, having given:

- (A) not less than 30 nor more than 60 days' notice or such other period of notice as is specified in the applicable Final Terms to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 13 (*Notices*); and
- (B) not less than 15 days before the giving of the notice referred to in (A), notice to the Fiscal Agent,

(both of which notices shall be irrevocable), at any time, or from time to time, on or after the date specified in the applicable Final Terms (being three months prior to the Maturity Date of the Notes) redeem all, but not less than all, the Notes then outstanding on such redemption date (the "**Refinancing Repurchase Date**") at their nominal amount together, if appropriate, with interest accrued to (but excluding) the Refinancing Repurchase Date.

(iii) Issuer Make-whole Redemption Call

If the Issuer Make-whole Redemption Call is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the Issuer may, having given:

- (A) not less than 30 nor more than 60 days' notice or such other period of notice as is specified in the applicable Final Terms to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 13 (*Notices*); and
- (B) not less than 15 days before the giving of the notice referred to in (A) above, notice to the Fiscal Agent, the Quotation Agent and such other parties as may be specified in the applicable Final Terms,

(both of which notices shall be irrevocable), on the dates specified in the applicable Final Terms redeem all, but not less than all, the Notes then outstanding on such redemption date (each such date, a "**Make-whole Redemption Date**") at their relevant Make-whole Redemption Amount.

"**Make-whole Redemption Amount**" means the sum of:

- (A) the greater of (x) the Final Redemption Amount of the Notes so redeemed and (y) the sum of the then present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest on such Notes (excluding any interest accruing on the Notes to, but excluding, the relevant Make-whole Redemption Date) discounted to the relevant Make-whole Redemption Date on either an annual, a semi-annual or a quarterly basis (as specified in the applicable Final Terms) at the Make-whole Redemption Rate plus a Make-whole Redemption Margin; and
- (B) any interest accrued but not paid on the Notes to, but excluding, the Make-whole Redemption Date,

as determined by the Quotation Agent and as notified on the Calculation Date by the Quotation Agent to the Issuer, Fiscal Agent and such other parties as may be specified in the applicable Final Terms.

"**Calculation Date**" means the third Business Day (as defined in Condition 4 above) prior to the Make-whole Redemption Date.

"**Make-whole Redemption Margin**" means the margin specified as such in the applicable Final Terms.

"**Make-whole Redemption Rate**" means the average of the number of quotations given by the Reference Dealers of the mid-market yield to maturity of the Reference Security on the third Business Day preceding the Make-whole Redemption Date at 11:00 a.m. (Central European Time ("**CET**")).

"**Quotation Agent**" means any Dealer or any other international credit institution or financial services institution appointed by the Issuer for the purpose of determining the Make-whole Redemption Amount, in each case as such Quotation Agent is identified in the applicable Final Terms.

"**Reference Dealers**" means each of the banks, as specified in the applicable Final Terms, selected by the Quotation Agent, which are primary European government security dealers, and their respective successors, or market makers in pricing corporate bond issues.

"**Reference Screen Rate**" means the screen rate specified as such in the applicable Final Terms.

"**Reference Security**" means the security specified as such in the applicable Final Terms. If a Reference Security is no longer outstanding, a Similar Security will be chosen by the Quotation Agent at 11:00 a.m. (CET) on the Calculation Date, quoted in writing by the Quotation Agent to the Issuer and published in accordance with Condition 13 (*Notices*).

**"Similar Security"** means a reference bond or reference bonds issued by the same issuer as the Reference Security having actual or interpolated maturity comparable with the remaining term of the Notes that would be utilised, at the time of selection and in accordance with customary financial practice, in pricing new issues of corporate debt securities of comparable maturity to the remaining term of the Notes.

The determination of any rate or amount, the obtaining of each quotation and the making of each determination or calculation by the Quotation Agent shall (in the absence of manifest error) be final and binding upon all parties.

(e) *Redemption at the Option of Noteholders and Exercise of Noteholders' Options*

- (i) In addition to the right to call for redemption in accordance with Condition 9 (*Events of Default*), the Issuer shall, if Put Option is specified hereon, at the option of the holder of any such Note, upon the holder of such Note giving not less than 30 nor more than 90 days' notice to the Fiscal Agent (or such other notice period as may be specified in the Final Terms) redeem such Note on the Optional Redemption Date(s) at its Optional Redemption Amount together with (or, where purchased, together with an amount equal to) accrued interest to but excluding the Optional Redemption Date (the "**Optional Redemption Amount**").

To exercise such option or any other Noteholders' option that may be set out hereon the holder must deposit (in the case of Bearer Notes) such Note (together with all unmatured Coupons and unexchanged Talons) with any Paying Agent, together with a duly completed option exercise notice (Exercise Notice) in the form obtainable from any Paying Agent within the notice period. No Note or Certificate so deposited and option exercised may be withdrawn (except as provided in the Fiscal Agency Agreement) without the prior consent of the Issuer. Until payment of all amounts which become payable in respect of such Notes and Coupons, the relevant Paying Agent shall keep such Notes, Coupons and Talons in custody for the Noteholders.

- (ii) In addition to the right to call for redemption in accordance with Condition 9 (*Events of Default*), if it is specified herein that the Put Option is only exercisable, if the Notes are rated with the agreement of the Issuer, on the occurrence of a Change of Control and if there occurs a Change of Control and within the Change of Control Period a Rating Downgrade in respect of that Change of Control occurs or, if the Notes are not rated, a Negative Rating Event in respect of that Change of Control occurs within the Change of Control Period (in either case 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 to redeem the Notes under Condition 5(c) (*Redemption for Taxation Reasons*), to require the Issuer to redeem or, at the Issuer's option, purchase (or procures the purchase of) that Note on the Optional Redemption Date (as defined below) at its principal amount together with (or, where purchased, together with an amount equal to) accrued interest to but excluding the Optional Redemption Date.

**"Rating Agency"** means Moody's Investors Service Ltd. or Standard & Poor's Credit Market Services Europe Limited and their respective successors or any other rating agency of equivalent international standing specified from time to time by the Issuer.

A "**Rating Downgrade**" shall be deemed to have occurred in respect of a Change of Control if within the Change of Control Period any rating previously assigned to the Issuer or any Notes by any Rating Agency is (x) withdrawn or (y) changed from an investment grade rating (BBB-/Baa3, or their respective equivalents for the time being, or better) to a non-investment grade rating (BB+/Ba1, or their respective equivalents for the time being, or worse) or (z) (if the rating assigned to the Notes by any Rating Agency shall be below an investment grade rating (as described above)) lowered one full rating category (from BB+ to BB or such similar lower or equivalent rating), provided that a Rating Downgrade otherwise arising by virtue of a particular change in rating shall be deemed not to have occurred in respect of a particular Change of Control if the Rating Agency making the change in rating to which this definition would otherwise apply does not publicly announce or publicly confirm that the reduction was the result, in whole or part, of any event or circumstance comprised in or arising as a result of, or in respect of, the applicable Change of Control.

A "**Change of Control**" shall be deemed to have occurred at each time (whether or not approved by the Management Board or Supervisory Board of the Issuer) that any person or persons

("Relevant Person(s)") acting in concert or any person or persons acting on behalf of any such Relevant Person(s), at any time directly or indirectly or acquire(s) or come(s) to own (A) more than 50 per cent. of the issued ordinary share capital of the Issuer or (B) such number of the shares in the capital of the Issuer carrying more than 50 per cent. of the voting rights normally exercisable at a general meeting of shareholders of the Issuer, provided that in the case of (B) above a Change of Control shall not be deemed to have occurred if such number of shares are acquired or come to be owned by Stichting Preferente Aandelen DSM.

"Change of Control Period" means the period commencing on the earlier of (a) the date of the relevant Change of Control and (b) the date of the earliest Relevant Potential Change of Control Announcement (if any) and ending 180 days after the public announcement of the Change of Control having occurred.

A "Negative Rating Event" shall be deemed to have occurred if (i) the Issuer does not within the Change of Control Period seek, and thereafter use all reasonable endeavours to obtain from a Rating Agency, a rating or (ii) if it does not seek and use such endeavours, it has not at the expiry of the Change of Control Period and as a result of such Change of Control obtained an Investment Grade Rating, provided that the Rating Agency publicly announces or publicly confirms in writing that its declining to assign an Investment Grade Rating was the result of the applicable Change of Control.

"Relevant Potential Change of Control Announcement" means any formal public announcement or statement by or on behalf of the Issuer or any actual or potential bidder or any advisor thereto relating to any potential Change of Control where, within 180 days of the date of such announcement or statement, a Change of Control occurs.

Promptly upon the Issuer becoming aware that a Put Event has occurred, the Issuer shall give notice (a "Put Event Notice") to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 13 (*Notices*) specifying the nature of the Put Event and the circumstances giving rise to it and the procedure for exercising the option contained in this Condition 5(e)(ii).

To exercise the option to require redemption or, as the case may be, purchase of a Note under this Condition 5(e)(ii), the holder of that Note must deliver such Note, on any Business Day (as defined in Condition 4(i) (*Definitions*)) in the city of the specified office of the relevant Paying Agent falling within the period (the "Put Period") of 45 days after a Put Event Notice is given, to any Paying Agent, as well as 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 (a "Put Option Notice") and in which the holder may specify a bank account complying with the requirements of this Condition 5(e)(ii) to which payment is to be made under this Condition 5(e)(ii).

In case the Notes issued are Definitive Notes, the Put Option Notice shall be accompanied by the relevant Notes, and also by all Coupons appertaining thereto maturing after the Optional Redemption Date, failing which an amount will be deducted from the payment to be made by the Issuer on redemption of the Notes corresponding to the aggregate amount payable in respect of such missing Coupons. Until payment of all amounts which become payable in respect of such Notes and Coupons, the relevant Paying Agent shall keep such Notes and Coupons in custody for the Noteholders.

The "Optional Redemption Date" is the seventh day after the last day of the Put Period.

The Paying Agent to which such Note and Put Notice are delivered will issue to the Noteholder concerned a non-transferable receipt (a "Put Option Receipt") in respect of the Note so delivered. The Issuer shall redeem or at the option of the Issuer purchase (or procure the purchase of) the Notes in respect of which Put Option Receipts have been issued on the Optional Redemption Date, unless previously redeemed and purchased. Payment in respect of any Note so delivered will be made, if the holder duly specified a euro bank account in the Put Option Notice to which payment is to be made, on the Optional Redemption Date by transfer to that bank account and in every other case on or after the Optional Redemption Date, in each case against presentation and surrender or (as the case may be) endorsement of such Put Option Receipt at the specified office of any Paying Agent in accordance with the provisions of this Condition 5(e)(ii).

(f) *Purchases*

The Issuer and any of its subsidiaries may at any time purchase Notes (provided that all unmatured Coupons and unexchanged Talons relating thereto are attached thereto or surrendered therewith) in the open market or otherwise at any price. Notes purchased by or on behalf of the Issuer may, at its option, be held, re-issued, resold or surrendered to any Paying Agent for cancellation.

(g) *Cancellation*

All Notes purchased by or on behalf of the Issuer or any of its subsidiaries may (and if not in bearer form, shall) be surrendered for cancellation by surrendering each such Note together with all unmatured Coupons and all unexchanged Talons to the Fiscal Agent and, 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 in respect of any such Notes shall be discharged.

6. **Payments and Agents**

(a) *Bearer Notes*

Payments of principal and interest in respect of Bearer Notes will, subject as mentioned below, be made against presentation and surrender of the relevant Notes (in the case of all other payments of principal and, in the case of interest, as specified in Condition 6(e) (*Unmatured Coupons and Unexchanged Talons*)) or Coupons (in the case of interest, save as specified in Condition 6(e) (*Unmatured Coupons and Unexchanged Talons*)), as the case may be, at the specified office of any Paying Agent outside the United States and its possessions (the United States) by a payment in cash in the relevant currency, or, at the option of the holder, by transfer to an account denominated in such currency with, a Bank. "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 TARGET2. No payments will be made by a transfer of funds into an account within the United States or by cheque mailed to an address in the United States.

(b) *Payments in the United States*

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if any Bearer Notes are denominated in U.S. dollars, payments of interest in respect thereof may be made at the specified office of any Paying Agent in New York City in the same manner as specified in Condition 6(a) (*Bearer Notes*) 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 amount 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.

(c) *Payments Subject to Fiscal Laws*

All payments are subject in all cases to any applicable fiscal or other laws, regulations and directives in the place of payment, but without prejudice to the provisions of Condition 7 (*Taxation*). No commission or expenses shall be charged to the Noteholders or Couponholders in respect of such payments.

(d) *Appointment of Agents*

The Fiscal Agent and the Paying Agents and the Calculation Agent initially appointed by the Issuer and their respective specified offices are listed below. The Fiscal Agent and the Paying Agents and the Calculation Agent act solely as agents of the Issuer and do not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any Noteholder or Couponholder. The Issuer reserves the right at any time to terminate the appointment of the Fiscal Agent as well as of individual Paying Agents and to appoint banks of international standing as Fiscal Agent or Paying Agents, provided that it will at all times maintain (i) a Fiscal Agent, subject to clause 9.1.1 of the Fiscal Agency Agreement and (ii) 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 European Council Directive 2003/48/EC. Such appointment or termination shall be

published without undue delay in accordance with Condition 13 (*Notices*), or, should this not be possible, be published in another way.

In addition, the Issuer 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 6(b) (*Payments in the United States*).

Notice of any such change or any change of any specified office will promptly be given to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 13 (*Notices*).

(e) *Unmatured Coupons and Unexchanged Talons*

- (i) Unless the Notes provide that the relative Coupons are to become void upon the due date for redemption of those Notes, 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 which the sum of principal so paid bears to the total principal due) will be deducted from the Final Redemption Amount, Early Redemption Amount or Optional Redemption Amount, as the case may be, due for payment. Any amount so deducted will 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 8 (*Prescription*)).
- (ii) 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. Interest accrued on a Note which only bears interest after its Maturity Date from its Maturity Date shall be payable on redemption of such Note against presentation thereof.

(f) *Non-Business Days*

If any date for payment in respect of any Note or Coupon is not a Payment Day, the holder shall not be entitled to payment until the next following Payment Day nor to any interest or other sum in respect of such postponed payment. For these purposes, "**Payment Day**" means:

- (A) if the currency of payment is euro, any day which is:
  - (i) a day on which banks in the relevant place of presentation are open for presentation and payment of bearer debt securities and for dealings in foreign currencies; and
  - (ii) in the case of payment by transfer to an account, a TARGET Settlement Day and a day on which dealings in foreign currencies may be carried on in each (if any) Additional Financial Centre; or
- (B) if the currency of payment is not euro, any day which is:
  - (i) a day on which banks in the relevant place of presentation are open for presentation and payment of bearer debt securities and for dealings in foreign currencies; and
  - (ii) in the case of payment by transfer to an account, a day on which dealings in foreign currencies may be carried on in the principal financial centre of the currency of payment and in each (if any) Additional Financial Centre.

(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 Fiscal Agent in exchange for a further Coupon sheet (and if necessary another Talon for a further Coupon sheet) (but excluding any Coupons which may have become void pursuant to Condition 8 (*Prescription*)).

(h) *Payment of US Dollar Equivalent*

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if by reason of Inconvertibility, Non-transferability or Illiquidity, the Issuer is not able to satisfy payments of principal or interest (in whole or in part) in respect of the Notes when due in CNY in Hong Kong, the Issuer may, on giving not less than five or more than 30 calendar days' irrevocable notice to the Noteholders prior to the due date for payment, settle any such payment (in whole or in part) in U.S. dollars on the due date at the US Dollar Equivalent of any such CNY denominated amount. In case the Issuer needs to satisfy payments of principal or interest in part in CNY and in part in U.S. dollars, it shall to the extent possible make payment to each Noteholder in the same pro rata amount of CNY and U.S. dollar in accordance with the rules of Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg, as the case may be, from time to time.

For the purposes of these Conditions, "**US Dollar Equivalent**" means the CNY amount converted into U.S. dollars using the Spot Rate for the relevant Determination Date.

For this purpose:

"**CNY**" means Renminbi yuan, the lawful currency of the PRC;

"**CNY Dealer**" means an independent foreign exchange dealer of international repute active in the CNY exchange market in Hong Kong;

"**Determination 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 in New York City;

"**Determination Date**" means the day which is two Determination Business Days before the due date for any payment of the relevant amount under these Conditions;

"**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;

"**Hong Kong**" means the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the PRC;

"**Illiquidity**" means where the general CNY exchange market in Hong Kong becomes illiquid and, as a result of which, the Issuer cannot obtain sufficient CNY in order to satisfy its obligation to pay interest and principal (in whole or in part) in respect of the Notes as determined by the Issuer in good faith and in a commercially reasonable manner following consultation (if practicable) with two CNY Dealers;

"**Inconvertibility**" means the occurrence of any event that makes it impossible for the Issuer to convert any amount due in respect of the Notes in the general CNY exchange market in Hong Kong, other than where such impossibility is due solely to the failure of the Issuer to comply with any law, rule or regulation enacted by any Governmental Authority (unless such law, rule or regulation is enacted after 16 September 2016 and it is impossible for the Issuer, due to an event beyond its control, to comply with such law, rule or regulation);

"**Non-transferability**" means the occurrence of any event that makes it impossible for the Issuer to transfer CNY between accounts inside Hong Kong or from an account inside Hong Kong to an account outside Hong Kong and outside the PRC or from an account outside Hong Kong and outside the PRC to an account inside Hong Kong, other than where such impossibility is due solely to the failure of the Issuer to comply with any law, rule or regulation enacted by any governmental authority (unless such law, rule or regulation is enacted after 16 September 2016 and it is impossible for the Issuer, due to an event beyond its control, to comply with such law, rule or regulation);

"**PRC**" means the People's Republic of China which, for the purpose of these Conditions, shall exclude Hong Kong, the Macau Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China and Taiwan; and

"**Spot Rate**" means the spot CNY/U.S. dollar exchange rate for the purchase of U.S. dollars with CNY in the over-the-counter CNY exchange market in Hong Kong for settlement in two Determination Business Days, as determined by the Calculation Agent at or around 11 a.m. (Hong Kong time) on the



Determination Date, on a deliverable basis by reference to Reuters Screen Page TRADCNY3, or if no such rate is available, on a non-deliverable basis by reference to Reuters Screen Page TRADNDF. If neither rate is available, the Calculation Agent will determine the Spot Rate at or around 11 a.m. (Hong Kong time) on the Determination Date as the most recently available CNY/U.S. dollar official fixing rate for settlement in two Determination Business Days reported by The State Administration of Foreign Exchange of the PRC, which is reported on the Reuters Screen Page CNY=SAEC. Reference to a page on the Reuters Screen means the display page so designated on the Reuter Monitor Money Rates Service (or any successor service) or such other page as may replace that page for the purpose of displaying a comparable currency exchange rate.

All notifications, opinions, determinations, certificates, calculations, quotations and decisions given, expressed, made or obtained for the purposes of the provisions of this Condition 6(h) by the Calculation Agent, will (in the absence of wilful default, bad faith or manifest error) be binding on the Issuer, the Fiscal Agent, the Paying Agents(s) and all Noteholders.

## 7. Taxation

All payments of principal and interest in respect of the Notes, Coupons and Talons by the Issuer will be made without withholding or deduction for or on account of any present or future taxes or duties, assessments or governmental charges of whatever nature imposed or levied by or on behalf of The Netherlands or any political subdivision or any authority thereof or therein having power to tax, unless such withholding or deduction is required by law. In such event, the Issuer will, depending on which provision is specified in the applicable Final Terms, either:

- (a) make the required withholding or deduction of such taxes, duties, assessments or governmental charges for the account of the holders of the Notes, Coupons or Talons, as the case may be, and shall not pay any additional amounts to the holders of the Notes, Coupons or Talons; or
- (b) pay such additional amounts as shall be necessary in order that the net amounts received by the holders of the Notes, Coupons or Talons after such withholding or deduction shall equal the respective amounts of principal and interest which would otherwise have been receivable in respect of the Notes, Coupons or Talons, as the case may be, in the absence of such withholding or deduction; except that no such additional amounts shall be payable with respect to any Note, Coupon or Talon:
  - (i) presented for payment by or on behalf of a Noteholder, Couponholder or Talonholder who is liable for such taxes or duties in respect of such Note, Coupon or Talon by reason of his having some personal or business connection with The Netherlands other than the mere holding of such Note, Coupon or Talon or the receipt of principal or interest in respect thereof; or
  - (ii) presented for payment by or on behalf of a Noteholder, Couponholder or Talonholder who would not be liable or subject to the withholding or deduction by making a declaration of non-residence or other similar claim for exemption to the relevant tax authority; or
  - (iii) presented for payment by or on behalf of a Noteholder, Couponholder or Talonholder who would have been able to avoid such withholding or deduction by presenting the relevant Note, Coupon or Talon to another Paying Agent in a Member State of the European Union; or
  - (iv) presented for payment more than 30 days after the Relevant Date (as defined below) except to the extent that the holder thereof would have been entitled to an additional amount on presenting the same for payment on such thirtieth day assuming that day to have been a Payment Day (as defined in Condition 6 (*Payments and Agents*)); or
  - (v) 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 law implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to such Directive, or similar measures adopted by a number of third countries and territories.

No such additional amounts shall, however, be payable on account of any taxes, duties, assessments or governmental charges with respect to any Note, Coupon, Talon, which are payable otherwise than by deduction or withholding from payments of principal or interest.

As used herein, the "**Relevant Date**" means the date on which such payment first becomes due, except that, if the full amount of the moneys payable has not been duly received by the Fiscal Agent on or prior to such due date, it means the date on which, the full amount of such moneys having been so received, notice to that effect is duly given to the Noteholders.

If the Issuer becomes subject at any time to any taxing jurisdiction other than or in addition to The Netherlands references herein to The Netherlands shall be read and construed as references to The Netherlands and/or to such other jurisdiction.

#### 8. **Prescription**

Claims against the Issuer 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 five years from the date on which such payment first became due.

#### 9. **Events of Default**

Each Noteholder is entitled to declare his Notes due and to call for redemption of his Notes at its Early Redemption Amount, if:

- (i) the Issuer is in default for more than 15 days in the payment of principal or interest; or
- (ii) the Issuer violates any other obligation under these Terms and Conditions of the Notes, and, if such violation is capable of being remedied, such violation continues for 30 days after receipt of written notice thereof from the respective Noteholder to the Issuer through the Fiscal Agent as intermediary; or
- (iii) the Issuer and/or one or more of its Major Group Companies (as defined below) defaults in the payment of the principal of, or interest on, any other obligation in respect of Borrowed Moneys (as defined below), of, or assumed or guaranteed by, the Issuer and/or one or more of its Major Group Companies, as the case may be, when and as the same shall become due and payable, and if such default shall continue for more than the period of grace, if any, applicable thereto and the time for payment of such interest, or principal, has not been effectively extended, or if any obligation in respect of Borrowed Moneys, of, or assumed or guaranteed by, the Issuer and/or one or more of its Major Group Companies 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, and

"**Major Group Company**" means any group company of the Issuer which is consolidated with the Issuer under the International Financial Reporting Standards and whose net profits after tax but before extraordinary items or whose net assets (in each case attributable to the Issuer) represents 15 per cent. or more of the consolidated net profits after tax but before extraordinary items or consolidated net assets (in each case attributable to the Issuer) of the Issuer and its group companies. A report of the auditors of the Issuer that in their opinion a group company of the Issuer is or is not a Major Group Company shall, in the absence of manifest error, be conclusive and binding on the Issuer and all Noteholders; and

the expression "**Borrowed Money**" as used herein means moneys borrowed and premium and interest in respect thereof and liabilities under or in connection with any letters of credit or under any bond, note, debenture or other financial security issued as consideration for assets or services and having an aggregate principal amount in excess of EUR 75,000,000 or the equivalent thereof in another currency but excluding such liabilities incurred solely in relation to the acquisition of goods and services in the ordinary course of trading; or

- (iv) the Issuer is wound up or dissolved whether by a resolution of the shareholders, legislative action or otherwise (except in connection with a solvent merger or reorganisation in such a way

that all of the assets and liabilities of the Issuer pass to another legal person in universal succession by operation of law); or

- (v) the Issuer ceases to carry on the whole or substantially the whole of its business or disposes of substantially the whole of its assets; or
- (vi) any bankruptcy or insolvency proceedings are instituted against the Issuer or the Issuer applies for the institution of such proceedings or for a suspension of payment, for a similar measure under foreign law, or the Issuer offers a compromise to its creditors or negotiates with all of its creditors another agreement relating to its payment difficulties, or such measures are officially decreed; or
- (vii) an "*executoriaal beslag*" (executory attachment) or a similar measure under foreign law is made on or against any substantial part of the assets of the Issuer or a "*conservatoir beslag*" (interlocutory attachment) or a similar measure under foreign law is made on or against any substantial part of the assets of the Issuer and is not discharged or stayed within 30 days after the making thereof.

The right to declare Notes due shall terminate if the circumstances giving rise to it have been remedied, cured or otherwise made good in full before such right is exercised.

The right to declare Notes due pursuant to Condition 9 (*Events of Default*) shall be exercised by the holder of Notes by delivering or sending by registered mail to the Fiscal Agent a written notice which shall state the principal amount of the Notes called for redemption and shall enclose evidence of ownership reasonably satisfactory to the Fiscal Agent.

#### 10. **Meetings of Noteholders and Modifications**

##### (a) *Meeting of Noteholders*

The Fiscal Agency Agreement contains provisions for convening meetings of holders of Notes to consider any matter affecting their interests, including modification by Extraordinary Resolution of these Terms and Conditions of the Notes. Such provisions are deemed to be included in the Terms and Conditions by reference and the holders of Notes shall have the benefit thereof and be bound thereby. The quorum at any duly convened meeting shall be two or more holders of the Notes or proxies representing holders of Notes and being or representing the holders of not less than 25% in principal amount of the Notes for the time being outstanding, or at any adjourned meeting two or more persons present being or representing holders of Notes whatever the principal amount of the Notes so held or represented, except that at any meeting, the business of which includes the modification of certain of the Conditions, the necessary quorum for passing an Extraordinary Resolution will be two or more persons holding or representing not less than two-thirds, or at any adjourned such meeting not less than one-third, of the principal amount of the Notes for the time being outstanding. Any resolution passed at any meeting of holders of Notes will be binding on all holders of Notes, whether or not they are present at the meeting.

##### (b) *Modification*

The Issuer shall only permit any modification of, or any waiver or authorisation of any breach or proposed breach of or any failure to comply with, the Fiscal Agency Agreement, if to do so could not reasonably be expected to be prejudicial to the interests of the Noteholders.

The Notes and these Conditions may be amended without the consent of the Noteholders or the Couponholders to correct a manifest error.

#### 11. **Replacement of Notes, Coupons and Talons**

If a Note, Coupon or Talon is lost, stolen, mutilated, defaced or destroyed, it may be replaced, subject to applicable laws, regulations and stock exchange regulations, at the specified office of any Paying Agent as may from time to time be designated by the Issuer for that purpose and notice of whose designation is given to Noteholders in accordance with Condition 13 (*Notices*) (in the case of Bearer Notes, Coupons or Talons), 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, Coupon or Talon is subsequently presented for payment or, as the

case may be, for exchange for further Coupons, there will be paid to the Issuer on demand the amount payable by the Issuer in respect of such Notes, Coupons or further Coupons) and otherwise as the Issuer may require. Mutilated or defaced Notes, Coupons or Talons must be surrendered before replacements will be issued.

## 12. **Further Issues, Consolidation**

- (a) The Issuer reserves the right to create and issue from time to time, without the consent of the Noteholders, additional Notes with substantially identical terms and conditions, so that the same shall be consolidated to form a single Series with, and increase the Aggregate Nominal Amount of, the Notes. The term "**Notes**" shall, in such circumstances, also comprise (unless the context otherwise requires) the additionally issued Notes.
- (b) Upon redenomination of the Notes into euro as provided in Condition 5(a)(iii), the Issuer may also from time to time, without the consent of the Noteholders consolidate the Notes with one or more issues of other Notes issued by it, which were originally denominated in euro or currencies participating in the Economic and Monetary Union ("**Other Notes**") provided that:
- such Other Notes have substantially the same conditions as the Notes (other than in relation to currency, denomination, stock exchanges, clearing systems and matters of a technical or administrative nature normally associated with any of the foregoing); and
  - such Other Notes and the Notes, when consolidated, can be cleared and settled on an interchangeable basis under a common International Security Identification Number (ISIN) through Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg, Clearstream Banking AG, Frankfurt am Main or any other internationally recognised clearing system; and
  - such Other Notes and the Notes, when consolidated, will be listed on at least one European stock exchange on which debt obligations issued in the international capital markets are then customarily listed and on which either the Notes or at least one of the issues of Other Notes consolidated with them was listed immediately prior to consolidation.

The Issuer shall be entitled to amend the Terms and Conditions of the Notes to the effect that the Notes and such Other Notes consolidated with them will have identical terms after consolidation to allow them to form a single issue, provided that such amendments do not materially adversely affect the interests of the Noteholders. The term "Notes" shall, in the event of such consolidation, also comprise such Other Notes. The Issuer may do so by giving not less than one month prior notice to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 13 (*Notices*) and to the extent necessary by exchanging the Global Note into a global note containing such amended conditions or by depositing a supplement to the Global Note containing the amendments with the clearing systems in which the Notes are to be held upon consolidation. The notice shall detail the manner in which consolidation shall be effected.

## 13. **Notices**

Notices to the holders of Bearer Notes will be deemed to be validly given if published in a leading English language daily newspaper published in London (which is expected to be the Financial Times or another English language daily newspaper with circulation in Europe). The Issuer shall also ensure that notices are duly published in a manner which complies with the rules and regulations of any stock exchange or another relevant authority on which the Notes are for the time being listed or by which they have been admitted to trading. Any such notice will be deemed to have been given on the date of the first publication, or if published more than once, on the date of the first such publication. Where notices are required to be published in more than one newspaper, they will be deemed to have been given on the date of the first publication in all required newspapers.

Couponholders shall be deemed for all purposes to have notice of the contents of any notice to the holders of Bearer Notes in accordance with this Condition 13.

## 14. **Currency Indemnity**

Any amount received or recovered in a currency other than the currency in which payment under the relevant Note or Coupon is due (whether as a result of, or of the enforcement of, a judgment or order of a

court of any jurisdiction, in the winding-up or dissolution of the Issuer or otherwise) by any Noteholder or Couponholder in respect of any sum expressed to be due to it from the Issuer shall only constitute a discharge to the Issuer to the extent of the amount in the currency of payment under the relevant Note or Coupon that the recipient is able to purchase with the amount so received or recovered in that other currency on the date of that receipt or recovery (or, if it is not practicable to make that purchase on that date, on the first date on which it is practicable to do so). If the amount received or recovered is less than the amount expressed to be due to the recipient under any Note or Coupon, the Issuer shall indemnify it against any loss sustained by it as a result. In any event, the Issuer shall indemnify the recipient against the cost of making any such purchase. For the purposes of this Condition 14, it shall be sufficient for the Noteholder or Couponholder, as the case may be, to demonstrate that it would have suffered a loss had an actual purchase been made. These indemnities constitute a separate and independent obligation from the Issuer's other obligations, shall give rise to a separate and independent cause of action, shall apply irrespective of any indulgence granted by any Noteholder or Couponholder and shall continue in full force and effect despite any other judgment, order, claim or proof for a liquidated amount in respect of any sum due under any Note or Coupon or any other judgment or order.

15. **Governing Law and Jurisdiction**

(a) *Governing Law*

The Notes, the Coupons and the Talons and the rights and duties of the Noteholders, the Issuer, the Fiscal Agent, the Paying Agents and, the case being, the Calculation Agent, and any non-contractual obligation arising out of or in connection with the Notes are governed by, and shall be construed in accordance with, the laws of The Netherlands.

(b) *Jurisdiction*

The competent courts of Limburg, The Netherlands, are to have non-exclusive jurisdiction to settle any disputes which may arise out of or in connection with any Notes, Coupons or Talons (including any non-contractual obligation arising out of or in connection with the Notes) and accordingly any legal action or proceedings arising out of or in connection with any Notes, Coupons or Talons (including any non-contractual obligation arising out of or in connection with the Notes) ("**Proceedings**") may be brought in such courts. These submissions are made for the benefit of each of the Holders of the Notes, Coupons and Talons and shall not affect the right of any of them to take Proceedings in any other court of competent jurisdiction. The substantive validity of this clause 15(b) (*Jurisdiction*) is governed by the law of The Netherlands.

## SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE NOTES WHILE IN GLOBAL FORM

Notes in respect of which the TEFRA D Rules apply, will initially be represented by a Temporary Global Note without Coupons ("**TEFRA D Global Note**") which will either be exchanged for a Permanent Global Note without Coupons or for Definitive Notes with Coupons and Talons attached (if any). Notes in respect of which TEFRA C applies, will be represented by a Permanent Global Note or initially by a Temporary Global Note ("**TEFRA C Global Note**") which shall be exchanged for Definitive Notes with Coupons and Talons attached (if any). Each Temporary Global Note which is not intended to be issued in new global note ("**NGN**") form, as specified in the relevant Final Terms, will be deposited on behalf of the subscribers of the relevant Notes with a common depository (the "**Common Depository**") for Euroclear and for Clearstream, Luxembourg and/or any other agreed clearing system on or about the issue date of the relevant Notes. Each Temporary Global Note which is intended to be issued in NGN form, as specified in the relevant Final terms, will be deposited on behalf of the subscribers of the relevant Notes with a common safekeeper (the "**Common Safekeeper**") for Euroclear and for Clearstream, Luxembourg.

In the case of each Tranche of Bearer Notes, the relevant Final Terms will also specify whether United States Treasury Regulation §1.163-5(c)(2)(i)(C) (the "**TEFRA C Rules**") or United States Treasury Regulation §1.163-5(c)(2)(i)(D) (the "**TEFRA D Rules**") are applicable in relation to the Notes or, if the Notes do not have a maturity of more than 365 days, that neither the TEFRA C Rules nor the TEFRA D Rules are applicable

No interest will be payable in respect of a TEFRA D Global Note except as provided below.

Upon deposit of the Temporary Global Note with the Common Depository or the Common Safekeeper, Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg or relevant clearing system will credit each subscriber with a nominal amount of Notes equal to the principal amount thereof for which it has subscribed and paid.

Each of the persons shown in the records of Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg as the holder of a Note represented by a Global Note must look solely to Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg (as the case may be) for his share of each payment made by the Issuer to the bearer of such Global Note and in relation to all other rights arising under the Global Note, subject to and in accordance with the respective rules and procedures of Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg. 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 and such obligations of the Issuer will be discharged by payment to the bearer of such Global Note in respect of each amount so paid.

The Temporary Global Notes and the Permanent Global Notes contain provisions which apply to the Notes while they are in global form, some of which modify the effect of the terms and conditions of the Notes set out in this document. The following is a summary of certain of those provisions:

### 1. **Exchange**

On or after any Exchange Date (as defined below), each TEFRA D Global Note will be exchangeable, free of charge to the holder, in whole or in part upon certification as to non-U.S. beneficial ownership in the form set out in the Fiscal Agency Agreement for interests in a Permanent Global Note or for Definitive Notes with Coupons and Talons attached (if any) (provided that the latter may only be the case in the event that the multiple tradeable amount of the Notes is an integral of the Specified Denominations of the relevant Notes).

Each TEFRA C Global Note (or Global Note in respect of which the relevant Final Terms states that neither the TEFRA C Rules or the TEFRA D Rules are applicable) will be exchangeable for Definitive Notes with Coupons and Talons attached (if any) (provided that this may only be the case in the event that the multiple tradeable amount of the Notes is an integral of the Specified Denominations of the relevant Notes).

On or after any Exchange Date, each Permanent Global Note will be exchangeable, free of charge to the holder, in whole but not, except as provided in the paragraphs below, in part, to the extent permitted by the rules of Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg, for Definitive Notes:

- (i) by the Issuer giving notice to the Noteholders and the Fiscal Agent of its intention to effect such exchange, unless principal in respect of any Notes is not paid when due;

- (ii) if the relevant Final Terms provides that such Global Note is exchangeable at the request of the holder, by the holder giving notice to the Fiscal Agent of its election for such exchange, provided that this may only be the case in the event that the multiple tradeable amount of the Notes is an integral of the Specified Denomination of the relevant Notes;
- (iii) otherwise, (1) if the Permanent Global Note is held on behalf of Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg 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 or (2) any of the circumstances described in Condition 9 (*Events of Default*) occurs, by the holder giving notice to the Fiscal Agent or relevant Paying Agent of its election for such exchange (each an "**Exchange Event**").

If a Global Note is exchangeable for Definitive Notes at the option of the Noteholders, the Notes shall be tradeable only in principal amounts of at least the Specified Denomination (or if more than one Specified Denomination, the lowest Specified Denomination).

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 on or following any failure to pay principal in respect of any Notes when it is due and payable.

The holder of a Permanent Global Note may surrender the Permanent Global Note or, in the case of a partial exchange, present it for endorsement to or to the order of the Fiscal Agent or relevant Paying Agent. In exchange for any Permanent Global Note, or the part thereof to be exchanged, the Issuer will deliver, or procure the delivery of, an equal aggregate principal amount of duly executed and authenticated Definitive Notes (if appropriate, having attached to them all Coupons in respect of interest which have not already been paid on the Permanent Global Note and a Talon), security printed in accordance with any applicable legal and stock exchange requirements and in or substantially in the form set out in Schedule 2 to the Fiscal Agency Agreement. 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.

"**Exchange Date**" means, in relation to a Tranche issued on a non-syndicated basis, a date which shall be not earlier than the date which is 40 days after the later of the date on which the Notes are first offered to persons other than distributors and the Issue Date, or, in relation to a Tranche issued on a non-syndicated basis, the fortieth day following the date certified by the lead manager of the syndicated issue to the Fiscal Agent as being the date as of which distribution of the Notes of that Tranche was completed.

## 2. **Payments**

All payments in respect of the Global Note which, according to the Terms and Conditions of the Notes, require presentation and/or surrender of a Note or Coupon will be made against presentation and (in the case of payment of principal in full with all interest accrued thereon) surrender of the Global Note to or to the order of any Paying Agent and will be effective to satisfy and discharge the corresponding liabilities of the Issuer in respect of the Notes. On each occasion on which a payment of principal or interest is made in respect of the Global Note, the Issuer shall procure that in respect of a CGN the payment is noted in a schedule thereto and in respect of an NGN the payment is entered pro rata in the records of Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg.

Payments of both principal and interest in respect of a TEFRA D Global Note will be made only to the extent that certification of non-U.S. beneficial ownership as required by U.S. securities law and U.S. Treasury Regulations (in the form set out in the Temporary Global Note) has been received from the relevant clearing system in accordance with the terms thereof.

## 3. **Payment Day**

For the purposes of Condition 6(f) (*Non-Business Days*), in the case of a Global Note the definition of Payment Day shall be, if the currency of payment is euro, any day which is a TARGET Settlement Day and a day on which dealings in foreign currencies may be carried on in each (if any) Additional Financial Centre; or, if the currency of payment is not euro, any day which is a day on which dealings in foreign

currencies may be carried on in the principal financial centre of the currency of payment and in each (if any) Additional Financial Centre.

#### 4. **Notices**

Notwithstanding Condition 13 (*Notices*), so long as any Notes are represented by a Permanent Global Note (or by a Permanent Global Note and/or a Temporary Global Note) and such Permanent Global Note is (or a Permanent Global Note and/or a Temporary Global Note are) held by a depositary or a common depositary for Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and/or any other relevant clearing system or a common safekeeper, notices to Noteholders of that Series may be given by delivery of the relevant notice to Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and/or any other relevant clearing system and, in any case, such notices shall be deemed to have been given to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 13 (*Notices*) on the date of delivery to Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and/or any other relevant clearing system, **except that** for so long as such Notes are admitted to trading on the a stock exchange and it is a requirement of applicable law or regulations, such notices shall also be published in the manner prescribed by such stock exchange and notice shall not be deemed to have been given until published in the manner prescribed by such stock exchange.

#### 5. **Prescription**

Claims against the Issuer in respect of the Notes which are represented by a Permanent Global Note will become void unless it is presented for payment within a period of five years from the date on which payment first becomes due.

#### 6. **Meetings**

The holder of a Global Note will be treated as being two persons for the purposes of any quorum requirements of a meeting of Noteholders and, at any such meeting, as having one vote in respect of each minimum Denomination of Notes for which such Global Note may be (or would be, during any period when such exchange is not permitted) exchanged.

#### 7. **Purchase and Cancellation**

Cancellation of any Note surrendered for cancellation by the Issuer following its purchase will be effected by reduction in the principal amount of the relevant Permanent Global Note.

#### 8. **Issuer's Option**

No drawing of Notes will be required under Condition 5(c) (*Redemption for Taxation Reasons*) and 5(d) (*Redemption at the Option of the Issuer and Exercise of Issuer's Options*) in the event that the Issuer exercises any option relating to those Notes while all such Notes which are outstanding are represented by a Permanent Global Note. In the event that any option of such Issuer is exercised in respect of some but not all of the Notes of any Series, the rights of account holders with Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg in respect of the Notes will be governed by the standard procedures of Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg.

#### 9. **Noteholders' Option**

Any Noteholders' option may be exercised by the holder of a Permanent Global Note giving notice to the Fiscal Agent of the principal amount of Notes in respect of which the option is exercised and presenting such Permanent Global Note for endorsement of exercise within the time limits specified in the Conditions.

#### 10. **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 Condition 9 (*Events of Default*) by stating in the notice to the Fiscal Agent the principal amount of such Global Note that is becoming due and repayable.



## FORM OF FINAL TERMS

*The Final Terms in respect of each Tranche of Notes will be substantially in the following form, duly supplemented (if necessary), amended (if necessary) and completed to reflect the particular terms of the relevant Notes and their issue. Text in this section appearing in italics does not form part of the form of the Final Terms but denotes directions for completing the Final Terms.*

[Date]

**Koninklijke DSM N.V.**

**Issue of [Aggregate Nominal Amount of Tranche] [Title of Notes]  
under the EUR 4,000,000,000**

### **Debt Issuance Programme**

[The Base Prospectus referred to below has been prepared on the basis that any offer of Notes in any Member State of the European Economic Area which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a "**Relevant Member State**") will be made pursuant to an exemption under the Prospectus Directive, as implemented in that Relevant Member State, from the requirement to publish a prospectus for offers of the Notes. Accordingly any person making or intending to make an offer in that Relevant Member State of the Notes may only do so in circumstances in which no obligation arises for the Issuer or any Dealer to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive, in each case, in relation to such offer. Neither the Issuer nor any Dealer has authorised, nor do they authorise, the making of any offer of Notes in any other circumstances.]

[In accordance with the Prospectus Directive, no prospectus is required in connection with the issuance of the Notes as described herein.]

The expression "**Prospectus Directive**" means Directive 2003/71/EC (as amended, including by Directive 2010/73/EU) and includes any relevant implementing measures in the Relevant Member State.

## **PART A – CONTRACTUAL TERMS**

Terms used herein shall be deemed to be defined as such for the purposes of the conditions (the "**Conditions**") set forth in the Base Prospectus dated 16 September 2016 [and the supplemental Base Prospectus dated [•]] which [together] constitute[s] a base prospectus for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive (as defined above). This document constitutes the Final Terms applicable to the issue of Notes described herein for the purposes of Article 5.4 of the Prospectus Directive and must be read in conjunction with such Base Prospectus [as so supplemented].

Full information on the Issuer and the offer of the Notes is only available on the basis of the combination of these Final Terms and the Base Prospectus [as so supplemented]. A copy of this Base Prospectus [and the supplemental Base Prospectus] can be obtained from the registered office of the Issuer, from the specified office of the Fiscal Agent and will be made available electronically at [[www.dsm.com/corporate/investors/bonds-credit-rating/debt-issuance-program.html](http://www.dsm.com/corporate/investors/bonds-credit-rating/debt-issuance-program.html)].

*[The following alternative language for the first paragraph of this Part A applies if the first tranche of an issue which is being increased was issued under a base prospectus with an earlier date and either (1) the Notes which are the subject of the Final Terms are not being (a) offered to the public in a member state (other than pursuant to one or more of the exemptions set out in Article 3.2 of the Prospectus Directive) or (b) admitted to trading on a regulated market in a member state or (2) the Conditions (as defined in the next paragraph) do not contain, by comparison with the Base Prospectus, any "significant new factor" within the meaning of Article 16.1 of the Prospectus Directive. If neither (1) nor (2) applies the Issuer will need to consider effecting the issue by means of a supplement to the Base Prospectus or a stand alone prospectus rather than by Final Terms.]*

Terms used herein shall be deemed to be defined as such for the purposes of the conditions (the "**Conditions**") set forth in the base prospectus dated [*original date*], which have been incorporated by reference into the Base Prospectus. This document constitutes the Final Terms of the Notes described herein for the purposes of Article 5.4 of the Prospectus Directive (as defined above) and must be read in

conjunction with the Base Prospectus dated 16 September 2016 [and the supplemental Base Prospectus dated [date]], which [together] constitute[s] a base prospectus for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive, save in respect of the Conditions which are extracted from the base prospectus dated [original date] and are attached hereto. Full information on the Issuer and the offer of the Notes is only available on the basis of the combination of these Final Terms and the Base Prospectus, save for the conditions under "Terms and Conditions of the Notes" set out in the Base Prospectus which are replaced by the Conditions as attached hereto. A copy of the Base Prospectus [and the supplemental Base Prospectus] can be obtained from the registered office of the Issuer and from the specified office of the Fiscal 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 subparagraphs. Italics denote directions for completing the Final Terms.]*

*[When completing any final terms, 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 Base Prospectus under Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.]*

1. Issuer: Koninklijke DSM N.V.
2. (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 purposed with the [insert description of the Series] on [insert date/the Issuer Date/exchange of the Temporary Global Note for interests in the Permanent Global Note, as referred to in paragraph 22 below [which is expected to occur on or about [insert date]]].]
3. Specified Currency: [ ]
4. Aggregate Nominal Amount: [ ]  
(i) Series: [ ]  
(ii) Tranche: [ ]
5. Issue Price: [ ] per cent. of the Aggregate Nominal Amount [plus accrued interest from [insert date] (if applicable)]
6. (i) Specified Denominations: [ ]  

*[Note: where multiple denominations of EUR 100,000 and integral multiples of [EUR 1,000] or equivalent are being used the following sample wording should be followed:*

*"EUR 100,000 and integral multiples of [EUR 1,000] in excess thereof up to and including EUR 199,000.*

*No Notes in definitive form will be issued with a denomination above EUR 199,000"]*
- (ii) Calculation Amount: [ ]

7. [(i)] Issue Date: [ ]
- [(ii)] Interest Commencement Date: [Specify/Issue Date]
8. Maturity Date: [Specify date or (for Floating Rate Notes) Interest Payment Date falling in or nearest to the relevant month and year]
- (If the Maturity Date is less than one year from the Issue Date and either (a) the issue proceeds are received by the Issuer in the United Kingdom, or (b) the activity of issuing the Notes is carried on from an establishment maintained by the Issuer in the United Kingdom, (i) the Notes must have a minimum redemption value of £100,000 (or its equivalent in other currencies) and be sold only to "professional investors" or (ii) another applicable exemption from section 19 of the FSMA must be available)*
9. Interest Basis: [[•] per cent. Fixed Rate]
- [•][EURIBOR / LIBOR][Specify reference rate] +/- [•] per cent. Floating Rate]
- (see paragraph 14/15 below)
10. 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 nominal amount.
11. Change of Interest Basis or Redemption/Payment Basis: [Not Applicable][Specify the date when any fixed to floating rate change occurs or refer to paragraphs 14 and 15 below and specify there]
12. Put/Call Options: [Investor Put] / [Change of Control Put]
- [Issuer Call]
- [Issuer Refinancing Call]
- [Issuer make-whole Redemption Call]
- [(see paragraph 16/17/18/19 below)]
13. [Date [Board] approval for issuance of Notes obtained: [ ] [and [ ], respectively]
- (N.B. Only relevant where Board (or similar) authorisation is required for the particular tranche of Notes)*

#### **PROVISIONS RELATING TO INTEREST PAYABLE**

14. Fixed Rate Note Provisions [Applicable/Not Applicable]
- (If not applicable, delete the remaining subparagraphs of this paragraph)*
- (i) Rate[(s)] of Interest: [ ] per cent. per annum payable in arrear on each Interest Payment Date

- (ii) Interest Payment Date(s): [ ] in each year  
*(N.B. This will need to be amended in the case of long or short coupons)*
- (iii) Fixed Coupon Amount[(s)]: [ ] per Calculation Amount
- (iv) Broken Amount(s): [ ] per Calculation Amount payable on the Interest Payment Date falling [in/on] [ ] / [Not Applicable]
- (v) Day Count Fraction: [Actual/365 or Actual/Actual-ISDA]  
[Actual/365 (Fixed)]  
[Actual/360]  
[30/360 (2000 ISDA Definitions)]  
[30/360 (2006 ISDA Definitions)]  
[30E/360 (2000 ISDA Definitions) or Eurobond Basis (2000 ISDA Definitions)]  
[30E/360 (2006 ISDA Definitions) or Eurobond Basis (2006 ISDA Definitions)]  
[Actual/Actual-ICMA]
- (vi) [Determination Date(s): [ ] 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 Count Fraction is Actual/Actual (ICMA))*
15. Floating Rate Note Provisions [Applicable/Not Applicable]  
*(If not applicable, delete the remaining subparagraphs of this paragraph)*
- (i) Specified Period(s) [[ ]], if subject to adjustment in accordance with the Business day Convention set out in (iv) below / not subject to any adjustment, as the Business Day Convention specified in (iv) below is specified to be Not Applicable]
- (ii) Specified Interest Payment Dates: [ ] in each year, subject to adjustment in accordance with the Business day Convention set out in (iv) below / not subject to any adjustment, as the Business Day Convention specified in (iv) below is specified to be Not Applicable
- (iii) First Interest Payment Date: [ ]
- (iv) Business Day Convention: [Floating Rate Convention / Following Business Day Convention / Modified Following Business Day Convention / Preceding Business Day Convention]

- (v) Business Centre: [ ]
- (vi) Manner in which the Rate of Interest and Interest Amount is/are to be determined: [Screen Rate Determination / ISDA Determination]
- (vii) Calculation Agent: [The Fiscal Agent] / [Citibank, N.A., London branch]/[ ]
- (viii) Screen Rate Determination:
- Reference Rate: [ ]
  - Interest Determination Date(s): [ ]
  - Relevant Screen Page: [ ]
  - Relevant Time: [ ]
  - Relevant Financial Centre: [ ]
- (ix) ISDA Determination:
- Floating Rate Option: [ ]
  - Designated Maturity: [ ]
  - Reset Date: [ ]
  - ISDA Definitions: [2000 ISDA Definitions / 2006 ISDA Definitions]
- (x) Margin(s): [+/-] [ ] per cent. per annum
- (xi) Minimum Rate of Interest: [ ] per cent. per annum
- (xii) Maximum Rate of Interest: [ ] per cent. per annum
- (xiii) Day Count Fraction: [Actual/365 or Actual/Actual-ISDA]  
[Actual/365 (Fixed)]  
[Actual/360]  
[30/360 (2000 ISDA Definitions)]  
[30/360 (2006 ISDA Definitions)]  
[30E/360 (2000 ISDA Definitions) or Eurobond Basis (2000 ISDA Definitions)]  
[30E/360 (2006 ISDA Definitions) or Eurobond Basis (2006 ISDA Definitions)]  
[Actual/Actual-ICMA]

#### **PROVISIONS RELATING TO REDEMPTION**

16. (Issuer) Call Option: [Applicable/Not Applicable]
- (If not applicable, delete the remaining subparagraphs of this paragraph)*

- (i) Optional Redemption Date(s): [ ]
- (ii) Optional Redemption Amount(s) of each Note: [ ] per Calculation Amount
- (iii) Notice period (if other than as set out in the Conditions): [ ]
- (N.B. If setting notice periods which are different to those provided in the Conditions, the Issuer is advised to consider the practicalities of distribution of information through intermediaries, for example, clearing systems and custodians, as well as any other notice requirements which may apply, for example, as between the Issuer and the Fiscal or relevant Paying Agent)*
17. Issuer Refinancing Call [Applicable/Not Applicable]  
*(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)*
- (i) Date from which the Issuer Refinancing Call may be exercised *(insert date three months prior to Maturity Date of the Notes)*
- (ii) Notice period: [ ]
- (N.B. when setting notice periods, the Issuer is advised to consider the practicalities of distribution of information through intermediaries, for example clearing systems and custodians, as well as any other notice requirements which may apply for example as between the Issuer and the Agent)*
- (iii) Optional Redemption Amount [ ]
18. Make-whole Redemption Call [Applicable/Not Applicable]  
*(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)*
- (i) Notice period (if other than set out in the Conditions): [ ]
- (N.B. When setting notice periods, the Issuer is advised to consider the practicalities of distribution of information through intermediaries, for example, clearing systems and custodians, as well as any other notice requirements which may apply, for example, as between the Issuer and the Agent.)*
- (ii) Parties to be notified by Issuer of Make-whole Redemption Date and Make-whole Redemption Amount in addition to those set out in Condition 5(d)(iii): [ ]/Not Applicable]

- (iii) Discounting basis for purposes of calculating sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest on Redeemed Notes in the determination of the Make-whole Redemption Amount: [Annual/Semi-Annual/Quarterly]
- (iv) Make-Whole Redemption Margin: [ ]
- (v) Quotation Agent: [ ]/[Not Applicable]
- (vi) Reference Dealers: [give details]
- (vii) Reference Screen Rate: [give details]
- (viii) Reference Security: [give details]
19. (Investor) Put Option: [Applicable/exercisable on Change of Control only/Not Applicable]
- (If not applicable, delete the remaining subparagraphs of this paragraph)*
- (i) Optional Redemption Date(s): [ ]
- (ii) Optional Redemption Amount(s) of each Note: [ ] per Calculation Amount
- (iii) Notice period (if other than as set out in the Conditions): [ ]
- (N.B. If setting notice periods which are different to those provided in the Conditions, the Issuer is advised to consider the practicalities of distribution of information through intermediaries, for example, clearing systems and custodians, as well as any other notice requirements which may apply, for example, as between the Issuer and the Fiscal or relevant Paying Agent)*
20. Final Redemption Amount of each Note: [ ] per Calculation Amount
21. Early Redemption Amount [[ ] per Calculation Amount]

#### **GENERAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO THE NOTES**

22. Form of Notes: Bearer Notes:
- [Temporary Global Note exchangeable for a Permanent Global Note which is exchangeable for Definitive Notes on [•] days' notice/at any time/in the limited circumstances specified in the Permanent Global Note]
- [Temporary Global Note exchangeable for Definitive Notes on [•] days' notice]
- [Permanent Global Note exchangeable for Definitive Notes on [•] days' notice/at any time/in the limited circumstances specified in the Permanent Global Note]

23. NGN form: [Yes] [No]
24. Additional Financial Centre(s): [Not Applicable/give details].  
*Note that this paragraph relates to the date and place of payment, and not interest period end dates]*
25. Talons for future Coupons to be attached to Definitive Notes (and dates on which such Talons mature): [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 left/No]
26. Redenomination: Redenomination (as described in Condition 5 (*Redemption, Purchase and Options*)) [not] applicable  
*(If Redenomination is applicable, specify the applicable Day Count Fraction and any provisions necessary to deal with floating rate interest calculation (including alternative reference rates))*
27. Taxation: [Condition 7(a) applicable / Condition 7(b) applicable.]

**RESPONSIBILITY**

The Issuer accepts responsibility for the information contained in these Final Terms.

**THIRD PARTY INFORMATION**

[*relevant third party information*] relating to paragraph [ ] above, which has been extracted from [ ]. The Issuer confirms that such information has been accurately reproduced and that, so far as it is aware, and is able to ascertain from information published by [*specify source*], no facts have been omitted which would render the reproduced information inaccurate or misleading.]

Signed on behalf of the Issuer:

By: .....

Duly authorised



## PART B – OTHER INFORMATION

### 1. LISTING AND ADMISSION TO TRADING

- (i) Listing: [Euronext in Amsterdam/None]
- (ii) Admission to trading: [Application has been made for the Notes to be admitted to trading on [ ] 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 [ ] with effect from [ ].]  
[Not Applicable.]
- (iii) Estimate of total expenses related to admission to trading: [ ]

### 2. RATINGS

- Ratings: The Notes to be issued [have [not] been/are expected to be] rated:
- [S & P\*]: [ ]
- [Moody's\*]: [ ]
- [[Other\*]: [ ]

(\* The exact legal name of the rating agency entity providing the rating should be specified - for example "Standard & Poor's Credit Market Services Europe Limited", rather than just Standard and Poor's.)

(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.)

#### **Option 1- CRA established in the EEA and registered under the CRA Regulation**

[Insert legal name of particular credit rating agency entity providing rating] is established in the EEA and registered under Regulation (EU) No 1060/2009, as amended (the "**CRA Regulation**").

#### **Option 2 -CRA established in the EEA, not registered under the CRA Regulation but has applied for registration**

[Insert legal name of particular credit rating agency entity providing rating] is established in the EEA and has applied for registration under Regulation (EU) No 1060/2009, as amended (the "**CRA Regulation**"), although notification of the corresponding registration decision has not yet been provided by the [relevant competent authority] /[European Securities and Markets Authority].

#### **Option 3 -CRA established in the EEA, not registered under the CRA Regulation and not**

***applied for registration***

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

***Option 4 -CRA not established in the EEA but relevant rating is endorsed by a CRA which is established and registered under the CRA Regulation***

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

***Option 5 -CRA is not established in the EEA and relevant rating is not endorsed under the CRA Regulation but CRA is certified under the CRA Regulation***

[Insert legal name of particular credit rating agency entity providing rating] is not established in the EEA but is certified under Regulation (EU) No 1060/2009, as amended (the "CRA Regulation").

***Option 6 -CRA neither established in the EEA nor certified under the CRA Regulation and 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 EEA and is not certified under Regulation (EU) No 1060/2009, as amended (the "CRA Regulation") and the rating it has given to the Notes is not endorsed by a credit rating agency established in the EEA and registered under the CRA Regulation.

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

*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 Dealers, so far as the Issuer is aware, no person involved in the issue of the Notes has an interest material to the offer." [Amend as appropriate if there are other interests]

The Dealers/Managers and their affiliates have engaged, and may in the future engage, in the investment banking and/or commercial banking transactions with, and may perform other services for the Issuer and its affiliates in the ordinary course of business.

*(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. [REASONS FOR THE OFFER

Reasons for the offer: [ ]

*(See "Use of Proceeds" wording in Base Prospectus – if reasons for offer different from general financing purposes will need to include those reasons here.)]*

#### 5. [YIELD (Fixed Rate Notes only)

Indication of yield: [ ]

The yield is calculated at the Issue Date on the basis of the Issue Price. It is not an indication of future yield.]

#### 6. OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

(i) ISIN Code: [ ]

(ii) Common Code: [ ]

(iii) German Security Code: [ ]

(iv) Any clearing system(s) other than Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg and the relevant identification number(s): [Not Applicable/give name(s) and number(s)]

(v) Delivery: Delivery [against/free of] payment

(vi) Names and addresses of additional Paying Agent(s) (if any): [ ]

(vii) Intended to be held in a manner which would allow Eurosystem eligibility: [Yes

Note that the designation "yes" simply means that the Notes are intended upon issue to be deposited (i) with Clearstream Banking, Frankfurt am Main or (ii) with one of the ICSDs as common safekeeper and 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 the ECB being satisfied that Eurosystem eligibility criteria have been met.]

[No.

Whilst the designation is specified as "no" at the date of these Final Terms, should the Eurosystem eligibility criteria be amended in the future such that the Notes are capable of meeting them 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 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.]

**7. DISTRIBUTION**

- (i) Method of distribution: [Syndicated/Non-syndicated]
- (ii) If syndicated, names of Managers: [Not Applicable/ *give names*]
- (iii) Stabilising Manager(s) (if any): [Not Applicable/*give name(s)*]
- (iv) If non-syndicated, name of relevant Dealer(s): [Not Applicable/*give name(s)*]
- (v) Whether TEFRA D or TEFRA C rules applicable or TEFRA rules not applicable: [TEFRA D / TEFRA C / TEFRA not applicable]

## DESCRIPTION OF THE ISSUER

### GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE ISSUER

#### Incorporation and history

DSM was established in 1902 as a State Agency for the exploitation of underground coal reserves in the province of Limburg and later diversified into ammonia and fertiliser production using by-products from coal gasification. In the 1960s, the Dutch government decided to close down the coal mining activities for economic reasons. From the 1930s DSM acquired expertise in the field of chemicals. DSM continuously expanded its chemical activities, both domestically and internationally, becoming increasingly active in additional downstream products such as plastics, industrial and specialty chemicals. This gradual transition towards increasing the share of the business made up of downstream activities with higher added value products has accelerated since the privatisation of DSM. This transition accelerated with the divestment of petrochemical activities in 2002 and was concluded with the divestment of urea licensing and energy activities in 2009, the agro and melamine activities in 2010 and the elastomer activities in 2011. With the major acquisition of Roche's Vitamins activities in 2003 and Martek in 2011, DSM has transformed itself into a leading life sciences and materials sciences company that is active in health, nutrition and materials. DSM was wholly owned by the State of The Netherlands (the "State") until 1989, when the Dutch government sold a combined 69% stake in DSM through two public offerings. In February 1996, the State reduced its stake in DSM by a further 20%, through the conversion of 22.02 million ordinary shares into cumulative preference shares "A" on a one for one basis. These preference shares were sold to four Dutch investors in the form of 5% packages. The privatisation was completed in March 1996 with the State's disposal of its remaining 11% stake.

Koninklijke DSM N.V. was incorporated on 28 December 1966 under Dutch law as a public limited liability company (*naamloze vennootschap*) for an unlimited period of time and is registered at the Commercial Register of the Chamber of Commerce under number 14022069. The articles of association were last amended by notarial deed on 30 May 2011 in respect of which instrument the ministerial statement of no objection was granted on 3 May 2011. For a copy of the articles of association, see the website [www.dsm.com](http://www.dsm.com).

The address of the Issuer's registered and principal executive office is Het Overloon 1, 6411 TE Heerlen, The Netherlands, telephone number +31 45 578 8111.

#### Capitalisation

The authorised share capital of DSM amounts to EUR 1,125 million consisting of (a) 330,960,000 ordinary shares, (b) 44,040,000 cumulative preference shares "A" and (c) 375,000,000 cumulative preference shares "B". The ordinary shares, the cumulative preference shares "A" and the cumulative preference shares "B" have a nominal value of EUR 1.50 each.

The issued and paid-up share capital of DSM as per 31 December 2015 amounts to EUR 338,197,500 consisting of 181,425,000 ordinary shares and 44,040,000 cumulative preference shares "A". Of the issued ordinary shares 6,501,973 are held by DSM as treasury stock as per 31 December 2015. As per 31 December 2015, there are no cumulative preference shares "B" outstanding.

The ordinary shares of DSM are officially listed on Euronext Amsterdam. In the USA a sponsored unlisted American Depositary Receipts ("ADR") programme is run via Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas. Four ADRs represent one ordinary DSM share.

The 44,040,000 cumulative preference shares "A" of DSM are registered shares that are not listed on any stock exchange. They are held by three institutional investors in The Netherlands. They have been assigned the same voting rights as ordinary shares. For the period 1 January 2006 till 1 January 2016 the annual dividend on these cumulative preference shares "A" amounts to EUR 0.23 per share, 4.35% of the issue price of EUR 5.29 per share. As of 1 January 2016 the annual dividend on the cumulative preference shares "A" amounts 1.759% of the issue price of EUR 5.29 per share, being EUR 0.093 per share.

In 2011 DSM has introduced an optional dividend programme. As a result of this, shareholders have the option to receive dividends in cash or in the form of ordinary shares, which originate from the buy-back programme. The total dividend for financial year 2015 is EUR 1.65 per ordinary share. An interim

dividend of EUR 0.55 per ordinary share was paid in August 2015, the final dividend of EUR 1.10 per ordinary share was paid in May 2016. DSM has regularly launched share buyback programmes to cover its commitments under existing management and personnel option plans. In 2015 DSM launched a share buyback from 18 May 2015 for 2,300,000 shares. The 2015 share buy backs were executed at a total consideration of EUR 122 million. In 2015 1,056,880 shares were used for servicing share based compensation programs. In 2016 DSM launched a share buy back from 22 February 2016 originally for 3,200,000 shares and amended to 3,500,000 shares on 10 May 2016. This program was partly destined for servicing the optional stock dividend. The 2016 share buy backs were executed at a total consideration of EUR 177 million.

### **Shareholders**

Under the FSA, shareholdings of 3% or more in any Dutch listed company must be disclosed to the AFM. According to the register kept by the AFM the following shareholders had disclosed that they owned between 3% and 10% of DSM's total share capital on 31 December 2015:

- ASR Nederland B.V.
- Delta Lloyd N.V.
- Rabobank Nederland Participatie B.V.
- Capital Research and Management Company and Group International Inc.
- Blackrock Inc.
- State Street Corporation

### **Objective**

According to article 3 of the articles of association, the Issuer's objective is to develop, manufacture, trade and provide services in the fields of life sciences and materials sciences, energy, and related fields such as mining, as well as any other activities structural or incidental to or supportive to the aforementioned fields of activities. The Company's objective shall include the formation, acquisition and financing of, participation in and management of other companies as well as providing security or guarantees directly or indirectly related to the aforementioned fields of activities.

Within the scope of its fields of activities the Company shall seek to create value by way of economic performance, environmental consideration and social responsibility.

### **Structure and grouping of activities (clusters)**

#### ***General***

DSM is a global science-based company active in health, nutrition and materials. By connecting its unique competences in Life Sciences and Materials Sciences DSM is driving economic prosperity, environmental progress and social advances to create sustainable value for all stakeholders simultaneously. DSM delivers innovative solutions that nourish, protect and improve performance in global markets such as food and dietary supplements, personal care, feed, medical devices, automotive, paints, electrical and electronics, life protection, alternative energy and bio-based materials.

DSM is a group holding company that conducts business internationally through its subsidiaries and joint ventures. DSM does not conduct any material business operations of its own. For a detailed list of subsidiaries, joint ventures and associates of the Company as at 31 December 2015, see the website [www.dsm.com](http://www.dsm.com).

DSM and its associated companies deliver annual net sales from continuing operations of around EUR 7.7 billion with approximately 21,000 employees.

DSM was again among the leaders in the chemical industry sector in the Dow Jones Sustainability World Index in 2015. Since 2004 DSM has held the worldwide sustainability leader position in the chemicals

sector six times. In the other six years, the Company ranked among the top leaders in the sector (see [www.sustainability-index.com](http://www.sustainability-index.com)).

In 2015 DSM and its business groups were awarded a variety of awards and other forms of recognition by customers, suppliers, the academic world, non-governmental organisations and trade organisations. Examples can be found on [www.dsm.com](http://www.dsm.com).

DSM's activities are grouped into two clusters: Nutrition and Materials. In addition, DSM reports separately on Innovation Center, Corporate Activities and Key Joint Ventures and Associates.

### ***Description per cluster***

This section includes several statements regarding the competitive position of DSM. These statements are based on own market research and sources - often reports from third parties - that DSM deems reliable.

#### **Nutrition**

The Nutrition cluster is made up of DSM Nutritional Products and DSM Food Specialties. These businesses serve the global industries for animal feed, food and beverage, pharmaceutical, infant nutrition, dietary supplements and personal care. DSM has a broad position across the feed and food value chains, with a global and highly diversified portfolio of products, services and end-markets and provides solutions to the benefit of customers and other stakeholders.

The fundamental growth drivers in nutrition and health remained as relevant as ever in 2015, despite challenging and varied macro-economic conditions:

- growing need for convenience and processed food
- rise in living standards, particularly in high growth economies, drives demand for animal protein
- people living longer and being better informed fuel demand for infant nutrition products, dietary supplements and healthier choices in food and beverages
- addressing malnutrition encouragement of healthy, nutritious and balanced diets, where necessary bolstered by fortified foods and supplements
- public concerns around food safety, quality and sustainability are leading to a stricter regulatory climate
- intensification of demand for deeper insights and customized solutions, increasingly tailored to local consumer preferences and market and channel structures

Sustainability is one of the key business drivers in DSM's nutrition markets, with demand continuing to increase for solutions that are more efficient and have distinct environmental advantages. Appreciation is also beginning to grow for products that offer benefits to individual people or communities.

The Nutrition cluster's unique business model aims to capture opportunities arising from global megatrends by combining global production capabilities with customized local formulations. DSM delivers the broadest portfolio of high quality and competitive active ingredients and formulations at a global scale while offering maximum differentiation through industry and segment-specific formulations. As a local solutions provider with strong market intimacy, its focus is on customer-driven solutions.

The Nutrition cluster's share in DSM's overall net sales from continuing operations was approximately 64% in 2015.

#### **Materials**

The Materials cluster is made up of DSM Engineering Plastics, DSM Dyneema and DSM Resins & Functional Materials. DSM Engineering Plastics is a global player in specialty plastics. These materials are used in components for the electrical and electronics, automotive, flexible food packaging and consumer goods industries. DSM Dyneema is the inventor, manufacturer and marketer of Dyneema®, the world's strongest fiber™. DSM Resins & Functional Materials is a global player in innovative, sustainable resins solutions for paints and industrial and optical fibre coatings.

Resource scarcity and climate change have become key drivers in the materials industry. In nearly every market, customers demand products and solutions that help to reduce energy consumption and harmful emissions, both within their operations and across the value chain. Legislators are increasingly driving this agenda with more stringent regulatory requirements. DSM addresses these needs through innovative materials that offer the same or better functionalities whilst being lighter and more versatile with a lower environmental footprint than metals and other conventional materials. These include high-performance plastics; waterborne resins; and bio-based and renewable plastics and resins.

The use of hazardous substances is a further topic of concern for consumers and regulators, which is driving demand for safer alternatives. In response, DSM Engineering Plastics and DSM Resins & Functional Materials offer products and solutions that eliminate or reduce the use of substances including halogens and volatile organic compounds (VOC).

Substitution of existing materials through better performing alternatives is therefore a major growth driver in the Materials cluster's businesses, alongside the overall development of their respective markets and segments.

DSM is creating innovative solutions that make a positive difference to people's lives and reduce the environmental footprint. In Materials, sustainability is a significant driver of new business and innovations.

DSM delivers innovative solutions that make a positive difference to people's lives and reduce the environmental footprint. Sustainability is a significant driver of new business and innovations in Materials.

The Materials cluster's share in DSM's overall net sales from continuing operations is approximately 33% in 2015.

#### DSM Innovation Center

The DSM Innovation Center has two main functions. In the first place, it serves as an enabler and accelerator of innovation power and speed in DSM's core businesses as a center of excellence. In this role it also focuses on adjacent technologies for growth through its Corporate Research Program, which is steered by the Chief Technology Officer through the DSM Science & Technology Department, as well as through the DSM Venturing & Licensing activities. In its second function, DSM Innovation Center has a clear business development role, focusing on areas outside the current scope of the business groups. It identifies and invests in new and innovative growth options, initially through the DSM Business Incubator. Moreover, DSM Innovation Center is responsible for developing and extracting value from the Company's Emerging Business Areas (EBAs).

DSM's Emerging Business Areas provide strong long-term growth platforms in highly promising end-markets that are based on the Company's core competences in health, nutrition and materials. The Company has three Emerging Business Areas:

- DSM Biomedical;
- DSM Bio-based Products & Services; and
- DSM Advanced Surfaces.

DSM Biomedical is a development partner, trusted by the medical industry to shape the future of biomaterials and regenerative medical devices that improve and brighten patients' lives throughout the world.

As the world moves increasingly towards alternatives for its dependencies on fossil resources and towards a more sustainable, bio-renewable economy, there are significant opportunities in advanced biofuels and in renewable building blocks such as bio-based succinic acid. DSM Bio-based Products & Services is pioneering advances in biomass conversion and seeks to demonstrate the commercial viability of sustainable, renewable technologies in collaboration with strategic partners in the value chain.



DSM Advanced Surfaces aims to accelerate the uptake and effectiveness of solar energy by focusing on the development and commercialization of technologies and materials solutions that increase the efficiency of solar modules, reducing the cost of the energy produced.

The DSM Business Incubator explores business opportunities in adjacent areas and future markets for DSM, with a strong link to DSM's technologies and competence base. Platforms are created within the scope of securing food, health and energy requirements of society, in close collaboration with industry partners and existing and potential customers. DSM's Business Incubator has been instrumental in feeding the pipeline with opportunities that address customer needs.

DSM Venturing & Licensing invests in early to late stage innovative companies in areas strategically relevant to DSM's current and future businesses. In 2015, DSM Venturing added promising new investments in several Nutrition start-ups including Blue Prairie Brands, Natreon and NutriLeads as well as in NovoPolymers, a promising start-up company with an innovative encapsulant concept for solar. For the three EBAs combined, DSM aspires to achieve profitable sales of more than EUR 1 billion in 2020.

The Innovation Center's share in DSM's overall net sales from continuing operations is approximately 2% in 2015.

#### Corporate Activities

Any consolidated activities and businesses that are outside the three reporting clusters are reported as Corporate Activities. These comprise operating and service activities, as well as a number of costs that cannot be allocated to the clusters. While this segment reports net sales from its service units to third parties, it normally has a negative operating result. Corporate Activities includes various holding companies and corporate overheads. The most significant cost elements are corporate departments and the share-based compensation for the Company.

The Corporate Activities' share in DSM's overall net sales from continuing operations is approximately 1% in 2015.

#### Key Joint Ventures and Associates

As part of its 2010-2015 strategy DSM in motion: driving focused growth, the Company has established a number of partnerships for its Pharma and Bulk Chemicals activities over recent years in order to streamline and simplify its core portfolio around its more resilient, higher-value activities in Nutrition and Materials, whilst at the same time maximizing the value of these businesses for its shareholders.

##### - DSM Sinochem Pharmaceuticals

DSM Sinochem Pharmaceuticals (DSP) is a global leader in generic anti-infective molecules formed in 2011 as a 50/50 joint venture between DSM and Sinochem. DSP develops, produces and sells intermediates and active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) as well as finished dosage. DSP is a market leader in enzymatic beta-lactam APIs, with nearly 300 patented innovations in this field. It is also a B2B provider of generic drug products.

##### - Patheon

Patheon (formerly reported as DPx Holdings) was formed in 2014 as part of a USD 2.6 billion transaction between JLL Partners and DSM, which combined the businesses of DSM Pharmaceutical Products and Patheon, Inc. The company is positioned to add scale, new value chain capabilities and technologies, as well as to expand its end-to-end service offerings as a comprehensive solution provider to the pharmaceutical industry. End of 2015 DSM had a 49% shareholding in Patheon.

At the end of July 2016, in connection with the Initial Public Offering by Patheon N.V., DSM successfully completed the sale of 4.8 million ordinary shares in Patheon N.V. Following this transaction, DSM now holds approximately 48.7 million ordinary shares, or approximately 34% of Patheon N.V.

##### - ChemicalInvest

DSM completed its strategic actions for Polymer Intermediates and Composite Resins with the establishment of a new venture, ChemicalInvest, together with CVC Capital Partners. ChemicalInvest is a

global producer and supplier of caprolactam and a European supplier of acrylonitrile and composite resins. DSM has a 35% shareholding in the company. As from 31 July, DSM reports ChemicalInvest as an associate in accordance with the equity method.

### **Supervisory Board and Managing Board**

DSM has a Managing Board and an independent Supervisory Board. Members of the Managing Board and the Supervisory Board are appointed (and, if necessary, dismissed) by the General Meeting of Shareholders. The Managing Board is responsible for the Company's strategy, its portfolio policy, the deployment of human and capital resources, the Company's risk management system, the Company's financial performance and its performance in the area of sustainability. The Supervisory Board supervises the policy pursued by the Managing Board, the Managing Board's performance of its managerial duties and the Company's general course of affairs, taking account of the interests of all the Company's stakeholders. The Supervisory Board consists of at least five independent non-executives.

The composition of the Supervisory Board and the Managing Board is as follows:

- Supervisory Board: Rob Routs (chairman), Victoria Haynes, Pierre Hochuli, Eileen Kennedy, Pauline van der Meer Mohr, Pradeep Pant and Tom De Swaan.
- Managing Board: Feike Sijbesma (chairman), Geraldine Matchett (CFO), Stephan Tanda and Dimitri de Vreeze.

The business address of all members of the Supervisory Board and the Managing Board is: Koninklijke DSM N.V., Het Overloon 1, 6411 TE Heerlen, The Netherlands.

Listed below are the principal activities performed by members of the Supervisory Board and the Managing Board outside DSM. None of the members of the Supervisory Board and the Managing Board have any (potential) conflict between their duties to DSM and their private interests and other duties.

#### ***Supervisory Board:***

*Routs, R.J.*

- Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Aegon N.V.
- Member of the Board of Directors of A.P. Moeller-Maersk Group.
- Member of the Board of Directors of ATCO Group Ltd.
- Member of the Board of Directors of AECOM Technology Corporation.

*Haynes, V.F.*

- Member of the Board of Directors of PPG, Nucor and Axiall.

*Hochuli, P.*

(no supervisory directorship or other positions)

*Kennedy, E.T.*

- Professor of Nutrition Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy at Tufts University in Boston (USA).
- High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition of the UN Committee on World Food Security.

*Van der Meer Mohr, P.F.M.*

- President of the Executive Board of Erasmus University Rotterdam (until 1 December 2015).
- Member of the Supervisory Board of ASML N.V.

- Chair of the Supervisory Board of EY Netherlands (as of 1 September 2015).
- Chair Board of the Fulbright Center.
- Director of the Hollandsche Maatschappij van Wetenschappen.
- Member of the Economic Development Board of Rotterdam.
- Member of the Board Concertgebouw Fonds (as of January 2015).
- Chair of Supervisory Board Nederlands Danstheater (as of March 2015).

*Pant, P.*

- Member of the Honorary Council of Food Industry Asia.
- Member of the Advisory Board of the Lee Kong Chian School of Business at Singapore Management University.
- Independent non-executive Director Max BUPA Health Insurance Co Ltd. (India).
- Independent non-executive Director Antara Senior Living Ltd. (India).
- Independent non-executive Director Antara Purukul Senior Living Ltd. (India).
- President of Pant Consulting Pte Ltd.

*De Swaan, T.*

- Non-executive director of the Board of GlaxoSmithKline plc. (until 6 My 2015)
- Chairman and as of 1 December 2015 Chief Executive Officer of the Board of Zurich Insurance Group.
- Member of the Supervisory Board of Van Lanschot Bankiers N.V. (chairman until 21 December 2015).
- Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Netherlands Cancer Institute-Antoni van Leeuwenhoek Hospital.
- Chairman Advisory Board Rotterdam School of Management.

***Managing Board:***

*Sijbesma, F.*

- Board member CEFIC (European Chemical Industry Council).
- Member Supervisory Board De Nederlandsche Bank (DNB), the Dutch Central Bank.
- Member Supervisory Board (Non-Executive Director) Unilever N.V. and PLC
- Member Global CEO Council (GCC) Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC).

*Matchett, G.*

(no supervisory directorships or other positions)

*Tanda, S.B.*

- Chairman Industrial Biotech Section, EuropaBio (European Biotechnology Industry Association).
- Board member of BIO (US Biotechnology Industry Organization).
- Board member of FoodDrinkEurope (European Food and Drink Industry Association).

*D. de Vreeze*

- Board member “Fonds voor de top sport” (NOC\*NSF; Dutch Olympic Committee Fund for top sport).
- Member Advisory Board ECP (Electronic Commerce Platform Netherlands).
- Board member Young Captain Foundation

***Committees of the Supervisory Board:***

Pursuant to article 29 of the articles of association, the Supervisory Board has established an audit committee, a nomination committee, a remuneration committee and a corporate social responsibility committee.

***Audit committee***

The Audit Committee is comprised of Mr. T. de Swaan (Chair), Mr. P. Hochuli, Mrs. V. Haynes and Mr. P. Pant.

Working within the Supervisory Board, the Audit Committee is charged in particular with the supervision of the Managing Board with respect to:

- the operation of the internal risk management and control systems, including supervision of the enforcement of the relevant legislation and regulations, and supervising the operation of codes of conduct.
- giving advice to the Supervisory Board on the nomination by the Supervisory Board to the General Meeting of Shareholders for the appointment of the external auditor.
- where necessary, making proposals to the Supervisory Board on the policy applied in respect of the independence of the external auditor and possible (potential) conflicts of interest between the external auditor and the Company.
- preparing meetings of the Supervisory Board with the Managing Board where the annual report, the annual accounts, the half-yearly and the quarterly figures of the Company are discussed.

***Nomination Committee***

The Nomination Committee is comprised of Mr. R. Routs (Chair), Mrs. P. van der Meer Mohr and Mrs. E. Kennedy.

The Nomination Committee has the following duties:

- drafting selection criteria and appointment procedures for Supervisory Board members and Managing Board members;
- assessing at least once a year the size and composition of the Supervisory Board and the Managing Board, and to make proposals for the Supervisory Board Profile;
- assessing at least once a year the functioning of individual Supervisory Board members and Managing Board members, and report their findings to the Supervisory Board;

- making proposals for (re)appointments;
- supervising the policy of the Managing Board on the selection criteria and appointment procedures for senior management;
- preparing the decision-making process of the Supervisory Board on the acceptance by a member of the Managing Board of the membership of the Supervisory Board of a listed company; and
- preparing the decision-making process of the Supervisory Board concerning any conflicts of interest that may arise in the acceptance by members of the Supervisory Board of additional positions.

#### *Remuneration Committee*

The Remuneration Committee is comprised of Mrs. P. van der Meer Mohr (chair), Mr. R. Routs, Mr. T. de Swaan and Mrs. V. Haynes.

The Remuneration Committee has the following duties:

- drafting proposals to the Supervisory Board for the remuneration policy to be pursued for members of the Managing Board, which policy, as well as any material changes thereto, shall be submitted to the General Meeting of Shareholders for adoption;
- drafting proposals for the remuneration of the individual members of the Managing Board; such proposals shall, in any event, deal with the remuneration structure; and the amount of the fixed remuneration, shares and/or options to be granted and/or other variable remuneration components, pension rights, redundancy pay and other forms of compensation awarded, as well as the performance criteria and their application,
- and, if there are reasons therefore, to make proposals for changes or additions to the remuneration of individual members of the Managing Board, which remuneration and possible changes and/or additions shall be submitted for adoption to the Supervisory Board (without prejudice to the power of the Supervisory Board to delegate the final adoption to the Remuneration Committee, within the framework set by the Supervisory Board);
- to prepare the Remuneration Report referred to in clause 12.1 of the Regulations of the Supervisory Board; and
- to make proposals to the Supervisory Board for the remuneration of the individual members of the Supervisory Board, which remuneration will be submitted to the General Meeting of Shareholders for adoption.

#### *Sustainability Committee*

The Sustainability Committee is comprised of Mrs. E. Kennedy (Chair), Mr P. Hochuli and Mr. Pradeep Pant.

The Corporate Sustainability Committee has the following duties:

- preparation of discussions by the Supervisory Board on the supervision of the Managing Board with respect to formulating, developing, implementing, monitoring and reporting on the Company's social and environmental policies in line with the DSM values / Code of Business Conduct; and
- to prepare the meeting of the Supervisory Board with the Managing Board where the Integrated Annual Report is discussed.

#### **Dutch Corporate Governance Code**

DSM supports the Dutch Corporate Governance Code adopted in 2003 and amended in 2008, which can be found on [www.commissiecorporategovernance.nl](http://www.commissiecorporategovernance.nl).

DSM confirms that it applies all of the code's 113 Best Practices. With respect to the appointment of members of the Managing Board for a period of at most four years (Best Practice II.1.1) it should be noted that DSM has adhered to this Best Practice since the introduction of the corporate governance code in 2004. Since DSM respects agreements made before the introduction of said code, the current chairman of the Managing Board will remain appointed for an indefinite period. With respect to the Dutch corporate governance code it should be noted that any substantial change in the corporate governance structure of the Company and in the Company's compliance with the code shall be submitted to the General Meeting of Shareholders for discussion under a separate agenda item.

All documents related to the implementation at DSM of the Dutch corporate governance code can be found in the Governance section of the corporate website ([www.dsm.com](http://www.dsm.com)).

## Markets

DSM supplies its products to high-end industrial markets (business to business). The human and animal nutrition market is the principal end use market for DSM.

<b>DSM end markets 2015</b>	
Health and Nutrition	64%
Metal, Building & construction	6%
Automotive / Transport	7%
Textiles	1%
Electrical / Electronics	5%
Packaging	7%
Other	10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Strategy and recent developments

### *Strategy: Strategy 2018: Driving Profitable Growth*

On 4 November 2015, DSM presented its Strategy 2018: Driving Profitable Growth, recognizing that, following a period of important transformation, the Company will focus on ensuring that the potential of the current business portfolio that has been created translates into improved financial results. Reflecting its disciplined focus on performance, DSM has implemented a three-year strategic period with two headline financial targets: high single-digit annual EBITDA growth and high double-digit basis point annual ROCE growth.

To achieve these targets, DSM has defined clear actions, including outpacing market growth, cost reduction and efficiency improvement programs which will deliver €250-300 million versus the 2014 baseline, and furthermore aims to drive consistent improvements in capital efficiency.

DSM is confident that it has the right business strategies in place to meet the needs of its customers and succeed in its markets, providing innovative and sustainable solutions. It intends to accelerate growth and outpace market growth in its key segments. In Nutrition, DSM has a unique business model combining highly competitive, world scale production capabilities for its key global products with customized local solution capabilities to meet segment and customer-specific needs. It has clear strategies to drive both top and bottom-line growth across its Nutrition business, leveraging improved segmentation capabilities and driving customer intimacy.

In Materials, DSM is benefitting from the successful shift in the focus of its portfolio towards specialties, driven by the substitution of traditional materials for the more innovative, sustainable and higher-value alternatives that the Company provides. DSM has a growth strategy for its specialty resins, engineering

plastic compounds as well as solutions for life protection. For DSM's high-performance plastics, functional materials, advanced surfaces, biomedical materials and high performance fibre solutions, DSM has defined an accelerated growth strategy.

In addition to its growth initiatives, DSM is rigorously executing its ambitious cost reduction and efficiency improvement programs across the Company with targeted overall savings of €250 - €300 million by 2018 versus the 2014 baseline.

DSM aims to enhance its financial performance through consistent improvements in capital efficiency. Capital expenditure will primarily support growth areas, with approximately two-thirds being focused on the Nutrition cluster.

DSM is adjusting its global organizational and operating model to support the Company's growth, creating a more agile, commercially-focused and cost-efficient business.

For DSM, sustainability is a core value as well as an important business driver. DSM is stepping up its sustainability aspirations which serve both as an important business driver in terms of growth opportunities as well as a focus area for reducing operating costs by decreasing the Company's environmental footprint. DSM has successfully embedded sustainability into its business activities, targeting to improve the proportion of Brighter Living Solutions (formerly referred to as ECO+ and People+) to 65% of sales by 2020 and aiming to reduce its (relative) emissions by 45% by 2025, compared to the reference year 2008. Over recent years, DSM has achieved a good balance in its Innovation sales rate (>20%) and in the proportion of sales to emerging economies (~45%). DSM aspires to maintain these levels going forward.

DSM has established in the period 2010-2015 partnerships for its former Pharma activities (DSM Sinochem Pharmaceuticals and Patheon) and for the remaining Bulk Chemical businesses (ChemicalInvest). These partnerships have been created with a view to ultimately exiting these businesses and DSM expects to extract significant value from them in the coming years.

#### *Recent developments:*

For the last full year results (2015) see DSM's 2015 Integrated Annual Report.

For the first half of 2016 DSM reported for its continuing operations 1% sales growth from €3,851 to 3,907 million (with 4% organic sales growth) versus H1 2015. EBITDA increased 18% from €527 to €624 million versus H1 2015. Profit of continuing operations (after exceptional items) increased from €115 million to €220 million versus H1 2015. The ROCE increased from 7.4% in H1 2015 to 10.5% for H1 2016. This ROCE is calculated based on the weighted average capital employed for January until June.

"EBITDA" as used in this section means the sum total of operating profit plus depreciation and amortization and "ROCE" as used in this section means operating profit as a percentage of weighted average capital employed.

DSM is on track with the execution of the group-wide cost savings and improvement programs.

#### **Final remark**

This chapter contains forward-looking statements with respect to DSM's future (financial) performance and position. Such statements are based on current expectations, estimates and projections of DSM and information currently available to the Company. Examples of forward-looking statements include statements made or implied about the Company's strategy, estimates of sales growth, financial results, cost savings and future developments in its existing business as well as the impact of future acquisitions, and the Company's financial position. These statements can be management estimates based on information provided by specialised agencies or advisors like Global Insight, Consensus Economics, the IMF, CEFIC and Eurostat, sources believed to be reliable by DSM.

## PRC CURRENCY CONTROLS RELATING TO RENMINBI

### *Current Account Items*

Under PRC foreign exchange control regulations, current account items refer to any transaction for international receipts and payments involving goods, services, earnings and other frequent transfers.

Prior to July 2009, all current account items were required to be settled in foreign currencies with limited exceptions. Following progressive reforms, Renminbi settlement of imports and exports of goods and of services and other current account items became permissible nationwide in 2012, except that the key enterprises on a Supervision List determined by the PBoC and five other relevant authorities would be subject to enhanced scrutiny when banks process current account cross-border repatriations.

On 5 July 2013, the PBoC promulgated the *Circular on Policies related to Simplifying and Improving Cross-border Renminbi Business Procedures* (關於簡化跨境人民幣業務流程和完善有關政策的通知) (the "**2013 PBoC Circular**") which simplified the procedures for cross-border Renminbi trade settlement under current account items. On 1 November 2014, PBoC introduced a cash pooling arrangement for qualified multinational enterprise group companies, under which a multinational enterprise group can process cross-border Renminbi payments and receipts for current account items on a collective basis for eligible member companies in the group. On 5 September 2015, PBoC promulgated the *Circular on Further Facilitating the Cross-Border Bi-directional Renminbi Cash Pooling Business by Multinational Enterprise Groups* (關於進一步便利跨國企業集團開展跨境雙向人民幣資金池業務的通知) (the "**2015 PBoC Circular**"), which, among others, have lowered the eligibility requirements for multinational enterprise groups and increased the cap for net cash inflow. The 2015 PBoC Circular also provides that enterprises in the China (Shanghai) Free Trade Pilot Zone ("**Shanghai FTZ**") may establish an additional cash pool in the local scheme in the Shanghai FTZ, but each onshore company within the group may only elect to participate in one cash pool.

The regulations referred to above are subject to interpretation and application by the relevant PRC authorities. Local authorities may adopt different practices in applying these regulations 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. Capital account payments are generally subject to approval of, and/or registration or filing with, the relevant PRC authorities.

Until recently, settlement of capital account items, for example, the capital contribution of foreign investors to foreign invested enterprises in the PRC, were generally required to be made in foreign currencies. Under progressive reforms by PBoC, the Ministry of Commerce of the PRC ("**MOFCOM**") and the State Administration of Foreign Exchange of the PRC ("**SAFE**"), foreign investors are now permitted to make capital contribution, share transfer, profit allocation and liquidation and certain other transactions in Renminbi for their foreign direct investment within the PRC. Cross-border Renminbi payment infrastructure and trading facilities are being improved. Approval, registration and filing requirements for capital account payments in Renminbi are being removed gradually. In addition, the *Circular on Reforming Foreign Exchange Capital Settlement for Foreign Invested Enterprises* (關於改革外商投資企業外匯資本金結匯管理方式的通知) which became effective on 1 June 2015, allows foreign-invested enterprises to settle 100 per cent. (subject to future adjustment at discretion of SAFE) of the foreign currency capital (which has been processed through the SAFE's equity interest confirmation procedure for capital contribution in cash or registered by a bank on the SAFE's system for account-crediting for such capital contribution) into Renminbi according to their actual operational needs. A negative list with respect to the usage of the capital and the Renminbi proceeds through the aforementioned settlement procedure is set forth under the Circular. In particular, a foreign invested enterprise with investment as its main business is permitted to use such Renminbi proceeds to make equity contribution to its invested enterprises directly, without further fillings with SAFE.

PRC entities are also permitted to borrow Renminbi-denominated loans from foreign lenders (which are referred to as "foreign debt") and lend Renminbi-denominated loans to foreign borrowers (which are referred to as "outbound loans"), as long as such PRC entities have the necessary quota, approval or



registration. PRC entities may also denominate security or guarantee arrangements in denominated and make payments thereunder to parties in the PRC as well as other jurisdictions (which is referred to as "cross-border security"). Under current rules promulgated by SAFE, foreign debts borrowed, outbound loans extended, and the cross-border security provided by a PRC onshore entity (including a financial institution) in Renminbi shall, in principle, be regulated under the current PRC foreign debt, outbound loan and cross-border security regimes applicable to foreign currencies. However, there remains potential inconsistencies between the provisions of the SAFE rules and the provisions of the 2013 PBoC Circular. It is not clear how regulators will deal with such inconsistencies in practice.

According to the 2015 PBoC Circular, qualified multinational enterprise groups can extend Renminbi-denominated loans to, or borrow Renminbi-denominated loans from, eligible offshore member entities within the same group by leveraging the cash pooling arrangements. The Renminbi funds will be placed in a special deposit account and may not be used to invest in stocks, financial derivatives, or non-self-use real estate assets, or purchase wealth management products or extend loans to enterprises outside the group. Enterprises within the Shanghai FTZ may establish another cash pool under the Shanghai FTZ rules to extend inter-company loans, although Renminbi funds obtained from financing activities may not be pooled under this arrangement.

Recent reforms introduced were aimed at controlling the remittance of Renminbi for payment of transactions categorised as capital account items. There is no assurance that the PRC Government will continue to gradually liberalise the control over Renminbi payments of capital account item transactions in the future. The relevant regulations are relatively new and 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.

## **USE OF PROCEEDS**

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

## TAXATION

### ***Netherlands Taxation***

*The following summary of certain Dutch taxation matters is based on the laws and practice in force as of the date of this Base Prospectus and is subject to any changes in law and the interpretation and application thereof, which changes could be made with retroactive effect. The following summary does not purport to be a comprehensive description of all the tax considerations that may be relevant to a decision to acquire, hold or dispose of a Note, and does not purport to deal with the tax consequences applicable to all categories of investors, some of which may be subject to special rules.*

*For the purpose of the paragraph "Taxes on Income and Capital Gains" below it is assumed that a Holder, being an individual or a non-resident entity, does not have nor will have a substantial interest (aanmerkelijk belang), or - in the case of a Holder being an entity - a deemed substantial interest, in the Issuer and that no connected person (verbonden persoon) to the Holder has or will have a substantial interest in the Issuer.*

*Generally speaking, an individual has a substantial interest in a company if (a) such individual, either alone or together with his partner, directly or indirectly has, or is deemed to have or (b) certain relatives of such individual or his partner directly or indirectly have or are deemed to have (i) the ownership of, a right to acquire the ownership of, or certain rights over, shares representing 5 per cent or more of either the total issued and outstanding capital of such company or the issued and outstanding capital of any class of shares of such company, or (ii) the ownership of, or certain rights over, profit participating certificates (winstbewijzen) that relate to 5 per cent or more of either the annual profit or the liquidation proceeds of such company*

*Generally speaking, a non-resident entity has a substantial interest in a company if such entity, directly or indirectly has (i) the ownership of, a right to acquire the ownership of, or certain rights over, shares representing 5 per cent or more of either the total issued and outstanding capital of such company or the issued and outstanding capital of any class of shares of such company, or (ii) the ownership of, or certain rights over, profit participating certificates (winstbewijzen) that relate to 5 per cent or more of either the annual profit or the liquidation proceeds of such company. An entity holding a Note has a deemed substantial interest in a company if such entity has disposed of or is deemed to have disposed of all or part of a substantial interest on a non-recognition basis.*

*For the purpose of this summary, the term "entity" means a corporation as well as any other person that is taxable as a corporation for Dutch corporate tax purposes.*

*Where this summary refers to a holder of a Note, an individual holding a Note or an entity holding a Note, such reference is restricted to an individual or entity holding legal title to as well as an economic interest in such Note or otherwise being regarded as owning a Note for Dutch tax purposes. It is noted that for purposes of Dutch income, corporate, gift and inheritance tax, assets legally owned by a third party such as a trustee, foundation or similar entity, may be treated as assets owned by the (deemed) settlor, grantor or similar originator or the beneficiaries in proportion to their interest in such arrangement.*

*Where the summary refers to "The Netherlands" or "Dutch" it refers only to the European part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.*

***Investors should consult their professional advisers on the tax consequences of their acquiring, holding and disposing of a Note***

#### **1. WITHHOLDING TAX**

All payments made by the Issuer of interest and principal under the Notes can be made free of withholding or deduction of any taxes of whatsoever nature imposed, levied, withheld or assessed by The Netherlands or any political subdivision or taxing authority thereof or therein, unless the Notes qualify as debt that effectively functions as equity for purposes of article 10, paragraph 1, sub d of the Corporate Tax Act (*Wet op de vennootschapsbelasting 1969*).

## 2. TAXES ON INCOME AND CAPITAL GAINS

### Residents

#### *Resident entities*

An entity holding a Note which is, or is deemed to be, resident in The Netherlands for corporate tax purposes and which is not tax exempt, will generally be subject to corporate tax in respect of income or a capital gain derived from a Note at the prevailing statutory rates.

#### *Resident individuals*

An individual holding a Note who is, or is deemed to be, resident in The Netherlands for income tax purposes will be subject to income tax in respect of income or a capital gain derived from a Note at rates up to 52 per cent if:

- (i) the income or capital gain is attributable to an enterprise from which the holder derives profits (other than as a shareholder); or
- (ii) the income or capital gain qualifies as income from miscellaneous activities (*belastbaar resultaat uit overige werkzaamheden*) as defined in the Income Tax Act (*Wet inkomstenbelasting 2001*), including, without limitation, activities that exceed normal, active asset management (*normaal, actief vermogensbeheer*).

If neither condition (i) nor (ii) applies, an individual holding a Note will be subject to income tax on the basis of a deemed return, regardless of any actual income or capital gain derived from a Note. The deemed return amounts 4% of the value of the individual's net assets as at the beginning of the relevant fiscal year (including the Note). As per 1 January 2017 the rate of 4% will be replaced by variable progressive rates. For 2017 the rates are set from 2.9 to 5.5%. The applicable rates will be updated annually on the basis of historic market yields. Subject to application of certain allowances, the deemed return will be taxed at a rate of 30 per cent.

### Non-residents

A holder of a Note which is not, and is not deemed to be resident in The Netherlands for the relevant tax purposes will not be subject to taxation on income or a capital gain derived from a Note unless:

- (i) the income or capital gain is attributable to an enterprise or part thereof which is either effectively managed in The Netherlands or carried on through a permanent establishment (*vaste inrichting*) or a permanent representative (*vaste vertegenwoordiger*) taxable in The Netherlands and the holder of a Note derives profits from such enterprise (other than by way of securities); or
- (ii) the holder is an individual and the income or capital gain qualifies as income from miscellaneous activities (*belastbaar resultaat uit overige werkzaamheden*) in The Netherlands as defined in the Income Tax Act (*Wet inkomstenbelasting 2001*), including, without limitation, activities that exceed normal, active asset management (*normaal, actief vermogensbeheer*).

## 3. GIFT AND INHERITANCE TAXES

Dutch gift or inheritance taxes will not be levied on the occasion of the transfer of a Note by way of gift by, or on the death of, a holder of a Note, unless:

- (i) the holder of a Note is, or is deemed to be, resident in The Netherlands for the purpose of the relevant provisions; or
- (ii) the transfer is construed as an inheritance or gift made by, or on behalf of, a person who, at the time of the gift or death, is or is deemed to be resident in The Netherlands for the purpose of the relevant provisions.

4. **VALUE ADDED TAX**

There is no Dutch value added tax payable by a holder of a Note in respect of payments in consideration for the issue of the Notes or in respect of the payment of interest or principal under the Notes, or the transfer of the Notes.

5. **OTHER TAXES AND DUTIES**

There is no Dutch registration tax, stamp duty or any other similar tax or duty payable in The Netherlands by a holder of a Note in respect of or in connection with the execution, delivery and/or enforcement by legal proceedings (including any foreign judgement in the courts of The Netherlands) of the Notes or the performance of the Issuer's obligations under the Notes.

6. **RESIDENCE**

A holder of a Note will not be and will not be deemed to be resident in The Netherlands for tax purposes and, subject to the exceptions set out above, will not otherwise become subject to Dutch taxation, by reason only of acquiring, holding or disposing of a Note or the execution, performance, delivery and/or enforcement of a Note.

## SUBSCRIPTION AND SALE

The Dealers have in the Dealer Agreement agreed with the Issuer a basis upon which they or any of them may from time to time purchase Notes.

### United States

The Notes have not been and will not be registered under the Securities Act or with any securities regulatory authority of any state or other jurisdiction of the United States and may not be offered or sold within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons except pursuant to an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to the registration requirements of the Securities Act. Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them by Regulation S under the Securities Act.

The Notes in bearer form may be subject to U.S. tax law requirements and may not be offered, sold or delivered within the United States or its possessions or to a United States person, except in certain transactions permitted by United States 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. The applicable Final Terms will identify whether TEFRA C rules or TEFRA D rules apply or whether TEFRA is not applicable.

Each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that it will not offer, sell or deliver Notes (i) as part of their distribution at any time or (ii) otherwise until 40 days after the later of the commencement of the offering and the Issue Date, (as determined and certified by the relevant Dealer(s) or, in the case of an issue of Notes on a syndicated basis, the relevant lead manager), of all Notes of the Tranche of which such Notes are a part, except in accordance with Rule 903 of the Regulation S under the Securities Act. Each Dealer has further agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to agree, that it will send to each distributor, dealer or person receiving a selling concession, fee or other remuneration to which it sells any Notes during the distribution compliance period a confirmation or other notice setting forth the restrictions on offers and sales of the Notes within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons. Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them by Regulation S under the Securities Act.

In addition, until 40 days after the commencement of the offering of any Tranche of Notes, an offer or sale of such Notes within the United States by any dealer (whether or not participating in the offering) may violate the registration requirements of the Securities Act if such offer or sale is made otherwise than in accordance with an available exemption from registration under the Securities Act.

### Public Offer Selling Restrictions Under The Prospectus Directive

In relation to each 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 Base 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:

- (a) *Approved prospectus*: if the final terms in relation to the Notes specify that an offer of those Notes may be made other than pursuant to Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive in that Relevant Member State (a "**Non-exempt Offer**"), following the date of publication of a prospectus in relation to such Notes which has been approved by the competent authority in that Relevant Member State or, where appropriate, approved in another Relevant Member State and notified to the competent authority in that Relevant Member State, provided that any such prospectus has subsequently been completed by the final terms contemplating such Non-exempt Offer, in accordance with the Prospectus Directive, in the period beginning and ending on the dates specified in such prospectus or final terms, as applicable and the Issuer has consented in writing to its use for the purpose of that Non-exempt Offer;
- (b) *Qualified investors*: at any time to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Directive;

- (c) *Fewer than 150 offerees*: at any time to fewer than 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
- (d) *Other exempt offers*: 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 (b) to (d) 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 Member State by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that Member State.

### **Selling Restrictions Addressing Additional United Kingdom Securities Laws**

Each Dealer has represented, warranted and agreed that:

- (a) **No deposit-taking**: in relation to any Notes which have a maturity of less than one year, (i) it is a person whose ordinary activities involve it in acquiring, holding, managing or disposing of investments (as principal or agent) for the purposes of its business and (ii) it has not offered or sold and will not offer or sell any Notes other than to persons whose ordinary activities involve them in acquiring, holding, managing or disposing of investments (as principal or as agent) for the purposes of their businesses or who it is reasonable to expect will acquire, hold, manage or dispose of investments (as principal or agent) for the purposes of their businesses where the issue of the Notes would otherwise constitute a contravention of Section 19 of the FSMA by the Issuer;
- (b) **Financial promotion**: 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; and
- (c) **General compliance**: 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.

### **Selling Restrictions Addressing Additional Netherlands Securities Laws/Global**

Each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree that as long as it does not have the benefit of a licence or exemption as investment firm of the relevant type pursuant to the FSA, it shall not offer any Notes or distribute this Base Prospectus or any circulars, offer documents or information relating to the Issuer or the Notes in The Netherlands.

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 which are the subject of the offering contemplated by this Base Prospectus as completed by the Final Terms in relation thereto to the public in The Netherlands in reliance on Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive unless:

- (a) such offer is made exclusively to legal entities which are qualified investors (as defined in the FSA) in The Netherlands and which includes authorised discretionary asset managers acting for the account of retail investors under a discretionary investment management contract) in The Netherlands; or
- (b) standard exemption logo and wording are disclosed as required by article 5:20(5) of the FSA; or
- (c) such offer is otherwise made in circumstances in which article 5:20(5) of the FSA is not applicable,

**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 expression an "**offer of Notes to the public**" in relation to any Notes in The Netherlands has the meaning given to it above in the paragraph headed with "*Public Offer Selling Restriction Under the Prospectus Directive*".

### **Japan**

The Notes have not been and will not be registered under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Act of Japan (Act No. 25 of 1948, as amended, the "**FIEA**") and, accordingly, each Dealer undertakes that it will not offer or sell any Notes directly or indirectly, in Japan or to, or for the benefit of, any resident of Japan or to others for re-offering or resale, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to any resident of Japan except pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of, and otherwise in compliance with the FIEA and other relevant laws and regulations of Japan. As used in this paragraph, "**resident of Japan**" means any person resident in Japan, including any corporation or other entity organised under the laws of Japan.

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

The Dealers and investors who are citizens of China or residents in China ("**PRC Investors**") have acknowledged that this Base Prospectus, or the Notes or any material or information contained or incorporated by reference in this Base Prospectus relating to the Notes, have not been, and will not be submitted to become, approved/verified by or registered with any relevant government authorities under PRC law. Accordingly the Notes may not be offered or sold directly or indirectly in the PRC and this Base Prospectus may not be supplied to the public in the PRC or used in connection with any offer for subscription or sale of the Notes in the PRC directly or indirectly. The material or information contained or incorporated by reference in this Base Prospectus relating to the Notes does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities by any person in the PRC. The Notes may only be offered or sold to PRC investors that are authorised to engage in the purchase of Notes of the type being offered or sold.

Each Dealer has represented, warranted and agreed to and with the Issuer that it has not made, and will not make, any offers, promotions, solicitations for sales of or for, as the case may be, any Notes in the PRC, except where permitted by the China Securities Regulatory Commission and other competent authorities or where the activity otherwise is permitted under the PRC law. PRC Investors should note that they themselves are responsible for informing themselves about observing all legal and regulatory restrictions, obtaining all relevant government regulatory approvals/licenses, verifications and/or registrations from all relevant governmental authorities (including but not limited to the China Securities Regulatory Commission and/or the State Administration of Foreign Exchange), and complying with all the applicable PRC regulations, including but not limited to any relevant PRC foreign exchange regulations and/or foreign investment regulations.

### **Hong Kong**

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

- (a) it has not offered or sold and will not offer or sell in Hong Kong, by means of any document, any Notes except for Notes which are a "structured product" as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571) of Hong Kong (the "**SFO**") other than (i) to "professional investors" as defined in the SFO and any rules made under the SFO; or (ii) in other circumstances which do not result in the document being a "prospectus" as defined in the Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance (Cap. 32) of Hong Kong or which do not constitute an offer to the public within the meaning of that Ordinance; and
- (b) 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 in 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 SFO and any rules made under the SFO.

### **General**

Each Dealer has agreed and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to agree that it will (to the best of its knowledge and belief) comply with all applicable securities laws and regulations in force in any jurisdiction in which it purchases, offers, sells or delivers Notes or possesses or distributes this Base Prospectus, any Final Terms or any other offering material relating to the Notes and will obtain any consent, approval or permission required by it for the purchase, offer, sale or delivery by it of Notes under the laws and regulations in force in any jurisdiction to which it is subject or in which it makes such purchases, offers, sales or deliveries and neither the Issuer nor any other Dealer shall have any responsibility therefore.

Save as specifically described in this Base Prospectus, neither the Issuer, the Arranger nor any of the Dealers represents that Notes may at any time lawfully be sold in compliance with any applicable registration or other requirements in any jurisdiction, or pursuant to any exemption available thereunder, or assumes any responsibility for facilitating such sale.

With regard to each Tranche, the relevant Dealer will be required to comply with such other or additional restrictions as the Issuer and the relevant Dealer shall agree and as shall be set out in the applicable Final Terms.

Selling restrictions may be supplemented or modified with the agreement of the Issuer. Any such supplement or modification may be set out in the relevant Final Terms (in the case of a supplement or modification relevant only to a particular Tranche of Notes) or in a supplement to this Base Prospectus.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Authorisation

The establishment of the Programme was duly authorised by a resolution of the Managing Board of the Issuer on 28 June 1999. The annual update of the Programme and the issue of the Notes hereunder have been duly authorised by a resolution of the Managing Board of the Issuer on 29 August 2016. All consents, approvals and authorisations required by the Issuer under the laws of The Netherlands have been given for the issue of the Notes and for the Issuer to undertake and perform its obligations under the Dealer Agreement, the Fiscal Agency Agreement and the Notes.

### Ratings

The Issuer's solicited credit ratings are published by Moody's Investors Service Ltd. ("**Moody's**") and Standard & Poor's Credit Market Services Europe Limited ("**S&P**"). The Issuer's current long-term credit ratings are A3 with a negative outlook from Moody's and A with a stable outlook from S&P.

Moody's and S&P are established in the EEA and registered under the CRA Regulation.

Tranches of Notes issued under the Programme may be rated or unrated, as specified in the applicable Final Terms. A security 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.

Where a Tranche of Notes is rated, such rating will not necessarily be the same as the ratings assigned to the Programme or the rating(s) assigned to Notes already issued. Where a Tranche of Notes is rated, the applicable rating(s) will be specified in the relevant Final Terms.

Whether or not each credit rating applied for in relation to a relevant Tranche of Notes will be (1) issued by a credit rating agency established in the EEA and registered (or which has applied for registration and not been refused) under the CRA Regulation, or (2) issued by a credit rating agency which is not established in the EEA but will be endorsed by a CRA which is established in the EEA and registered under the CRA Regulation or (3) issued by a credit rating agency which is not established in the EEA but which is certified under the CRA Regulation will be disclosed in the Final Terms. In general, European regulated investors are restricted from using a rating for regulatory purposes if such rating is not issued by a credit rating agency established in the European Union and registered under the CRA Regulation, unless the rating is provided by a credit rating agency operating in the EEA before 7 June 2010 which has submitted an application for registration in accordance with the CRA Regulation and such registration is not refused.

### Clearing Systems

The Notes have been accepted for clearance through Clearstream, Frankfurt, Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg. The appropriate German Securities Code, common code and the International Securities Identification Number in relation to the Notes of each Series will be specified in the Final Terms relating thereto. The relevant Final Terms shall specify any other clearing system as shall have accepted the relevant Notes for clearance together with any further appropriate information.

The address of Euroclear is 1 Boulevard du Roi Albert II, B-1210 Brussels, Belgium. The address of Clearstream, Luxembourg is 42 Avenue JF Kennedy, L-1855 Luxembourg, Luxembourg. The address of Clearstream, Frankfurt is Neue Börsenstrasse 1, D-60487 Frankfurt am Main, Germany.

### Legend concerning United States Persons

Notes (other than Temporary Global Notes) and any Coupon appertaining thereto will bear a legend substantially to the following effect: "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."

### Settlement Arrangements

Settlement arrangements will be agreed between the Issuer, the relevant Dealer and the Fiscal Agent in relation to each Tranche of Notes.

## Documents Incorporated by Reference

The following documents, which have previously been published or are published simultaneously with this Base Prospectus and have been filed with The Netherlands Authority for the Financial Markets (*Autoriteit Financiële Markten*), shall be incorporated in, and to form part of, this Base Prospectus; this Base Prospectus should be read and construed in conjunction with such documents:

- (i) the following sections of the 2014 Integrated Annual Report of the Issuer (in English): the Financial Statements (from and including page 120 to and including page 199) and the Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements (from and including page 200 to and including page 203);  
([http://www.dsm.com/content/dam/dsm/cworld/en\\_US/documents/dsm-integrated-annual-report-2014.pdf](http://www.dsm.com/content/dam/dsm/cworld/en_US/documents/dsm-integrated-annual-report-2014.pdf))
- (ii) the following sections of the 2015 Integrated Annual Report of the Issuer (in English): the Financial Statements (from and including page 124 to and including page 198) and the Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements (from and including page 199 to and including page 202);  
([http://www.dsm.com/content/dam/dsm/cworld/en\\_US/documents/dsm-integrated-annual-report-2015.pdf](http://www.dsm.com/content/dam/dsm/cworld/en_US/documents/dsm-integrated-annual-report-2015.pdf))
- (iii) the Articles of Association (*statuten*) of the Issuer,  
([http://www.dsm.com/content/dam/dsm/cworld/en\\_US/documents/articles-association-en.pdf](http://www.dsm.com/content/dam/dsm/cworld/en_US/documents/articles-association-en.pdf))

save that any statement contained in a document which is incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for the purpose of this Base Prospectus to the extent that a statement contained herein modifies or supersedes such earlier statement (whether expressly, by implication or otherwise).

The non-incorporated parts of the documents mentioned above are either not relevant for the investor or covered elsewhere in this Base Prospectus.

The Issuer will provide, without charge, to each person, upon the written request or request by email of such person, a copy of any or all of the documents which are incorporated herein by reference. Requests for such documents can be sent to [investor.relations@dsm.com](mailto:investor.relations@dsm.com) or to the registered office of the Issuer at Het Overloon 1, 6411 TE Heerlen, The Netherlands for the attention of Investor Relations (+31 (45) 5782864)).

The Issuer will, in the event of a significant new factor, material mistake or inaccuracy relating to the information contained in this Base Prospectus which is capable of affecting the assessment of any Notes, prepare a supplement to this Base Prospectus or publish a new prospectus for use in connection with any subsequent issue of Notes to be admitted to trading on an EEA regulated market or to be offered to the public in the EEA.

## Documents Available

So long as this Base Prospectus is valid as described in Article 9 of the Prospective Directive (as implemented in the legislation of The Netherlands), copies of the following documents will, when published, be available free of charge from the Issuer. Written requests for such documents should be directed to the Issuer at Het Overloon 1, 6411 TE Heerlen, The Netherlands for the attention of Investor Relations:

- (i) the 2014 and 2015 Integrated Annual Reports of the Issuer (in English), including the audited consolidated annual accounts of the Issuer and its consolidated subsidiaries in respect of the financial year ended 31 December 2014 and 31 December 2015 (according to International Financial Reporting Standards) and the auditors reports thereon;
- (ii) the Articles of Association (*statuten*) of the Issuer, and the English translation of the Articles of Association of the Issuer;
- (iii) a copy of this Base Prospectus;

- (iv) each set of Final Terms in relation to any Notes publicly offered or listed on any stock exchange;
- (v) the Fiscal Agency Agreement (which contains the forms of the Temporary and Permanent Global Notes, the Definitive Notes, the Coupons and the Talons); and
- (vi) any future supplements to this Base Prospectus and any other documents incorporated therein by reference.

### **Litigation**

The Issuer is not aware of any governmental, legal or arbitration proceedings (including any such proceedings which are pending or threatened of which the Issuer is aware), during a period covering at least the previous 12 months which may have, or have had in the recent past, significant effects on the financial position or profitability of the Issuer or its consolidated subsidiaries.

### **No Significant or Material Adverse Change**

There has been no significant change in the financial or trading position of the Issuer and the Group and no material adverse change in the prospects of the Issuer, in each case, since 31 December 2015.

### **Auditors**

The financial statements of the Issuer for the financial year ended 31 December 2014 have been audited by Ernst & Young Accountants LLP, Prof. Dr. Dorgelolaan 12, 5613 AM Eindhoven, The Netherlands, who have issued an unqualified opinion thereon. The financial statements of the Issuer for the financial year ended 31 December 2015 have been audited by KPMG Accountants N.V., Laan van Langerhuize 1, 1186 DS Amstelveen, The Netherlands, who have issued an unqualified opinion thereon.

The auditors of Ernst & Young Accountants LLP and KPMG Accountants N.V. are members of the Dutch Organisation of Accountants (*Nederlandse Beroepsorganisatie van Accountants*), which is a member of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC).

### **Post-issuance information**

The Issuer does not intend to provide any post-issuance information in relation to any issues of Notes.

Applicants will be informed of the amount allotted by the intermediary banks through which they place their orders.

### **Programme Limit**

For the purpose of calculating the aggregate amount of Notes issued under the Programme from time to time:

- (i) the euro equivalent of Notes denominated in another Specified Currency (as specified in the applicable Final Terms in relation to the Notes) shall be determined, at the discretion of the Issuer, as of the date of agreement to issue such Notes or on the preceding day on which commercial banks and foreign exchange markets are open for business in London, in each case on the basis of the spot rate for the sale of the euro against the purchase of such Specified Currency in the London foreign exchange market quoted by any leading bank selected by the Issuer on such date; and
- (ii) the amount (or, where applicable, the euro equivalent) of Notes issued at a discount or premium shall be calculated (in the case of Notes not denominated in euro, in the manner specified above) by reference to the net proceeds received by the Issuer for the relevant issue.

### **Third party information**

Where information has been sourced from a third party, the Issuer confirms that this information has been accurately reproduced and as far as the Issuer is aware and is able to ascertain from information sourced from that third party, no facts have been omitted which would render the reproduced information inaccurate or misleading.

**Responsibility Statement**

The Issuer accepts responsibility for the information contained in this Base Prospectus and for information incorporated by reference herein. To the best of the knowledge of the Issuer (which has taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case) the information contained in this Base Prospectus is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information.

## REGISTERED OFFICES

### THE ISSUER

**Koninklijke DSM N.V.**

Het Overloon 1  
6411 TE Heerlen  
The Netherlands

### ARRANGER

**Deutsche Bank Aktiengesellschaft**

Grosse Gallusstrasse 10–14  
D-60272 Frankfurt am Main  
Germany

### DEALERS

**Citigroup Global Markets Limited**

Citigroup Centre  
Canada Square  
Canary Wharf  
London E14 5LB  
England

**Coöperatieve Rabobank U.A. (Rabobank)**

Croeselaan 18  
3521 CB Utrecht  
The Netherlands

**Credit Suisse Securities (Europe) Limited**

One Cabot Square  
London E14 4QJ  
England

**Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch**

Winchester House  
1 Great Winchester Street  
London EC2N 2DB  
England

**HSBC Bank plc**

8 Canada Square  
London E14 5HQ  
England

**ING Bank N.V.**

Foppingadreef 7  
1102 BD Amsterdam  
The Netherlands

**J.P. Morgan Securities plc**

25 Bank Street  
Canary Wharf  
London E14 5JP  
England

**The Royal Bank of Scotland plc**

135 Bishopsgate  
London EC2M 3UR  
England

### AUDITORS TO THE ISSUER

**Ernst & Young Accountants LLP (until 31 December 2014)**

Prof. Dr. Dorgelolaan 12  
5613 AM Eindhoven  
The Netherlands

**KPMG Accountants N.V. (from 1 January 2015)**

Laan van Langerhuize 1  
1186 DS Amstelveen  
The Netherlands

**FISCAL AGENT AND PAYING AGENT**

**Citibank, N.A., London Branch**

Citigroup Centre  
Canada Square  
Canary Wharf  
London E14 5LB  
England

**LEGAL ADVISERS**

*To the Dealers as to Dutch Law*

**Clifford Chance LLP**

Droogbak 1a  
1013 GE Amsterdam  
The Netherlands

*To the Issuer as to Dutch Law*

**Legal Department**

**Koninklijke DSM N.V.**  
Het Overloon 1  
6411 TE Heerlen  
The Netherlands