Dear Client:

Thank you for your interest in a Market Linked Investment (MLI) offered by Merrill. A copy of the preliminary prospectus for the MLI is attached. You should read the offering documents before making a decision to invest in a particular MLI.

Merrill has prepared this special client notice to highlight certain considerations about an investment in an MLI. As discussed in the preliminary prospectus, please note that:

- MLIs are senior unsecured debt obligations of an issuing company that are different from conventional bonds. The return and value of MLIs are based on the performance of one or more underlying market measures. These market measures may include equities or equity indices, commodities or commodity indices, currencies and interest rates. Unlike conventional fixed or floating rate bonds, unless otherwise noted, MLIs generally do not pay a fixed or variable interest coupon.

- Payments on an MLI are subject to issuer credit risk as well as the specific market risks associated with the linked market measure.

- MLIs can have lower returns than conventional bonds. Depending on the terms of the MLI and the performance of the linked market measure, you can lose some or all of your principal investment.

- The public offering price for an MLI will exceed its estimated initial value at the time of issuance. The public offering price includes compensation to Merrill for distributing the MLI and may include an estimated profit credited to Merrill from related hedging arrangements associated with the MLIs. These fees and charges reduce the economic terms of the MLI to you.

- The price at which you may be able to sell your MLI prior to maturity in the secondary market may be lower than the price you paid for it, due to a number of factors, including changes in the linked market measure’s performance, the creditworthiness of the issuer and the initial costs of developing, hedging and distributing the MLIs.

- The U.S. federal tax treatment for MLIs will depend upon a variety of factors, including the structure of the specific investment, and can be uncertain.

The attached preliminary prospectus discusses the risks associated with investing in a particular MLI. You should review the documents carefully and consult your investment, legal, tax and accounting advisors before making a decision to purchase the MLI. If after reading this special client notice and the preliminary prospectus, you are not interested in purchasing the MLI or have any questions, please contact your Merrill financial advisor.

Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated (also referred to as “MLPF&S” or “Merrill”) makes available certain investment products sponsored, managed, distributed or provided by companies that are affiliates of Bank of America Corporation (“BofA Corp.”). MLPF&S is a registered broker-dealer, Member SIPC and a wholly owned subsidiary of BofA Corp.

Investment products:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Are Not FDIC Insured</th>
<th>Are Not Bank Guaranteed</th>
<th>May Lose Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Important Notice: Prior to selling any particular Market-Linked Investment, each of the various issuers of Market-Linked Investments available to Merrill clients has filed a registration statement (including a prospectus and related documents) with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) covering the relevant offering. Before you invest, you should read the prospectus and other documents that the applicable issuer has filed with the SEC for more complete information about the issuer and the particular offering. You may get these documents for free by visiting EDGAR on the SEC website at www.sec.gov. Alternatively, the issuer or Merrill will arrange to send you the documents if you so request by calling toll-free 1-800-294-1322.

© 2019 Bank of America Corporation. All rights reserved. | ARVQICSS | 192181PM-0319
Units $10 principal amount per unit

CUSIP No.

Pricing Date November , 2020
Settlement Date December , 2020
Maturity Date January , 2022

Accelerated Return Notes® Linked to the SPDR® Gold Shares

- Maturity of approximately 14 months
- 3-to-1 upside exposure to increases in the Underlying Fund, subject to a capped return of [13.50% to 17.50%]
- 1-to-1 downside exposure to decreases in the Index, with 100% of your investment at risk
- All payments occur at maturity and are subject to the credit risk of HSBC USA Inc.
- No interest payments
- In addition to the underwriting discount set forth below, the notes include a hedging-related charge of $0.05 per unit. See “Supplement to the Plan of Distribution—Role of MLPF&S and BofAS”
- No listing on any securities exchange

The notes described in the attached offering documents (the “Offering Documents”) have not been approved for public sale in any jurisdiction outside of the United States. There has been no registration or filing as to the notes with any regulatory, securities, banking, or local authority outside of the United States. As such, these notes are made available to investors outside of the United States only in accordance with applicable private offering rules. You are urged to carefully review this Private Offering Notice, as well as the Selling Restrictions that may be applicable to your jurisdiction found in the attached product supplement.

The recipient of these Offering Documents may not copy or otherwise make them available to any other person outside of the United States without the express written consent of BofA Securities, Inc. (“BofAS”) or one of its affiliates.

Subject to the Selling Restrictions set out in the Offering Documents, the notes are made available to investors in certain jurisdictions outside of the United States in a minimum initial investment amount of US$50,000 (US$150,000 for residents of the European Economic Area (the “EEA”), and AUD$500,000 for residents of Australia).

The discussion contained in the Offering Documents relating to the tax implications of investing in these notes is not based upon, and does not reflect, the tax laws of any jurisdiction other than the United States. Accordingly, investors should consult their local tax advisor before making an investment in these notes.

Prospective investors should not treat the contents of this Private Offering Notice or the Offering Documents as advice relating to legal, taxation, or investment matters and are advised to consult their own professional advisors concerning the purchase, holding, or disposition of the notes. The notes may not be suitable for all investors. An investment in the notes involves significant risks, and you may lose some or all of your investment. See the Risk Factors sections in the Offering Documents for a discussion of risks related to an investment in the notes.

Neither HSBC USA Inc. (“HSBC”) nor Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated (“MLPF&S”) nor BofAS is carrying on a banking business in any jurisdiction. MLPF&S and BofAS are not authorized under the laws of any jurisdiction to carry on any banking business or to operate as a bank or a credit institution.

Investors outside of the United States should review the section entitled “Supplemental Plan of Distribution—Selling Restrictions” found in the attached product supplement.
Colombia
Promotion and Offering of a Foreign Financial Entity, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated that is Represented in Colombia.

Switzerland
This document is NOT a Swiss simplified prospectus, has not been produced in compliance with Article 5 of the Swiss Federal Act on Collective Investment Schemes (the “CISA”) and has been prepared for the information of QUALIFIED investors ONLY. Consequently, this document may not be distributed to non-qualified investors in or from Switzerland.

In Switzerland, the Instruments constitute structured products within the meaning of the CISA. They do not qualify as collective investment schemes within the meaning of the CISA and therefore are not subject to approval or supervision of the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority (FINMA).

United Kingdom
Investors in the United Kingdom should be aware that BofAS, the selling agent for the notes, has no place of business in the United Kingdom and is not authorized or regulated by the FCA. Therefore, with respect to any action taken by BofAS, the regulatory regime governing an investor’s rights will be different than that governing investors’ rights in the United Kingdom. The United Kingdom’s rules for the protection of retail investors and the U.K. Financial Compensation Scheme will not apply to any business that BofAS conducts with or for United Kingdom investors.

The communication of this Private Offering Notice, the Offering Documents and any other document or materials relating to the issue of the notes offered hereby is not being made, and such documents and/or materials have not been approved, by an authorized person for the purposes of section 21 of the United Kingdom’s Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, as amended (the “FSMA”). Accordingly, such documents and/or materials are not being distributed to, and must not be passed on to, the general public in the United Kingdom. The communication of such documents and/or materials as a financial promotion is only being made to those persons in the United Kingdom who have professional experience in matters relating to investments and who fall within the definition of investment professionals (as defined in Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005, as amended (the “Financial Promotion Order”), or who fall within Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Financial Promotion Order, or who are any other persons to whom it may otherwise lawfully be made under the Financial Promotion Order (all such persons together being referred to as “relevant persons”). In the United Kingdom, the notes offered hereby are only available to, and any investment or investment activity to which this Private Offering Notice and the Offering Documents relate will be engaged in only with, relevant persons. Any person in the United Kingdom that is not a relevant person should not act or rely on this Private Offering Notice and the Offering Documents or any of their contents.

Any invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of Section 21 of the FSMA) in connection with the issue or sale of the notes may only be communicated or caused to be communicated in circumstances in which Section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to the issuer.

All applicable provisions of the FSMA must be complied with in respect to anything done by any person in relation to the notes in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom.

HSBC has filed a registration statement (including a product supplement, a prospectus supplement, and a prospectus) with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) for the offering to which this Private Offering Notice relates. Before you invest, you should read the product supplement, the prospectus supplement, and the prospectus in that registration statement, and the other documents relating to this offering that HSBC has filed with the SEC for more complete information about HSBC and this offering. You may obtain these documents without cost by visiting EDGAR on the SEC website at www.sec.gov. Alternatively, HSBC, any agent, or any dealer participating in this offering will arrange to send you these documents if you so request by calling MLPF&S or BofAS toll-free in the U.S. at 1-800-294-1322 or contact your Financial Advisor.
Units
$10 principal amount per unit
CUSIP No.

Pricing Date* November, 2020
Settlement Date* December, 2020
Maturity Date* January, 2022

*Subject to change based on the actual date the notes are priced for initial sale to the public (the “pricing date”)

Accelerated Return Notes® Linked to the SPDR® Gold Shares

- Maturity of approximately 14 months
- 3-to-1 upside exposure to increases in the Underlying Fund, subject to a capped return of [13.50% to 17.50%]
- 1-to-1 downside exposure to decreases in the Underlying Fund, with up to 100% of your investment at risk
- All payments occur at maturity and are subject to the credit risk of HSBC USA Inc.
- No interest payments
- In addition to the underwriting discount set forth below, the notes include a hedging-related charge of $0.05 per unit. See “Supplement to the Plan of Distribution—Role of MLPF&S and BofAS”
- No listing on any securities exchange

The notes are being issued by HSBC USA Inc. ("HSBC"). Investing in the notes involves a number of risks. There are important differences between the notes and a conventional debt security, including different investment risks and costs. See “Risk Factors” and “Additional Risk Factors” beginning on page TS-6 of this term sheet and “Risk Factors” beginning on page PS-6 of product supplement EQUITY ARN-1.

The estimated initial value of the notes on the pricing date is expected to be between $8.80 and $9.80 per unit, which will be less than the public offering price listed below. The market value of the notes at any time will reflect many factors and cannot be predicted with accuracy. See “Summary” on page TS-2 and “Risk Factors” beginning on page TS-6 of this term sheet for additional information.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the notes or passed upon the accuracy or the adequacy of this document, the accompanying product supplement, prospectus or prospectus supplement. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Per Unit</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public offering price(1) ..........................</td>
<td>$10.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Underwriting discount(1) .........................</td>
<td>$ 0.175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proceeds, before expenses, to HSBC .......</td>
<td>$ 9.825</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) For any purchase of 300,000 units or more in a single transaction by an individual investor or in combined transactions with the investor’s household in this offering, the public offering price and the underwriting discount will be $9.950 per unit and $0.125 per unit, respectively. See “Supplement to the Plan of Distribution” below.

The notes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Are Not FDIC Insured</th>
<th>Are Not Bank Guaranteed</th>
<th>May Lose Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

BofA Securities
November , 2020
Summary

The Accelerated Return Notes® Linked to the SPDR® Gold Shares, due January , 2022 (the “notes”) are our senior unsecured debt securities and are not a direct or indirect obligation of any third party. The notes are not deposit liabilities or other obligations of a bank and are not guaranteed or insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency of the United States or any other jurisdiction. The notes will rank equally with all of our other senior unsecured debt. Any payments due on the notes, including any repayment of principal, depend on the credit risk of HSBC and its ability to satisfy its obligations as they come due. The notes provide you a leveraged return, subject to a cap, if the Ending Value of the Market Measure, which is the SPDR® Gold Shares (the “Underlying Fund”), is greater than the Starting Value. If the Ending Value is less than the Starting Value, you will lose all or a portion of the principal amount of your notes. Any payments on the notes will be calculated based on the $10 principal amount per unit and will depend on the performance of the Underlying Fund, subject to our credit risk. See “Terms of the Notes” below.

The estimated initial value of the notes will be less than the price you pay to purchase the notes. The estimated initial value is determined by reference to our or our affiliates’ internal pricing models and reflects our internal funding rate, which is the borrowing rate we pay to issue market-linked notes, and the market prices for hedging arrangements related to the notes (which may include call options, put options or other derivatives). This internal funding rate is typically lower than the rate we would use when we issue conventional fixed or floating rate debt securities. The difference in the borrowing rate, as well as the underwriting discount and the costs associated with hedging the notes, including the hedging-related charge described below, will reduce the economic terms of the notes (including the Capped Value). The estimated initial value will be calculated on the pricing date and will be set forth in the pricing supplement to which this term sheet relates.

Terms of the Notes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issuer:</th>
<th>HSBC USA Inc. (“HSBC”)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal Amount:</td>
<td>$10.00 per unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term:</td>
<td>Approximately 14 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market Measure:</td>
<td>The SPDR® Gold Shares (Bloomberg symbol: “GLD”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starting Value:</td>
<td>The Closing Market Price of the Underlying Fund on the pricing date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ending Value:</td>
<td>The average of the products of the Closing Market Price of the Underlying Fund on each calculation day during the Maturity Valuation Period times the Price Multiplier as of that day. The scheduled calculation days are subject to postponement in the event of Market Disruption Events, as described beginning on page PS-23 of product supplement EQUITY ARN-1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation Rate:</td>
<td>300%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capped Value:</td>
<td>[$11.35 to $11.75] per unit, which represents a return of [13.50% to 17.50%] over the principal amount. The actual Capped Value will be determined on the pricing date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maturity Valuation Period:</td>
<td>Five scheduled calculation days shortly before the maturity date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price Multiplier:</td>
<td>1. subject to adjustment for certain corporate events relating to the Underlying Fund, as described beginning on page PS-27 of product supplement EQUITY ARN-1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees Charged:</td>
<td>The public offering price of the notes includes the underwriting discount of $0.175 per unit as listed on the cover page and an additional charge of $0.05 per unit more fully described on page TS-11.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calculation Agent:</td>
<td>BofA Securities, Inc. (“BofAS”) and HSBC, acting jointly.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Redemption Amount Determination

On the maturity date, you will receive a cash payment per unit determined as follows:

Yes: You will receive per unit, up to a maximum payment not to exceed the Capped Value:

\[
10 \times \left( \frac{10 \times \text{Participation Rate} \times (\text{Ending Value} - \text{Starting Value})}{\text{Starting Value}} \right)
\]

Is the Ending Value greater than the Starting Value?

No: You will receive per unit:

\[
10 \times \frac{\text{Ending Value}}{\text{Starting Value}}
\]

If the Ending Value is less than the Starting Value, you will lose all or a portion of the principal amount of your notes.
The terms and risks of the notes are contained in this term sheet and the documents listed below (together, the "Note Prospectus"). The documents have been filed as part of a registration statement with the SEC, which may, without cost, be accessed on the SEC website as indicated below or obtained from Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner, & Smith Incorporated ("MLPF&S") or BofAS by calling 1-800-294-1322:

- Product supplement EQUITY ARN-1 dated March 19, 2019: [https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/83246/000114420419014912/tv516432_424b5.htm](https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/83246/000114420419014912/tv516432_424b5.htm)
- Prospectus supplement dated February 26, 2018: [https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/83246/000114420418010762/tv486944_424b2.htm](https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/83246/000114420418010762/tv486944_424b2.htm)

As a result of the completion of the reorganization of Bank of America’s U.S. broker-dealer business, references to MLPF&S in the accompanying prospectus supplement and product supplement EQUITY ARN-1, as such references relate to MLPF&S’s institutional services, should be read as references to BofAS.

**Our Central Index Key, or CIK, on the SEC website is 83246.** Before you invest, you should read the Note Prospectus, including this term sheet, for information about us and this offering. Any prior or contemporaneous oral statements and any other written materials you may have received are superseded by the Note Prospectus. You should carefully consider, among other things, the matters set forth under “Risk Factors” in the section indicated on the cover of this term sheet. The notes involve risks not associated with conventional debt securities. Capitalized terms used but not defined in this term sheet have the meanings set forth in product supplement EQUITY ARN-1. Unless otherwise indicated or unless the context requires otherwise, all references in this document to “we,” “us,” “our,” or similar references are to HSBC.

**Investor Considerations**

You may wish to consider an investment in the notes if:

- You anticipate that the Underlying Fund will increase moderately from the Starting Value to the Ending Value.
- You accept that your investment will result in a loss, which could be significant, if the Underlying Fund decreases from the Starting Value to the Ending Value.
- You accept that the return on the notes will be capped.
- You are willing to forgo the interest payments that are paid on traditional interest bearing debt securities.
- You are willing to forgo dividends or other benefits of owning shares of the Underlying Fund or the asset held by the Underlying Fund.
- You are willing to accept that a secondary market is not expected to develop for the notes, and understand that the market prices for the notes, if any, may be less than the principal amount and will be affected by various factors, including our actual and perceived creditworthiness, our internal funding rate and the fees charged, as described on page TS-2.
- You are willing to assume our credit risk, as issuer of the notes, for all payments under the notes, including the Redemption Amount.

The notes may not be an appropriate investment for you if:

- You believe that the Underlying Fund will decrease from the Starting Value to the Ending Value or that it will not increase sufficiently over the term of the notes to provide you with your desired return.
- You seek principal repayment or preservation of capital.
- You seek an uncapped return on your investment.
- You seek interest payments or other current income on your investment.
- You want to receive dividends or other distributions paid on shares of the Underlying Fund or the asset held by the Underlying Fund.
- You seek an investment for which there will be a liquid secondary market.
- You are unwilling or are unable to take market risk on the notes or to take our credit risk as issuer of the notes.

We urge you to consult your investment, legal, tax, accounting, and other advisors before you invest in the notes.
Hypothetical Payout Profile

The graph below is based on hypothetical numbers and values.

This graph reflects the returns on the notes, based on the Participation Rate of 300% and a Capped Value of $11.55 per unit (the midpoint of the Capped Value range of [$11.35 to 11.75]). The green line reflects the returns on the notes, while the dotted gray line reflects the returns of a direct investment in the Underlying Fund, excluding dividends.

This graph has been prepared for purposes of illustration only.

Hypothetical Payments at Maturity

The following table and examples are for purposes of illustration only. They are based on hypothetical values and show hypothetical returns on the notes. The actual amount you receive and the resulting total rate of return will depend on the actual Starting Value, Ending Value, Capped Value, and term of your investment.

The following table is based on a Starting Value of 100.00, the Participation Rate of 300% and a Capped Value of $11.55 per unit. It illustrates the effect of a range of Ending Values on the Redemption Amount per unit of the notes and the total rate of return to holders of the notes. The following examples do not take into account any tax consequences from investing in the notes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ending Value</th>
<th>Percentage Change from the Starting Value to the Ending Value</th>
<th>Redemption Amount per Unit</th>
<th>Total Rate of Return on the Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>-100.00%</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>-100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>-50.00%</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td>-50.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80.00</td>
<td>-20.00%</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>-20.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90.00</td>
<td>-10.00%</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
<td>-10.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>94.00</td>
<td>-6.00%</td>
<td>$9.40</td>
<td>-6.00%</td>
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<tr>
<td>97.00</td>
<td>-3.00%</td>
<td>$9.70</td>
<td>-3.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100.00(1)</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>102.00</td>
<td>2.00%</td>
<td>$10.60</td>
<td>6.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>105.17</td>
<td>5.17%</td>
<td>$11.55(2)</td>
<td>15.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110.00</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
<td>$11.55</td>
<td>15.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>120.00</td>
<td>20.00%</td>
<td>$11.55</td>
<td>15.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150.00</td>
<td>50.00%</td>
<td>$11.55</td>
<td>15.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200.00</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
<td>$11.55</td>
<td>15.50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) The hypothetical Starting Value of 100.00 used in these examples has been chosen for illustrative purposes only, and does not represent a likely actual Starting Value for the Underlying Fund.

(2) The Redemption Amount per unit cannot exceed the hypothetical Capped Value.

For recent actual prices of the Underlying Fund, see “The Underlying Fund” section below. The Ending Value will not include any income generated by dividends paid on the Underlying Fund or the asset held by the Underlying Fund, which you would otherwise be entitled to receive if you invested in those securities directly. In addition, all payments on the notes are subject to issuer credit risk.
Redemption Amount Calculation Examples

Example 1
The Ending Value is 50.00, or 50.00% of the Starting Value:
Starting Value: 100.00
Ending Value: 50.00
$10 \times \left( \frac{50}{100} \right) = $5.00 Redemption Amount per unit

Example 2
The Ending Value is 103.00, or 103.00% of the Starting Value:
Starting Value: 100.00
Ending Value: 103.00
$10 + \left[ \left( \frac{103 - 100}{100} \times 100\% \right) \times 10 \right] = $10.90 Redemption Amount per unit

Example 3
The Ending Value is 130.00, or 130.00% of the Starting Value:
Starting Value: 100.00
Ending Value: 130.00
$10 + \left[ \left( \frac{130 - 100}{100} \times 300\% \right) \times 10 \right] = $19.00, however, because the Redemption Amount for the notes cannot exceed the Capped Value, the Redemption Amount will be $11.55 per unit
Risk Factors

We urge you to read the section “Risk Factors” in the product supplement and in the accompanying prospectus supplement. Investing in the notes is not equivalent to investing directly in shares of the Underlying Fund or the asset held by the Underlying Fund. You should understand the risks of investing in the notes and should reach an investment decision only after careful consideration, with your advisers, with respect to the notes in light of your particular financial and other circumstances and the information set forth in this term sheet and the accompanying product supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus.

In addition to the risks in the product supplement identified below, you should review “Risk Factors” in the accompanying prospectus supplement, including the explanation of risks relating to the notes described in the section “— Risks Relating to All Note Issuances.”

- Depending on the performance of the Underlying Fund as measured shortly before the maturity date, you may lose up to 100% of the principal amount.
- Your investment return is limited to the return represented by the Capped Value and may be less than a comparable investment directly in the Underlying Fund or the asset held by the Underlying Fund.
- Your return on the notes may be less than the yield you could earn by owning a conventional fixed or floating rate debt security of comparable maturity.
- Payments on the notes are subject to our credit risk, and actual or perceived changes in our creditworthiness are expected to affect the value of the notes. If we become insolvent or are unable to pay our obligations, you may lose your entire investment.
- The estimated initial value of the notes will be less than the public offering price and may differ from the market value of the notes in the secondary market, if any. We will determine the estimated initial value by reference to our or our affiliates’ internal pricing models. These pricing models consider certain assumptions and variables, which can include volatility and interest rates. These pricing models rely in part on certain forecasts about future events, which may prove to be incorrect. Different pricing models and assumptions could provide valuations for the notes that are different from our estimated initial value. The estimated initial value will reflect our internal funding rate we use to issue market-linked notes, as well as the mid-market value of the hedging arrangements related to the notes (which may include call options, put options or other derivatives).
- Our internal funding rate for the issuance of these notes is lower than the rate we would use when we issue conventional fixed or floating rate debt securities. This is one of the factors that may result in the market value of the notes being less than their estimated initial value. As a result of the difference between our internal funding rate and the rate we would use when we issue conventional fixed or floating rate debt securities, the estimated initial value of the notes may be lower if it were based on the levels at which our fixed or floating rate debt securities trade in the secondary market. In addition, if we were to use the rate we use for our conventional fixed or floating rate debt issuances, we would expect the economic terms of the notes to be more favorable to you.
- The price of your notes in the secondary market, if any, immediately after the pricing date will be less than the public offering price. The public offering price takes into account certain costs, principally the underwriting discount, the hedging costs described on page TS-11 and the costs associated with issuing the notes. The costs associated with issuing the notes will be used or retained by us or one of our affiliates. If you were to sell your notes in the secondary market, if any, the price you would receive for your notes may be less than the price you paid for them.
- The estimated initial value does not represent a minimum price at which we, MLPF&S, BofAS or any of our respective affiliates would be willing to purchase your notes in the secondary market (if any exists) at any time. The price of your notes in the secondary market, if any, at any time after issuance will vary based on many factors, including the price of the Underlying Fund and changes in market conditions, and cannot be predicted with accuracy. The notes are not designed to be short-term trading instruments, and you should, therefore, be able and willing to hold the notes to maturity. Any sale of the notes prior to maturity could result in a loss to you.
- A trading market is not expected to develop for the notes. None of us, MLPF&S or BofAS is obligated to make a market for, or to repurchase, the notes. There is no assurance that any party will be willing to purchase your notes at any price in any secondary market.
- Our business, hedging and trading activities, and those of MLPF&S, BofAS and our respective affiliates (including trades in shares of the Underlying Fund or the asset held by the Underlying Fund), and any hedging and trading activities we, MLPF&S, BofAS or our respective affiliates engage in for our clients’ accounts, may affect the market value and return of the notes and may create conflicts of interest with you.
- The sponsor and investment advisor of the Underlying Fund may adjust the Underlying Fund in a way that could adversely affect the price of the Underlying Fund and consequently, the return on the notes, and have no obligation to consider your interests.
- As a noteholder, you will have no rights to receive shares of the Underlying Fund or the asset held by the Underlying Fund, and you will not be entitled to receive dividends or other distributions on the Underlying Fund.
- There are liquidity and management risks associated with the Underlying Fund.
- The performance of the Underlying Fund may not correlate with the performance of the asset held by the Underlying Fund as well as the net asset value per share of the Underlying Fund, especially during periods of market volatility when the liquidity
and the market price of shares of the Underlying Fund and/or the asset held by the Underlying Fund may be adversely affected, sometimes materially.

- Risks associated with the asset held by the Underlying Fund will affect the share price of the Underlying Fund and hence, the value of the notes.
- The payments on the notes will not be adjusted for all corporate events that could affect the Underlying Fund. See “Description of ARNs—Anti-Dilution and Discontinuance Adjustments Relating to Underlying Funds” beginning on page PS-27 of product supplement EQUITY ARN-1.
- There may be potential conflicts of interest involving the calculation agents, one of which is us and one of which is BofAS. We have the right to appoint and remove the calculation agents.
- The U.S. federal income tax consequences of the notes are uncertain, and may be adverse to a holder of the notes. See “Summary Tax Consequences” below and “U.S. Federal Income Tax Summary” beginning on page PS-40 of product supplement EQUITY ARN-1.

Additional Risk Factors

Gold prices are characterized by high and unpredictable volatility, which could lead to high and unpredictable volatility in the Underlying Fund. The investment objective of the Underlying Fund is to reflect the performance of the price of gold bullion, less the Underlying Fund’s expenses. The price of gold is primarily affected by the global demand for and supply of gold. The market for gold bullion is global, and gold prices are subject to volatile price movements over short periods of time and are affected by numerous factors, including macroeconomic factors, such as the structure of and confidence in the global monetary system, expectations regarding the future rate of inflation, the relative strength of, and confidence in, the U.S. dollar (the currency in which the price of gold is usually quoted), interest rates, gold borrowing and lending rates and global or regional economic, financial, political, regulatory, judicial or other events. Gold prices may be affected by industry factors, such as industrial and jewelry demand as well as lending, sales and purchases of gold by the official sector, including central banks and other governmental agencies and multilateral institutions that hold gold. Additionally, gold prices may be affected by levels of gold production, production costs and short-term changes in supply and demand due to trading activities in the gold market. From time to time, above-ground inventories of gold may also influence the market. It is not possible to predict the aggregate effect of all or any combination of these factors. The price of gold has recently been, and may continue to be, extremely volatile. Consequently, the performance of the Underlying Fund and the return on the notes could be adversely affected.

The value of the Underlying Fund may not fully replicate the price of gold. The performance of the Underlying Fund may not fully replicate the price of gold due to the fees and expenses charged by the Underlying Fund, restrictions on access to gold or other circumstances. The Underlying Fund does not generate any income and as the Underlying Fund regularly sells gold to pay for its ongoing expenses, the amount of gold represented by the Underlying Fund has gradually declined over time. The Underlying Fund sells gold to pay expenses on an ongoing basis irrespective of whether the trading price of the Underlying Fund rises or falls in response to changes in the price of gold. The sale of the Underlying Fund’s gold to pay expenses at a time of low gold prices could adversely affect the value of the Underlying Fund. Additionally, there is a risk that part or all of the Underlying Fund’s gold could be lost, damaged or stolen due to war, terrorism, theft, natural disaster or otherwise.

There are risks relating to commodities trading on the London Bullion Market Association – The value of the Underlying Fund is closely related to the price of gold. Gold is traded on the London Bullion Market Association (the “LBMA”). The LBMA is a self-regulated association of bullion market participants. Although all market-making members of the LBMA are supervised by the Bank of England and are required to satisfy a capital adequacy test, the LBMA itself is not a regulated entity. If the LBMA should cease operations, or if bullion trading should become subject to a value added tax or other tax or any other form of regulation currently not in place, the role of the LBMA gold prices as a global benchmark for the value of gold may be adversely affected. The LBMA is a principals’ market which operates in a manner more closely analogous to over-the-counter physical commodity markets than regulated futures markets, and certain features of U.S. futures contracts are not present in the context of LBMA trading. For example, there are no daily price limits on the LBMA, which would otherwise restrict fluctuations in the prices of commodities trading on the LBMA. In a declining market, it is possible that prices would continue to decline without limitation within a trading day or over a period of trading days.
The Underlying Fund

All disclosures contained in this term sheet regarding the Underlying Fund, including, without limitation, its make-up, method of calculation, and changes in its components, have been derived from publicly available sources, which we have not independently verified. The information reflects the policies of, and is subject to change by, World Gold Trust Services, LLC, the sponsor of the Underlying Fund. The consequences of any discontinuance of the Underlying Fund are discussed in the section entitled "Description of ARNs—Anti-Dilution and Discontinuance Adjustments Relating to Underlying Funds—Discontinuance of or Material Change to an Underlying Fund" beginning on page PS-30 of product supplement EQUITY ARN-1. None of us, the calculation agents, MLPF&S or BofAS accepts any responsibility for the calculation, maintenance or publication of the Underlying Fund, or any successor fund.

General

The Underlying Fund is an investment trust that seeks to reflect the performance of the price of gold bullion, less the expenses of the Trust's operations. Information provided to or filed with the SEC pursuant to the Securities Act can be located by reference to SEC CIK number 1222333 and file number 001-32356, through the SEC's website at http://www.sec.gov. The Underlying Fund trades on the NYSE Arca under the symbol “GLD.”

The Underlying Fund issues SPDR® Gold Shares (the “Shares”), which represent units of fractional undivided beneficial interest in and ownership of the Underlying Fund. BNY Mellon Asset Servicing, a division of The Bank of New York Mellon, is the trustee of the Underlying Fund, or the Trustee, HSBC Bank plc is the custodian of the Underlying Fund (the “Custodian”), and State Street Global Advisors Funds Distributors, LLC (formerly State Street Global Markets, LLC) is the marketing agent of the Underlying Fund (the “Marketing Agent”). The Underlying Fund intends to issue additional Shares on a continuous basis through its Trustee. The Underlying Fund is not a commodity pool for purposes of the Commodity Exchange Act of 1936, as amended, and its sponsor is not subject to regulation by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission as a commodity pool operator, or a commodity trading advisor.

The Shares may be purchased from the Underlying Fund only in one or more blocks of 100,000 Shares (a block of 100,000 Shares is called a “Basket”). The Underlying Fund issues Shares in Baskets to certain authorized participants (the “Authorized Participants”), on an ongoing basis. Baskets are offered continuously at the net asset value (the “NAV”), for 100,000 Shares on the day that an order to create a Basket is accepted by the Trustee.

The investment objective of the Underlying Fund is to reflect the performance of the price of gold bullion, less the Underlying Fund’s expenses. The Underlying Fund holds gold bars. The Underlying Fund issues shares in exchange for deposits of gold and distributes gold in connection with the redemption of shares. The Shares are intended to offer investors an opportunity to participate in the gold market through an investment in securities. The ownership of the Shares is intended to overcome certain barriers to entry in the gold market, such as the logistics of buying, storing and insuring gold.

The Shares represent units of fractional undivided beneficial interest in and ownership of the Underlying Fund, the primary asset of which is allocated (or secured) gold. The Underlying Fund is not managed like a corporation or an active investment vehicle. The gold held by the Underlying Fund will be sold only: (1) on an as-needed basis to pay the Underlying Fund’s expenses, (2) in the event the Underlying Fund terminates and liquidates its assets or (3) as otherwise required by law or regulation.

Creation and Redemption

The Underlying Fund creates and redeems the Shares from time to time, but only in one or more Baskets. The creation and redemption of Baskets requires the delivery to the Underlying Fund or the distribution by the Underlying Fund of the amount of gold and any cash represented by the Baskets being created or redeemed, the amount of which is based on the combined NAV of the number of Shares included in the Baskets being created or redeemed.

Valuation of Gold; Computation of Net Asset Value

The Trustee determines the NAV of the Underlying Fund on each day that NYSE Arca is open for regular trading at the earlier of (i) the afternoon session of the twice daily determination of the price of an ounce of gold through an auction by the LBMA, administered by the ICE Benchmark Administration (the “IBA”), which starts at 3:00 PM London, England time, or the LBMA Gold Price PM, or (ii) 12:00 PM New York time. The LBMA Gold Price PM is determined by participants in a physically settled, electronic and tradable auction. The LBMA Gold Price PM replaced the previously established London PM Gold Fix on March 20, 2015. The NAV of the Underlying Fund is the aggregate value of the Underlying Fund’s assets less its estimated accrued but unpaid liabilities (which include accrued expenses). In determining the Underlying Fund’s NAV, the Trustee values the gold held by the Underlying Fund based on the LBMA Gold Price PM for an ounce of gold. The Trustee also determines the NAV per Share.

The Custodian is HSBC Bank plc and is responsible for the safekeeping of the Underlying Fund’s gold bars transferred to it in connection with the creation of Baskets by Authorized Participants. The Custodian also facilitates the transfer of gold in and out of the Underlying Fund through gold accounts it maintains for Authorized Participants and the Underlying Fund. The Custodian is a market maker, clearer and approved weigher under the rules of the LBMA.
The following graph shows the daily historical performance of the Underlying Fund on its primary exchange in the period from January 1, 2010 through October 29, 2020. We obtained this historical data from Bloomberg L.P. We have not independently verified the accuracy or completeness of the information obtained from Bloomberg L.P. On October 29, 2020, the Closing Market Price of the Underlying Fund was $175.40. The graph below may have been adjusted to reflect certain corporate actions such as stock splits and reverse stock splits.

**Historical Performance of the Underlying Fund**

This historical data on the Underlying Fund is not necessarily indicative of the future performance of the Underlying Fund or what the value of the notes may be. Any historical upward or downward trend in the price per share of the Underlying Fund during any period set forth above is not an indication that the price per share of the Underlying Fund is more or less likely to increase or decrease at any time over the term of the notes.

Before investing in the notes, you should consult publicly available sources for the prices and trading pattern of the Underlying Fund.
Supplement to the Plan of Distribution

We may deliver the notes against payment therefor in New York, New York on a date that is greater than two business days following the pricing date. Under Rule 15c6-1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, trades in the secondary market generally are required to settle in two business days, unless the parties to any such trade expressly agree otherwise. Accordingly, if the initial settlement of the notes occurs more than two business days from the pricing date, purchasers who wish to trade the notes more than two business days prior to the original issue date will be required to specify alternative settlement arrangements to prevent a failed settlement.

The notes will not be listed on any securities exchange. In the original offering of the notes, the notes will be sold in minimum investment amounts of 100 units. If you place an order to purchase the notes, you are consenting to MLPF&S and/or one of its affiliates acting as a principal in effecting the transaction for your account.

MLPF&S will purchase the notes from BofAS for resale, and will receive a selling concession in connection with the sale of the notes in an amount up to the full amount of underwriting discount set forth on the cover of this term sheet.

MLPF&S and BofAS may repurchase and resell the notes, with repurchases and resales being made at prices related to then-prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices, and these will include MLPF&S’s and BofAS’s trading commissions and mark-ups or mark-downs. MLPF&S and BofAS may act as principal or agent in these market-making transactions; however, neither is obligated to engage in any such transactions. At their discretion, for a short, undetermined initial period after the issuance of the notes, MLPF&S and BofAS may offer to buy the notes in the secondary market at a price that may exceed the estimated initial value of the notes. Any price offered by MLPF&S or BofAS for the notes will be based on then-prevailing market conditions and other considerations, including the performance of the Underlying Fund, the remaining term of the notes, and the issuer’s creditworthiness. However, neither we nor any of our affiliates are obligated to purchase your notes at any price, or at any time, and we cannot assure you that we, MLPF&S, BofAS or any of our respective affiliates will purchase your notes at a price that equals or exceeds the estimated initial value of the notes.

The value of the notes shown on your account statement provided by MLPF&S will be based on BofAS’s estimate of the value of the notes if BofAS or one of its affiliates were to make a market in the notes, which it is not obligated to do. This estimate will be based upon the price that BofAS may pay for the notes in light of then-prevailing market conditions, and other considerations, as mentioned above, and will include transaction costs. At certain times, this price may be higher than or lower than the estimated initial value of the notes.

The distribution of the Note Prospectus in connection with these offers or sales will be solely for the purpose of providing investors with the description of the terms of the notes that was made available to investors in connection with their initial offering. Secondary market investors should not, and will not be authorized to, rely on the Note Prospectus for information regarding HSBC or for any purpose other than that described in the immediately preceding sentence.

An investor’s household, as referenced on the cover of this term sheet, will generally include accounts held by any of the following, as determined by MLPF&S in its discretion and acting in good faith based upon information then available to MLPF&S:

- the investor’s spouse (including a domestic partner), siblings, parents, grandparents, spouse’s parents, children and grandchildren, but excluding accounts held by aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews or any other family relationship not directly above or below the individual investor;
- a family investment vehicle, including foundations, limited partnerships and personal holding companies, but only if the beneficial owners of the vehicle consist solely of the investor or members of the investor’s household as described above; and
- a trust where the grantors and/or beneficiaries of the trust consist solely of the investor or members of the investor’s household as described above; provided that, purchases of the notes by a trust generally cannot be aggregated together with any purchases made by a trustee’s personal account.

Purchases in retirement accounts will not be considered part of the same household as an individual investor’s personal or other non-retirement account, except for individual retirement accounts (“IRAs”), simplified employee pension plans (“SEPs”), savings incentive match plan for employees (“SIMPLEs”), and single-participant or owners only accounts (i.e., retirement accounts held by self-employed individuals, business owners or partners with no employees other than their spouses).

Please contact your Merrill financial advisor if you have any questions about the application of these provisions to your specific circumstances or think you are eligible.

Role of MLPF&S and BofAS

BofAS will participate as selling agent in the distribution of the notes. Under our distribution agreement with BofAS, BofAS will purchase the notes from us as principal at the public offering price indicated on the cover of this term sheet, less the indicated underwriting discount.

At maturity, we are required to pay the Redemption Amount to holders of the notes, which will be calculated based on the performance of the Underlying Fund and the $10 per unit principal amount. In order to meet these payment obligations, at the time we issue the notes, we may choose to enter into certain hedging arrangements (which may include call options, put options or other derivatives) with BofAS or one of its affiliates. The terms of these hedging arrangements are determined by BofAS seeking bids from market participants, which could include one of our affiliates and MLPF&S, BofAS and their affiliates. These hedging arrangements take into account a number of factors, including the issuer’s creditworthiness, interest rate movements, the volatility of the Underlying Fund, the...
tenor of the notes and the tenor of the hedging arrangements. The economic terms of the notes depend in part on the terms of the hedging arrangements.

BofAS has advised us that the hedging arrangements will include a hedging-related charge of approximately $0.05 per unit, reflecting an estimated profit to be credited to BofAS from these transactions. Since hedging entails risk and may be influenced by unpredictable market forces, additional profits and losses from these hedging arrangements may be realized by BofAS or any third party hedge providers.

For further information, see “Risk Factors—General Risks Relating to ARNs” beginning on page PS-6 and “Use of Proceeds” on page PS-20 of product supplement EQUITY ARN-1.

Summary Tax Consequences

You should consider the U.S. federal income tax consequences of an investment in the notes, including the following:

- There is no statutory, judicial, or administrative authority directly addressing the characterization of the notes.
- You agree with us (in the absence of an administrative determination, or judicial ruling to the contrary) to characterize and treat the notes for all tax purposes as pre-paid executory contracts with respect to the Underlying Fund.
- Under this characterization and tax treatment of the notes, subject to the discussion of the constructive ownership rules of Section 1260 of the Code beginning on page PS-41 of product supplement EQUITY ARN-1, a U.S. holder (as defined in the prospectus supplement) generally will recognize capital gain or loss upon maturity or upon a sale or exchange of the notes prior to maturity. This capital gain or loss generally will be long-term capital gain or loss if you held the notes for more than one year.
- No assurance can be given that the IRS or any court will agree with this characterization and tax treatment.
- The discussion in the accompanying prospectus supplement under “U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations – Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act” is hereby modified to reflect regulations proposed by the U.S. Department of Treasury indicating its intent to eliminate the requirements under FATCA of withholding on gross proceeds from the sale, exchange, maturity or other disposition of relevant financial instruments. The U.S. Department of Treasury has indicated that taxpayers may rely on these proposed regulations pending their finalization.

You should consult your own tax advisor concerning the U.S. federal income tax consequences to you of acquiring, owning, and disposing of the notes, as well as any tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local, foreign, or other tax jurisdiction and the possible effects of changes in U.S. federal or other tax laws. You should review carefully the discussion under the section entitled “U.S. Federal Income Tax Summary” beginning on page PS-40 of product supplement EQUITY ARN-1.

Where You Can Find More Information

We have filed a registration statement (including a product supplement, a prospectus supplement, and a prospectus) with the SEC for the offering to which this term sheet relates. Before you invest, you should read the Note Prospectus, including this term sheet, and the other documents that we have filed with the SEC, for more complete information about us and this offering. You may get these documents without cost by visiting EDGAR on the SEC website at www.sec.gov. Alternatively, we, any agent, or any dealer participating in this offering will arrange to send you these documents if you so request by calling MLPF&S or BofAS toll-free at 1-800-294-1322.

*Accelerated Return Notes®” and “ARNs®” are registered service marks of Bank of America Corporation, the parent company of MLPF&S and BofAS.