

# SUPPLEMENT DATED 23 JANUARY 2015 TO THE BASE PROSPECTUS DATED 28 OCTOBER 2014

# SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE

as Issuer and Guarantor (incorporated in France)

and

SG ISSUER

as Issuer (incorporated in Luxembourg)

SGA SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE ACCEPTANCE N.V.

as Issuer (incorporated in Curação)

**SG OPTION EUROPE** 

as Issuer (incorporated in France)

# **Debt Instruments Issuance Programme**

This supplement (hereinafter the **Supplement**) constitutes a supplement for the purposes of Article 13.1 of Chapter 1 of Part II of the Luxembourg Act dated 10 July 2005 on prospectuses for securities, as amended (hereinafter the **Prospectus Act 2005**) to the Debt Instruments Issuance Programme (the **Programme**) Prospectus dated 28 October 2014 (hereinafter the **Base Prospectus**) and approved by (a) the *Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier* (hereinafter the **CSSF**) on 28 October 2014 in accordance with Article 7 of the Prospectus Act 2005 implementing Article 16 of the Directive 2003/71/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 November 2003 on the prospectus to be published when securities are offered to the public or admitted to trading and amending Directive 2001/34/EC (the **Prospectus Directive**) as amended (which includes the amendments made by Directive 2010/73/EU (the **2010 PD Amending Directive**)) and (b) by the SIX Swiss Exchange Ltd (**SIX Swiss Exchange**) pursuant to its listing rules.

The purpose of this Supplement is:

- to add an Extraordinary Event in three (3) Additional Terms and Conditions for Underlying (as detailed below),
- to modify the definition of "Bond Final Price" into the Additional Terms and Conditions for Bond Linked Notes, and
- to amend the Tax section following changes to the Italian tax regulation.

This Supplement completes, modifies and must be read in conjunction with the Base Prospectus, the supplement dated 6 November 2014, the supplement dated 19 November 2014 and the supplement dated 18 December 2014.

Full information on the Issuers and the offer of any Notes is only available on the basis of the combination of the Base Prospectus, the supplement dated 6 November 2014, the supplement dated 19 November 2014, the supplement dated 18 December 2014 and this Supplement.

Unless otherwise defined in this Supplement, terms used herein shall have the definitions given to such terms in the relevant Terms and Conditions of the Notes set forth in the Base Prospectus.

To the extent that there is any inconsistency between (i) any statement in this Supplement and (ii) any other statement in the Base Prospectus (supplemented as aforesaid), the statements in (i) above will prevail.

To the best of the knowledge and belief of each Issuer and the Guarantor, no other significant new factor, material mistake or inaccuracy relating to information included in the Base Prospectus (supplemented as aforesaid) has arisen or been noted, as the case may be, since the publication of the present supplement.

In accordance with Article 13.2 of the Prospectus Act 2005, investors who have agreed to purchase or subscribe for securities issued under the Programme before this Supplement is published have the right, exercisable within a time-limit of two business days after the publication of this Supplement (no later than 27 January 2015) to withdraw their acceptances.

#### AMENDMENTS TO THE BASE PROSPECTUS

#### 1/ Additional Terms and Conditions for Underlying Linked Notes

- a) In the section entitled "Additional Terms and Conditions for ETF Linked Notes" on page 588, in paragraph 3.2 "Extraordinary Events and consequences", a new definition is inserted after the existing paragraph Q as follows:
- "I. **Holding Limit** means, assuming the Hypothetical Investor is Société Générale or any of its affiliates, Société Générale and any of its affiliates' aggregate interest in any one ETF will constitute, or is likely to constitute, in the reasonable opinion of the Calculation Agent, 25% or more of its total assets."
- b) In the section entitled "Additional Terms and Conditions for Fund Linked Notes" on page 634, in paragraph 2.2 "Extraordinary Events and consequences", a new definition is inserted after the existing paragraph Q as follows:
- "I. **Holding Limit** means, assuming the Hypothetical Investor is Société Générale or any of its affiliates, Société Générale and any of its affiliates' aggregate interest in any one Fund will constitute, or is likely to constitute, in the reasonable opinion of the Calculation Agent, 25% or more of its total assets."
- c) In the section entitled "Additional Terms and Conditions for ETP Linked Notes" on page 832, in paragraph 3.2 "Extraordinary Events relating to any ETP Issuer and/or any ETP", a new definition is inserted after the existing paragraph P as follows:
- "I. **Holding Limit** means, assuming the Hypothetical Investor is Société Générale or any of its affiliates, Société Générale and any of its affiliates' aggregate interest in any one ETP will constitute, or is likely to constitute, in the reasonable opinion of the Calculation Agent, 25% or more of its total assets."

The amendments included in this Supplement shall only apply to Final Terms, the date of which falls on or after the approval of this Supplement.

# 2/ Additional Terms and Conditions for Bond Linked Notes

In the section entitled "DEFINITIONS" of the "Additional Terms and Conditions for Bond Linked Notes" on page 803, the definition "Bond final Price" is completed as follows (insertion is highlighted by using the Red Color):

Bond Final Price means, in respect of a Bond, a quotation (expressed as a percentage of the Bond Notional Amount) obtained from Quotation Dealers in the manner provided below. The Calculation Agent will determine, based on the then current market practice, whether such quotations will include or exclude accrued but unpaid interest and all quotations will be obtained in accordance with this determination. The Calculation Agent will determine from the Full Quotations, the Weighted Average Quotation, the Partial Weighted Average Quotation or the Residual Quotation Amount (each as defined below), the Bond Final Price. For the avoidance of doubt, the Bond Final Price, as determined by the Calculation Agent, is based on obtained Quotations, without any obligation by the Calculation Agent to actually realise any sale transaction in relation to such Quotations.

The Calculation Agent will require each Quotation Dealer to provide quotations to the extent reasonably practicable on the relevant day at approximately 11.00 a.m. London time or 11.00 a.m. New York time or 11.00 a.m. in any other leading market where the liquidity of such Bond may be better, as determined by the Calculation Agent, as the case may be. The Calculation Agent, may on the First Quotation Day and if applicable, on the Second Quotation Day, in its sole and absolute discretion but acting in a commercially reasonable manner, determine whether to request (i) at least one Full Quotation and/or (ii) several firm bid quotations from Quotation Dealers in order to establish a Weighted Average Quotation.

To such end:

- (i) if the Calculation Agent obtains at least one Full Quotation and/or one Weighted Average Quotation on the First Quotation Day, the Bond Final Price will be the highest Quotation of the Full Quotation(s) or Weighted Average Quotation(s) obtained (if any) by the Calculation Agent;
- (ii) if the Calculation Agent is unable to obtain at least one Full Quotation or to determine a Weighted Average Quotation on the First Quotation Day, the Calculation Agent will attempt to obtain at least one Full Quotation and/or one Weighted Average Quotation on the Second Quotation Day, and the Bond Final Price will be the highest Quotation of the Full Quotation(s) or Weighted Average Quotation(s) obtained (if any) by the Calculation Agent;
- if the Calculation Agent obtains quotations for an aggregate amount lower than the Quotation Amount on the Second Quotation Day, then on the Third Quotation Day it will attempt to obtain several firm bid quotations from Quotation Dealers in order to establish a Partial Weighted Average Quotation in respect of an amount equal to the Residual Quotation Amount. If the Calculation Agent is unable to establish on the Third Quotation Day a Partial Weighted Average Quotation in respect of an amount equal to the Residual Quotation Amount, it will, until obtaining a Partial Weighted Average Quotation in respect of an amount equal to the Residual Quotation Amount, on each Quotation Day during the Auction Period. attempt to obtain several firm bid quotations from Quotation Dealers in order to establish a Partial Weighted Average Quotation in respect of an amount equal to the Residual Quotation Amount. For the avoidance of doubt, once a Partial Weighted Average Quotation is obtained on either the Third Quotation Day or on any Quotation Day in the Auction Period there will be no obligation on the Calculation Agent to seek a further Partial Weighted Average Quotation. The Bond Final Price will then be the weighted average of (i) the firm bid quotations obtained on the Second Quotation Day (if any) and (ii) the Partial Weighted Average Quotation (if any) for the portion equal to the Residual Quotation Amount and (iii) the value determined by the Calculation Agent in its sole and absolute discretion but acting in a commercially reasonable manner and for the avoidance of doubt this value can be zero for any remaining amount for which no quotation was obtained.

The amendments included in this Supplement shall only apply to Final Terms, the date of which falls on or after the approval of this Supplement.

# 3/ Taxation section

The Italian tax section, on page 999 is deleted and replaced as follows (changes are highlighted by using the Red Color):

#### 3.10 Italy

The statements herein regarding taxation are based on the laws in force in Italy as at the date of this Programme and are subject to any changes in law occurring after such date, which changes could be made on a retroactive basis. The following summary does not purport to be a comprehensive description of all the tax considerations which may be relevant to a decision to subscribe for, purchase, own or dispose of the Notes and does not purport to deal with the tax consequences applicable to all categories of investors, some of which (such as dealers in securities or commodities) may be subject to special rules. Prospective purchasers of the Notes are advised to consult their own tax advisers concerning the overall tax consequences of their ownership of the Notes.

#### 3.10.1 Tax treatment of the Notes

Legislative Decree No. 239 of 1 April 1996, as subsequently amended (**Decree 239**), provides for the applicable regime with respect to the tax treatment of interest, premium and other income (including the difference between the redemption amount and the issue price) from notes falling within the category of bonds (*obbligazioni*) or debentures similar to bonds (*titoli similari alle obbligazioni*) issued, *inter alia*, by non-Italian resident issuers.

#### 3.10.1.1 Italian resident Noteholders

Where an Italian resident Noteholder is (a) an individual not engaged in an entrepreneurial activity to which the Notes are connected (unless he has opted for the application of the "risparmio gestito" regime – see under "Capital gains tax", below); (b) a non-commercial partnership; (c) a non-commercial private or public institution; or (d) an investor exempt from Italian corporate income taxation, then interest, premium and other income relating to the Notes, accrued during the relevant holding period, are subject to a withholding tax

referred to as *imposta sostitutiva*, levied at the rate of 26 per cent. If the Noteholders described under (a) and (c) above are engaged in an entrepreneurial activity to which the Notes are connected, the *imposta sostitutiva* applies as a provisional tax.

Where an Italian resident Noteholder is a company or similar commercial entity or a permanent establishment in Italy of a foreign company to which the Notes are effectively connected and the Notes are deposited with an authorised intermediary, interest, premium and other income from the Notes will not be subject to *imposta sostitutiva*, but must be included in the relevant Noteholder's income tax return and are therefore subject to general Italian corporate taxation (and, in certain circumstances, depending on the "status of the Noteholder, also to IRAP – the regional tax on productive activities).

Under the current regime provided by Law Decree No. 351 of 25 September 2001 converted into law with amendments by Law No. 410 of 23 November 2001, as clarified by the Italian Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance through Circular No. 47/E of 8 August 2003, payments of interest premium or other proceeds in respect of the Notes made to Italian resident real estate investment funds established pursuant to Article 37 of Legislative Decree No. 58 of 24 February 1998, as amended and supplemented, and article 14-bis of Law No. 86 of 25 January 1994 are subject neither to substitute tax nor to any other income tax in the hands of a real estate investment fund.

If the investor is resident in Italy and is an open-ended or closed-ended investment fund (the **Fund**) or a SICAV, subjects to supervisory measures, and the Notes are held by an authorised intermediary, interest, premium and other income accrued during the holding period on the Notes will not be subject to *imposta* sostitutiva, but must be included in the management results of the Fund accrued at the end of each tax period.

Where an Italian resident Noteholder is a pension fund (subject to the regime provided for by Article 17 of the Legislative Decree No. 252 of 5 December 2005) and the Notes are deposited with an authorised intermediary, interest, premium and other income relating to the Notes and accrued during the holding period will not be subject to *imposta sostitutiva*, but must be included in the result of the relevant portfolio accrued at the end of the tax period, to be subject to an 20 44 per cent. substitute tax.

Pursuant to Decree 239, *imposta sostitutiva* is applied by banks, SIMs, fiduciary companies, SGRs, stockbrokers and other entities identified by a decree of the Ministry of Economy and Finance (each an **Intermediary**).

An Intermediary must (a) be resident in Italy or be a permanent establishment in Italy of a non-Italian resident financial intermediary; and (b) intervene, in any way, in the collection of interest or in the transfer of the Notes. For the purpose of the application of the *imposta sostitutiva*, a transfer of Notes includes any assignment or other act, either with or without consideration, which results in a change of the ownership of the relevant Notes or in a change of the Intermediary with which the Notes are deposited.

Where the Notes are not deposited with an Intermediary, the *imposta sostitutiva* is applied and withheld by any entity paying interest to a Noteholder.

Where an Italian resident Noteholder is a company or similar commercial entity and the Notes are deposited with an authorised intermediary, interest, premium and other income from the Notes will not be subject to imposta sostitutiva, but must be included in the relevant Noteholder's income tax return and are therefore subject to general Italian corporate taxation.

#### 3.10.1.2 Non-Italian resident Noteholders

No Italian *imposta sostitutiva* is applied on payments to a non-Italian resident Noteholder of interest or premium relating to the Notes provided that, if the Notes are held in Italy, the non-Italian resident Noteholder declares itself to be a non-Italian resident according to Italian tax regulations.

#### 3.10.2 Atypical securities

Interest payments relating to Notes that are not deemed to fall within the category of bonds (*obbligazioni*) or debentures similar to bonds (*titoli similari alle obbligazioni*) may be subject to a withholding tax, levied at the

rate of 26 0 per cent. For this purpose, debentures similar to bonds are securities that incorporate an unconditional obligation to pay, at maturity, an amount not lower than their nominal value.

The 26  $\Theta$  per cent. withholding tax mentioned above does not apply to interest payments made to a non-ltalian resident Noteholder and to an Italian resident Noteholder which is (a) a company or similar commercial entity (including the Italian permanent establishment of foreign entities), (b) a commercial partnership, or (c) a commercial private or public institution.

#### 3.10.3 Certificates

Pursuant to Italian Legislative Decree 21st November 1997, No. 461 payments in respect of Notes falling within the category of Certificates, qualifying as securitised derivative financial instruments, received by noteholders as well as capital gains realised by Italian resident individuals (not engaged in entrepreneurial activities to which the Italian Certificates are connected) on any sale or transfer for consideration of the Notes or redemption or exercise thereof are subject to a 26 9% capital gain tax ("imposta sostitutiva").

It must however be noted that, according to a different interpretation of the applicable provisions in force, the Certificates, in case representing debt instruments implying a "use of capital", could be qualified as "atypical security".

#### 3.10.4 Payments made by a non resident Guarantor

With respect to payments made to Italian resident Noteholders by a non Italian resident guarantor, in accordance with one interpretation of Italian tax law, any such payment made by the Italian non resident guarantor could be treated, in certain circumstances, as a payment made by the relevant Issuer and would thus be subject to the tax regime described in the previous paragraphs of this section.

# 3.10.5 Capital gains tax

Any gain obtained from the sale or redemption of the Notes would be treated as part of the taxable income (and, in certain circumstances, depending on the "status" of the Noteholder, also as part of the net value of production for IRAP purposes) if realised by an Italian company or a similar commercial entity (including the Italian permanent establishment of foreign entities to which the Notes are connected) or Italian resident individuals engaged in an entrepreneurial activity to which the Notes are connected.

Where an Italian resident Noteholder is an individual not holding the Notes in connection with an entrepreneurial activity and certain other persons, any capital gain realised by such Noteholder from the sale or redemption of the Notes would be subject to an *imposta sostitutiva*, levied at the current rate of 26 9 per cent. Noteholders may set off losses with gains.

In respect of the application of the *imposta sostitutiva*, taxpayers may opt for one of the three regimes described below.

Under the tax declaration regime (regime della dichiarazione), which is the default regime for Italian resident individuals not engaged in entrepreneurial activity to which the Notes are connected, the imposta sostitutiva on capital gains will be chargeable, on a cumulative basis, on all capital gains, net of any incurred capital loss, realised by the Italian resident individual Noteholder holding Notes not in connection with an entrepreneurial activity pursuant to all sales or redemptions of the Notes carried out during any given tax year. Italian resident individuals holding Notes not in connection with an entrepreneurial activity must indicate the overall capital gains realised in any tax year, net of any relevant incurred capital loss, in the annual tax return and pay imposta sostitutiva on such gains together with any balance of income tax due for such year. Capital losses in excess of capital gains may be carried forward against capital gains realised in any of the four succeeding tax years.

As an alternative to the tax declaration regime, Italian resident individual Noteholders holding the Notes not in connection with an entrepreneurial activity may elect to pay the *imposta sostitutiva* separately on capital gains realised on each sale or redemption of the Notes (the *risparmio amministrato* regime). Such separate taxation of capital gains is allowed subject to (a) the Notes being deposited with Italian banks, SIMs or certain authorised financial intermediaries, and (b) an express election for the *risparmio amministrato regime* being punctually made in writing by the relevant Noteholder. The depository is responsible for accounting for

imposta sostitutiva in respect of capital gains realised on each sale or redemption of the Notes (as well as in respect of capital gains realised upon the revocation of its mandate), net of any incurred capital loss, and is required to pay the relevant amount to the Italian tax authorities on behalf of the taxpayer, deducting a corresponding amount from the proceeds to be credited to the Noteholder or using funds provided by the Noteholder for this purpose. Under the *risparmio amministrato regime*, where a sale or redemption of the Notes results in a capital loss, such loss may be deducted from capital gains subsequently realised, within the same securities management, in the same tax year or in the following tax years up to the fourth. Under the *risparmio amministrato regime*, the Noteholder is not required to declare the capital gains in its annual tax return.

Any capital gains realised by Italian resident individuals holding the Notes not in connection with an entrepreneurial activity who have entrusted the management of their financial assets, including the Notes, to an authorised intermediary and have opted for the so-called "risparmio gestito" regime will be included in the computation of the annual increase in value of the managed assets accrued, even if not realised, at year end, subject to a 26 9 per cent. substitute tax, to be paid by the managing authorised intermediary. Under the risparmio gestito regime, any depreciation of the managed assets accrued at year end may be carried forward against increase in value of the managed assets accrued in any of the four succeeding tax years. Under the risparmio gestito regime, the Noteholder is not required to declare the capital gains realised in its annual tax return.

Any capital gains realised by a Noteholder which is an Italian Open ended or a closed-ended investment fund or a SICAV, subjects to supervisory measures, will be included in the result of the relevant portfolio accrued at the end of the tax period..

Any capital gains realised by a Noteholder which is an Italian pension fund (subject to the regime provided for by Article 17 of the Legislative Decree No. 252 of 5 December 2005) will be included in the result of the relevant portfolio accrued at the end of the tax period, to be subject to the 26 44 per cent. substitute tax.

Capital gains realised by Italian resident real estate funds established pursuant to Article 37 of Legislative Decree No. 58 of 24 February 1998 or pursuant to Article 14-bis of Italian Law No. 86 of 25 January 1994, on the Notes are not taxable at the level of the real estate funds.

Capital gains realised by non-Italian resident Noteholders from the sale or redemption of the Notes are not subject to *imposta sostitutiva*, provided that the Notes (i) are transferred on regulated markets, or (ii) if not transferred on regulated markets, are held outside Italy.

#### 3.10.6 Inheritance and gift taxes

Pursuant to Law Decree No. 262 of 3 October 2006, converted into Law No. 286 of 24 November 2006, as subsequently amended, the transfers of any valuable asset (including shares, bonds or other securities) as a result of death or donation are taxed as follows:

- transfers in favour of spouses and direct descendants or direct ancestors are subject to an inheritance and gift tax applied at a rate of 4 per cent. on the value of the inheritance or the gift exceeding EUR1,000,000;
- (b) transfers in favour of relatives to the fourth degree or relatives-in-law to the third degree are subject to an inheritance and gift tax at a rate of 6 per cent. on the entire value of the inheritance or the gift. Transfers in favour of brothers/sisters are subject to the 6 per cent. inheritance and gift tax on the value of the inheritance or the gift exceeding EUR100,000; and
- (c) any other transfer is, in principle, subject to an inheritance and gift tax applied at a rate of 8 per cent. on the entire value of the inheritance or the gift.

# 3.10.7 Registration tax

Contracts relating to the transfer of securities are subject to the registration tax as follows: (i) public deeds and notarised deeds are subject to fixed registration tax at rate of € 200 468; and (ii) private deeds are subject to registration tax only in case of use or voluntary registration.

#### 3.10.8 Financial Transaction Tax

Art 1, § 491 to § 500 of Law 24 December 2012 n. 228 published in the Italian Official Gazette on 29 December 2012, introduced a tax on the transfer of Italian shares, and on the conclusions of derivatives and the transfer of securitised derivatives (such as covered warrants, warrants and certificates) whose underlying is mainly represented by Italian shares.

With respect to derivatives, (i) transactions in derivatives instruments, as defined by Art. 1(3) of Legislative Decree No. 58 of 24 February 1998 (the "Italian Financial Act"), connected to or the value of which is mainly linked to shares and other equity-like financial instruments issued by the Italian resident companies (collectively, the "Italian Shares"); and (ii) the transfer of securities, as defined by Art.1(1-bis), letter c) and d) of the Italian Financial Act, giving right to the holders to acquire or sell mainly Italian Shares or which determine a cash settlement mainly by reference to Italian Shares, are subject, to the tax.

Tax applies at fixed rates that vary depending on the financial instrument and on the value of the transaction. The fixed rate tax is applied regardless of where the transaction is executed and the residence of the parties. In case of physical settlement, the tax is also payable upon the transfer of ownership rights on the underlying instruments (if Italian Shares), in accordance with rules provided for equities instruments.

The above mentioned tax shall apply with respect to derivatives transactions as of 1 July 2013 and is due by each of the counterparties to the transaction.

#### 3.10.9 EU Savings Directive

Under EC Directive 2003/48/EC on the taxation of savings income (the **EU Savings Directive**), Member States are required to provide to the tax authorities of another Member State details of payments of interest (or similar income) paid by a person within its jurisdiction to an individual resident in that other Member State or to certain limited types of entities established in that other Member State. However, for a transitional period, Luxembourg and Austria is are instead required (unless during that period it-they elects otherwise) to operate a withholding system in relation to such payments (the ending of such transitional period being dependent upon the conclusion of certain other agreements relating to information exchange with certain other countries). A number of non-EU countries and territories including Switzerland have adopted similar measures.

The European Commission has proposed certain amendments to the Directive, which may, if implemented, amend or broaden the scope of the requirements described above.

Implementation in Italy of the EU Savings Directive

Italy has implemented the Savings Directive through Legislative Decree No. 84 of 18 April 2005 (Decree No. 84). Under Decree No. 84, subject to a number of important conditions being met, in the case of interest paid to individuals which qualify as beneficial owners of the interest payment and are resident for tax purposes in another Member State, Italian qualified paying agents shall not apply the withholding tax and shall report to the Italian Tax Authorities details of the relevant payments and personal information on the individual beneficial owner. Such information is transmitted by the Italian tax authorities to the competent foreign tax authorities of the State of residence of the beneficial owner.

#### **DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE**

Copies of this Supplement can be obtained, without charge, from the head office of each Issuer and the specified office of each of the Paying Agents, in each case, at the address given at the end of the Base Prospectus.

This Supplement will be published on the website of:

- the Luxembourg Stock Exchange (www.bourse.lu) and
- the Issuers (http://prospectus.socgen.com) via one of the following links:

SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE -> Debt Issuance Program -> 2014 -> Supplement 2014; SG ISSUER -> 2014 -> Supplement 2014; SGA -> 2014 -> Supplement 2014; SG OPTION EUROPE -> 2014 -> Supplement 2014.

# **RESPONSIBILITY**

Each Issuer and the Guarantor accept responsibility for the information contained in this Supplement.

To the best of the knowledge of each Issuer and the Guarantor (each having taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case), the information contained in this Supplement is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information.