WELLS FARGO & COMPANY/MN Form 424B2 December 11, 2015

> Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2) File No. 333-202840

The information in this preliminary pricing supplement is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary pricing supplement and the accompanying product supplement, market measure supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus are not an offer to sell these securities and we are not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject To Completion, dated December 10, 2015

PRICING SUPPLEMENT No. 596 dated December , 2015

(To Product Supplement No. 5 dated March 18, 2015,

Market Measure Supplement dated March 18, 2015,

Prospectus Supplement dated March 18, 2015

and Prospectus dated March 18, 2015)

\$

Wells Fargo & Company

Medium Term Notes, Series K

**Equity Index Linked Securities** 

Leveraged Upside Participation To A Cap And Buffered Downside With Multiplier

Principal at Risk Securities Linked to the S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Index due December , 2017

Issuer: Wells Fargo & Company (Wells Fargo)

Market Measure: S&P 500® Index (the <u>Index</u>)

Pricing Date: December , 2015

Issue Date: December , 2015 (T+3)

Original Offering \$1,000 per security. References in this pricing supplement to a <u>security</u> are to a security with a

face amount of \$1,000.

Price:

Interest: None

Redemption Amount: The <u>redemption amount</u> per security will equal:

if the ending level is greater than the starting level: the lesser of:

(i) \$1,000 *plus*:

 $$1,000 \times \frac{\text{ending level}}{\text{starting level}} \times \text{participation rate}$ ; and

(ii) the capped value;

if the ending level is less than or equal to the starting level, but greater than or equal to the threshold level: \$1,000; or

if the ending level is less than the threshold level:

\$1,000 x <u>ending level</u> x multiplier starting level

If the ending level is less than the threshold level, the redemption amount will be less than the original offering price per security and you will lose some, and possibly all, of your investment.

Stated Maturity Date: December , 2017, subject to postponement if the calculation day is postponed.

Starting Level:

Ending Level: The <u>ending level</u> will be the closing level of the Index on the calculation day.

Capped Value: The <u>capped value</u> will be determined on the pricing date. As a result of the capped value, the

maximum total return at maturity of the securities will be % of the original offering price.

Threshold Level: , which is equal to 80% of the starting level.

Participation Rate: 150%

Multiplier: The <u>multiplier</u> will be equal to the starting level divided by the threshold level, or 100%

divided by 80%, which is approximately 1.25.

Listing: The securities will not be listed on any securities exchange or automated quotation system.

Calculation Day: December , 2017. If such day is not a trading day, the calculation day will be postponed to

the next succeeding trading day. The calculation day is also subject to postponement due to

the occurrence of a market disruption event.

Calculation Agent: Wells Fargo Securities, LLC

Agent: Wells Fargo Securities, LLC. The agent or another affiliate of ours expects to realize hedging

profits projected by its proprietary pricing models to the extent it assumes the risks inherent in

hedging our obligations under the securities.

Denominations: \$1,000 and any integral multiple of \$1,000

CUSIP Number: 94986RC58

We expect the estimated value of the securities on the pricing date to be approximately \$994.27 per security. While the estimated value of the securities on the pricing date may differ from the estimated value set forth above, we do not expect it to differ significantly absent a material change in market conditions or other relevant factors. In no event will the estimated value of the securities on the pricing date be less than \$984.27 per security. The estimated value of the securities was determined for us by Wells Fargo Securities, LLC using its proprietary pricing models. It is not an indication of actual profit to us or to Wells Fargo Securities, LLC or any of our other affiliates, nor is it an indication of the price, if any, at which Wells Fargo Securities, LLC or any other person may be willing to buy the securities from you at any time after issuance. See Investment Description in this pricing supplement.

Investing in the securities involves risks not associated with an investment in conventional debt securities. See Selected Risk Considerations herein on page PS-5 and Risk Factors in the accompanying product supplement.

The securities are unsecured obligations of Wells Fargo & Company and all payments on the securities are subject to the credit risk of Wells Fargo & Company. The securities are not deposits or other obligations of a depository institution and are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Deposit Insurance Fund or any other governmental agency of the United States or any other jurisdiction.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this pricing supplement or the accompanying product supplement, market measure supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	<b>Original Offering Price</b>	Agent Discount(1)	<b>Proceeds to Wells Fargo</b>
Per Security	\$1,000	_	\$1,000
Total			

<sup>(1)</sup> Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Wells Fargo & Company, is the agent for the distribution of the securities and is acting as principal. See Investment Description in this pricing supplement for further information.

#### INVESTMENT DESCRIPTION

The Principal at Risk Securities Linked to the S&P  $500^{\$}$  Index due December , 2017 are senior unsecured debt securities of Wells Fargo & Company that do not pay interest or repay a fixed amount of principal at maturity. Instead, the securities provide for a payment at maturity that may be greater than, equal to or less than the original offering price of the securities depending on the performance of the S&P  $500^{\$}$  Index (the <u>Index</u>) from its starting level to its ending level. The securities provide:

- (i) the possibility of a leveraged return at stated maturity if the level of the Index increases from its starting level to its ending level, provided that the total return at maturity of the securities will not exceed the maximum total return, as determined on the pricing date;
- (ii) repayment of principal at stated maturity if, and only if, the ending level of the Index is not less than the starting level by more than 20%; and
- (iii) exposure to the decrease in the value of the Index from the starting level if the ending level is less than the starting level by more than 20%, subject to the buffering effect of the multiplier,

in each case subject to the credit risk of Wells Fargo. You will have no ability to pursue any securities included in the Index for payment. If Wells Fargo & Company defaults on its obligations, you could lose some or all of your investment.

If the ending level is less than the starting level by more than 20%, you will lose some, and possibly all, of the original offering price of your securities at maturity.

The Index is an equity index that is intended to provide an indication of the pattern of common stock price movement in the large capitalization segment of the United States equity market.

You should read this pricing supplement together with product supplement no. 5 dated March 18, 2015, the market measure supplement dated March 18, 2015 and the prospectus dated March 18, 2015 for additional information about the securities. Information included in this pricing supplement supersedes information in the product supplement, market measure supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus to the extent it is different from that information. Certain defined terms used but not defined herein have the meanings set forth in the product supplement.

You may access the product supplement, market measure supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus on the SEC website www.sec.gov as follows (or if such address has changed, by reviewing our filing for the relevant date on the SEC website):

Product Supplement No. 5 dated March 18, 2015 filed with the SEC on March 18, 2015: http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/72971/000119312515096537/d890824d424b2.htm

Market Measure Supplement dated March 18, 2015 filed with the SEC on March 18, 2015: <a href="http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/72971/000119312515096591/d890724d424b2.htm">http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/72971/000119312515096591/d890724d424b2.htm</a>

Prospectus Supplement dated March 18, 2015 and Prospectus dated March 18, 2015 filed with the SEC on March 18, 2015:

http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/72971/000119312515096449/d890684d424b2.htm

The S&P 500 Index is a product of S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (SPDJI), and has been licensed for use by Wells Fargo & Company (WFC). Standard & Poor, S&P® and S&P 500® are registered trademarks of Standard & Poor s Financial Services LLC (S&P); Dow Jones a registered trademark of Dow Jones Trademark Holdings LLC (Dow Jones); and these trademarks have been licensed for use by SPDJI and sublicensed for certain purposes by WFC. The securities are not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by SPDJI, Dow Jones, S&P, their respective affiliates, and none of such parties make any representation regarding the advisability of investing in such product(s) nor do they have any liability for any errors, omissions, or interruptions of the S&P 500 Index.

The original offering price of each security of \$1,000 includes certain costs that are borne by you. Because of these costs, the estimated value of the securities on the pricing date will be less than the original offering price. The costs included in the original offering price relate to selling, structuring, hedging and issuing the securities, as well as to our funding considerations for debt of this type.

The costs related to selling, structuring, hedging and issuing the securities include the projected profit that our hedge counterparty (which may be one of our affiliates) expects to realize for assuming risks inherent in hedging our obligations under the securities as well as hedging and other costs relating to the offering of the securities.

Our funding considerations take into account the higher issuance, operational and ongoing management costs of market-linked debt such as the securities as compared to our conventional debt of the same maturity, as well as our liquidity needs and preferences. Our funding considerations are reflected in the fact that we determine the economic terms of the securities based on an assumed funding rate that is generally lower than the interest rates implied by secondary market prices for our debt obligations and/or by other traded instruments referencing our debt obligations, which we refer to as our <u>secondary market rates</u>. As discussed below, our secondary market rates are used in determining the estimated value of the securities.

If the costs relating to selling, structuring, hedging and issuing the securities were lower, or if the assumed funding rate we use to determine the economic terms of the securities were higher, the economic terms of the securities would be more favorable to you and the estimated value would be higher. The estimated value of the securities as of the pricing date will be set forth in the final pricing supplement.

### Determining the estimated value

Our affiliate, Wells Fargo Securities, LLC (<u>WFS</u>), calculated the estimated value of the securities set forth on the cover page of this pricing supplement based on its proprietary pricing models. Based on these pricing models and related market inputs and assumptions referred to in this section below, WFS determined an estimated value for the securities by estimating the value of the combination of hypothetical financial instruments that would replicate the payout on the securities, which combination consists of a non-interest bearing, fixed-income bond (the <u>debt component</u>) and one or more derivative instruments underlying the economic terms of the securities (the <u>derivative component</u>).

The estimated value of the debt component is based on a reference interest rate, determined by WFS as of a recent date, that generally tracks our secondary market rates. Because WFS does not continuously calculate our reference interest rate, the reference interest rate used in the calculation of the estimated value of the debt component may be higher or lower than our secondary market rates at the time of that calculation. As noted above, we determine the economic terms of the securities based upon an assumed funding rate that is generally lower than our secondary market rates. In contrast, in determining the estimated value of the securities, we value the debt component using a reference interest rate that generally tracks our secondary market rates. Because the reference interest rate is generally higher than the assumed funding rate, using the reference interest rate to value the debt component generally results in a lower estimated value for the debt component, which we believe more closely approximates a market valuation of the debt component than if we had used the assumed funding rate.

WFS calculated the estimated value of the derivative component based on a proprietary derivative-pricing model, which generated a theoretical price for the derivative instruments that constitute the derivative component based on various inputs, including the applicable derivative component factors identified in Risk Factors The Value Of The Securities Prior To Stated Maturity Will Be Affected By Numerous Factors, Some Of Which Are Related In Complex Ways in the accompanying product supplement. These inputs may be market-observable or may be based on assumptions made by WFS in its discretion.

The estimated value of the securities determined by WFS is subject to important limitations. See Selected Risk Considerations The Estimated Value Of The Securities Is Determined By Our Affiliate s Pricing Models, Which May Differ From Those Of Other Dealers below and Risk Factors Our Economic Interests Are Potentially Adverse To Your Interests in the accompanying product supplement.

Valuation of the securities after issuance

The estimated value of the securities is not an indication of the price, if any, at which WFS or any other person may be willing to buy the securities from you in the secondary market. The price, if any, at which WFS or any of its affiliates may purchase the securities in the secondary market will be based upon WFS s proprietary pricing models and will fluctuate over the term of the securities due to changes in market conditions and other relevant factors. However, absent changes in these market conditions and other relevant factors, except as otherwise described in the following paragraph, any secondary market price will be lower than the estimated value on the pricing date because the secondary market price will be reduced by a bid-offer spread, which may vary depending on the aggregate face amount of the securities to be purchased in the secondary market transaction, and the expected cost of unwinding any related hedging transactions. Accordingly, unless market conditions and other relevant factors change significantly in your favor, any secondary market price for the securities is likely to be less than the original offering price.

If WFS or any of its affiliates makes a secondary market in the securities at any time up to the issue date or during the 3-month period following the issue date, the secondary market price offered by WFS or any of its affiliates will be increased by an amount reflecting a portion of the costs associated with selling, structuring, hedging and issuing the securities that are included in the original offering price. Because this portion of the costs is not fully deducted upon issuance, any secondary market price offered by WFS or any of its affiliates during this period will be higher than it would be if it were based solely on WFS s proprietary pricing models less the bid-offer spread and hedging unwind costs described above. The amount of this increase in the secondary market price will decline steadily to zero over this 3-month period. If you hold the securities through an account at WFS or any of its affiliates, we expect that this increase will also be reflected in the value indicated for the securities on your brokerage account statement.

If WFS or any of its affiliates makes a secondary market in the securities, WFS expects to provide those secondary market prices to any unaffiliated broker-dealers through which the securities are held and to commercial pricing vendors. If you hold your securities through an account at a broker-dealer other than WFS or any of its affiliates, that broker-dealer may obtain market prices for the securities from WFS (directly or indirectly), but could also obtain such market prices from other sources, and may be willing to purchase the securities at any given time at a price that differs from the price at which WFS or any of its affiliates is willing to purchase the securities. As a result, if you hold your securities through an account at a broker-dealer other than WFS or any of its affiliates, the value of the securities on your brokerage account statement may be different than if you held your securities at WFS or any of its affiliates.

The securities will not be listed or displayed on any securities exchange or any automated quotation system. Although WFS and/or its affiliates may buy the securities from investors, they are not obligated to do so and are not required to make a market for the securities. There can be no assurance that a secondary market will develop.

#### SELECTED RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Your investment in the securities will involve risks not associated with an investment in conventional debt securities. These risks are explained in more detail in the Risk Factors section of the product supplement. You should reach an investment decision only after you have carefully considered with your advisors the suitability of an investment in the securities in light of your particular circumstances.

You May Lose Up To All Of Your Investment. If the ending level is less than the threshold level, the redemption amount will be less than the original offering price per security and will reflect the ending level expressed as a percentage of the starting level, as adjusted by the multiplier. As a result, you may receive less than, and possibly lose all of, the original offering price per security at maturity even if the level of the Index is greater than or equal to the starting level or the threshold level at certain times during the term of the securities.

**No Periodic Interest Will Be Paid On The Securities.** No periodic payments of interest will be made on the securities. However, if the agreed-upon tax treatment is successfully challenged by the Internal Revenue Service (the <u>IRS</u>), you may be required to recognize taxable income over the term of the securities. You should review the sections of this pricing supplement and the accompanying product supplement entitled United States Federal Tax Considerations.

The Buffering Effect Of The Multiplier Will Decrease As The Ending Level Decreases. If the ending level is less than the threshold level, the redemption amount will reflect the buffering effect of the multiplier, such that the redemption amount will be greater than it would have been had it been based solely on the performance of the Index. As the performance of the Index declines, however, the outperformance of the securities relative to the performance of the Index will decline as well, because the multiplier only acts to buffer the performance of the Index on a percentage basis. For example, if the ending level is 70% of the starting level, the redemption amount would be equal to \$875.00 per security (\$1,000 x .70 x multiplier), which is \$175.00 greater than it would have been had it been based solely on the performance of the Index without the multiplier (i.e., \$700). However, if the ending level is 40% of the starting level, the redemption amount would be equal to \$500.00 per security (\$1,000 x .40 x multiplier), which is only \$100.00 greater than it would have been had it been based solely on the performance of the Index without the multiplier (i.e., \$400). If the ending level is zero, the redemption amount will be zero (\$1,000 x .00 x multiplier).

Your Return Will Be Limited By The Capped Value And May Be Lower Than The Return On A Direct Investment In The Index. The opportunity to participate in the possible increases in the level of the Index through an investment in the securities will be limited because the redemption amount will not exceed the capped value. Furthermore, the effect of the participation rate will be progressively reduced for all ending levels exceeding the ending level at which the capped value is reached.

The Estimated Value Of The Securities On The Pricing Date, Based On WFS s Proprietary Pricing Models, Will Be Less Than The Original Offering Price. The original offering price of the securities includes certain costs that are borne by you. Because of these costs, the estimated value of the securities on the pricing date will be less than the original offering price. The costs included in the original offering price relate to selling, structuring, hedging and issuing the securities, as well as to our funding considerations for debt of this type. The costs related to selling, structuring, hedging and issuing the securities include the projected profit that our hedge

counterparty (which may be one of our affiliates) expects to realize for assuming risks inherent in hedging our obligations under the securities as well as hedging and other costs relating to the offering of the securities. Our funding considerations are reflected in the fact that we determine the economic terms of the securities based on an assumed funding rate that is generally lower than our secondary market rates. If the costs relating to selling, structuring, hedging and issuing the securities were lower, or if the assumed funding rate we use to determine the economic terms of the securities were higher, the economic terms of the securities would be more favorable to you and the estimated value would be higher.

The Estimated Value Of The Securities Is Determined By Our Affiliate s Pricing Models, Which May Differ From Those Of Other Dealers. The estimated value of the securities was determined for us by WFS using its proprietary pricing models and related market inputs and assumptions referred to above under Investment Description Determining the estimated value. Certain inputs to these models may be determined by WFS in its discretion. WFS s views on these inputs may differ from other dealers views, and WFS s estimated value of the securities may be higher, and perhaps materially higher, than the estimated value of the securities that would be determined by other dealers in the market. WFS s models and its inputs and related assumptions may prove to be wrong and therefore not an accurate reflection of the value of the securities.

The Estimated Value Of The Securities Is Not An Indication Of The Price, If Any, At Which WFS Or Any Other Person May Be Willing To Buy The Securities From You In The Secondary Market. The price, if any, at which WFS or any of its affiliates may purchase the securities in the secondary market will be based on WFS s proprietary pricing models and will fluctuate over the term of the securities as a result of changes in the applicable market and other factors described in Risk Factors The Value Of The Securities Prior To Stated Maturity Will Be Affected By Numerous Factors, Some Of Which Are Related In Complex Ways in the accompanying product supplement. Any such secondary market price for the securities will also be reduced by a bid-offer spread, which may vary depending on the aggregate face amount of the securities to be purchased in the secondary market transaction, and the expected cost of unwinding any related hedging transactions. Unless the applicable market and other factors change significantly in your favor, any such secondary market price for the securities is likely to be less than the original offering price.

If WFS or any of its affiliates makes a secondary market in the securities at any time up to the issue date or during the 3-month period following the issue date, the secondary market price offered by WFS or any of its affiliates will be increased by an amount reflecting a portion of the costs associated with selling, structuring, hedging and issuing the securities that are included in the original offering price. Because this portion of the costs is not fully deducted upon issuance, any secondary market price offered by WFS or any of its affiliates during this period will be higher than it would be if it were based solely on WFS s proprietary pricing models less the bid-offer spread and hedging unwind costs described above. The amount of this increase in the secondary market price will decline steadily to zero over this 3-month period. If you hold the securities through an account at WFS or any of its affiliates, we expect that this increase will also be reflected in the value indicated for the securities on your brokerage account statement. If you hold your securities through an account at a broker-dealer other than WFS or any of its affiliates, the value of the securities on your brokerage account statement may be different than if you held your securities at WFS or any of its affiliates, as discussed above under. Investment Description.

The Estimated Value Of The Securities Was Calculated By Our Affiliate And Is Therefore Not An Independent Third-Party Valuation. WFS calculated the estimated value of the securities set forth on the cover page of this pricing supplement, which involved discretionary judgments by WFS, as described under Selected Risk Considerations The Estimated Value Of The Securities Is Determined By Our Affiliate s Pricing Models, Which May Differ From Those Of Other Dealers above. Accordingly, the estimated value of the securities set forth on the cover page of this pricing supplement is not an independent third-party valuation.

The U.S. Federal Tax Consequences Of An Investment In The Securities Are Unclear. There is no direct legal authority regarding the proper U.S. federal tax treatment of the securities, and we do not plan to request a ruling from the IRS. Consequently, significant aspects of the tax treatment of the securities are uncertain, and the IRS or a court might not agree with the treatment of the securities as prepaid derivative contracts that are open transactions for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If the IRS were successful in asserting an alternative treatment of the securities, the tax consequences of ownership and disposition of the securities might be materially and adversely affected. In addition, in 2007 the U.S. Treasury Department and the IRS released a notice requesting comments on various issues regarding the U.S. federal income tax treatment of prepaid forward contracts and similar instruments. Any Treasury regulations or other guidance promulgated after consideration of these issues could materially and adversely affect the tax consequences of an investment in the securities, including the character and timing of income or loss and the degree, if any, to which income realized by non-U.S. persons should be subject to withholding tax, possibly with retroactive effect. You should read carefully the sections of this pricing supplement and the accompanying product supplement entitled United States Federal Tax Considerations. You should also consult your tax adviser regarding the U.S. federal tax consequences of an investment in the securities, as well as tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local or non-U.S. taxing jurisdiction.

#### **S&P 500 INDEX**

The S&P 500 Index is an equity index that is intended to provide an indication of the pattern of common stock price movement in the large capitalization segment of the United States equity market. Wells Fargo & Company is one of the companies currently included in the S&P 500 Index. See Description of Equity Indices The S&P 500 Index in the accompanying market measure supplement for additional information about the S&P 500 Index.

The following table sets forth the high and low closing levels, as well as end-of-period closing levels, of the Index for each quarter in the period from January 1, 2005 through September 30, 2015 and for the period from October 1, 2015 to December 8, 2015. We obtained the closing levels listed below from Bloomberg Financial Markets, without independent verification. The historical performance of the Index should not be taken as an indication of the future performance of the Index during the term of the securities.

	High	Low	Last
2005			
First Quarter	1225.31	1163.75	1180.59
Second Quarter	1216.96	1137.50	1191.33
Third Quarter	1245.04	1194.44	1228.81
Fourth Quarter	1272.74	1176.84	1248.29
2006			
First Quarter	1307.25	1254.78	1294.83
Second Quarter	1325.76	1223.69	1270.20
Third Quarter	1339.15	1234.49	1335.85
Fourth Quarter	1427.09	1331.32	1418.30
2007			
First Quarter	1459.68	1374.12	1420.86
Second Quarter	1539.18	1424.55	1503.35
Third Quarter	1553.08	1406.70	1526.75
Fourth Quarter	1565.15	1407.22	1468.36
2008			
First Quarter	1447.16	1273.37	1322.70
Second Quarter	1426.63	1278.38	1280.00
Third Quarter	1305.32	1106.39	1166.36
Fourth Quarter	1161.06	752.44	903.25
2009			
First Quarter	934.70	676.53	797.87
Second Quarter	946.21	811.08	919.32
Third Quarter	1071.66	879.13	1057.08
Fourth Quarter	1127.78	1025.21	1115.10
2010			
First Quarter	1174.17	1056.74	1169.43
Second Quarter	1217.28	1030.71	1030.71
Third Quarter	1148.67	1022.58	1141.20
Fourth Quarter	1259.78	1137.03	1257.64
2011			
First Quarter	1343.01	1256.88	1325.83
Second Quarter	1363.61	1265.42	1320.64
Third Quarter	1353.22	1119.46	1131.42

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Fourth Quarter	1285.09	1099.23	1257.60
2012	1203.07	1077.23	1237.00
First Quarter	1416.51	1277.06	1408.47
Second Quarter	1419.04	1278.04	1362.16
Third Quarter	1465.77	1334.76	1440.67
Fourth Quarter	1461.40	1353.33	1426.19
2013			
First Quarter	1569.19	1457.15	1569.19
Second Quarter	1669.16	1541.61	1606.28
Third Quarter	1725.52	1614.08	1681.55
Fourth Quarter	1848.36	1655.45	1848.36
2014			
First Quarter	1878.04	1741.89	1872.34
Second Quarter	1962.87	1815.69	1960.23
Third Quarter	2011.36	1909.57	1972.29
Fourth Quarter	2090.57	1862.49	2058.90
2015			
First Quarter	2117.39	1992.67	2067.89
Second Quarter	2130.82	2057.64	2063.11
Third Quarter	2128.28	1867.61	1920.03
October 1, 2015 to December 8, 2015	2109.79	1923.82	2063.59

#### UNITED STATES FEDERAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS

You should read carefully the discussion under United States Federal Tax Considerations in the accompanying product supplement and Selected Risk Considerations in this pricing supplement.

In the opinion of our counsel, Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, which is based on current market conditions, a security should be treated as a prepaid derivative contract that is an open transaction for U.S. federal income tax purposes. By purchasing a security, you agree (in the absence of an administrative determination or judicial ruling to the contrary) to this treatment. There is uncertainty regarding this treatment, and the IRS or a court might not agree with it.

Assuming this treatment of the securities is respected and subject to the discussion in United States Federal Tax Considerations in the accompanying product supplement, the following U.S. federal income tax consequences should result under current law:

You should not recognize taxable income over the term of the securities prior to maturity, other than pursuant to a sale or exchange.

Upon a sale or exchange of a security (including retirement at maturity), you should recognize capital gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized and your tax basis in the security. Such gain or loss should be long-term capital gain or loss if you held the security for more than one year.

Subject to the discussion below, if you are a non-U.S. holder (as defined in the accompanying product supplement) of the securities, you generally should not be subject to U.S. federal withholding or income tax in respect of any amount paid to you with respect to the securities, provided that (i) income in respect of the securities is not effectively connected with your conduct of a trade or business in the United States, and (ii) you comply with the applicable certification requirements.

The U.S. Treasury Department recently finalized the regulations referred to in United States Federal Tax Considerations Tax Consequences to Non-U.S. Holders Possible Application of Section 871(m) of the Code in the accompanying product supplement, which require withholding on certain dividend equivalent payments to non-U.S. persons. Based on the effective date in the final regulations, those regulations will generally not apply to the securities assuming there is no significant modification to the securities terms that results in a deemed exchange of the securities for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

As discussed in the section of the accompanying product supplement entitled United States Federal Tax Considerations FATCA Legislation, withholding under legislation commonly referred to as FATCA might (if the securities were recharacterized as debt instruments) apply to amounts treated as interest paid with respect to the securities and to the payment of gross proceeds of a disposition (including a retirement) of the securities. If the securities were treated as debt instruments, the withholding regime under FATCA would apply to any amounts treated as interest. If withholding applies to the securities, we will not be required to pay any additional amounts with respect to amounts withheld. If you are a non-U.S. holder, or a U.S. holder holding securities through a non-U.S. intermediary, you should consult your tax adviser regarding the potential application of FATCA to the securities.

In 2007, the U.S. Treasury Department and the IRS released a notice requesting comments on the U.S. federal income tax treatment of prepaid forward contracts and similar instruments. The notice focuses in particular on whether to require holders of these instruments to accrue income over the term of their investment. It also asks for comments on a number of related topics, including the character of income or loss with respect to these instruments; whether short-term instruments should be subject to any such accrual regime; the relevance of factors such as the

exchange-traded status of the instruments and the nature of the underlying property to which the instruments are linked; the degree, if any, to which income (including any mandated accruals) realized by non-U.S. investors should be subject to withholding tax; and whether these instruments are or should be subject to the constructive ownership regime, which very generally can operate to recharacterize certain long-term capital gain as ordinary income and impose a notional interest charge. While the notice requests comments on appropriate transition rules and effective dates, any Treasury regulations or other guidance promulgated after consideration of these issues could materially and adversely affect the tax consequences of an investment in the securities, including the character and timing of income or loss and the degree, if any, to which income realized by non-U.S. persons should be subject to withholding tax, possibly with retroactive effect. If withholding tax applies to the securities, we will not be required to pay any additional amounts with respect to amounts so withheld.

You should read the section entitled United States Federal Tax Considerations in the accompanying product supplement. The preceding discussion, when read in combination with that section, constitutes the full opinion of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP regarding the material U.S. federal tax consequences of owning and disposing of the securities.

You should consult your tax adviser regarding all aspects of the U.S. federal income and estate tax consequences of an investment in the securities and any tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local or non-U.S. taxing jurisdiction.

# SUPPLEMENTAL PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

Wells Fargo Securities, LLC has agreed, subject to the terms and conditions of the distribution agreement and a terms agreement, to purchase from us as principal \$ aggregate face amount of securities.

PS-9