## **PROSPECTUS**



## FØROYA LANDSSTÝRI

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FAROE ISLANDS

FØROYA LANDSSTÝRI DKK 1,350,000,000 0.50 PER CENT

FIXED RATE NOTES

22 JUNE 2016 / 22 JUNE 2021

This Prospectus is published on 20 June 2016.

The Føroya Landsstýri (the "Issuer" or the "Government of the Faroe Islands") will issue DKK 1,350,000,000 0.50 per cent Fixed Rate Notes due 22 June 2021 (the "Notes"). The Notes will constitute direct, general and unconditional obligations of the Issuer.

Application has been filed with Nasdaq Iceland hf. for the trading and official listing of the Notes on the main market of Nasdaq Iceland hf. Acceptance of the Notes for the trading and official listing on the main market of Nasdaq Iceland hf. is expected to have effect from 22 June 2016.

The Prospectus is expected to be passported to the Kingdom of Denmark prior to 22 June 2016. Following passporting of the Prospectus to the Kingdom of Denmark, application will be filed with Nasdaq Copenhagen A/S for the trading and official listing on the main market of Nasdaq Copenhagen A/S. Acceptance of the Notes for the trading and official listing on the main market of Nasdaq Copenhagen A/S is expected to have effect from 22 June 2016.

The Prospectus was prepared for the primary official listing and trading on the main market of Nasdaq Iceland hf. and the main market of Nasdaq Copenhagen A/S, respectively.

The Prospectus has been reviewed and approved by Fjármálaeftirlitið, the Financial Supervisory Authority, Iceland ("FME"), and the Prospectus constitutes a prospectus for the purposes of Directive 2003/71/EC (the "Prospectus Directive").

The Prospectus consists of three documents: Summary, Registration Document and Securities Note.

This Prospectus is available at the following locations: Nordea Bank Danmark A/S, Strandgade 3, DK-1401 Copenhagen K, Denmark (the "Arranger") and Føroya Gjaldstova, Kvíggjartún 1, FO-160 Argir, Faroe Islands.

The Prospectus may also be obtained from the website: http://gjaldstovan.gov.fo/tidindi/Economic%20reports/Pages/default.aspx.

This Prospectus is a prospectus for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive and for the purpose of giving information with regard to the Issuer and the Notes which, according to the particular nature of the Issuer and the Notes, is necessary to enable investors to make an informed assessment of the assets and liabilities, financial position, profit and losses and prospects of the Issuer.

This Prospectus has been prepared on the basis that any offer of Notes in any Member State of the European Economic Area which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a "Relevant Member State") will be made pursuant to an exemption under the Prospectus Directive, as implemented in that Relevant Member State, from the requirement to publish a prospectus for offers of Notes. Accordingly, any person making or intending to make an offer in that Relevant Member State of the Notes may only do so in circumstances in which no obligation arises for the Issuer or the Arranger to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive, in each case, in relation to such offer. Neither the Issuer nor the Arranger have authorised, nor do they authorise, the making of any offer of Notes in circumstances in which an obligation arises for the Issuer or the Arranger to publish or supplement a prospectus for such offer. The expression "Prospectus Directive" means Directive 2003/71/EC (and amendments thereto, including the 2010 PD Amending Directive, to the extent implemented in any Relevant Member State), and includes any relevant implementing measure in such Relevant Member State and the expression "2010 PD Amending Directive" means Directive 2010/73/EU.

No person has been authorised by the Issuer or the Arranger to give any information or to make any representation other than those contained in this Prospectus in connection with the issue or sale of the Notes and, if given or made, such information or representation must not be relied upon as having been authorised by the Issuer or the Arranger.

No representation or warranty is made or implied by the Arranger or any of its respective affiliates, and neither the Arranger nor any of its affiliates (other than the Issuer) makes any representation or warranty or accepts any responsibility, as to the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in this Prospectus. Neither the delivery of this Prospectus nor any sale made in connection herewith shall, under any circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of the Issuer since the date hereof or the date upon which this Prospectus has been most recently amended or supplemented or that there has been no adverse change in the financial position of the Issuer since the date hereof or the date upon which this Prospectus has been most recently amended or supplemented or that any other information supplied in connection with the Prospectus is correct as of any time subsequent to the date on which it is supplied or, if different, the date indicated in the document containing the same.

The distribution of this Prospectus and the offering or sale of the Notes in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law. Persons into whose possession this Prospectus comes are required by the Issuer and the Arranger to inform themselves about and to observe any such restriction. The Notes have not been and will not be registered under the U.S. Securities Act or with any securities regulatory authority of any state or other jurisdiction of the United States and the Notes may be subject to U.S. tax law requirements. Subject to certain exceptions, Notes may not be offered, sold or delivered within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons (as defined in the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1980 and the regulations thereunder). The Notes are being offered and sold outside the United States to non-US persons in reliance on Regulation S.

This Prospectus does not constitute an offer of, or an invitation by or on behalf of the Issuer, the Arranger or any of them to subscribe for or purchase, any Notes.

This Prospectus may include forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are not statements of historical fact but rather reflect the Issuer's current expectations, estimates and predictions about future developments in the Issuer's economy and public finances and events. Words such as "anticipates," "estimates," "expects," "projects," "intends," "plans," "believes" and words or terms of similar substance used in connection with any discussion of future developments of the Issuer's economy and public finances identify forward-looking statements.

Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties. There are multiple factors that could cause actual developments of the Issuer's economy and public finances to differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements. Most of these factors are difficult to predict accurately and are generally beyond the Issuer's control. Prospective investors should consider the uncertainty and risk resulting from such uncertainty in connection with any forward-looking statements that the Issuer makes.

## FØROYA LANDSSTÝRI



# THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FAROE ISLANDS

FØROYA LANDSSTÝRI DKK 1,350,000,000 0.50 PER CENT

FIXED RATE NOTES

22 JUNE 2016 / 22 JUNE 2021

**SUMMARY** 

Summaries are made up of disclosure requirements known as "Elements". These elements are numbered in Sections A - E (A.1 - E.7).

This summary contains all the Elements required to be included in a summary for this type of securities and Issuer. Because some Elements are not required to be addressed, there may be gaps in the numbering sequence of the Elements.

Even though an Element may be required to be inserted in the summary because of the type of securities and Issuer, it is possible that no relevant information can be given regarding the Element. In this case a short description of the Element is included in the summary with the mention of "not applicable".

Section	Section A – Introduction and warnings			
A.1	Introduction and warnings	<ul> <li>The Issuer informs potential investors that:</li> <li>this summary should be read as introduction to the Prospectus;</li> <li>any decision to invest in the Notes should be based on consideration of the Prospectus as a whole by the investor;</li> <li>where a claim relating to the information contained in the Prospectus is brought before a court, the plaintiff investor might, under the national legislation of the Faroe Islands, have to bear the costs of translating the Prospectus before the legal proceedings are initiated; and</li> <li>civil liability attaches only to those persons who have tabled the summary including any translation thereof, but only if the summary is misleading, inaccurate or inconsistent when read together with the other parts of the Prospectus, when read together with the other parts of the Prospectus, key information in order to aid investors when considering whether to invest in the Notes.</li> </ul>		
A.2	Consent	Not applicable		

Sectio	Section B - Issuer			
B.17	Issuer ratings	The Notes have not specifically been rated by a rating agency.		
		The Faroe Islands hold a foreign currency rating of Aa3 with stable outlook assigned by Moody's Investors Service.		
B.47	Description of the issuer	The Government of the Faroe Islands (Føroya Landsstýri). The Faroe Islands are a self-governing country within the Kingdom of Denmark which also comprises Greenland.		
		The Faroe Islands legislate and govern a wide range of areas in accordance with the Faroe Islands Home Rule Act no. 137 of 23		

March 1948 (the "Home Rule Act"). Certain matters are to remain the responsibility of the Danish Government as long as the Faroe Islands are part of the Kingdom of Denmark.

The Faroe Islands are not a member of the European Union.

The Faroe Islands are a modern, developed society with a standard of living comparable to other Nordic countries. Fishery and related industries are of major importance to the economy of the Faroe Islands. The dependence on a resource-based industry is evident in the export figures, of which fish products account for more than 90% of the export value of goods.

The construction industry in the Faroe Islands has undergone significant changes as the demand for construction has decreased. The further development in the construction industry in the near future depends on governmental projects as well as the municipality of Tórshavn, which are the main investors. The Government plans to build two sub-sea tunnels connecting Eysteroy and Sandoy with Streymoy.

In 1992, the Danish Government agreed to transfer the rights to mineral resources in the subsoil of the Faroe Islands to the Government of the Faroe Islands. So far the explorations have discovered no commercial findings, but they have showed the presence of an active hydrocarbon system in the Faroese subsurface. The influence from the oil industry has so far had a limited economic effect and expectations have become more moderate.

The financial market in the Faroe Islands is served by four banks – Eik Banki P/F, P/F BankNordik, Norðoya Sparikassi and Suðuroyar Sparikassi.

# B.48 Public finance and trade information

According to preliminary national accounts from Statistics Faroe Islands, the nominal GDP increased by 5.8% in 2014, while the average decrease in the consumer price index was 0.6% for the same period. The Economic Council and Statistics Faroe Islands estimate that economic growth will be approx. 6.2% in 2015.

#### National income, expenditure and savings

Million DKK	2012	2013
Gross domestic product	13,650	14,678
+ Wages and salaries from abroad	1,025	993
- Wages and salaries to abroad	196	251
+ Property income from abroad	705	561
- Property Income to abroad	794	747
National income, gross	14,389	15,233
+ Current transfers from abroad	993	1,050
- Current transfers to abroad	139	238
National disposable income, Gross	15,243	16,045
- Final consumption expenditure	11,741	11,976
Savings, gross	3,503	4,069
- Gross capital formation	3,949	3,653
Net lending (+) / Net borrowing (-)	-447	416

Source: Statistics Faroe Islands, 2013 preliminary figures.

The governmental sector has experienced significant deficits since 2009 where the total deficit was DKK 688 million (5.7% of GDP). According to preliminary unaudited figures the deficit will be DKK 83 million in 2015, (0.5% of GDP).

#### **Central government accounts**

Million DKK	2015 <sup>(1)</sup>	2016 <sup>(2)</sup>
Taxes, direct	2,448	2,359
Taxes, indirect	2,065	2,107
Transfers from Denmark	676	682
Sales of goods and services	768	699
Revenue from fees	214	384
Other	59	41
Operating revenues, ex. Interest	6,230	6,272
Personnel cost	-2,073	-2,230
Transfers to individuals	-1,661	-1,699
Other transfers	-456	-458
Purchase of goods and services	-1.362	-1,316
Transfers to other public entities etc.	-403	-407
Operating expenses, ex. Interest	-5,955	-6,110
Primary operating balance	275	162
Interest income and dividends	101	112
Interest expenses	-108	54
Operating balance	268	220
Sale of fixed assets	8	64
Sale of shares	0	0
Capital revenues from Denmark	0	0

Repayments of loans, domestic	19	19
Repayment of loans, Iceland	0	0
Abolishment of Landsbanki Føroya	0	0
Total capital revenues	27	83
Construction of fixed capital	-311	-215
Acquisition of fixed capital	-34	-23
Injection of cap. into publ. Ltd.'s	-5	-25
Net lending, domestic	-19	-25
Total capital expenses	-369	-288
Financing surplus/deficit	-74	15
Debt repayment	-890	-1,360
Gross financing surplus/deficit	-964	-1,345
New borrowing	1,045	1,350
Net financing surplus/deficit	81	5

Source: Faroese government accounts.

(2) Fiscal act as approved by the parliament in December 2015. At the beginning of the fiscal year 2016, appropriations transferred from previous years are DKK 174m.

Central	q	overnment	assets	and	liabilities

Million DKK	2014	2015
ASSETS		
Securities and deposits <sup>1</sup>	2,536	2,792
Others in circulation	543	505
Financial assets	2,065	1,992
Total assets	5,144	5,289
LIABILITIES		
Long-term debt (Denmark)	500	500
Bond loan	4,417	4,678
Other debt	824	925
Total debt	5,740	6,103
Net assets	-596	-814

#### **Balance of payments**

Million DKK	2013	2014
Goods	48	630
Services	-931	-542
Goods and services	-883	88
Wages	864	701
Rents	-188	57
Income transfers	676	758
Government sector	811	811
Other sectors	33	19
Other transfers	844	830
Current account surplus (+)/deficit (-)	637	1,676

Source: Statistics Faroe Islands

<sup>(1)</sup> Realized as of April 15 2016, but unaudited

Source: Foroya Gjaldstova
1) Including liquidity for appropriations transferred from previous years.

Secti	Section C - Securities			
C.1	Type and class of securities being offered / admitted to trading	The Notes constitute direct and unsecured obligations of the Government of the Faroe Islands and constitute unsubordinated loan indebtedness ranking <i>pari passu</i> with all other loan indebtedness of the Government of the Faroe Islands.		
		The Notes will be issued and registered as dematerialised securities, in book-entry form with the Danish central securities depository, VP SECURITIES A/S, on the Issue Date. The Notes are open for further issues without a fixed maximum amount. Future issues will be made at market price. The Notes will be closed for further issues from 22 May 2021.		
		Nordea Bank Danmark A/S, Strandgade 3, DK-1401 Copenhagen K, Denmark, will act as Account Holding Institute (in Danish: <i>Kontoførende Institut</i> ) in relation to VP SECURITIES A/S.		
		The International Securities Identification Number (ISIN) for the Notes is DK0030381223.		
		The INET code for the Notes is FO-LB 210622.		
		Nasdaq Copenhagen A/S short name for the Notes is FOROYA LAN JUN21.		
C.2	Currency of the Notes	The Notes will be issued in DKK.		
C.5	A description of any restrictions on the free transferability of the Notes	Not applicable; the Notes are issued as negotiable securities.		
C.8	Description of	Ranking		
	rights attached to the Notes	The Notes constitute direct and unsecured obligations of the Government of the Faroe Islands and constitute unsubordinated loan indebtedness ranking <i>pari passu</i> with all other loan indebtedness of the Government of the Faroe Islands. The Notes of each series will rank equally with each other, without any preference among themselves.		
		Early redemption		
		The Notes are not redeemable by the Issuer prior to the Maturity Date. The noteholders may not demand redemption of the Notes prior to the Maturity Date, unless there is an Event of Default.		
		Governing law		
		The Notes are governed by Danish law.		
C.9	Interest and yield;	Interest		
	redemption at	The Notes bear interest from and including 22 June 2016 to but		

	maturity; name	excluding 22 June 2021.
	representative of holders of Notes	The Notes will pay a fixed rate interest of 0.50 per cent. per annum (the "Interest Rate") payable in arrears annually on in each year commencing on 22 June 2017 and ending on 22 June 2021 (each an "Interest Payment Date").
		The first interest period shall be determined as the period from and including the Issue Date to (but excluding) the first Interest Payment Date; and with respect to the subsequent interest periods, the period commencing on an Interest Payment Date (included) to the next Interest Payment Date (excluded) (each an "Interest Period").
		The yield on the Notes is 0.4745 per cent. per annum. The yield is calculated as of the Issue Date on the basis of the Issue Price being 100.123 per cent. The yield is not an indication of future yield.
		Redemption at maturity
		Unless previously redeemed due to an Event of Default, or purchased and cancelled, the Issuer will redeem the Notes at their outstanding principal amount, together with accrued interest thereon, on 22 June 2021.
		Representative of noteholders
		There is no representative of the noteholders.
C.10	Derivative component in the interest payment	Not applicable; the Notes do not have a derivative component in the interest payment.
C.11	Admission to trading	Application has been filed with Nasdaq Iceland hf. for the trading and official listing of the Notes on the main market of Nasdaq Iceland hf. Acceptance of the Notes for the trading and official listing on the main market of Nasdaq Iceland hf. is expected to have effect from 22 June 2016. The Prospectus is expected to be passported to the Kingdom of Denmark prior to 22 June 2016. Following passporting of the Prospectus to the Kingdom of Denmark, application will be filed with Nasdaq Copenhagen A/S for the trading and official listing on the main market of Nasdaq Copenhagen A/S. Acceptance of the Notes for the trading and official listing on the main market of Nasdaq Copenhagen A/S is expected to have effect from 22 June 2016.

Section D - Risks				
D.2	Risks relating to the Issuer	The Issuer is exposed to a number of risks in respect of the conditions of the Faroese economy, including with regard to:		
		Production - Fishery and related industries are of such		

importance that their influence determines the overall performance of the Faroese economy. According to preliminary national accounts from Statistics Faroe Islands, the nominal GDP increased by 5.8% in 2014, while the average decrease in the consumer price index was 0.6 per cent for the same period. The Economic Council and Statistics Faroe Islands estimate that economic growth will be approx. 6.2% in 2015.

- Unemployment Unemployment rose significantly from 3.9% during 2009 and 2010 to 7.5% in February 2011.
   The unemployment rate has since been reduced to 2.3% in November 2015.
- Fishery and fishing industry Fishery and related industries are of such importance that their influence determines the overall performance of the Faroese economy. Demersal fisheries in Faroese waters are experiencing considerable difficulties, whereas pelagic fisheries have had a positive trend since 2011. The export of the fish farming industry currently constitutes 42% of total fish exports in 2015. Profitability in fish farming depends to a large degree on export prices and the industry's ability to avoid the fish disease plague.
- Service and production industries Companies in the service and production industries producing for the home market faced difficulties after 2008. Many companies therefore adjusted their operations to cope with low demand while maintaining the ability to increase production when demand rises. Indicators continue to show that domestic demand is increasing.
- The financial markets The Faroese financial institutions experienced a reduced demand for lending by households as well as businesses after the 2008 recession. Loans decreased until end of 2013, but have increased with 1.0% in 2014 and with 3.6% in 2015. To the extent the Faroese financial institutions may be affected by more stringent solvency requirements, this could potentially inhibit a future growth in lending operations.
- The governmental sector The governmental sector has experienced significant deficits since 2009 when the total deficit was DKK 688 million, i.e. 5.7% of GDP. According to preliminary unaudited figures the deficit will be DKK 83 million in 2015, (0.5% of GDP. The budget for 2016 indicates a surplus of DKK 9 million.
- The political environment Any changes in the political environment of the Faroe Islands or in the relationship between the Faroe Islands and Denmark may affect the Faroese economy. Precipitous political actions taken either by the Faroe Islands or the Kingdom of Denmark

		could have significant impact on the Faroese economy.
D.3	Risks relating to the Notes	The Issuer believes that the following factors represent the principal risks inherent in investing in the Notes:
		<ul> <li>Market risk - The market of the Notes issued by the Issuer is influenced by economic and market conditions and, to varying degrees, interest rates, currency exchange rates and inflation rates.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>The secondary market generally - The Notes may have no established trading market when issued, and one may never develop. If a market does develop, it may not be liquid. Therefore, investors may not be able to sell their Notes easily or at prices that will provide them with a yield comparable to similar investments that have a developed secondary market.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>The Notes may not be a suitable investment for all investors - Each potential investor in the Notes must determine the suitability of that investment in light of its own circumstances. In particular, each potential investor should:</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>(i) have sufficient knowledge and experience to make a meaningful evaluation of the Notes, the merits and risks of investing in the Notes and the information contained or incorporated by reference in this Prospectus or any applicable supplement to this Prospectus;</li> </ul>
		(ii) have access to, and knowledge of, appropriate analytical tools to evaluate, in the context of its particular financial situation, an investment in the Notes and the impact such investment will have on its overall investment portfolio;
		(iii) have sufficient financial resources and liquidity to bear all of the risks of an investment in the Notes, including where the currency for principal or interest payments, i.e. DKK, is different from the currency in which such potential investor's financial activities are principally denominated;
		(iv) understand thoroughly the terms of the Notes and be familiar with the behaviour of any relevant indices and financial markets; and
		(v) be able to evaluate (either alone or with the help of a financial adviser) possible scenarios for economic, interest rate and other factors that may affect its investment and its ability to bear the applicable risks.
		<ul> <li>Liquidity risk - There can be no assurance that an active trading market for the Notes will be developed and maintained, which may affect the trading price and the</li> </ul>

liquidity of the Notes. The Issuer has not made any arrangement with any persons or companies to ensure the liquidity of the Notes.

- Legal risk The terms and conditions of the Notes are based on Danish law in effect on the date of this Prospectus. No assurance can be given that as to the impact of any possible judicial decisions or changes to Danish and Faroese law after the date of this Prospectus.
- Limitations to the liability of the Issuer The Issuer shall not be liable for any loss incurred by the noteholders as a consequence of statutory provisions, measures adopted by any governmental or other authority actual or imminent war, insurrections, civil commotion, terrorism, sabotage or Acts of God. Nor shall the Issuer be liable for any loss caused by strikes, lockouts, boycotts or blockades, whether or not the Issuer itself is a party to the dispute, and notwithstanding that the dispute may affect only part of the functions of the Issuer. Nor shall the Issuer be liable for any loss arising from any overdue payment caused by the above events.
- Credit risk Issuer's liability to make payments according to the terms and conditions in this Prospectus constitutes direct and unsecured obligations of the Government of the Faroe Islands and constitutes unsubordinated loan indebtedness ranking pari passu with all other loan indebtedness of the Government of the Faroe Islands.
- Withholding tax The Issuer does not accept any liability for tax withheld or for collection of withholding tax irrespective of where the Notes are registered. If the Issuer is obliged to withhold tax or collect withholding tax pursuant to rules introduced after the Notes have been issued, the Issuer will do so, and the Issuer will not be obliged to pay any additional amounts to the Noteholders nor will the Issuer accept liability for any deduction in the amount disbursed to Noteholders.

# E.2b Purposes of the offer and use of proceeds when different from making profit and/or hedging certain risks Purposes of the proceeds from the issue of the Notes will be used for the financing of the redemption of Føroya Landsstýri DKK 1,350,000,000 Floating Rate Notes due 22 June 2016 (FO-LB 160622) with ISIN code DK0030277249.

E.3	Terms and	Nominal amount				
	conditions of the offer	Notes with a total principal amount of DKK 1,350,000,000 are being issued by the Issuer.				
		The Notes are open for further issues without a fixed maximum amount. Future issues will be made at market price free of charge to investors. The Notes will be closed for further issues on 22 May 2021.				
		Placing and underwriting				
		Nordea Bank Danmark A/S arranged for the Notes to be purchased by a group of institutional investors.				
		The issue of the Notes has not been underwritten with a firm commitment.				
		Issue Price				
		The Notes are being issued at a price of 100.123 per cent.				
		Payment and settlement				
		Payment and settlement of the Notes will be effected two business days after the trading day against registration with VP SECURITIES A/S. However, the first issue will be settled for value on 22 June 2016. The settlement will be effected against payment and registration with VP SECURITIES A/S.				
		Account Holding Institute				
:		The Issuer has appointed Nordea Bank Danmark A/S as Account Holding Institute.				
E.4	Interests material to issue including conflicting interests	Save for any fees payable to the Arranger, so far as the Issuer is aware, no person involved in the issue of the Notes has an interest material to the offer.				
E.7	Estimated expenses charged to investors	Any investor intending to acquire any Notes from a bank, financial intermediary or other entity (other than the Arranger in its capacity as such) will do so in accordance with any terms and other arrangements in place between the seller and such investor, including as to price, allocations and settlement arrangements. The Issuer will not be a party to such arrangements with investors, and, accordingly, investors must obtain such information from the relevant seller.				

## FØROYA LANDSSTÝRI



# THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FAROE ISLANDS

FØROYA LANDSSTÝRI DKK 1,350,000,000 0.50 PER CENT
FIXED RATE NOTES

22 JUNE 2016 / 22 JUNE 2021

REGISTRATION DOCUMENT

#### II. REGISTRATION DOCUMENT

### TABLE OF CONTENTS 1.1 The Faroese economy ...... 3 3. Information about the Issuer...... 8 3.1 Name of Issuer ....... 8 3.2 Addresses, etc...... 8 3.3 Recent developments......9 3.5 Description of the Issuer's political system and government............. 18 4. Public finance and trade......20 4.1 The tax and budgetary systems ...... 20 4.2 Gross public debt ...... 22 4.3 Foreign trade and balance of payments ...... 22 4.6 Auditing procedures.......24 6. Legal and arbitration proceedings .......26

#### 1. Risk factors

Prospective investors should read this Prospectus carefully. The Prospectus consists of three documents: Summary, Registration Document and the Securities Note all of which have been dated 20 June 2016. Investing in the Notes involves risks factors that may affect the Issuer's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes to the investors, and which the potential investor should take into consideration prior to deciding to make an investment in the Notes.

The Issuer believes that the factors described below represent the principal risks inherent in investing in the Notes, but the inability of the Issuer to pay interest, principal or other amounts on or in connection with the Notes may occur for other reasons which may not be considered significant risks by the Issuer based on information currently available to it or which it may not currently be able to anticipate.

Most of these factors are contingencies which may or may not occur and the Issuer is not in a position to express a view on the likelihood of any such contingency occurring.

There may be other risks that a prospective investor should consider that are relevant to the investor's own particular circumstances or generally.

Prospective investors should carefully consider, among other things, the factors described in the sections below before purchasing the Notes. In addition, for risk specifically associated with the Notes, investors are advised to consider the section "Risk factors" in the Securities Note.

#### 1.1 The Faroese economy

The Issuer's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes is highly dependent on the conditions of the Faroese economy.

#### 1.1.1 Production

According to preliminary national accounts from Statistics Faroe Islands, the nominal GDP increased by 5.8% in 2014<sup>1</sup>, and it is therefore likely that total production grew by approx. 6.5%, as the average decrease in the consumer price index was 0.6% for the same period. Faroese households have been cautious to increase spending for several years, but wage and salary expenditures of companies have been increasing over the last year, and indicators now show that domestic demand is on the increase. In the Economic Council publication "Búskaparfrágreiðing á várið 2016" from March 2016 the Economic Council and Hagstova Føroya (Statistics Faroe Islands) estimate that economic growth will be approx. 6.2% in 2015. Fishery and related industries are of such importance that their influence determines the overall performance of the Faroese economy. This dependence on a resource-based industry is evident in the export figures, of which fish products account for more than 90% of the export value of goods. Because the Faroese fishing fleet is very oil dependent, major changes in oil prices also constitute a risk factor for the Faroese economy.

#### 1.1.2 Employment

Unemployment rose significantly from 3.9% during 2009 and 2010 to 7.5% in February 2011. The unemployment rate has since been reduced to 2.3% in November 2015.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Source: Economic Council, website: setur.fo/buskaparradid

In the 10 years period from 2004-2013 there has been an average net emigration of 240 persons per year, mainly caused by the Faroese labour market not being able to absorb all jobseekers, but also caused by people having left the Faroe Islands for education purposes. However in 2014 and 2015, there has been a net immigration to the Faroe Islands of 300 persons per year. With a natural increase of 200-250 persons per year, the number of inhabitants increased by over 500 persons in both 2014 and 2015.

Two important factors have led to this development. The first is the improvement in the employment possibilities, as companies have been hiring more people. Employment has increased from 23,775 in October 2013 to 25,017 in October 2015, which is an increase of 1,242 (5.2%) in just 2 years. The other factor is the increasing number of people reaching retirement age and thereby providing an opening to the labour market for younger people. In 2006, 335 persons reached the age of 67, whereas the number in 2015, has increased to 543 persons.

#### 1.1.3 Fishery and fishing industry

Demersal fisheries in Faroese waters are experiencing considerable difficulties. The cod and haddock stocks continue being historically low. While saithe stocks are relatively well off and have in recent years been a source of sound fisheries, catches have declined substantially in the past ten years. Demersal stocks are fragile as a large proportion of the stocks are harvested every year. Cod catches in 2015 were 12,000 tonnes. Long term average catches of cod have been 28-30,000 tonnes. Haddock catches were 4,000 tonnes in 2015, whereas long term average catches have been 15-20,000 tonnes. Saithe catches were 23,000 tonnes in 2015, whereas average catches have been 40-45,000 tonnes. As a part of a long term plan to have an even lower fishing effort in 2015/2016, the Faroe Marine Research Institute recommends that the number of fishing days for cod and haddock fleet should be cut by 50% of the actually fishing days during 2013-2014. This is part of a more detailed recovery plan for cod and haddock.<sup>2</sup> The Faroe Marine Research Institute also recommends that the number of fishing days of the saithe fleet can be unchanged<sup>3</sup>. In addition to this, the innermost waters were closed for fisheries and the total number of days of fishing was reduced during 2011 for small fishing vessels in order to improve the conditions for young fish to reach maturity. If these measures have the intended effect, it will improve the state of the cod stock and eventually lead to a growth in cod catches

Cod fisheries in Russian part of the Barents Sea has increased from 12,000 tonnes in 2012 to around 20.000 tonnes in 2013 and 2014.<sup>3</sup> These fishing rights are granted in exchange for Russian ships being allowed to fish in Faroese waters.

On 12 March 2014, the Faroe Islands came to an agreement with the EU and Norway on fishing rights for catching mackerel, which has brought an end to disagreements that have lasted for several years. In august 2013 the disputes caused an EU ban on imports of mackerel and herring from the Faroe Islands. The ban was abolished in the summer 2014. The new agreement with EU and Norway will last for five years.

Pelagic fisheries had very good years in 2011-2015 due to successful mackerel fisheries, and mackerel catches are also expected to have significant value in 2016, amongst other

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2,3</sup> Source: Faroe Marine Research Institute, website: www.hav.fo

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Source: Governmental Bank, Economic Assesment, March 2013, p.14

due to increased fishing rights agreed with EU and Norway. The value of herring catches have increased from DKK 120 million in 2007 to DKK 470 million in 2015. Total export of pelagic species were DKK 200-400 million in the years 2003-2008, but from 2012-2015 they have been increased to DKK 1,300-1,500 million.

Fish farming, which has made a large contribution to economic growth in recent years, have produced similar quantities in the years from 2012 to 2014, but at significantly higher values, as salmon prices increased during 2013 and again in 2014, so that the export value increased from DKK 1.6 billion in 2012 to DKK 2.9 billion in 2014. In 2015 the export value was DKK 2.8 billion which is expected to increase by 5% in 2016.

Other factors that affect the resource industries are fish and oil prices. Even though economic developments have been poor on conventional Faroese export markets, it is likely that the prices of fish products will maintain their current levels. Market outlooks are fairly good for the Faroese fishing industry, e.g. due to the fact that economic growth in developing countries means that there is an increasing market of consumers demanding high-quality fish products.

As catches of demersal species is still at a very low level, production in the fish processing industry is still at a very low level.

#### 1.1.4 Service and production

Companies in the service and production industries producing for the home market have faced difficulties since 2008. It is highly likely that many companies have adjusted their operations to cope with the very low demand while maintaining the ability to increase production when demand rises. These adjustments have been achieved through reducing stocks, cutting staff and postponing or discontinuing investments. Whereas consumption has been stagnant after 2008, there are continuous signs of increasing consumption and domestic demand. Imports of consumption products have increased over the last three years from 2013 to 2015.

#### 1.1.5 The financial markets

Faroese financial institutions experienced a reduced demand for lending by households as well as businesses after the 2008 recession. Loans decreased until end of 2013, but have increased with 1.0% in 2014 and with 3.6% in 2015. To the extent the Faroese financial institutions may be affected by more stringent solvency requirements, this could potentially inhibit a future growth in lending operations.

The market for the Notes issued by the Government of the Faroe Islands is influenced by economic and market conditions and, to varying degrees, interest rates, currency exchange rates and inflation rates. There can be no assurance that events on the Faroe Islands, in Denmark, Europe or elsewhere will not cause market volatility and that such market volatility will not adversely affect the trading price of the Notes.

#### 1.1.6 The governmental sector

The governmental sector has experienced significant deficits since 2009 when the total deficit was DKK 688 million (5.7% of GDP).

According to preliminary unaudited figures the deficit will be DKK 83 million in 2015 (0.5% of GDP). The budget for 2016 shows a surplus of DKK 9 million.

#### 1.1.7 The political environment

Any changes in the political environment of the Faroe Islands or in the relationship between the Faroe Islands and Denmark may also affect the Faroese economy. Precipitous political actions taken either by the Faroe Islands or the Kingdom of Denmark could have significant impact on the Faroese economy.

#### 2. Persons responsible

#### 2.1 Statement from the Issuer

We, on behalf of the Government of the Faroe Islands, declare, as those responsible for the Registration Document that, having taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case, the information contained in the Prospectus is, to the best of our knowledge, in accordance with the facts and contains no omission likely to affect its import.

Kristina Háfoss Minister of Finance Føroya Landsstýri Fíggjarmálaráðið

Tórshavn.

Bjarni Askham Bjarnason

Director

Føroya Landsstýri Fíggjarmálaráðið

Tórshavn

#### 3. Information about the Issuer

#### 3.1 Name of Issuer

The Issuer is the Føroya Landsstýri, the Government of the Faroe Islands.

#### 3.2 Addresses, etc.

The Government of the Faroe Islands (Føroya Landsstýri):

Ministry of Finance Fíggjarmálaráðið Kvíggjartún 1 PO Box 2039 FO-165 Argir Faroe Islands Tel: +298 352020

Fax: +298 352025 E-mail: fmr@fmr.fo

#### The Faroese Parliament (Føroya Løgting):

Tinghúsvegur 1-3 PO Box 208 FO-100 Tórshavn Faroe Islands Tel: +298 363900

Fax: +298 363900

E-mail: logting@logting.fo

#### Føroya Gjaldstova:

Kvíggjartún 1 FO-160 Argir Faroe Islands Tel: +298 352400

Fax: +298 352401

gjaldstovan@gjaldstovan.fo

#### 3.3 Recent developments

There have been no recent events, with material effect to the Issuer's solvency, other than described in this Registration Document, hereunder as described in section 1 above and below in sections 3 and 4.

#### 3.4 Economy

The Faroe Islands are a modern, developed society with a standard of living comparable to other Nordic countries, with a GDP per capita that is approx. 89% of Denmark's. However, disposable income per capita, which includes the Danish state grant and salaries from Faroese employees working abroad, is approx. 97% of Denmark's. However, the economy is not yet as diversified as in other highly developed countries.

Fishery and related industries are of such importance that their influence determines the overall performance of the Faroese economy. This dependence on a resource-based industry is evident in the export figures, of which fish products account for more than 90% of the export value.

**Exports (fob) by product** 

Table 1

Million DKK	2003	2009	2013	2014	2015
Cod	941	403	516	544	709
Haddock	331	99	68	97	97
Salthe	318	575	331	315	362
Main demersal species	1,590	1,077	915	956	1,168
Salmon	805	1,204	2,456	2.950	2,792
Trout	160	175	3	0	0
Total Fish Farming	965	1,379	2,459	2,950	2,792
Blue Whiting	128	31	152	123	153
Herring	42	191	410	292	472
Atlantic Mackerel	63	185	814	887	819
Main pelagic species	233	407	1,376	1,302	1,444
Prawns	221	112	62	104	110
Other species	755	707	987	862	1,079
Prawn and other species	976	819	1,049	966	1,189
Total fish products	3,764	3,682	5,799	6.174	6,593
Other products	9	198	194	176	115
Ships and aeroplanes	139	225	103	12	37
Total export of products	3,912	4,105	6,096	6,362	6,745

**Source: Statistics Faroe Islands** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Source: Statistics Faroe Islands, Statistics Denmark

An economy with high dependence on fish products and exports is bound to be vulnerable to the changes in catches, fish prices and exchange rates. These often cyclical and unforeseen changes are volatile, and have left their mark on the economic history of the islands. Export income can fluctuate significantly from one year to the next, and these fluctuations spread quickly throughout the economy.

Because the Faroese fishing fleet is very oil dependent, a major increase in oil prices also constitutes a risk factor for the Faroese economy.

The total fish exports have increased from DKK 3.7 billion in 2009 up to DKK 6.6 billion in 2015, an increase of approx. 78%.

The composition of the Faroese fish export has changed significantly over the past ten years.

Part of the Faroese wet fish fleet is fishing demersal species as cod, haddock and saithe in the Faroese fisheries zone, while another part of the fleet consisting of factory trawlers are fishing cod in the Barents Sea. The traditional cod fisheries in Faroese and foreign waters have during the period 2003-2012 decreased significantly from having a total export value of DKK 940 million in 2003 to DKK 709 million in 2015, while the export value of the most important demersal species has decreased from DKK 1.6 billion in 2003 to DKK 1.2 billion in 2015.

On the other hand the export value of catches by the pelagic fleet (fishing herring, mackerel and blue whiting) has increased from around DKK 200 million in 2003 to DKK 1.4 billion in 2015.

Another significant change is that the fish farming industry has expanded, and that the export value of salmon consequently has increased from DKK 965 million in 2003 to DKK 2.8 billion in 2015.

The Faroese Economy contracted somewhat during 2008 and 2009 due to the global economic slowdown and more moderate domestic private consumption. The years 2006 and 2007 were characterized by an unusually high level of credit-financed private consumption.

According to preliminary national accounts from Statistics Faroe Islands, the nominal GDP increased by 5.8% in 2014<sup>5</sup>. The average decrease in the consumer price index was 0.6% from 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2013 to 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2014. Faroese households have been cautious to increase spending, but imports of consumption items have increased by 10.0% from 2013 to 2015, which indicates an increase in consumption in general. In the Economic Council publication "Búskaparfrágreiðing várið 2016" from March 2016, the Economic Council and Hagstova Føroya (Statistics Faroe Islands) estimate that economic growth will be approx. 6.2% in 2015.

The growth rate in total wage expenditure (wage compensation) in the Faroe Islands was on average 5.9% for the years 2001 to 2007. The growth in total wage expenditure has been slow after 2007, only 4% from 2007 to 2013. However, the wage expenditure

-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Source: Statistics Faroe Islands, website: hagstova.fo

increased 11.6% during 2013 to 2015 from DKK 7,182 million to DKK 8,024 million. The wage expenditure has increased by 8.8% from first quarter 2015 to first quarter 2016.

National income, expenditure and savings				Table 2	
Million DKK	2003	2010	2011	2012	2013
Gross domestic product	9,795	12,942	13,254	13,650	14,678
+ Wages and salaries from abroad	341	823	851	1,025	993
- Wages and salaries to abroad	34	175	185	196	251
+ Property income from abroad	386	355	431	705	561
- Property income to abroad	331	537	443	794	747
National income, gross	10,157	13,409	13,908	14,389	15,233
+ Current transfers from abroad	871	1.015	1.242	993	1,050
- Current transfers to abroad	124	193	153	139	238
National disposable income, Gross	10,905	14,231	14,998	15,243	16,045
- Final consumption expenditure	8,210	10,885	11,522	11,741	11,976
Savings, gross	2,695	3,346	3,476	3,503	4,069
- Gross capital formation	2,916	2,536	2,433	3,949	3,653

-221

Source: Statistics Faroe Islands, 2013 preliminary figures.

Net lending (+) / Net borrowing (-)

The total number of employees increased in the years from 2004 to 2008, but then decreased from 2008 to 2011. After 2011 the number of employees has stabilised around 23,500, but there has been a significant increase from autumn 2013 to 2015 of around 1,250 employees. The industry structure has changed significantly over the past ten years.

810

1.043

-447

416

The catches of the demersal fleet in Faroese waters has decreased steadily over the last decade and this has caused a significant loss of jobs both in fisheries and fish processing. The reason is that the demersal fleet is labour intensive and creates many jobs in the fish processing industry. Employment in fisheries has decreased from 2,500 in 2004 to 1,500 in 2015. Employment in fish processing has decreased from 2,000 in 2004 to 1,500 in 2015.

As mentioned above the pelagic fisheries have increased more than the decrease in the catches of demersal species, but as pelagic fisheries are very capital intensive, there has been a significant loss of employment in fisheries. However, as shown in table 2 above, wages and salaries earned by Faroese employees working abroad have increased from approx. DKK 300 million in 2003 up to DKK 1.0 billion in 2013.

The average salary of employees working for foreign countries can be estimated at around DKK 400,000 per year. The employment of Faroese employees in foreign countries has increased from around 750 persons up to around 2,550 person, indicating that a large part of seamen have found employment in neighbouring countries.

Faroese sailors have been working in considerable numbers in the Danish merchant fleet and in fishing vessels in Greenland since the 1960ies. The big change is that many now work in supply service in the Norwegian oil industry, and that there are also many electricians working in the land based oil industry mainly in construction of new plants.

Unemployment increased from 2008 to 2011. However, the number of unemployed has decreased steadily after 2011. The latest numbers from November 2015 show an unemployment rate at 2.3%.

The total number of employees has increased throughout 2014 and 2015. The increased number of employees is one explanation that a net emigration of 300 in 2012 and 100 in 2013 has turned into a net immigration of 300 in 2014 and 2015.

Table 3 below shows the development of employees in the various business sectors from 2004 to 2015.

## Employees by business sector 2004-2015\*

Tabel 3

	Oct.2004	Oct. 2008	Oct. 2011	Oct.2014	Oct 2015
Agriculture	61	88	64	89	80
Fishing	2,475	1,796	1,645	1,513	1,511
Aquaculture	500	637	695	922	986
Extraction of raw materials	58	75	89	119	102
Fish processing	2,053	1,505	1,227	1,402	1,479
Shipyards/machine shops	560	605	497	674	660
Other manufacturing	985	987	759	787	810
Construction	1,728	2,164	1,563	1,663	1,793
Energy	156	147	151	155	156
Trade and repair	3,049	3,309	2,885	3,068	3,081
Hotels and restaurants	509	585	535	685	701
Sea transport	744	751	896	905	992
Other transport	557	719	576	723	737
Communication	626	583	488	383	371
Finance and insurance	829	970	848	712	704
Business services	664	868	694	707	765
Household services	232	293	336	314	331
Public administration	587	626	632	631	634
Municipalities etc,	2,426	2,914	3,001	3,137	3,206
Education	1,540	1,527	1,624	1,616	1,612
Health & social work	3,563	3,673	3,539	3,419	3,555
Culture, organizations etc	561	672	599	607	637
Activities n.e.i.	100	147	2	105	114
Total	24,563	25,641	23,345	24,336	25,017

<sup>\*</sup> These statistics reflect the number of persons employed in each business sector, and not the number of full-time workers in each sector,

#### 3.4.1 INDUSTRIES

#### Fishery and the fishing industry

Since the 1950s, the total yearly Faroese wet fish catch has been about 100,000 tonnes, and since the mid-1970s, most years the catch has been more than 100,000 tonnes (mean value 112,000 tonnes, standard deviation 20,000 tonnes). The most important wet fish species in recent years have been saithe, cod, haddock and greater silver smelt.

The catch of these species is done mainly by smaller fishing boats, long-line vessels and pair trawlers.

The pelagic fishery arose in the mid-1960s and has increased since then. From 1995 the most important pelagic species have been blue whiting, herring, capelin and mackerel. These species are caught mainly by high capacity, pelagic trawlers and purse seiners. Other species fished by Faroese ships are prawns and shellfish.

The export value of fish products has been stable from 2003 to 2009 at around DKK 3.7 billion. From 2009 to 2015 the export increased from DKK 3.7 billion to DKK 6.6 billion.

From 2003 to 2015 the catches of cod, haddock and saithe has decreased from DKK 1.6 billion to DKK 1.2 billion, while the pelagic fisheries export has increased from DKK 200 million to DKK 1.4 billion.

In addition to that, the fish farming exports, mostly salmon, have increased from DKK 1.0 billion in 2003 to DKK 2.8 billion in 2015.

Of the total catches, wet fish accounted for about 70,000 tonnes in 2015 which were mainly fished in Faroese waters. Of the total cod catches in 2014, over 80% were fished in foreign fishing areas like the Barents Sea and East Greenland. This is mainly caused by a significant fall in the catches of cod in Faroese waters over the past ten years. Most of the cod fished in foreign waters is caught by big filleting trawlers.

On 12 March 2014, the Faroe Islands came to an agreement with the EU and Norway on fishing rights for catching mackerel, which has brought an end to disagreements that have lasted for several years. In August 2013 the disputes caused an EU ban on imports of mackerel and herring from the Faroe Islands. The ban was abolished in the summer 2014. The new agreement with EU and Norway will last for five years.

#### On-land fish industry

After the economic crisis in 1992, the on-land fish industry went through a restructuring process, and the number of plants was reduced to fewer, bigger or more specialised plants. The filleting factories produce a range of fresh, iced and frozen products to the retail and food service markets.

The fish processing industry has undergone significant changes over the last five years, and following the bankruptcy proceedings of the Faroese company, Faroe Seafood in 2010, the fish processing industry has been restructured. Only a small number of the company's processing plants have reopened after the bankruptcy. The number of wage earners in the industry has for many years decreased steadily. Since 2004 the total work force in fish processing has decreased from 2,000 persons in 2014 to 1,500 persons in 2015. The resource base for production has decreased over the last ten years and total demersal catches in Faroese waters have not been lower since the early 1990ies. Current demersal production capacity seems to be better suited than the capacity in place prior to the industry restructuring.

The processing capacity for pelagic species has been increased significantly the past ten years, as there is both a wish in the Faroe Islands to create new jobs, and pressure from the outside world that as much as possible of the fishery catches should be processed into goods for human consumption. The first factory was built in Kollafjørð, and its capacity has been increased subsequently. A processing plant for pelagic fish has been built in the town of Tvøroyri in 2012 and one in Fuglafjørður in 2014.

#### Aquaculture

The fish farming industry is relatively new in the Faroe Islands. Farming of salmon started in the early 1980s and has since emerged as the second-largest export industry in the Faroese economy.

Approximately 80,000 tonnes were harvested in 2015, and the harvest in 2016 is expected to be slightly higher. The export value of Faroese farmed fish was approx. DKK 2.8 billion in 2015. DKK 2.8 billion corresponds to approx. 42% of the total Faroese fishery exports. The value of the salmon export is expected to increase by 5% in 2016. The average export prices of Norwegian Farmed salmon were NOK 28 per kg in 2012, but increased to NOK 40 per kg in 2013 and 43 NOK per kg in 2015. The average forward prices for 2016 are around NOK 55 per kg. The average forward prices for 2016 are around NOK 55 per kg.

The number of employees in the fish farming industry has increased from 637 in 2008 to 986 in 2015.

#### Construction

Construction activities have decreased significantly since 2008. Consequently, the number of employees in the industry has also decreased. From October 2008 to October 2011 employment fell 28% (from 2,164 to 1,563 employees), but has increased into 1,793 in October 2015. Small construction companies have had sufficient orders, while larger companies, usually working on larger public projects, have had less activity and have laid off employees. There is, however, a couple of large public construction projects ongoing, e.g. the secondary school at Marknagil, which will cost around DKK 500 million and several other construction projects are in the pipeline as well, including the planned sub-sea tunnels, one to Eysturoy and one to Sandoy. Because of relatively high construction activity in the Faroes a substantial number of foreign construction workers are now employed by Faroese companies.

#### Transportation

#### Internal

The transport infrastructure in the Faroe Islands is good. Road connections now link all villages on each island and also between some of the islands.

In December 2002, the first sub-sea tunnel in the Faroe Islands was opened between Vágar and Streymoy. This is the first partially user-financed investment of its kind in the Faroe Islands. The construction of this tunnel increased the percentage of the Faroese population being connected by road transport from 69% to 75%. A second sub-sea tunnel between Borðoy and Eysturoy opened in May 2006. The construction of this tunnel made it possible for 86% of the total population to reach each other by road transport.

All parties in the parliament have made a joint decision to build a sub-sea tunnel from Streymoy to Eysturoy, having an estimated cost of DKK 1,050 million. This tunnel will shorten the traveling distance between Torshavn and most parts of Eysturoy by 30 to 50 km. The construction is going to take place in the years 2016-2019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Source: Economic Council: Búskaparfrágreiðing várið 2016, March 2016, p. 35-36.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Source: Norwegian Seafood Council, website: seafood.no

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Source: Fish Pool - The Norwegian marketplace for financial salmon contracts, website: fishpool.eu

When the Eysturoy tunnel is completed, construction will start of a sub-sea tunnel from Streymoy to Sandoy, having an estimated cost of DKK 860 million. Around 1,300 inhabitants (additional 3% of the total population) will be connected to the other islands by constructing this sub-sea tunnel. The construction is going to take place in the years 2018-2021.

Both passenger and cargo transport are provided daily to all but two of the inhabited islands and most villages. Ferries and helicopter services are available to the islands that are not directly linked to the road system, and bus service is the most common form of transport for all other areas. As of 1 January 2015, there were 21,417 registered private cars, equivalent to 440 cars per 1,000 inhabitants.

#### External

Atlantic Airways, the national airline carrier of the Faroe Islands, is currently the only operator offering routes to and from the Faroe Islands. Depending on the season, there are four to seven daily flights to Denmark (Copenhagen and Billund). There are also flights each week to Iceland, Norway and the UK depending on the season. In 2015, 276,426 passengers travelled through Vágar airport which is 17% more than in 2013, and 67% more than in 2004.

The ferry Norröna (a combined cruise/cargo ship that can carry roughly 1,500 passengers and 800 cars) offers weekly service to Denmark and Iceland. 49,050 passengers travelled to the Faroe Islands by sea in 2015, which are approximately the same as in 2013.

Icelandic and Faroese freight companies provide cargo carriage to and from the Faroe Islands.

The most important routes are to Denmark, United Kingdom, Norway and Sweden.

#### Tourism

Tourism is not a major industry in the Faroe Islands, but for many years, efforts have been made to develop the tourism industry in order to diversify the Faroese economy.

The turnover of the total industry has increased from DKK 416 million in 2011 to DKK 572 million in 2014. Value added has increased from DKK 162 million in 2011 to DKK 224 million in 2014. The value added has increased from 1.2% to 1.4% of GDP.

Transportation is 60% of total turnover in the tourist industry. Hotels, bed and breakfast, camping etc. are 14% of the turnover and the sales of food and drinks are 12%.

#### Oil

On 22 December 1992, the Danish Government agreed to transfer the rights to mineral resources in the subsoil of the Faroe Islands to the Government of the Faroe Islands. The initial oil exploration phase started in 1994 and since then, many firms have been exploring the subsoil.

So far the explorations have discovered no commercial findings, but they have showed the presence of an active hydrocarbon system in Faroese subsurface. The influence from the oil industry has not yet had the economic effect that was expected when the explorations first took place. Expectations have become more moderate, as fewer oil

companies were interested when the third licensing round was held in November 2008. At present oil companies hold three licences.

The Geological Survey, an institution under the Faroese Government undertakes new evaluations of existing seismic data to point out possibilities for potentially interested parties in the oil industry.

In the event of hydrocarbons being exploited from the Faroese subsoil, the revenue generated from such activity will be taxed pursuant to the Hydrocarbon Tax Act<sup>9</sup> and pursuant to the Faroese Ministry of Trade and Industry's Licences for Exploration and Production of Hydrocarbons.

The Hydrocarbon Tax Act consists of a company income tax of 27% and a three tier special hydrocarbon tax, which is based on a rate-of-return (ROR) principle.

In addition to the said taxes, a royalty of 2% of gross revenue will be imposed.

#### The financial market

Financial affairs (except insurance companies and mortgage-credit institutions) are under Danish State authority and under the supervision of the Danish Financial Supervisory Authority (Finanstilsynet).

Four banks – Eik Banki P/F (formerly Eik Banki Føroya P/F), P/F BankNordik (formerly Føroya Banki P/F), Norðoya Sparikassi and Suðuroyar Sparikassi – serve the financial market in the Faroe Islands.

Because of a revision in the banking law, banks and savings banks compete on equal terms. The law affords the same conditions for Faroese financial institutions as for Danish financial institutions relative to the Danish Central Bank. This legislation thus enables the Faroese banks to participate in international capital markets.

The Faroese economy enjoyed a period of high economic activity during 2006-2007, which gave rise to greater profits within the financial sector. But 2008-2009 proved to be very challenging years for the sector. In 2008 and 2009 there were significant losses in the sector, only P/F BankNordik showed profit in both 2008 and 2009. The situation deteriorated further during 2010, culminating with the bankruptcy of Eik Banki Føroya P/F in the fall of 2010.

After Eik Banki Føroya was taken over by the Financial Stability Company (Finansiel Stabilitet A/S), a 70% ownership was sold on to TF Holding P/F, the largest insurance company on the Faroe Islands, while the Financial Stability Company retained a 30% ownership in the company.

In 2015, the Financial Stability Company sold its remaining 30% ownership in Eik Banki to TF Holding and TF Holding is now the sole owner.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Parliament Act No 26, dated 21 April 1999 on taxation of revenue relating to hydrocarbon activities (as amended by Parliamentary Act No. 26, dated 7 March 2000.

Eik Banki P/F had a pre-tax profit of DKK 29 million in 2015. The bank's solvency ratio was by end of 2014, 21.6%, and the individual solvency requirement was 11.3%.

The Government of the Faroe Islands sold two-thirds of its shares in P/F BankNordik when the bank was listed in 2007 and still holds one-third of the shares. The bank has shown profits during the financial turmoil and the main reason has been its limited exposure abroad. The Faroese housing market has proved very robust, and write-downs in this field have been limited in contrast to many other countries. P/F BankNordik had a deficit of DKK 332 million in 2015. The bank's solvency ratio was by end of 2015 16.8%, and the individual calculated solvency requirement was 8.8%.

Two smaller banks, Norðoya Sparikassi and Suðuroyar Sparikassi, complete the Faroese banking sector.

Norðoya Sparikassi had a pre-tax profit of DKK 8 million in 2015, and a solvency ratio of 19.0% at the end of 2013. The individual calculated solvency requirement was 9.5%.

The smallest bank, Suðuroyar Sparikassi had a pre-tax profit of DKK 0.7 million in 2015, and a solvency ratio of 15.4% at the end of 2015. The individual calculated solvency requirement was 10.4%.

Various financing institutions other than banks, both private and public, hold about a 10% share of the total financial assets and play an important role in selected areas of the financial market.

In June 2008 a new insurance industry law passed by the Faroese Parliament came into force. In conformity with the insurance industry law from 1997, the monopoly was abolished and a Faroese Insurance Supervisory Body was appointed. This allowed any Faroese company complying with statutory requirements to enter the insurance business on the condition that the company obtains permission from the Government of the Faroe Islands and the Faroese Insurance Supervisory Body.

The company, Trygd Ltd., and the old monopoly incumbent, Tryggingarfelagið Føroyar Ltd, (established in 1940), are currently the only non-life insurance companies active in the Faroese market. In the last few years, competition has increased in the life insurance market. The publicly owned company Føroya Lívstrygging (also a pension and life insurance company established in 1967) became a limited company in 2000. In February 2007 the TF Holding P/F owned company, Tryggingarfelagið Føroyar P/F, established a new pension and life insurance company named Betri Pensjón Ltd.

#### Deposit Guarantee Fund

As of 1 October 2010, a new set of rules for winding-up of distressed banks came into force, meaning that depositors and other unsecured creditors of distressed banks within the Kingdom of Denmark (including the Faroe Islands and Greenland) are no longer ensured full coverage of their claims by the Financial Stability Company under the Danish Government's guarantee scheme (Bank Package 1). As of 1 October 2010, only the Deposit Guarantee Fund guarantees for ordinary deposits registered in the name of a depositor with an amount corresponding to a net value of up to EUR 100,000. Accordingly the guarantee towards depositors and investors does no longer include a government guarantee.

The financial basis of the new winding-up rules is based on a guarantee provided by the Deposit Guarantee Fund towards depositors and investors, combined with a loss guarantee for any loss suffered by the Financial Stability Company in connection with the

winding-up of a distressed bank. The loss guarantee is to be provided by the Deposit Guarantee Fund towards the Financial Stability Company.

As all Faroese banks have a general obligation to contribute to the Deposit Guarantee Fund, any case of payments under the guarantee towards depositors and investor or winding-up of distressed banks in the Kingdom of Denmark (including the Faroe Islands and Greenland) by the Financial Stability Company will affect the Faroese banks and their payment obligations towards the Deposit Guarantee Fund.

In October 2013 an agreement was reached in the Danish parliament about the framework for the regulation of Danish SIFIs, (Systemically Important Financial Institututions).

In February 2014, the Faroese Government and the Danish Government agreed that three Faroese banks, Bank Nordic, Eik Bank and Norðoya Sparikassi shall be considered SIFI banks. These three banks have a combined market share of 96% of bank loans in the Faroe Islands.

The law regarding legislation of SIFI banks and the implementation of CRD IV was passed in the Danish Parliament in 2014 and the Faroese Løgting passed the on 24 April 2015. The law took effect as of 1 July 2015.

#### Currency

The currency of the Faroe Islands is the Faroese króna, issued by the Danish Central Bank, Danmarks Nationalbank. The Danish Central Bank considers the Faroese króna to be a special version of the Danish krone and unique. Faroese bank notes are in circulation in the Faroe Islands. The basis of the Faroese króna is an equal amount of Danish kroner deposited in an account in the Danish Central Bank. Although the bank notes used in the Faroe Islands are Faroese, the coins are the same as those in circulation in the rest of the Kingdom of Denmark. Faroese and Danish bank notes are fungible in the Faroe Islands. The Danish Central Bank is the lender of last resort and all local Faroese accounts are denominated in Danish kroner.

If the Kingdom of Denmark decides to changes its official currency from Danish kroner to Euro, the Faroe Islands can be expected to follow.

## 3.5 Description of the Issuer's political system and government

The Faroe Islands are a self-governing country within the Kingdom of Denmark which also comprises Greenland.

The Faroe Islands legislate and govern a wide range of areas in accordance with the Faroe Islands Home Rule Act no. 137 of 23 March 1948 (the "Home Rule Act"). These include the conservation and management of living marine resources within the 200-mile fisheries zone, sub-surface resources, trade, fiscal, industrial and environmental policies, transport, communication, culture, education and research.

According to the Home Rule Act some matters are to remain the responsibility of the Danish Government as long as the Faroe Islands are part of the Kingdom of Denmark. Examples are citizenship, high court, foreign policy and defence policy.

Other matters (referred to as "joint matters") are administered by the Danish Government according to Danish law, but will be transferred to the Government of the

Faroe Islands if and when the Faroese Parliament decides so. Examples of such joint matters are the judicial system, the police force and banking supervision.

Finally, some matters are administered by the Government of the Faroe Islands according to Faroese law. These are referred to as "special matters". Examples hereof are health services, social services, social security, public transport, finance and economy, industry and tax law.

The Faroe Islands are not a member of the European Union.

The Faroese Parliament (Løgting) is the legislative assembly for Faroese affairs, and also appoints the Prime Minister (Løgmaður), who along with his/her cabinet ministers constitute the Government of the Faroe Islands (Føroya Landsstýri).

The Løgting has 33 members. The Faroese people also elect two representatives to the Danish Parliament.

The Faroese head of state is the Danish head of state, Queen Margrethe II.

#### Head of the Government of the Faroe Islands

The Prime Minister since 15 September 2015 is Aksel Johannesen (The Social Democratic Party).

#### Present government

The Government of the Faroe Islands (Føroya Landsstýri) consists of at least two Cabinet Ministers led by the Prime Minister. After the election the 1 September 2015 the Government of the Faroe Islands coalition was on the 15 September 2015 made up of representatives from the Social Democratic Party (Javnaðarflokkurin), the Repuplican Party (Tjóðveldi) and the Progressive Party (Framsókn).

#### 4. Public finance and trade

#### 4.1 The tax and budgetary systems

#### Income taxes

From 1 January 2012, the rate of progression for the central government income taxes has been reduced, and to offset the loss of revenue, deposits into individual pension schemes are now taxed up front. From 1 January 2016 the governmental tax rates on lower incomes have been reduced from 20% to 15%.

Income tax levied by the Customs and Tax Administration is calculated on a sliding scale.

A gross tax system was introduced in 1997. This means that instead of providing for tax deductions, specific subsidies are allowed to compensate for certain expenses. There is no central governmental income tax on incomes from DKK 0 to DKK 65,000. Income from DKK 65,000 to DKK 235,000 is taxed with 15%, from DKK 235,000 to 330,000 with 20%, from DKK 330,000 to DKK 800,000 is taxed with 25%, and income over DKK 800,000 is taxed with 30%.

Municipal taxes are assessed using the same calculation of income as that of the Customs and Tax Administration, except that a flat tax rate is applied. There is no municipal income tax on incomes under DKK 30,000. Income over DKK 30,000 is taxed by a flat rate. All except two municipalities have tax rates between 19% and 23.5%, and the average municipal tax rate is 20.7%.

Members of the National Church also pay church tax, in 2016 on average 0.79%.

Labour market contributions are 2.25% to the Labour Market Pension Fund (LMPF). A larger part of pension expenditures are now paid by the LMPF a smaller part of pension expenditures are now paid over the governmental budget. The allocation is 1.25% to the unemployment fund and 0.71% to the maternity leave fund. The marginal tax rate is therefore approx. 41 % for lower incomes from DKK 65,000 to DKK 235,000 gradually increasing up to approximately 56% for incomes above DKK 800,000.

#### Corporate taxes

All corporations in business must render accounts and are allowed to deduct for expenses.

Corporate taxes before 1999 were 27%, but have since been lowered to 18%. Of the tax amounts, 70% is paid to the Faroese Treasury, and the remaining 30% to the local municipal authorities.

The tax rate for companies in the oil industry still remains at 27% which is all paid to the Faroese Treasury.

Corporations that are not liable to collect VAT pay a payroll tax based on total wages and salaries pay – financial services companies pay respectively 12%, insurance companies pay 10% and private sector health services pay 2.5%.

Shipping firms with ships registered in the Faroese International Ship Register (FAS) will receive a 35% refund of wages and other payments made to persons liable to pay taxes in the Faroe Islands.

On 10 may 2012 the government put forward for discussion in the parliament a draft bill on payments for rights to catch mackerel in Faroese waters in 2012. The payment brought the Faroese Treasury a revenue of DKK 110 million in 2015.

From 2014 the fish farming industry pays two industry specific taxes. In 2015 the industry paid DKK 11.6 million in taxes calculated as 0.5% of sales, and DKK 12.1 million in taxes calculated as 4.5% of taxable income in addition to the general corporate tax of 18%.

#### Capital gains tax

Interest on deposits in Faroese banks is not included in the income subject to income tax. Instead, a yearly tax of 35% of the interest is deducted from the interest payment by the financial institutions and transferred to the Treasury. All income from securities (interest, dividends and capital gains) is taxed at 35%. However, this does not include corporations and some foundations, which pay a corporate tax of 18%. There is no property or wealth tax.

#### Customs and VAT

The Faroese Customs Act is based on the international World Custom Organisation's (WCO) Harmonised Commodity Description and Coding System (HS Code). Customs duties are based on the GATT rates. Because of the trade agreement from 1992 with the EU, renewed by agreement in January 1997, the fiscal duties levied on imports are replaced by a value-added tax (VAT) (normally 25% of the invoice value) and excise duties on some consumption items.

#### The budgetary system

The distribution of government expenditure for different items follows the new budgeting procedures and shows actual financial outlays.

Investments in large assets are financed largely by current provisions and are booked immediately as expenses in the appropriate fiscal year.

Lately, a new procedure has emerged according to which public limited companies are created to operate and manage public services and large, public construction projects. This has been the case for Faroese Telecom, the Postal Service, the sub-sea tunnel between Vágar and Streymoy, and the sub-sea tunnel between Eysturoy and Borðoy.

Capital expenses in 2014 were DKK 475 million of which construction of fixed capital were DKK 331 million and lending were DKK 18 million. The majority of the investments were allocated to education, health, transport and communication.

The final government accounts for 2015 are not yet available, and the following numbers represent the preliminary accounts as of 9 May 2016. Operating expenses in 2015 were DKK 5,955 million, of which compensation of employees was DKK 2,073 million. Compensation of employees and total operating expenses decreased as the responsibility for elderly care was transferred to the municipalities. Transfers were DKK 2,520 million and purchases of goods and services were DKK 1,362 million. The governments operating revenues in 2015 were DKK 6,230 million. Income and corporate taxes were DKK 2,448 million, VAT and other indirect taxes were DKK 2,065 million. Transfers from the Danish state were DKK 676 million, other domestic transfers were DKK 214 million, and other revenues (mainly sales of goods and services) were DKK 768 million. The preliminary government accounts show a deficit of DKK 275 million in 2015.

## 4.2 Gross public debt

#### Central government assets and liabilities

Table 4

Million DKK	2013	2014	2015
ASSETS			
Securities and deposits <sup>1)</sup>	3,150	2,536	2,792
Others in circulation	496	543	505
Financial assets	1,882	2,065	1992
Total assets	5,528	5,144	5,289
LIABILITIES			
Long-term debt (Kingdom of Denmark)	500	500	500
Bond Ioan	4,820	4,417	4,678
Other debt	786	823	925
Total debt	6,106	5,740	6,103
Net assets	-578	-596	-814

Source: Foroya Gjaldstova

#### **Outstanding bonds**

Table 5

Million DKK	Annual coupon	Maturity date	Present structure	Structure end of 2016
FO-LB 160622 Blt	Floating Rate	22-Jun-16	1,350	0
FO-LB 170627 Blt	1.75%	27-Jun-17	1,000	1,000
FO-LB 180610 Ann	3.50%	10-jun-18	31	21
FO-LB 190620 Blt	1.75%	20-Jun-19	1,100	1,100
FO-LB 200611 Blt	1.00%	11-Jun-20	1,045	1,045
FO-LB 210622	0.50%	22-Jun-21	0	1,350
Outstanding bonds, total			4,526	4,516
Source: Foroya Gjaldstova, Figging Land	sins			

The Government of the Faroe Islands has always repaid debt, and has never been in default.

## 4.3 Foreign trade and balance of payments

#### **Balance of payments**

Table 6

Million DKK	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Goods	508	306	-974	48	630
Services	-939	-981	-813	-931	-542
Goods and services	-431	-675	-1,787	-883	88
Wages	574	666	701	864	701
Rents	-197	-64	-77	-188	57
Income transfers	376	602	623	676	758
Government sector	791	791	801	811	811
Other sectors	58	299	53	33	19
Other transfers	849	1,090	854	844	830
Current account surplus (+) / deficit (-)	795	1,017	-310	637	1,676

Source: Statistics Faroe Islands

<sup>1)</sup> Including liquidity for appropriations transferred from previous years.

The balance of payments statistics have been revised back to 2010 after the implementation of an improved method of collection of primary statistics. The new figures show that the average yearly balance of payments surplus in the years 2010-2013 was DKK 120 million higher than previously reported.

The deficit on the balance of payments in 2012 was mainly caused by imports of aeroplanes and fishing vessels with total value of DKK 1,330 million.

#### 4.4 Foreign exchange reserves

The Issuer does not hold specific foreign exchange reserves, as the Faroe Islands are part of the Danish currency area. However, according to Faroese parliament act, the Faroese Government holds a minimum reserve liquidity of 15% of GDP. The minimum reserve liquidity is DKK 2,290 million in 2016. Parts of the Faroese Government's financial assets are invested in assets held outside the Faroe Islands, as specified in the table below. The assets outside the Faroe Islands are mainly invested in government bonds and Danish mortgage bonds, which may be used as collateral within limits in an overdraft facility or as collateral in repo agreements, and as deposits in banks with good ratings. In general the assets are liquid as securities are used as collateral in credit facility agreements.

As of the 1 April 2013, Føroya Gjaldstova has been acting as investment manager for the Faroese Government.

#### Securities and deposits

Table 7

2012 <sup>1)</sup>	2013 <sup>2)</sup>	2014 <sup>2)</sup>	2015
2,456	3,035	2,452	2,753
2,231	2,318	1,947	2,264
			2,456 3,035 2,452

<sup>1)</sup> Excluding governmental institutions' operating liquidity

### 4.5 Income and expenses

Central	government	accounts

Table 8

Million DKK	Realized <sup>(1)</sup>	Realized <sup>(1)</sup>	Realized <sup>(1)</sup>	Realized <sup>(2)</sup>	Budget (3)
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Taxes, direct	2,138	2,190	2,360	2,448	2,359
Taxes, indirect	1,853	1,829	2,043	2,065	2,107
Transfers from Denmark	660	665	671	676	682
Sales of goods and services	752	793	851	768	699
Revenue from fees	148	224	205	214	384
Other	36	52	45	59	41
Operating revenues, ex. Interest	5,587	5,753	6,175	6,230	6,272
Personnel cost	-2,185	-2,232	-2,310	-2,073	-2,230
Transfers to individuals	-1,562	-1,594	-1,623	-1,661	-1,699
Other transfers	-343	-389	-422	-456	-458
Purchase of goods and services	-1,330	-1,367	-1,403	-1,362	-1,316
Transfers to other public entities etc.	-270	-293	-343	-403	-407
Operating expenses, ex. Interest	-5,690	-5,875	-6,101	-5,955	-6,110

Primary operating balance	-103	-122	74	275	162
Interest income and dividends	142	94	146	101	112
Interest expenses	-179	-137	-117	-108	54
Operating balance	-140	-165	103	268	220
Sale of fixed assets	2	13	11	8	64
Sale of shares	0	0	7	0	0
Capital revenues from Denmark	51	103	0	0	0
Repayments of loans, domestic	20	17	39	19	19
Repayment of loans, Iceland	300	0	0	0	0
Abolishment of Landsbanki Føroya	0	164	0	0	0
Total capital revenues	373	297	57	27	83
Construction of fixed capital	-173	-239	-351	-311	-215
Acquisition of fixed capital	-10	-33	-9	-34	-23
Injection of cap. into publ. Ltd.'s	-51	-83	-17	-5	-25
Net lending, domestic	-32	-13	-20	-19	-25
Total capital expenses	-266	-368	-397	-369	-288
Financing surplus/deficit	-33	-236	-237	-74	15
Debt repayment	-1,220	-434	-1,512	-890	-1,360
Gross financing surplus/deficit	-1,253	-670	-1,749	-964	-1,345
New borrowing	1,128	1,000	1,100	1,045	1,350
Net financing surplus/deficit	-125	330	-649	81	5

Source: Faroese central government accounts.

#### 4.6 Auditing procedures

The annual budget is presented to the Faroese Parliament before October and must be approved before 1 January in the following year. In practice, the approval occurs before Christmas.

From and including the fiscal year 1991, the Budget Act was changed to obtain a better governing instrument. All government investments and other expenditures have to be approved in the budget for the year in question.

The accounts and bookkeeping of the government exchequer are audited by the National Audit Office. Once audited, the books are passed on to a committee consisting of members selected by the Faroese Parliament. The accounts are finally approved by the Parliament together with the auditing report.

<sup>(1)</sup> Audited by the National Audit Authority and approved by the Parliament

<sup>(2)</sup> Realized as of April 15 2016 but unaudited.

<sup>(3)</sup> Fiscal act as approved by the parliament in December 2015. At the beginning

of the fiscal year 2016, appropriations transferred from previous years are DKK

<sup>174</sup>m.

# 5. Significant changes

In the opinion of the Issuer there have been no significant changes to the information in the Registration Document, Section 4 above, since the end of the last fiscal year 2015, ending 31 December 2015, other than already described in Section 4.

## 6. Legal and arbitration proceedings

The Government of the Faroe Islands has not for the past year been involved in any arbitration proceedings (including any arbitration proceedings which are pending or threatened of which the issuer is aware) which have had or may have a significant impact on the financial position of the Issuer.

The Government of the Faroe Islands has no immunity from legal proceedings in relation to the Notes.

# 7. Statements by experts and declaration of any interest

The Faroe Islands hold a foreign currency rating of Aa3 assigned by Moody's Investors Service.

Ratings Category	Moody's Rating
Outlook	Stable
Government Bonds - Foreign Currency	Aa3
Government Bonds - Domestic Currency	NR

On 31 July 2015, Moody's Public Sector Europe changed the outlook to stable from negative on the Aa3 issuer rating of the Faroe Islands and affirmed the rating.

The main factors contributing to the stabilisation are the implementation of a long term deficit reduction plan, debt levels expected to trend downwards from 2016 onwards and strengthening in wider macroeconomic conditions including real GDP growth and low unemployment levels.

The Aa3 foreign currency rating with stable outlook for the Faroe Islands reflects a number of factors including its fiscal autonomy and revenue and expense flexibility with a track record of prudent budgeting, stable relationship with Denmark (Aaa, Stable) and a strong liquidity buffer. The rating also takes into account the Faroese economy's dependence on the fishing sector, continued, albeit declining, accrual financing deficit and reliance on short-term borrowing.

Further and more detailed information about the credit rating of the Faroe Islands can be obtained Føroya Gjaldstova's website:

http://gialdstovan.gov.fo/tidindi/Economic%20reports/Moody's/Pages/default.aspx

## 8. Documents on display

For the life of this Registration Document the below-mentioned documents will be available for inspection in electronic form at the websites as further specified below:

# Føroya Gjaldstova, Fígging Landsins (Governmental Loan and Investment Management)

All Credit Analysis Reports are available on Føroya Gjaldstova's website.

Website: http://gjaldstovan.gov.fo/tidindi/Economic%20reports/Pages/default.aspx

Moody's Investors Service's latest rating documents concerning the Government of the Faroe Islands (published April 2011 and July 2012, September 2013, October 2014 and July 2015)

Economic Assessment 2013 (published by the Government Bank in March 2013)

#### Búskaparráðið, Economic Council:

Economic Reports, reports on Short Term Economic Outlook in spring and autumn.

Spring Report 2016 March 9th 2016 (with executive summary in English).

Autumn report 2015 September 3rd 2015 (with executive summary in English).

Website: setur.fo/buskaparradid

#### Hagstova Føroya, Statistics Faroe Islands:

Comprehensive statistical database covering demographic, business and economic statistics etc.

Website: www.hagstova.fo

#### Fíggjarmálaráðið, the Ministry of Finance:

The public budget and account (in Faroese only)

Website: www.fmr.fo

#### Landsgrannskoðanin, the National Audit Office:

Reports submitted by the Faroese Parliament's Audit Committee

(Some of the information in Danish and English)

Website: www.lq.fo

#### Løgmansskrivstovan, Prime Minister's Office:

Information about political matters in the Faroe Islands

Website: www.lms.fo

#### The High Commissioner of the Faroe Islands:

Annual report on the Faroe Islands (in Danish only)

Website: www.rigsombudsmanden.fo

# FØROYA LANDSSTÝRI



# THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FAROE ISLANDS

FØROYA LANDSSTÝRI DKK 1,350,000,000 0.50 PER CENT

FIXED RATE NOTES

22 JUNE 2016 / 22 JUNE 2021

**SECURITIES NOTE** 

# III. SECURITIES NOTE

TΑ	ABLE OF CONTENTS	
1.	RISK FACTORS	4
	1.1 Market risk	4
	1.2 Secondary market risk	4
	1.3 The Notes may not be a suitable investment for all investors	4
	1.4 Liquidity risk	5
	1.5 Legal risk	5
	1.6 Limitations to the liability of the Issuer	5
	1.7 Credit risk	5
	1.8 Withholding tax	5
2	2. Persons responsible	7
	2.1 Statement from the Issuer	
3	3. Key information	8
	3.1 Interest of natural and legal persons involved in the issue	
	3.2 Reasons for the issue and use of proceeds	
4	1. Information concerning the Notes	
	4.1 Description of the Notes	
	4.2 Legislation	10
	4.3 Form of the Notes	
	4.4 Currency of the Notes	
	4.5 Status of the Notes	
	4.6 Rights etc	
	4.7 Interest	
	4.8 Maturity and repayment	
	4.9 Yield	
	4.10 Representation of noteholders	_
	4.11 Authorisation	
	4.12 Issue Date	
	4.13 Transferability	
	4.14 Taxation	
5	5. Terms and conditions of the offer	
	5.1 Nominal amount	
	5.2 Placing and underwriting	
	5.3 Issue Price	
	5.4 Payment and settlement	
_	5.5 Account Holding Institute	
E	5. Admission to trading and official listing	
	6.1 Admission to trading and official listing	
_	6.2 Admission to trading and official listing on other regulated markets	
7	7 Additional information	1.8

7.1 Audit of information	18
7.2 Rating	18

#### 1. Risk factors

Prospective investors should read this Prospectus carefully. The Prospectus consists of three documents: Summary, Registration Document and this Securities Note all of which have been dated 20 June 2016. Investing in the Notes involves certain risks, which the prospective investors should take into consideration prior to deciding to make an investment in the Notes.

The Issuer believes that the factors described below represent the principal risks inherent in investing in the Notes, but the inability of the Issuer to pay interest, principal or other amounts on or in connection with the Notes may occur for other reasons which may not be considered significant risks by the Issuer based on information currently available to it or which it may not currently be able to anticipate.

The Issuer believes that the factors described are material for the purpose of assessing the market risk associated with the Notes being offered and admitted to trading.

Most of these factors are contingencies which may or may not occur and the Issuer is not in a position to express a view on the likelihood of any such contingency occurring.

There may be other risks that a prospective investor should consider that are relevant to the investor's own particular circumstances or generally.

Prospective investors should carefully consider, among other things, the factors described in the sections below before purchasing the Notes. In addition, for risk specifically associated with the Issuer, prospective investors are advised to consider the section "Risk factors" in the Registration Document.

#### 1.1 Market risk

The market of the Notes issued by the Government of the Faroe Islands is influenced by economic and market conditions and, to varying degrees, interest rates, currency exchange rates and inflation rates. There can be no assurance that events on the Faroe Islands, in Denmark, Europe or elsewhere will not cause market volatility and that such market volatility will not adversely affect the trading price of the Notes.

#### 1.2 Secondary market risk

The Notes may have no established trading market when issued, and one may never develop. If a market does develop, it may not be liquid. Therefore, investors may not be able to sell their Notes easily or at prices that will provide them with a yield comparable to similar investments that have a developed secondary market.

# 1.3 The Notes may not be a suitable investment for all investors

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

- (i) have sufficient knowledge and experience to make a meaningful evaluation of the Notes, the merits and risks of investing in the Notes and the information contained or incorporated by reference in this Prospectus or any applicable supplement to this Prospectus;
- (ii) have access to, and knowledge of, appropriate analytical tools to evaluate, in the context of its particular financial situation, an investment in the Notes and the impact such investment will have on its overall investment portfolio;

- (iii) have sufficient financial resources and liquidity to bear all of the risks of an investment in the Notes, including where the currency for principal or interest payments, i.e. DKK, is different from the currency in which such potential investor's financial activities are principally denominated;
- (iv) understand thoroughly the terms of the Notes and be familiar with the behaviour of any relevant indices and financial markets; and
- (v) be able to evaluate (either alone or with the help of a financial adviser) possible scenarios for economic, interest rate and other factors that may affect its investment and its ability to bear the applicable risks.

#### 1.4 Liquidity risk

There can be no assurance that an active trading market for the Notes will be developed and maintained, which may affect the trading price and the liquidity of the Notes. During the period between the issuance and repayment, the market value of the Notes will be determined through the ordinary trading on the main market of Nasdaq Iceland hf. and on the main market of Nasdaq Copenhagen A/S. The Issuer has not made any arrangement with any persons or companies to ensure the liquidity of the Notes and that the quotation follows the market price of the Notes. The Issuer has no obligation to buy back the Notes. However, without any commitment to do so, Nordea Bank Danmark A/S will aim to maintain a market for the Notes by quoting purchase and sales prices on an on-going basis.

#### 1.5 Legal risk

The terms and conditions of the Notes are based on Danish law in effect on the date of this Prospectus. No assurance can be given that as to the impact of any possible judicial decisions or changes to Danish and Faroese law after the date of this Prospectus.

The investment activities of certain investors are subject to legal investments law and regulations. The investor should consult legal advisers to determine whether and to what extent the Notes are a legal investment to the investor or if any restrictions apply to the purchase of the Notes by the investor.

#### 1.6 Limitations to the liability of the Issuer

The Issuer shall not be liable for any loss incurred by the noteholders as a consequence of statutory provisions, measures adopted by any governmental or other authority actual or imminent war, insurrections, civil commotion, terrorism, sabotage or Acts of God. Nor shall the Issuer be liable for any loss caused by strikes, lockouts, boycotts or blockades, whether or not the Issuer itself is a party to the dispute, and notwithstanding that the dispute may affect only part of the functions of the Issuer. Nor shall the Issuer be liable for any loss arising from any overdue payment caused by the above events.

#### 1.7 Credit risk

The Government of the Faroe Islands' liability to make payments according to the terms and conditions in this Prospectus constitutes direct and unsecured obligations of the Government of the Faroe Islands and constitutes unsubordinated loan indebtedness ranking *pari passu* with all other loan indebtedness of the Government of the Faroe Islands. The Notes of each series will rank equally with each other, without any preference among themselves.

There can be no assurance that the credit rating of the Government of the Faroe Islands will not change, which may affect the trading price of the Notes.

#### 1.8 Withholding tax

The Issuer does not accept any liability for tax withheld or for collection of withholding tax irrespective of where the Notes are registered. If the Issuer is obliged to withhold tax or collect withholding tax pursuant to rules introduced after the Notes have been issued, the Issuer will do so, and the Issuer will not be obliged to pay any additional amounts to the Noteholders nor will the Issuer accept liability for any deduction in the amount disbursed to Noteholders.

## 2. Persons responsibleStatement from the Issuer

We, on behalf of the Government of the Faroe Islands, declare, as those responsible for the Prospectus that, having taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case, the information contained in the Prospectus is, to the best of our knowledge, in accordance with the facts and contains no omission likely to affect its import.

Kristina Háfoss Minister of Finance Føroya Landsstýri Fíggjarmálaráðið Bjarni Askham Bjarnason Director Føroya Landsstýri

896-2016

,

Fíggjarmálaráðið

7

#### 3. Key information

#### 3.1 Interest of natural and legal persons involved in the issue

#### Issuer:

The Government of the Faroe Islands, which is the executive within the framework of the Faroe Islands Home Rule Act no. 137 of 23 March 1948.

The Government of the Faroe Islands is represented by the Ministry of Finance:

Ministry of Finance Fíggjarmálaráðið Kvíggjartún 1 PO Box 2039 FO-165 Argir, Faroe Islands Tel: +298 352020

Fax: +298 352025 E-mail: fmr@fmr.fo

Arranger and Account Holding Institute:

Nordea Bank Danmark A/S Strandgade 3 DK-1401 Copenhagen K, Denmark

To the best knowledge of the Issuer, Arranger and Account Holding Institute, there are no interests, including conflicting ones, that are material to the issue of the Notes.

Neither the Arranger nor the Account Holding Institute takes responsibility for the creditworthiness of the Issuer.

#### 3.2 Reasons for the issue and use of proceeds

The proceeds from the issue of the Notes will be used as follows:

Financing of the redemption of Føroya Landsstýri DKK 1,350,000,000 Floating Rate Notes due 22 June 2016 (FO-LB 160622) with ISIN code DK0030277249.

The Issuer will bear the costs directly related to the issuance of the Notes. The total costs are expected to amount to approximately DKK 3,071,495, including placing commission and arranging fees. The net proceeds from the issue of the Notes are approx. DKK 1,348,589,005.

The costs incurred at Nasdaq Iceland hf. in relation to the admission for trading and official listing on the main market of Nasdaq Iceland hf. will be paid by the Issuer. The costs related to the admission for trading and official listing are ISK 465,000 corresponding to approx. DKK 24,877. The annual expenses for the admission to trading and official listing will be a fixed fee of ISK 170,000 corresponding to approximately DKK 9,095 (a total of DKK 45,475 for the life of the Notes) plus a variable fee of 0.00025% of the market value of the Notes.

Costs incurred at Nasdaq Copenhagen A/S in relation to the admission for trading and official listing on the main market of Nasdaq Copenhagen A/S will be paid by the Issuer. The costs related to the admission for trading and official listing are DKK 20,000. The

annual expenses for the admission to trading and listing will be approx. DKK 13,488 (a total of DKK 67,438 for the life of the Notes).

Costs incurred at VP SECURITIES A/S and to the Account Holding Institute in relation to the registration of the Notes in the system of VP SECURITIES A/S will be paid by the Issuer. The total costs related to registration of the Notes and fees to VP SECURITIES A/S and the Account Holding Institute are approx. DKK 204,175.

Costs incurred at the Financial Supervisory Authority, Iceland ("FME") in relation to the vetting and approval of the Prospectus will be paid by the Issuers. The total costs to FME are estimated to approximately ISK 178.125 corresponding to approx. DKK 9,530

#### 4. Information concerning the Notes

#### 4.1 Description of the Notes

Issuer: Føroya Landsstýri, Government of the Faroe Islands

Title of the Notes: Føroya Landsstýri DKK 1,350,000,000 0.50 per cent

Fixed Rate Notes 22 June 2016/22 June 2021

Issue Date: 22 June 2016

Maturity Date: 22 June 2021

First trading date: 22 June 2016

Currency: Danish kroner ("DKK")

Principal Amount per Note: DKK 1,000

Total Principal Amount: DKK 1,350,000,000

Interest Rate: The Notes will pay an interest of 0.50 per cent per

annum payable annually in arrears on in each year commencing on 22 June 2017 and ending on 22

June 2021.

Issue Price: 100.123 per cent.

Class: The issue of the Notes consists of only one class

ISIN: DK0030381223

INET code FO-LB 210622 (Nasdag Iceland hf.)

Short name: FOROYA LAN JUN21 (Nasdag Copenhagen A/S)

#### 4.2 Legislation

The Notes are subject to Danish legislation, and any disputes arising out of or in connection with the Notes shall be brought before the District Court of Copenhagen.

#### 4.3 Form of the Notes

The Notes will be issued and registered as dematerialised securities, in book-entry form with the VP SECURITIES A/S, Weidekampsgade 14, DK-2300 Copenhagen S, Denmark, on the Issue Date. The Notes cannot be registered in the name of the holder.

Nordea Bank Danmark A/S, Strandgade 3, DK-1401 Copenhagen K, Denmark, is acting as Account Holding Institute ("Kontoførende Institut") in relation to VP SECURITIES A/S.

The Notes will be controlled by Nordea Bank Danmark A/S as Account Holding Institute for and on behalf of VP SECURITIES A/S and the noteholders in accordance with the provisions of the Danish Consolidated Securities Trading Act no. 1530 of 12 February 2015 and Government Regulation no. 819 of 26 June 2013 regarding registration of fund assets in a securities centre. For the avoidance of doubt, notes registered with VP SECURITIES A/S are negotiable instruments not subject to any restrictions on the free negotiability within the Kingdom of Denmark, under Danish Law.

#### 4.4 Currency of the Notes

The currency of the Notes is Danish kroner ("DKK") and each note will be issued with the denomination of DKK 1,000.

#### 4.5 Status of the Notes

The Notes constitute direct and unsecured obligations of the Government of the Faroe Islands and constitute unsubordinated loan indebtedness ranking *pari passu* with all other loan indebtedness of the Government of the Faroe Islands, The Notes of each series will rank equally with each other, without any preference among themselves.

#### 4.6 Rights etc.

#### 4.6.1 Redemption by the Issuer

The Notes are not redeemable by the Issuer prior to the Maturity Date.

#### 4.6.2 Redemption by noteholders

With the exception of the events described under Event of Default below, the noteholders may not demand redemption of the Notes prior to the Maturity Date.

#### 4.6.3 Events of Default

Any noteholder may give written notice to the Issuer that such note is, and such note shall accordingly immediately become, due and payable at its principal amount together with interest accrued to the date of repayment:

- a) if the Issuer fails to perform or observe any of its other obligations under the Notes and such failure is incapable of remedy, or if such failure can be remedied and such failure continues for the period of 30 days next following the service by any noteholder on the Issuer of notice requiring the same to be remedied;
- b) if the Issuer's debt in connection with borrowed funds for a minimum amount of DKK 75,000,000 or equivalent in another currency or currency unit either (i) falls due for payment prior to the repayment day because of default, or (ii) is not paid on the due date (or following the period of remedy provided for by law or following an agreement to that effect in the relevant claim between the parties); or
- c) if the Issuer's possibilities of fulfilling its obligations under the Notes deteriorate significantly, for example because of the Faroe Islands' secession from its union with Denmark.

Payment shall be effected via the accounts registered with VP SECURITIES A/S.

#### 4.6.4 Buyback

The Issuer reserves the right to buy back the Notes from time to time in the open market or otherwise. The Issuer may choose to cancel or keep/resell Notes bought back.

#### 4.6.5 Notices

All notices to noteholders concerning the Notes are made public and can be viewed on the websites of Nasdaq Iceland hf. and Nasdaq Copenhagen A/S (<a href="https://www.nasdaqomxnordic.com/news">www.nasdaqomxnordic.com/news</a>) and/or send to noteholders through VP SECURITIES A/S.

Any notices to the Issuer to be given in accordance with these terms and conditions of the Notes can validly be given to the Ministry of Finance, Kvíggjartún 1, PO Box 2039, FO-165 Argir, Faroe Islands or such other address as has been notified to the noteholders registered in compliance with the first sentence of this term.

#### 4.6.6 Force majeure

The Issuer shall not be liable for any loss incurred by the noteholders as a consequence of statutory provisions, measures adopted by any governmental or other authority actual or imminent war, insurrections, civil commotion, terrorism, sabotage or Acts of God. Nor shall the Issuer be liable for any loss caused by strikes, lockouts, boycotts or blockades, whether or not the Issuer itself is a party to the dispute, and notwithstanding that the dispute may affect only part of the functions of the Issuer. Nor shall the Issuer be liable for any loss arising from any overdue payment caused by the above events.

#### 4.6.7 Charging

As long as any of the Notes are outstanding, the Issuer will not provide security for any debt in connection with payment obligations relating to loans existing on or after the date of issue of the Notes, whether in the form of a mortgage, pledge or other security in any of the issuer's present or future assets or income, unless the Notes are secured equally and proportionately by the provision of such security. However, a mortgage, pledge or other security in the Issuer's properties or assets may be provided as collateral for the entire purchase price or parts thereof for such properties or assets, including interest accrued. "Loan" means a loan raised through the issue of instruments of debt which are or are capable of being traded in the ordinary markets.

#### 4.7 Interest

The Notes bear interest from and including the 22 June 2016 to but excluding the 22 June 2021.

The Notes will pay a fixed rate interest of 0.50 per cent. per annum (the "Interest Rate") payable annually in arrears on 22 June in each year commencing on 22 June 2017 and ending on 22 June 2021 (each an "Interest Payment Date").

The first interest period shall be determined as the period from and including the Issue Date to (but excluding) the first Interest Payment Date; and with respect to the subsequent interest periods, the period commencing on an Interest Payment Date (included) to the next Interest Payment Date (excluded) (each an "Interest Period").

If an Interest Payment Date would otherwise fall on a day which is not a business day in Denmark, meaning a day other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday on which commercial banks are open for business in Denmark (each a "Business Day"), payment of interest shall be postponed to the following Business Day (following business day convention). The Interest Period shall not be adjusted if the Interest Payment Date is postponed to the following Business Day (unadjusted).

#### 4.7.1 Interest Amount

The interest amount payable per Note on each Interest Payment Date (the "Interest Amount per Note") shall be determined by multiplying the Interest Rate with the Principal Amount per Note.

Where the Interest Amount per Note is to be calculated for a period shorter than a year, the Interest Amount per Note shall be calculated by multiplying the Interest Rate with

the Principal Amount per Note, the product of which is multiplied with the actual number of days elapsed in the relevant Interest Period and divided by the actual number of days in the relevant year (ACT/ACT day count fraction).

#### 4.7.2 Interest Payments

Payments of interest in respect of the Notes will be made, in accordance with and subject to the rules and regulations governing VP SECURITIES A/S from time to time, to the noteholders through the Account Holding Institute by credit to the accounts with banks designated to VP SECURITIES A/S.

#### 4.7.3 Accrued Interest

The Notes shall be traded with accrued interest. The accrued interest per Note shall be calculated by multiplying the Interest Rate with the Principal Amount per Note, the product of which is multiplied with the actual number of days elapsed in the relevant Interest Period and divided by the actual number of days in the relevant year (ACT/ACT day count fraction).

#### 4.7.4 Prescription

Claims for payment of interest will become void three (3) years and claims for payment of principal, ten (10) years after the due date, see section 73 of the Danish Securities Trading etc. Act.

#### 4.8 Maturity and repayment

The Notes mature on 22 June 2021 (the "Maturity Date") unless the Notes have been redeemed prior to that day due to Events of Default according to Section 4.6.

Repayment of the Principal Amount will be made, in accordance with and subject to the rules and regulations governing VP SECURITIES A/S from time to time, to the noteholders through the Account Holding Institute by credit to the accounts with banks designated to VP SECURITIES A/S.

#### 4.9 Yield

The yield on the Notes is 0.4745 per cent. per annum. The yield is calculated as of the Issue Date on the basis of the Issue Price being 100.123 per cent. The yield is not an indication of future yield.

#### 4.10 Representation of noteholders

There is no representation of the noteholders.

#### 4.11 Authorisation

The Notes will be issued on Issue Date in accordance with authorisation given by the Faroese Minister of Finance on 6 June 2016.

#### 4.12 Issue Date

The Notes will be issued on 22 June 2016 (the "Issue Date").

#### 4.13 Transferability

The transferability of the Notes shall not be subject to any restrictions. However, for noteholders subject to other jurisdictions than Denmark, reservations are made as to the legislation of such jurisdictions. Subject to the limitations contained in the Danish Securities Trading etc. Act. the Notes shall be considered negotiable instruments issued in dematerialised form.

#### 4.14 Taxation

All investors are advised to consider any potential taxation issues that may concern their purchase or sale of the Notes and to seek independent advice in this respect.

The Issuer does not accept any liability for tax withheld or for collection of withholding tax irrespective of where the Notes are registered. If Issuer is obliged to withhold tax or collect withholding tax pursuant to rules introduced after the Notes have been issued, the issuer will do so, and the Issuer will not be obliged to pay any additional amounts to the Noteholders nor will the Issuer accept liability for any deduction in the amount disbursed to Noteholders.

#### 4.14.1 Investors located in the Faroe Islands

Resident individuals in the Faroe Islands are subject to 35% tax on capital gains payment.

Resident corporations in the Faroe Islands are subject to 18% tax on capital gains payments.

For resident individuals in the Faroe Islands, payments of interest of the Notes and capital gains and losses in connection with the sale or redemption of the Notes are taxed as capital income. Net capital losses can be deducted in future capital gains in up to five following years. In respect of resident corporations in the Faroe Islands, payments of interest on the Notes and capital gains and losses in connection with the sale or redemption of the Notes are included in the calculation of corporate tax.

According to current legislation all payments of interest on the Notes will be made without withholding or deduction tax (coupon tax) on the Faeroe Islands. In the event that withholding or deduction tax is required by law on the Faeroe Islands, the Government of the Faroe Islands will withhold such tax before paying interest to the noteholders registered. In such case, the Issuer will not compensate the noteholders. Any interest due for payment as well as possession, repayment and transfer of the Notes will be reported by the relevant custodian bank to the Danish tax authorities in accordance with the applicable tax rules.

#### 4.14.2 Investors located in Denmark and Iceland

Subject to tax treaties entered into by the Faroe Islands with Iceland and Denmark, respectively, all payments of interest on the Notes will be made without withholding or deduction for tax (coupon tax) on the Faeroe Islands. In the event that withholding or deduction for tax is required by law on the Faroe Islands, the Government of the Faroe Islands will withhold such tax before paying interest to the noteholders registered. In such case, the Issuer will not compensate the noteholders.

For resident individuals in Denmark, payments of interest on the Notes are included in the calculation of capital income. Capital gains and losses in connection with the sale or redemption of the Notes, will be also included in the capital income, but only if the net gains on investments in (1) the Notes and other debt obligations, (2) debt in foreign currencies or (3) non-accumulating bond investment funds; exceeds DKK 2,000. In respect of resident corporations in Denmark, payments of interest on the Notes and capital gains and losses on the Notes are included in the calculation of corporate tax. Gains and losses are calculated according to a mark-to-market principle and taxed on an accrual basis.

For resident individuals in Iceland, payments of interest of the Notes and capital gains and losses in connection with the sale or redemption of the Notes are taxed as capital income. Net capital losses can be deducted in future capital gains in up to five following years. In respect of resident corporations in Iceland, payments of interest on the Notes and capital gains and losses in connection with the sale or redemption of the Notes are included in the calculation of corporate tax.

#### 5. Terms and conditions of the offer

#### 5.1 Nominal amount

Notes with a total principal amount of DKK 1,350,000,000 are being issued by the Issuer.

The Notes are open for further issues without a fixed maximum amount. Future issues will be made at market price free of charge to investors. The Notes will be closed for further issues on 22 May 2021.

#### 5.2 Placing and underwriting

Nordea Bank Danmark A/S arranged for the Notes to be purchased by a group of institutional investors.

The issue of the Notes has not been underwritten with a firm commitment.

#### 5.3 Issue Price

The Notes have being issued at a price of 100,123 per cent.

#### 5.4 Payment and settlement

Payment and settlement of the Notes will be effected two business days after the trading day against registration with VP SECURITIES A/S. However, the first issue will be settled for value on 22 June 2016. The settlement will be effected against payment and registration with VP SECURITIES A/S.

#### 5.5 Account Holding Institute

The Issuer has appointed Nordea Bank Danmark A/S as Account Holding Institute.

# 6. Admission to trading and official listing

#### 6.1 Admission to trading and official listing

Application has been filed with Nasdaq Iceland hf. for the trading and official listing on the main market of Nasdaq Iceland hf. Acceptance of the Notes for the trading and official listing on the main market of Nasdaq Iceland hf. is expected to have effect from 22 June 2016.

# 6.2 Admission to trading and official listing on other regulated markets

The Prospectus is expected to be passported to the Kingdom of Denmark prior to 22 June 2016. Following passporting of the Prospectus to the Kingdom of Denmark, application will be filed with Nasdaq Copenhagen A/S for the trading and official listing on the main market of Nasdaq Copenhagen A/S. Acceptance of the Notes for the trading and official listing on the main market of Nasdaq Copenhagen A/S is expected to have effect from 22 June 2016.

#### 7. Additional information

#### 7.1 Audit of information

The Issuer's auditors have not audited the information contained in this Prospectus, other than the figures for the central government accounts from 2012 to 2014 specified in the Registration Document, table 8 (page 23-24), which have been audited by the National Audit Office and approved by The Faroese Parliament.

#### 7.2 Rating

The Notes have not specifically been rated by a rating agency.

The Government of the Faroe Islands holds a foreign currency rating of Aa3 assigned by Moody's Investors Service,

Ratings Category	Moody's Rating
Outlook	Stable
Government Bonds - Foreign Currency	Aa3
Government Bonds - Domestic Currency	NR

On 31 July 2015, Moody's Public Sector Europe changed the outlook to stable from negative on the Aa3 issuer rating of the Faroe Islands and affirmed the rating.

The main factors contributing to the stabilization are the successful implementation of a long term deficit reduction plan, debt levels expected to trend downwards from 2016 onwards and strengthening in wider macroeconomic conditions including real GDP growth and low unemployment levels.

The Aa3 foreign currency rating with stable outlook for the Faroe Islands reflects a number of factors including its fiscal autonomy and revenue and expense flexibility with a track record of prudent budgeting, stable relationship with Denmark (Aaa, Stable) and a strong liquidity buffer. The rating also takes into account the Faroese economy's dependence on the fishing sector, continued, albeit declining, accrual financing deficit and reliance on short-term borrowing.

Further and more detailed information about the credit rating of the Faroe Islands can be obtained Føroya Gjaldstova's website:

http://gjaldstovan.gov.fo/tidindi/Economic%20reports/Moody's/Pages/default.aspx