

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC
 Form 424B5
 August 28, 2012

Filed under Rule 424(b)(5), Registration Statement No. 333-162219
 Preliminary Pricing Supplement No. 16 dated August 28, 2012 (to: Prospectus dated September 30, 2009 and
 Prospectus Supplement dated November 21, 2011)

| CUSIP / ISIN Number | Aggregate Principal Amount | Price to Public | Selling Commission | Net Proceeds | Coupon Type | Coupon Rate | Coupon Frequency | Maturity Date | 1st Coupon Date | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------|--|
| 78012DAR4 / US78012DAR44 | \$ | 100.00% | 1.50% | \$ | FIXED | 3.50% per annum | MONTHLY | 09/15/2017 | 10/15/2012 | |

Redemption Information: Non-Callable/Non-Puttable

Lead Manager and Lead Agent: RBS Securities Inc.

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| <p>The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc</p> | <p>Offering Dates: 08/28/2012 through 09/04/2012 Trade Date: 09/04/2012 Settlement Date: 09/07/2012 Minimum Denomination/Increments: \$1,000.00/\$1,000.00 Initial trades settle flat and clear SDFS: DTC Book-Entry only DTC Number 2230 via RBS Securities Inc.</p> | <p>The Royal Bank of Scotland Group Retail Corporate No. Prospectus dated September 30, 2009 and Prospectus Supplement dated November 21, 2011</p> |
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If the maturity date or an interest payment date for any note is not a business day (as that term is defined in the prospectus supplement), principal, premium, if any, and interest for that note is paid on the next business day, and no interest will accrue from, and after, the maturity date or interest payment date.

The notes will be treated as fixed rate debt instruments for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Intended to be listed on the Channel Islands Stock Exchange.