

CITIGROUP INC
Form 424B2
February 05, 2019

The information in this preliminary pricing supplement is not complete and may be changed. A registration statement relating to these securities has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. This preliminary pricing supplement and the accompanying product supplement, underlying supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus are not an offer to sell these securities, nor are they soliciting an offer to buy these securities, in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED FEBRUARY 4, 2019
February---, 2019

Medium-Term Senior Notes, Series N

Citigroup Global Markets Holdings Inc. **Pricing Supplement No. 2019-USNCH1963**

Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2)

Registration Statement Nos. 333-216372 and 333-216372-01

Buffer Securities Linked to the iShares[®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF Due April 2, 2020

The securities offered by this pricing supplement are unsecured debt securities issued by Citigroup Global Markets Holdings Inc. and guaranteed by Citigroup Inc. Unlike conventional debt securities, the securities do not pay interest and do not repay a fixed amount of principal at maturity. Instead, the securities offer a payment at maturity that may be greater than, equal to or less than the stated principal amount, depending on the performance of the underlying specified below from the initial underlying value to the final underlying value.

The securities offer modified exposure to the performance of the underlying, with (i) the opportunity to participate in a limited range of potential appreciation of the underlying at the upside participation rate specified below and (ii) a limited buffer against any depreciation of the underlying as described below. In exchange for these features, investors in the securities must be willing to forgo any appreciation of the underlying in excess of the maximum return at maturity specified below and must be willing to forgo any dividends with respect to the underlying. In addition, investors in the securities must be willing to accept downside exposure to any depreciation of the underlying in excess of the buffer percentage specified below. **If the underlying depreciates by more than the buffer percentage from the initial underlying value to the final underlying value, you will lose 1% of the stated principal amount of your securities for every 1% by which that depreciation exceeds the buffer percentage.**

In order to obtain the modified exposure to the underlying that the securities provide, investors must be willing to accept (i) an investment that may have limited or no liquidity and (ii) the risk of not receiving any amount due under the securities if we and Citigroup Inc. default on our obligations. **All payments on the securities are subject to the credit risk of Citigroup Global Markets Holdings Inc. and Citigroup Inc.**

KEY TERMS

Issuer:	Citigroup Global Markets Holdings Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Citigroup Inc.
Guarantee:	All payments due on the securities are fully and unconditionally guaranteed by Citigroup Inc.
Underlying:	The iShares [®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF

Stated principal amount:	\$1,000 per security
Pricing date:	February 28, 2019
Issue date:	March 5, 2019
Valuation date:	March 30, 2020, subject to postponement if such date is not a scheduled trading day or certain market disruption events occur
Maturity date:	April 2, 2020
	You will receive at maturity for each security you then hold:
	§ If the final underlying value is greater than the initial underlying value:
	\$1,000 + the return amount, subject to the maximum return at maturity
	§ If the final underlying value is less than or equal to the initial underlying value but greater than or equal to the final buffer value:
Payment at maturity:	\$1,000
	§ If the final underlying value is less than the final buffer value:
	$\$1,000 + [\$1,000 \times (\text{the underlying return} + \text{the buffer percentage})]$
	If the final underlying value is less than the final buffer value, you will receive less, and possibly significantly less, than the stated principal amount of your securities at maturity.
Initial underlying value:	\$, the closing value of the underlying on the pricing date
Final underlying value:	The closing value of the underlying on the valuation date
Return amount:	$\$1,000 \times \text{the underlying return} \times \text{the upside participation rate}$
Upside participation rate:	200%
Underlying return:	(i) The final underlying value <i>minus</i> the initial underlying value, <i>divided by</i> (ii) the initial underlying value
Maximum return at maturity:	The maximum return at maturity will be determined on the pricing date and will be between \$130 and \$150 per security (13% to 15% of the stated principal amount). The payment at maturity per security will not exceed the stated principal amount <i>plus</i> the maximum return at maturity.
Final buffer value:	\$, 90% of the initial underlying value

Buffer percentage:	10%		
Listing:	The securities will not be listed on any securities exchange		
CUSIP / ISIN:	17326YMH6 / US17326YMH61		
Underwriter:	Citigroup Global Markets Inc. (“CGMI”), an affiliate of the issuer, acting as principal		
Underwriting fee and issue price:	Issue price⁽¹⁾	Underwriting fee⁽²⁾	Proceeds to issuer⁽³⁾
Per security:	\$1,000.00	\$	\$
Total:	\$	\$	\$

(1) Citigroup Global Markets Holdings Inc. currently expects that the estimated value of the securities on the pricing date will be at least \$955.50 per security, which will be less than the issue price. The estimated value of the securities is based on CGMI’s proprietary pricing models and our internal funding rate. It is not an indication of actual profit to CGMI or other of our affiliates, nor is it an indication of the price, if any, at which CGMI or any other person may be willing to buy the securities from you at any time after issuance. See “Valuation of the Securities” in this pricing supplement.

(2) CGMI will receive an underwriting fee of up to \$5 for each security sold in this offering. The total underwriting fee and proceeds to issuer in the table above give effect to the actual total underwriting fee. For more information on the distribution of the securities, see “Supplemental Plan of Distribution” in this pricing supplement. In addition to the underwriting fee, CGMI and its affiliates may profit from expected hedging activity related to this offering, even if the value of the securities declines. See “Use of Proceeds and Hedging” in the accompanying prospectus.

(3) The per security proceeds to issuer indicated above represent the minimum per security proceeds to issuer for any security, assuming the maximum per security underwriting fee. As noted above, the underwriting fee is variable.

Investing in the securities involves risks not associated with an investment in conventional debt securities. See “Summary Risk Factors” beginning on page PS-4.

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

You should read this pricing supplement together with the accompanying product supplement, underlying supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus, which can be accessed via the hyperlinks below:

[Product Supplement No. EA-02-07 dated June 15, 2018](#)

[Underlying Supplement No. 7 dated July 16, 2018](#)

[Prospectus Supplement and Prospectus each dated April 7, 2017](#)

The securities are not bank deposits and are not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency, nor are they obligations of, or guaranteed by, a bank.

Citigroup Global Markets Holdings Inc.

Additional Information

General. The terms of the securities are set forth in the accompanying product supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus, as supplemented by this pricing supplement. The accompanying product supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus contain important disclosures that are not repeated in this pricing supplement. For example, the accompanying product supplement contains important information about how the closing value of the underlying will be determined and about adjustments that may be made to the terms of the securities upon the occurrence of market disruption events and other specified events with respect to the underlying. The accompanying underlying supplement contains information about the underlying that is not repeated in this pricing supplement. It is important that you read the accompanying product supplement, underlying supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus together with this pricing supplement in deciding whether to invest in the securities. Certain terms used but not defined in this pricing supplement are defined in the accompanying product supplement.

Closing Value. The “closing value” of the underlying on any date is the closing price of its underlying shares on such date, as provided in the accompanying product supplement. The “underlying shares” of the underlying are its shares that are traded on a U.S. national securities exchange. Please see the accompanying product supplement for more information.

Payout Diagram

The diagram below illustrates your payment at maturity for a range of hypothetical underlying returns. The diagram assumes that the maximum return at maturity will be set at the lowest value indicated on the cover page of this pricing supplement. The actual maximum return at maturity will be determined on the pricing date.

Investors in the securities will not receive any dividends with respect to the underlying. The diagram and examples below do not show any effect of lost dividend yield over the term of the securities. See “Summary Risk Factors—You will not receive dividends or have any other rights with respect to the underlying” below.

Payout Diagram

n The Securities n The
Underlying

PS-2

Citigroup Global Markets Holdings Inc.

Hypothetical Examples

The examples below illustrate how to determine the payment at maturity on the securities, assuming the various hypothetical final underlying values indicated below. The examples are solely for illustrative purposes, do not show all possible outcomes and are not a prediction of what the actual payment at maturity on the securities will be. The actual payment at maturity will depend on the actual final underlying value.

The examples below are based on the following hypothetical values and do not reflect the actual initial underlying value or final buffer value. For the actual initial underlying value and final buffer value, see the cover page of this pricing supplement. We have used these hypothetical values, rather than the actual values, to simplify the calculations and aid understanding of how the securities work. However, you should understand that the actual payment at maturity on the securities will be calculated based on the actual initial underlying value and final buffer value, and not the hypothetical values indicated below. The examples below assume that the maximum return at maturity will be set at the lowest value indicated on the cover page of this pricing supplement. The actual maximum return at maturity will be determined on the pricing date.

Hypothetical initial underlying value: \$100

Hypothetical final buffer value: \$90 (90% of the hypothetical initial underlying value)

Example 1—Upside Scenario A. The final underlying value is \$105, resulting in a 5% underlying return. In this example, the final underlying value is **greater than** the initial underlying value.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\text{Payment at maturity per security} = \$1,000 + \text{the return amount, subject to the maximum return at maturity} \\
 &= \$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times \text{the underlying return} \times \text{the upside participation rate}), \text{ subject to the maximum return at maturity} \\
 &= \$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times 5\% \times 200\%), \text{ subject to the maximum return at maturity} \\
 &= \$1,000 + \$100, \text{ subject to the maximum return at maturity} \\
 &= \$1,100
 \end{aligned}$$

In this scenario, the underlying has appreciated from the initial underlying value to the final underlying value, and your total return at maturity would equal the underlying return *multiplied by* the upside participation rate.

Example 2—Upside Scenario B. The final underlying value is \$150, resulting in a 50% underlying return. In this example, the final underlying value is **greater than** the initial underlying value.

Payment at maturity per security = \$1,000 + the return amount, subject to the maximum return at maturity

= \$1,000 + (\$1,000 × the underlying return × the upside participation rate), subject to the maximum return at maturity