MORGAN STANLEY
Form FWP
January 31, 2019

February 2019
Preliminary Terms No. 1,553
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Dated January 31, 2019
Filed pursuant to Rule 433
Morgan Stanley Finance LLC
Structured Investments
Opportunities in U.S. Equities
Jump Securities with Auto-Callable Feature due March 2, 2022
All Payments on the Securities Based on the Worst Performing of the Russell 2000 $^{\rm @}$ Index and the Dow Jones Industrial Average $^{\rm SM}$
Fully and Unconditionally Guaranteed by Morgan Stanley
Principal at Risk Securities
The securities offered are unsecured obligations of Margan Stanley Finance LLC ("MSFL") fully and unconditional

The securities offered are unsecured obligations of Morgan Stanley Finance LLC ("MSFL"), fully and unconditionally guaranteed by Morgan Stanley, and have the terms described in the accompanying product supplement, index supplement and prospectus, as supplemented or modified by this document. The securities do not guarantee the repayment of principal and do not provide for the regular payment of interest. The securities will be automatically redeemed if the index closing value of each of the Russell 2000® Index and the Dow Jones Industrial AverageSM, which we refer to as the underlying indices, on any of the annual determination dates is greater than or equal to 95%

of its respective initial index value, which we refer to as the respective call threshold level, for an early redemption payment that will increase over the term of the securities, as described below. No further payments will be made on the securities once they have been redeemed. At maturity, if the securities have not previously been redeemed and the final index value of each underlying index is greater than or equal to its respective call threshold level, investors will receive a payment at maturity of at least \$1,255 per \$1,000 security (to be determined on the pricing date). If the securities have not previously been redeemed and the final index value of either underlying index is less than its respective call threshold level but the final index value of each underlying index is greater than or equal to 70% of its respective initial index value, which we refer to as the respective downside threshold level, investors will receive the stated principal amount of their investment. However, if the securities are not redeemed prior to maturity and the final index value of either underlying index is less than its respective downside threshold level, investors will be exposed to the decline in the worst performing underlying index on a 1-to-1 basis, and will receive a payment at maturity that is less than 70% of the stated principal amount of the securities and could be zero. Accordingly, investors in the securities must be willing to accept the risk of losing their entire initial investment. The securities are for investors who are willing to forego current income and participation in the appreciation of either underlying index in exchange for the possibility of receiving an early redemption payment or payment at maturity greater than the stated principal amount if each underlying index closes at or above the respective call threshold level on an annual determination date or the final determination date, respectively. Because all payments on the securities are based on the worst performing of the underlying indices, a decline beyond the respective downside threshold level of either underlying index will result in a significant loss of your investment, even if the other underlying index has appreciated or has not declined as much. Investors will not participate in any appreciation of either underlying index. The securities are notes issued as part of MSFL's Series A Global Medium-Term Notes program.

All payments are subject to our credit risk. If we default on our obligations, you could lose some or all of your investment. These securities are not secured obligations and you will not have any security interest in, or otherwise have any access to, any underlying reference asset or assets.

SUMMARY TERMS

Issuer: Morgan Stanley Finance LLC

Guarantor: Morgan Stanley

Underlying indices:

Russell 2000® Index (the "RTY Index") and Dow Jones Industrial

AverageSM (the "INDU Index")

Aggregate principal amount: \$

Stated principal amount:\$1,000 per securityIssue price:\$1,000 per securityPricing date:February 25, 2019

Original issue date: February 28, 2019 (3 business days after the pricing date)

Maturity date: March 2, 2022

Early redemption: If, on any annual determination date, beginning on February 26, 2020,

the index closing value of each underlying index is greater than or equal to its respective call threshold level, the securities will be automatically redeemed for the applicable early redemption payment

on the related early redemption date.

The securities will not be redeemed early on any early redemption date if the index closing value of either underlying index is below

its respective call threshold level on the related determination date.

The early redemption payment will be an amount in cash per stated principal amount (corresponding to a return of at least 8.50% per annum, to be determined on the pricing date) for each annual determination date, as set forth under "Determination Dates and Early Redemption Payments" below.

Early redemption payment:

No further payments will be made on the securities once they have been redeemed.

Annually. See "Determination Dates and Early Redemption Payments" below.

Determination dates:

The determination dates are subject to postponement for non-index business days and certain market disruption events.

Early redemption dates:

The third business day after the relevant determination date With respect to the RTY Index, , which is 70% of its initial index value

Downside threshold level:

With respect to the INDU Index, , which is 70% of its initial index value

With respect to the RTY Index, , which is 95% of its initial index value

Call threshold level:

With respect to the INDU Index, , which is 95% of its initial index value

Payment at maturity:

If the securities have not previously been redeemed, you will receive at maturity a cash payment per security as follows:

• If the final index value of **each underlying index** is **greater than or equal to** its respective call threshold level:

At least \$1,255 (to be determined on the pricing date)

· If the final index value of **either underlying index is less than** its respective call threshold level but the final index value of **each underlying index is greater than or equal to** its respective downside

threshold level:

\$1,000

· If the final index value of **either underlying index** is **less than** its respective downside threshold level:

 $$1,000 \times \text{ index performance factor of the worst performing underlying index}$

Under these circumstances, you will lose more than 30%, and possibly all, of your investment.

Terms continued on the following page

Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC ("MS & Co."), an affiliate of MSFL and a wholly owned subsidiary of Morgan Stanley. See "Supplemental

wholly owned subsidiary of Morgan Stanley. See "Supplemental information regarding plan of distribution; conflicts of interest." Approximately \$953.90 per security, or within \$22.50 of that

Estimated value on the pricing date:

estimate. See "Investment Summary" beginning on page 3.

Price to public⁽¹⁾ Agent's commissions and fees⁽²⁾ Proceeds to us⁽³⁾

Commissions and issue price:

Per security

\$1,000 \$ \$

Total

Price to public(1) Agent's commissions and fees(2) P

\$1,000 \$

\$
\$

(1) The price to public for investors purchasing the securities in fee-based advisory accounts will be \$980 per security.

Selected dealers and their financial advisors will collectively receive from the agent, MS & Co., a fixed sales commission of \$ for each security they sell; provided that dealers selling to investors purchasing the securities (2) in fee-based advisory accounts will receive a sales commission of \$ per security. See "Supplemental information regarding plan of distribution; conflicts of interest." For additional information, see "Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)" in the accompanying product supplement.

(3) See "Use of proceeds and hedging" on page 21.

The securities involve risks not associated with an investment in ordinary debt securities. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page 9.

The Securities and Exchange Commission and state securities regulators have not approved or disapproved these securities, or determined if this document or the accompanying product supplement, index supplement

and prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

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

You should read this document together with the related product supplement, index supplement and prospectus, each of which can be accessed via the hyperlinks below. Please also see "Additional Terms of the Securities" and "Additional Information About the Securities" at the end of this document.

As used in this document, "we," "us" and "our" refer to Morgan Stanley or MSFL, or Morgan Stanley and MSFL collectively, as the context requires.

<u>Product Supplement for Auto-Callable Securities dated November 16, 2017</u> <u>Index Supplement dated November 16, 2017</u> <u>Prospectus dated November 16, 2017</u>

Morgan Stanley Finance LLC

Jump Securities with Auto-Callable Feature due March 2, 2022

All Payments on the Securities Based on the Worst Performing of the Russell $2000^{\$}$ Index and the Dow Jones Industrial Average SM

Principal at Risk Securities

Terms continued from previous page:

With respect to the RTY Index, , which is its index closing value on the pricing date

Initial index value:

With respect to the INDU Index,, which is its index closing value on the pricing date

With respect to each underlying index, the respective index closing value on the final

Final index value: With respect to each determination date

Worst performing The underlying index with the larger percentage decrease from the respective initial

underlying index: index value to the respective final index value

Index performance factor: With respect to each underlying index, the final index value *divided by* the initial index

value

CUSIP / ISIN: 61768DK95 / US61768DK951

Listing: The securities will not be listed on any securities exchange.

Determination Dates and Early Redemption Payments

Determination Dates Early Redemption Payments (per \$1,000 Security)*

1st determination date: 2/26/2020 At least \$1,085 2nd determination date: 2/25/2021 At least \$1,170

Final determination date: 2/25/2022 See "Payment at maturity" above.

^{*} The actual early redemption payment with respect to each determination date will be determined on the pricing date and will be an amount in cash per stated principal amount corresponding to a return of at least 8.50% *per annum*.

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Jump Securities with Auto-Callable Feature due March 2, 2022

All Payments on the Securities Based on the Worst Performing of the Russell $2000^{\scriptsize @}$ Index and the Dow Jones Industrial Average $^{\scriptsize SM}$

Principal at Risk Securities

Investment Summary

Jump Securities with Auto-Callable Feature

Principal at Risk Securities

The Jump Securities with Auto-Callable Feature due March 2, 2022 All Payments on the Securities Based on the Worst Performing of the Russell 2000[®] Index and the Dow Jones Industrial AverageSM (the "securities") do not provide for the regular payment of interest. Instead the securities will be automatically redeemed if the index closing value of each of the Russell 2000® Index and the Dow Jones Industrial AverageSM on any annual determination date is greater than or equal to its respective call threshold level, for an early redemption payment that will increase over the term of the securities, as described below. No further payments will be made on the securities once they have been redeemed. At maturity, if the securities have not previously been redeemed and the final index value of each underlying index is greater than or equal to its respective call threshold level, investors will receive a payment at maturity of at least \$1,255 per \$1,000 security. If the securities have not previously been redeemed and the final index value of either underlying index is **less than** its respective call threshold level but the final index value of **each** underlying index is greater than or equal to its respective downside threshold level, investors will receive the stated principal amount of their investment. However, if the securities are not redeemed prior to maturity and the final index value of either underlying index is less than its respective downside threshold level, investors will be exposed to the decline in the worst performing underlying index on a 1-to-1 basis, and will receive a payment at maturity that is less than 70% of the stated principal amount of the securities and could be zero. Accordingly, investors in the securities must be willing to accept the risk of losing their entire initial investment. Investors will not participate in any appreciation in either underlying index.

Maturity: Approximately 3 years

Automatic early redemption:

If, on any annual determination date, the index closing value of each underlying index is greater than or equal to its respective call threshold level, the securities will be automatically redeemed for the applicable early redemption payment on the related early redemption date.

Early redemption payment:

The early redemption payment will be an amount in cash per stated principal amount (corresponding to a return of at least 8.50% per annum) for each annual determination date, as follows*:

At least ·I st determination date:

\$1,085

·J nd determination date:

At least

\$1,170

* The actual early redemption payment with respect to each applicable determination date will be determined on the pricing date.

No further payments will be made on the securities once they have been redeemed.

Payment at maturity:

If the securities have not previously been redeemed, you will receive at maturity a cash payment per security as follows:

· If the final index value of each underlying index is greater than or equal to its respective call threshold level:

At least \$1,255 (to be determined on the pricing date)

· If the final index value of either underlying index is less than its respective call threshold level but the final index value of each underlying index is greater than or equal to its respective downside threshold level:

\$1,000

· If the final index value of either underlying index is less than its respective downside threshold level:

 $1,000 \times$ index performance factor of the worst performing underlying index

Under these circumstances, investors will lose a significant portion or all of their

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Jump Securities with Auto-Callable Feature due March 2, 2022

All Payments on the Securities Based on the Worst Performing of the Russell $2000^{\$}$ Index and the Dow Jones Industrial Average SM

Principal at Risk Securities

investment. Accordingly, investors in the securities must be willing to accept the risk of losing their entire initial investment.

The original issue price of each security is \$1,000. This price includes costs associated with issuing, selling, structuring and hedging the securities, which are borne by you, and, consequently, the estimated value of the securities on the pricing date will be less than \$1,000. We estimate that the value of each security on the pricing date will be approximately \$953.90, or within \$22.50 of that estimate. Our estimate of the value of the securities as determined on the pricing date will be set forth in the final pricing supplement.

What goes into the estimated value on the pricing date?

In valuing the securities on the pricing date, we take into account that the securities comprise both a debt component and a performance-based component linked to the underlying indices. The estimated value of the securities is determined using our own pricing and valuation models, market inputs and assumptions relating to the underlying indices, instruments based on the underlying indices, volatility and other factors including current and expected interest rates, as well as an interest rate related to our secondary market credit spread, which is the implied interest rate at which our conventional fixed rate debt trades in the secondary market.

What determines the economic terms of the securities?

In determining the economic terms of the securities, including the early redemption payment amounts, the call threshold levels and the downside threshold levels, we use an internal funding rate, which is likely to be lower than our secondary market credit spreads and therefore advantageous to us. If the issuing, selling, structuring and hedging costs borne by you were lower or if the internal funding rate were higher, one or more of the economic terms of the

securities would be more favorable to you.

What is the relationship between the estimated value on the pricing date and the secondary market price of the securities?

The price at which MS & Co. purchases the securities in the secondary market, absent changes in market conditions, including those related to the underlying indices, may vary from, and be lower than, the estimated value on the pricing date, because the secondary market price takes into account our secondary market credit spread as well as the bid-offer spread that MS & Co. would charge in a secondary market transaction of this type and other factors. However, because the costs associated with issuing, selling, structuring and hedging the securities are not fully deducted upon issuance, for a period of up to 6 months following the issue date, to the extent that MS & Co. may buy or sell the securities in the secondary market, absent changes in market conditions, including those related to the underlying indices, and to our secondary market credit spreads, it would do so based on values higher than the estimated value. We expect that those higher values will also be reflected in your brokerage account statements.

MS & Co. may, but is not obligated to, make a market in the securities, and, if it once chooses to make a market, may cease doing so at any time.

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Morgan Stanley Finance LLC

Jump Securities with Auto-Callable Feature due March 2, 2022

All Payments on the Securities Based on the Worst Performing of the Russell $2000^{\$}$ Index and the Dow Jones Industrial Average SM

Principal at Risk Securities

Key Investment Rationale

The securities do not provide for the regular payment of interest. Instead, the securities will be automatically redeemed if the index closing value of **each of** the Russell 2000[®] Index and the Dow Jones Industrial AverageSM on any annual determination date is greater than or equal to its respective call threshold level.

The following scenarios are for illustrative purposes only to demonstrate how an automatic early redemption payment or the payment at maturity (if the securities have not previously been redeemed) are calculated, and do not attempt to demonstrate every situation that may occur. Accordingly, the securities may or may not be redeemed prior to maturity and the payment at maturity may be less than 70% of the stated principal amount of the securities and may be zero.

Scenario 1: The securities are redeemed prior to maturity

When each underlying index closes at or above its respective call threshold level on any annual determination date, the securities will be automatically redeemed for the applicable early redemption payment on the related early redemption date. Investors do not participate in any appreciation in either underlying index.

Scenario 2: The securities are not redeemed prior to maturity, and investors receive a fixed positive return at maturity This scenario assumes that at least one underlying index closes below its respective call threshold level on each of the annual determination dates. Consequently, the securities are not redeemed prior to maturity. On the final determination date, each underlying index closes at or above its respective call threshold level. At maturity, investors will receive a cash payment equal to at least \$1,255 per stated principal amount (to be determined on the pricing date). Investors do not participate in any appreciation in either underlying index.

Scenario 3: The securities are not redeemed prior to maturity, and investors

This scenario assumes that at least one underlying index closes below its respective call threshold level on each of the annual determination dates. Consequently, the securities are not redeemed prior to maturity. On the final determination date, at least one underlying index closes below its respective call threshold level, but the final index value

receive the stated principal amount at maturity

Scenario 4: The securities are not redeemed prior to maturity, and investors suffer a substantial loss of principal at maturity of each underlying index is greater than or equal to its respective downside threshold level. At maturity, investors will receive a cash payment equal to the stated principal amount of \$1,000 per security.

This scenario assumes that at least one underlying index closes below its respective call threshold level on each of the annual determination dates. Consequently, the securities are not redeemed prior to maturity. On the final determination date, at least one underlying index closes below its respective downside threshold level. At maturity, investors will receive an amount equal to the stated principal amount multiplied by the index performance factor of the worst performing underlying index. Under these circumstances, the payment at maturity will be significantly less than the stated principal amount and could be zero.

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