AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LTD Form 8-K March 14, 2012

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# FORM 8-K

# **Current Report**

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the

Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): March 12, 2012

# AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LIMITED

(Exact Name Of Registrant As Specified In Charter)

**Bermuda** (State of Incorporation)

001-31721 (Commission 98-0395986 (I.R.S. Employer

File No.)

Identification No.)

## 92 Pitts Bay Road

## Pembroke HM 08, Bermuda

(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(441) 496-2600

(Registrant s telephone number, including area code)

#### Not applicable

(Former name or address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2 below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- " Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- " Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- " Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e(4)(c))

#### Items 8.01 Other Events.

On March 12, 2012, AXIS Capital Holdings Limited ( AXIS Capital ), a Bermuda company, entered into an Underwriting Agreement (the Underwriting Agreement ) with Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, as representative of the several underwriters named in Schedule I thereto (the Underwriters ), pursuant to which AXIS Capital agreed to sell, and the Underwriters agreed to purchase, subject to and upon terms and conditions set forth therein, an aggregate of 16,000,000 shares of AXIS Capital s newly designated 6.875% Series C Preferred Shares, par value \$0.0125 per share and a liquidation preference of \$25.00 per share (representing \$400,000,000 in aggregate liquidation preference). The offering was made pursuant to an effective shelf registration statement and is expected to close on March 19, 2012.

A copy of the Underwriting Agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

On March 12, 2012, AXIS Capital issued a press release announcing the pricing of the offering. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 hereto and is incorporated herein by reference.

#### Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

#### **Exhibit**

Number	Description
1.1	Underwriting Agreement, dated March 12, 2012, between the Company and Wells Fargo Securities LLC
99.1	Press Release of AXIS Capital Holdings Limited, dated March 12, 2012

#### **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Dated: March 13, 2012

## AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LIMITED

By: /s/ Richard T. Gieryn, Jr. Name: Richard T. Gieryn, Jr.

Title: Executive Vice President, General Counsel and

Secretary