

4 March 2003

PRESS RELEASE

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE EUROSYSTEM as at 28 February 2003

I. Items not related to monetary policy operations

In the week ending 28 February 2003, the net position of the Eurosystem in foreign currency (asset items 2 and 3 minus liability items 7, 8 and 9) remained virtually unchanged at EUR 224.3 billion on account of customer and portfolio transactions.

The holdings by the Eurosystem of marketable securities of euro area residents denominated in euro (asset item 7) increased by EUR 0.9 billion to EUR 33.5 billion. Banknotes in circulation (liability item 1) rose by EUR 3.9 billion to EUR 345.4 billion. Liabilities to general government (liability item 5.1) increased by EUR 11.1 billion to EUR 65.2 billion.

II. Items related to monetary policy operations

The Eurosystem's net lending to credit institutions (asset item 5 minus liability items 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5 and 4) increased by EUR 9.4 billion to EUR 221.1 billion. On Wednesday, 26 February 2003, a **main refinancing operation** of EUR 75 billion matured and a new one of EUR 83 billion was settled. On Thursday, 27 February 2003, a **longer-term refinancing operation** of EUR 15 billion matured and a new one of EUR 15 billion was settled.

Recourse to both the **marginal lending facility** (asset item 5.5) and the **deposit facility** (liability item 2.2) was EUR 0.1 billion (compared with EUR 1.1 billion and EUR 2.4 billion respectively in the previous week).

III. Current accounts of euro area credit institutions

As a result of all transactions, the **current account** position of credit institutions with the Eurosystem (liability item 2.1) decreased by EUR 3.6 billion to EUR 125.3 billion.

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Consolidated weekly financial statement of the Eurosystem as at 28 February 2003 (EUR millions)

ssets	Balance as at	Difference compared	Liabilities	Balance as at	Difference compared
	28 February 2003	to last week due to		28 February 2003	to last week due to
		transactions			transactions
1 Gold and gold receivables	130,314	0	1 Banknotes in circulation	345,414	3,853
			2 Liabilities to euro area credit institutions related to monetary policy operations		
Claims on non-euro area residents denominated in foreign currency			denominated in euro		
2.1 Receivables from the IMF	31,181	-34	2.1 Current accounts		
2.2 Balances with banks and security investments,			(covering the minimum reserve system)	125,346	
external loans and other external assets	197,168		2.2 Deposit facility	59	-2,382
	228,349	339	2.3 Fixed-term deposits	0	0
			2.4 Fine-tuning reverse operations	0	-
3 Claims on euro area residents denominated in foreign currency	17,331	-355	2.5 Deposits related to margin calls	0	•
4 Claims on non-euro area residents denominated in euro				125,405	-5,987
4.1 Balances with banks, security investments and loans	5,926	-304	3 Other liabilities to euro area credit institutions denominated in euro	62	1
4.2 Claims arising from the credit facility under ERM II	0	0			
	5,926	-304	4 Debt certificates issued	2,029	0
5 Lending to euro area credit institutions related to monetary policy operations					
denominated in euro			5 Liabilities to other euro area residents denominated in euro		
5.1 Main refinancing operations	178,001	8,000	5.1 General government	65,224	11,079
5.2 Longer-term refinancing operations	45.000	0	5.2 Other liabilities	4.923	
5.3 Fine-tuning reverse operations	0,000	0	ole other habitation	70,147	11,179
5.4 Structural reverse operations	0				,
5.5 Marginal lending facility	148	-	6 Liabilities to non-euro area residents denominated in euro	8,704	283
5.6 Credits related to margin calls	37	-7		-,	
	223,186	6,996	7 Liabilities to euro area residents denominated in foreign currency	1,024	-1
6 Other claims on euro area credit institutions denominated in euro	552	302	Liabilities to non-euro area residents denominated in foreign currency		
			8.1 Deposits, balances and other liabilities	14,054	-59
7 Securities of euro area residents denominated in euro	33,484	882	8.2 Liabilities arising from the credit facility under ERM II	0	0
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		_		14,054	-59
8 General government debt denominated in euro	44,355	0	Counterpart of special drawing rights allocated by the IMF	6,339	0
9 Other assets Total assets	107,151	-2,020	10 Other liabilities	70,187	-4,356
				,	,
			11 Revaluation accounts	82,840	0
			12 Capital and reserves	64,444	927
	790,649	5,840	Total liabilities	790,649	5,840

Totals/sub-totals may not add up, due to rounding.