

EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

7 December 2004

PRESS RELEASE

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE **EUROSYSTEM** as at 3 December 2004

I. Items not related to monetary policy operations

In the week ending 3 December 2004, the decrease of EUR 34 million in gold and gold receivables (asset item I) reflected the selling of gold by a Eurosystem central bank (consistent with the Central Bank Gold Agreement of 27 September 2004).

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 167.6 billion.

The holdings by the Eurosystem of marketable securities of euro area residents denominated in euro (asset item 7) increased by EUR 0.1 billion to EUR 71.2 billion. Banknotes in circulation (liability item I) rose by EUR II.6 billion to EUR 485.2 billion. Liabilities to general government (liability item 5.1) decreased by EUR 7.8 billion to EUR 60.1 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 3.6 billion to EUR 348.6 billion. On Wednesday, I December 2004, a main refinancing operation of EUR 270 billion matured and a new one of EUR 273.5 billion was settled.

Recourse to the marginal lending facility (asset item 5.5) was EUR 0.1 billion (compared with virtually nil in the previous week), and recourse to the deposit facility (liability item 2.2) was also EUR 0.1 billion, which was approximately the same as in the preceding 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 0.6 billion to EUR 137.1 billion.

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Consolidated weekly financial statement of the Eurosystem as at 3 December 2004 (EUR millions)

sets	Balance as at 3 December 2004	Difference compared to last week due to	Liabilities	Balance as at 3 December 2004	Difference compared to last week due to
		transactions			transactions
Gold and gold receivables	130,310	-34	1 Banknotes in circulation	485,200	11,646
			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	25,614	-23	2.1 Current accounts		
2.2 Balances with banks and security investments,			(covering the minimum reserve system)	137,104	-563
external loans and other external assets	140,167	912	2.2 Deposit facility	97	4
	165,781	889	2.3 Fixed-term deposits	0	C
			2.4 Fine-tuning reverse operations	0	0
3 Claims on euro area residents denominated in foreign currency	18,321	238	2.5 Deposits related to margin calls	0	-7
Claims on non-euro area residents denominated in euro				137,201	-529
4.1 Balances with banks, security investments and loans	7,955	589	3 Other liabilities to euro area credit institutions denominated in euro	125	(
Claims arising from the credit facility under ERM II	0	0			
	7,955	589	4 Debt certificates issued	0	(
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	273.502	3,504	5.1 General government	60,064	-7,81
5.2 Longer-term refinancing operations	75,000	0,304	5.2 Other liabilities	6,807	94
5.3 Fine-tuning reverse operations	7 3,000	0	3.2 Other habilities	66,871	-6,87
5.4 Structural reverse operations	0	0		00,071	-0,07
5.5 Marginal lending facility	144	144	6 Liabilities to non-euro area residents denominated in euro	10,354	71
5.6 Credits related to margin calls	3	-4	Liabilities to first care area residents denominated in care	10,334	,,,
C.C C. Guillo Foldica to Margan Gamb	348,649	3,644	7 Liabilities to euro area residents denominated in foreign currency	305	51
6 Other claims on euro area credit institutions denominated in euro	1,811	149	8 Liabilities to non-euro area residents denominated in foreign currency		
	,-		8.1 Deposits, balances and other liabilities	10,351	1,048
7 Securities of euro area residents denominated in euro	71,215	52	8.2 Liabilities arising from the credit facility under ERM II	0	. (
	,			10.351	1,04
General government debt denominated in euro	42,044	-5		,	ŕ
9 Other assets	119,389	888	9 Counterpart of special drawing rights allocated by the IMF	5,807	(
	1.0,000		10 Other liabilities	58,689	347
			11 Revaluation accounts	70,696	(
			12 Capital and reserves	59,876	:
otal assets	905,475	6,410	Total liabilities	905,475	6,4

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