

# EURO IN SLOVENIA

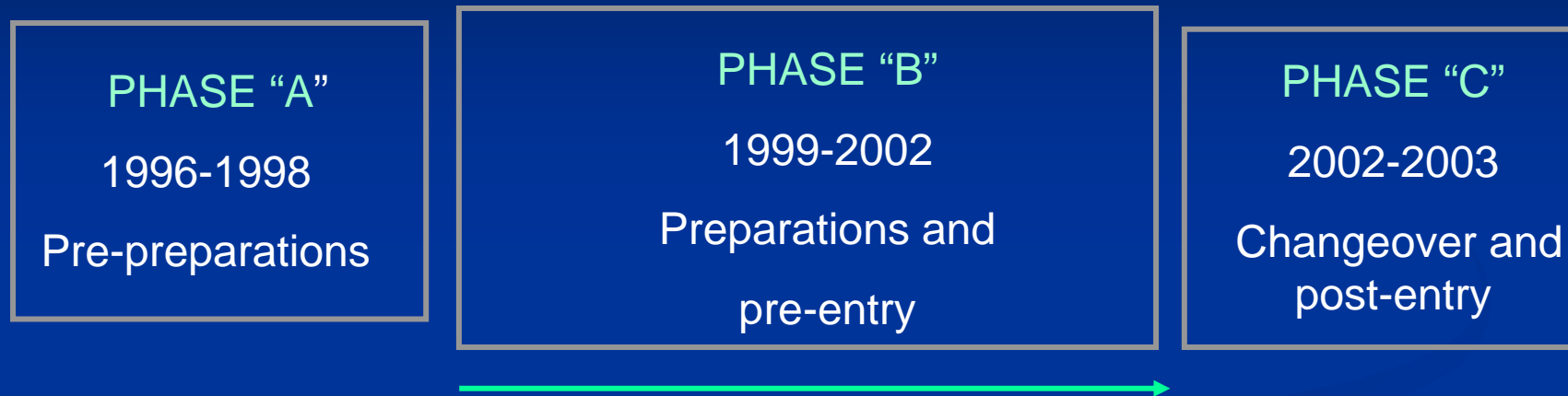
## First reactions and impressions

Sibil Sivilan

Co-chairman of the  
National €Coordination Committee

# Euro adoption scenario and speed

## EU 12: 3 PHASES - Madrid scenario



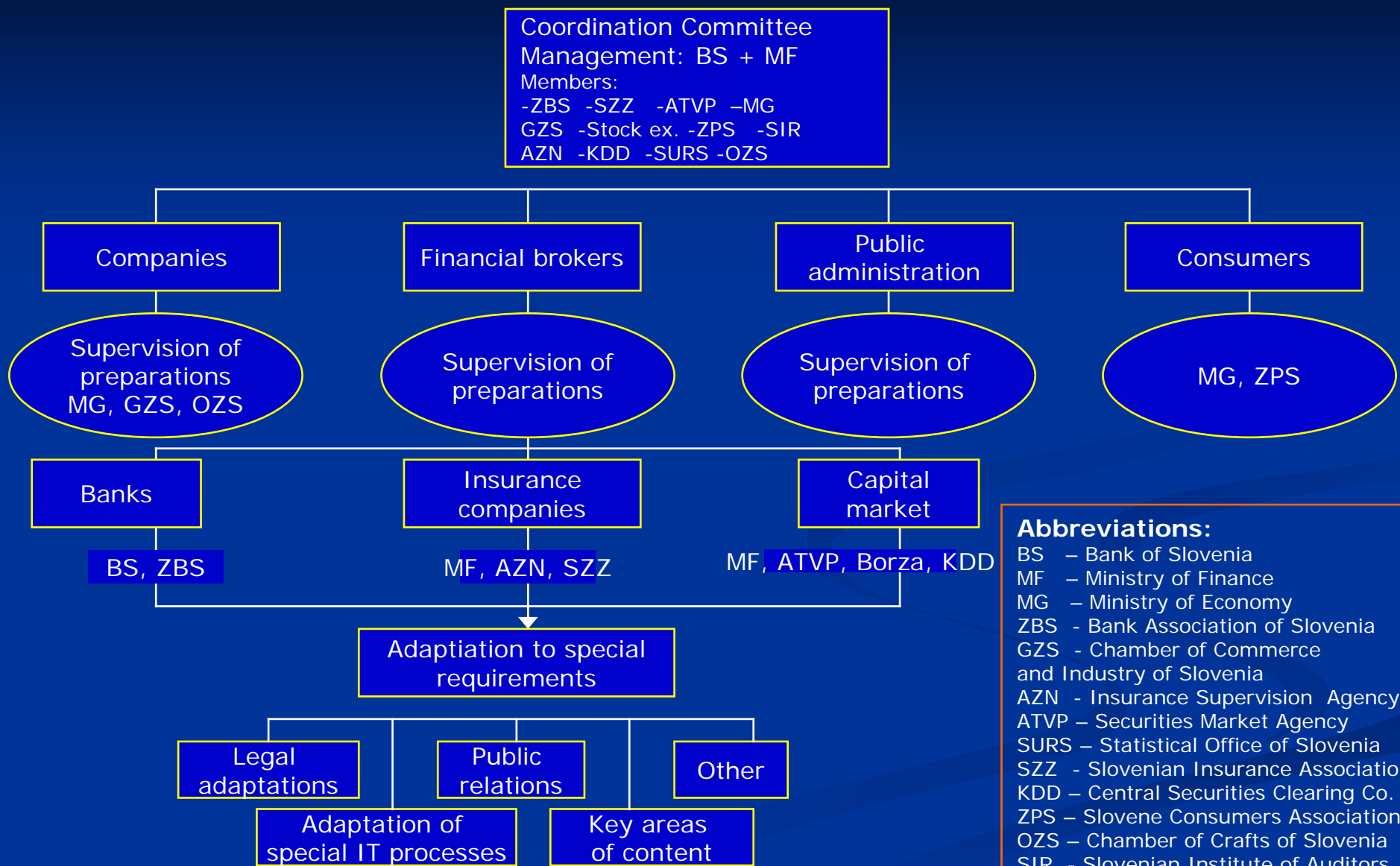
## SLOVENIA: 3 PERIODS - "Big Bang" Scenario



# Organization and technical approach

- National €Coordination Committee  
(Leadership: Bank of Slovenia & Ministry of Finance)
- Included all relevant ministries, departments, institutions and other bodies (associations etc.)
- National changeover master plan
- Information and technical measures for every specific area (legal framework, IT, consumers, payment system, information campaign etc.) – sub-committees
- Using best practices of EMU – adjusted
- Monitoring the changeover process

# Organization



## Abbreviations:

BS – Bank of Slovenia  
MF – Ministry of Finance  
MG – Ministry of Economy  
ZBS – Bank Association of Slovenia  
GZS – Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia  
AZN – Insurance Supervision Agency  
ATVP – Securities Market Agency  
SURS – Statistical Office of Slovenia  
SZZ – Slovenian Insurance Association  
KDD – Central Securities Clearing Co.  
ZPS – Slovene Consumers Association  
OZS – Chamber of Crafts of Slovenia  
SIR – Slovenian Institute of Auditors

# Change-over process

- Frontloading and sub-frontloading
- Starter kits
- Exchange of cash
- Changeover of accounts
- Payment system, ATMs
- Dual circulation period
- Euro information campaign
- Day-to-day monitoring

# Consumers, retailers and general public

- Up-to-date informing
- Dual display of prices
- Protection of consumers - PRICE WATCH
- Euro price commitment ( public administration and cca. 500 companies)
- Statistical monitoring
- **Mental switch** ( national identity, prices, coins and notes value )

# First reactions and impressions

- Changeover went very smoothly
- Minor technical issues
- Bigger value of coins and bank notes
- Warnings of Market Inspectorat
- Price rounding
- Consumers attach high importance to price increase in frequently bought goods and services
- Very important psychological factors
- Inflation perceptions very similar to 2002 €changeover
- This effect is amplified by large media coverage of the event and some issues

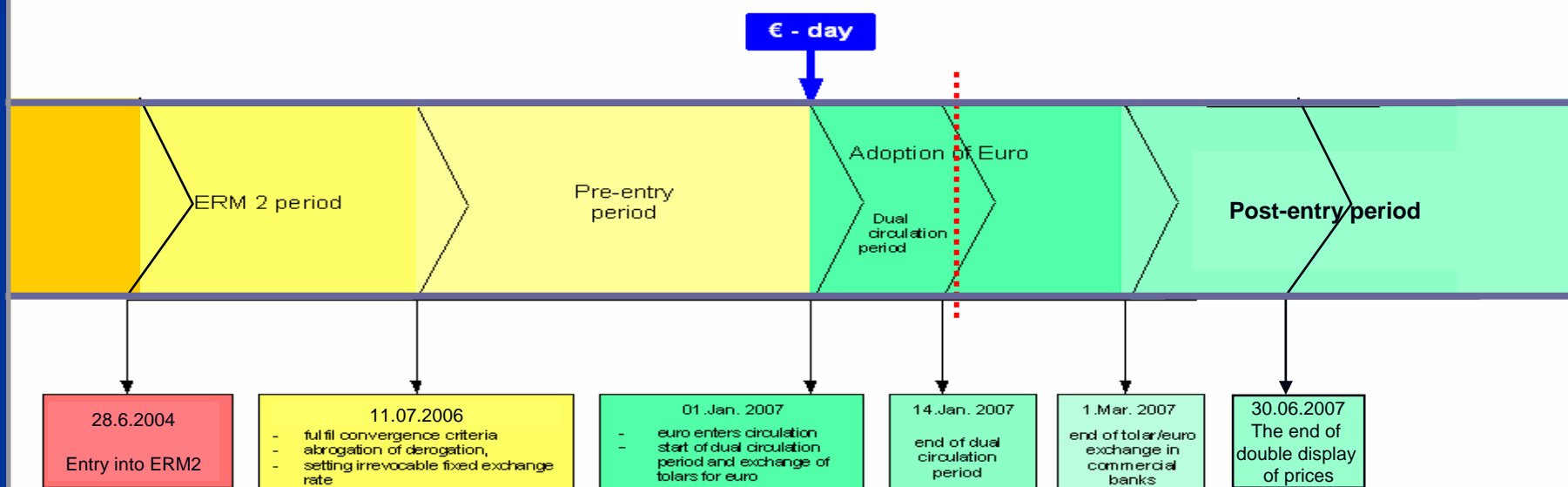
# Post-entry period

## – factors that reduce risks

- Euro is not really a new currency
- General economic situation in Slovenia is good and forecast to remain buoyant
- Dual display of prices until 1.7.2007
- €Price Commitment & Price Watch
- Further development of communication strategy (on non-technical issues) to improve trust in Euro

# Slovenia in the € adoption process

as the next step in ongoing process of deepening and enlarging EMU and EU



# Post-entry period

## – some possible implications

- New dynamics in the €area
- The mental transition for business, public administration and other subjects
- Fiscal and wage policy: leading role among economic policies
- Economy's new competitiveness
- Vital: higher efficiency and flexibility

# Slovenian experience as a road-map for further European monetary integration



*Euro - our currency*