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PRESS RELEASE

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE EUROSYSTEM as at 7 May 1999

I. Items not related to monetary policy operations

In the week ending 7 May 1999 the net position of the Eurosystem in foreign currency (asset items 2 and 3 minus liability items 6, 7 and 8) decreased by EUR 0.7 billion to EUR 236.8 billion.

The holdings by the Eurosystem of marketable securities of euro area residents denominated in euro (asset item 6) remained stable at around EUR 26.0 billion. Banknotes in circulation (liability item 1) increased by EUR 3.4 billion to EUR 335.7 billion. Liabilities to general government (liability item 4.1) decreased by EUR 8.0 billion to EUR 33.5 billion.

II. Items related to monetary policy operations

The Eurosystem's net lending to its counterparties in the financial sector (asset item 5 minus liability items 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5 and 3) decreased by EUR 8.2 billion. This was mainly the result of decreased lending through the main refinancing operations. On Wednesday 5 May 1999 a main refinancing operation of EUR 50.0 billion matured and a new one of EUR 42.0 billion was settled.

Recourse to the **marginal lending facility** (asset item 5.5) was virtually unchanged, at EUR 0.5 billion; recourse to the **deposit facility** (liability item 2.2) increased from EUR 0.1 billion to EUR 0.2 billion.

III. Current accounts of the euro area financial sector

As a result of all transactions, the **current account** position of counterparties with the Eurosystem (liability item 2.1) decreased by EUR 2.8 billion to stand at EUR 101.5 billion.

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EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

Consolidated weekly financial statement of the Eurosystem as at 7 May 1999

(EUR millions)

Assets	Balance as at 7 May 1999	Difference compared to last week due to transactions	Liabilities	Balance as at 7 May 1999	Difference compared to last week due to transactions
1 Gold and gold receivables	105,323	o	1 Banknotes in circulation	335,708	3,428
Claims on non-euro area residents denominated in foreign currency Receivables from the IMF Balances with banks and security investments, external loans and other external assets	29,551 209,799 239,350	-442 -955 -1,397	2 Liabilities to euro area financial sector counterparties denominated in euro 2.1 Current accounts (covering the minimum reserve system) 2.2 Deposit facility 2.3 Fixed-term deposits	101,459 197 0	-2,782 78 0
3 Claims on euro area residents denominated in foreign currency	12,366	683	2.4 Fine-tuning reverse operations 2.5 Deposits related to margin calls	0 7 101,663	0 -28 -2,732
Claims on non-euro area residents denominated in euro 4.1 Balances with banks, security investments			3 Debt certificates issued	10,158	0
and loans 4.2 Claims arising from the credit facility under the ERM II	4,018 0 4,018	16 0 16	Liabilities to other euro area residents denominated in euro 4.1 General government 4.2 Other liabilities	33,536 3,286 36,822	-8,037 -134 -8,171
 5 Lending to financial sector counterparties of euro area 5.1 Main refinancing operations 5.2 Longer-term refinancing operations 5.3 Fine-tuning reverse operations 	119,944 44,984 0	-8,079 -15 0	Liabilities to non-euro area residents denominated in euro Liabilities to euro area residents denominated in foreign currency	6,993 998	-214 4
5.4 Structural reverse operations5.5 Marginal lending facility5.6 Credits related to margin calls5.7 Other lending	0 481 52 723	0 -19 5 -30	7 Liabilities to non-euro area residents denominated in foreign currency 7.1 Deposits, balances and other liabilities	7,925	-6
6 Securities of euro area residents denominated in euro	166,184 26,047	-8,138 -41	7.2 Liabilities arising from the credit facility under the ERM II	0 7,925	<i>0</i> -6
7 General government debt denominated in euro	60,186	0	8 Counterpart of special drawing rights allocated by the IMF 9 Other liabilities	6,043 52,669	0 1.492
8 Other assets	78,650	2,705	10 Revaluation accounts	78,479	0
			11 Capital and reserves	54,666	27
Total assets	692,124	-6,172	Total liabilities	692,124	-6,172

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