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PRESS RELEASE

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE EUROSYSTEM as at 29 November 2002

I. Items not related to monetary policy operations

In the week ending 29 November 2002 the decrease of EUR 31 million in **gold and gold receivables** (asset item 1) corresponded to a sale of 3 tonnes by a national central bank of the Eurosystem (consistent with the Central Bank Gold Agreement of 26 September 1999).

In the same week 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 240.4 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 33.2 billion. Banknotes in circulation (liability item 1) rose by EUR 5.4 billion to EUR 340 billion. Liabilities to general government (liability item 5.1) increased by EUR 9.4 billion to EUR 59.6 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 10.3 billion to EUR 204 billion. On Wednesday, 27 November 2002, a **main refinancing operation** of EUR 51 billion matured and a new one of EUR 62 billion was settled. On Thursday, 28 November 2002, a **longer-term refinancing operation** of EUR 15 billion matured and a new one of EUR 15 billion was settled.

Recourse to the **marginal lending facility** (asset item 5.5) was EUR 0.1 billion (compared with EUR 1.2 billion in the preceding week), while recourse to the **deposit facility** (liability item 2.2) was virtually nil (compared with EUR 0.5 billion 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 4.4 billion to EUR 121.9 billion.

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Consolidated weekly financial statement of the Eurosystem as at 29 November 2002 (EUR millions)

| Assets | Balance as at 29 November 2002 | Difference compared to last week due to transactions | Liabilities | Balance as at 29 November 2002 | Difference compared to last week due to transactions |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1 Gold and gold receivables | 131,106 | -31 | 1 Banknotes in circulation | 340,039 | 5,438 |
| Claims on non-euro area residents denominated in foreign currency 1.1 Receivables from the IMF 2.2 Balances with banks and security investments, external loans and other external assets Claims on euro area residents denominated in foreign currency | 32,009 213,563 245,572 20,036 | -1,307 | Liabilities to euro area credit institutions related to monetary policy operations denominated in euro 1.1 Current accounts (covering the minimum reserve system) 2.2 Deposit facility 3.3 Fixed-term deposits 2.4 Fine-tuning reverse operations 2.5 Deposits related to margin calls | 121,860 43 0 0 0 | -446 0 0 |
| | | | | 121,903 | -4,866 |
| 4 Claims on non-euro area residents denominated in euro 4.1 Balances with banks, security investments and loans 4.2 Claims arising from the credit facility under ERM II | 3,518 0 3,518 | 0 | Other liabilities to euro area credit institutions denominated in euro Debt certificates issued | 192 2,029 | |
| Lending to euro area credit institutions related to monetary policy operations denominated in euro S.1 Main refinancing operations S.2 Longer-term refinancing operations S.3 Fine-tuning reverse operations S.4 Structural reverse operations Structural reverse operations Marginal lending facility | 160,999 45,000 0 0 65 | 1 0 0 -1,164 | 5 Liabilities to other euro area residents denominated in euro 5.1 General government 5.2 Other liabilities 6 Liabilities to non-euro area residents denominated in euro | 59,582 5,267 64,849 8,634 | 332 9,754 |
| 5.6 Credits related to margin calls | 28 206,092 | -7 9,829 | 7 Liabilities to euro area residents denominated in foreign currency | 1,338 | -345 |
| 6 Other claims on euro area credit institutions denominated in euro 7 Securities of euro area residents denominated in euro | 258 33,242 | 104 143 | Liabilities to non-euro area residents denominated in foreign currency 8.1 Deposits, balances and other liabilities 8.2 Liabilities arising from the credit facility under ERM II | 17,292 0 17,292 | 0 |
| 8 General government debt denominated in euro | 67,225 | 2 | | , | , |
| 9 Other assets | 89,414 | 338 | 9 Counterpart of special drawing rights allocated by the IMF 10 Other liabilities | 6,567 62,870 | |
| | | | 11 Revaluation accounts | 106,307 | 0 |
| | | | 12 Capital and reserves | 64,444 | 4 |
| | | | | | |
| Total assets | 796,464 | 7,797 | Total liabilities | 796,464 | 7,797 |

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