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PRESS RELEASE

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE EUROSYSTEM as at 28 November 2003

I. Items not related to monetary policy operations

In the week ending 28 November 2003 the decrease of EUR 96 million in **gold and gold receivables** (asset item I) was accounted for by a sale of 9 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) decreased by EUR 0.1 billion to EUR 189.9 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 0.6 billion to EUR 53.6 billion. Banknotes in circulation (liability item 1) rose by EUR 4.7 billion to EUR 405.2 billion. Liabilities to general government (liability item 5.1) increased by EUR 7.9 billion to EUR 64.2 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 9.6 billion to EUR 269.2 billion. On Wednesday, 26 November 2003, a main refinancing operation of EUR 118 billion matured and a new one of EUR 126.3 billion was settled. On Thursday, 27 November 2003, 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 virtually nil (compared with EUR 0.5 billion in the previous week), while recourse to the **deposit facility** (liability item 2.2) was EUR 0.1 billion (compared with EUR 1.8 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 2.2 billion to EUR 124.9 billion.

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

ssets	Balance as at	Difference compared	Liabilities	Balance as at	Difference compared
	28 November 2003	to last week due to		28 November 2003	to last week due to
		transactions			transactions
1 Gold and gold receivables	130,438	-96	1 Banknotes in circulation	405,240	4,694
			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	31,917	-27	2.1 Current accounts		
2.2 Balances with banks and security investments,			(covering the minimum reserve system)	124,942	
external loans and other external assets	162,838	· ·	2.2 Deposit facility	50	.,
	194,755	-1,380	2.3 Fixed-term deposits	0	0
			2.4 Fine-tuning reverse operations	0	0
3 Claims on euro area residents denominated in foreign currency	14,151	-1,079	2.5 Deposits related to margin calls	1	1
4 Claims on non-euro area residents denominated in euro				124,993	-4,030
4.1 Balances with banks, security investments and loans	5,451	-89	3 Other liabilities to euro area credit institutions denominated in euro	208	0
4.2 Claims arising from the credit facility under ERM II	0	0			
	5,451	-89	4 Debt certificates issued	1,054	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	225,292	8,291	5.1 General government	64,226	7,886
5.2 Longer-term refinancing operations	45.000		5.2 Other liabilities	6.116	·
5.3 Fine-tuning reverse operations	0			70,342	
5.4 Structural reverse operations	0			,	-,
5.5 Marginal lending facility	6	-478	6 Liabilities to non-euro area residents denominated in euro	9,696	-66
5.6 Credits related to margin calls	14			,	
	270,312		7 Liabilities to euro area residents denominated in foreign currency	665	-64
6 Other claims on euro area credit institutions denominated in euro	773	-76	8 Liabilities to non-euro area residents denominated in foreign currency		
			8.1 Deposits, balances and other liabilities	12,308	-2,335
7 Securities of euro area residents denominated in euro	53,627	590	8.2 Liabilities arising from the credit facility under ERM II	0	U
8 General government debt denominated in euro	43,762	4		12,308	-2,335
9 Other assets	120,070	600	9 Counterpart of special drawing rights allocated by the IMF	5,991	0
	120,070	000	10 Other liabilities	66,651	-78
			11 Revaluation accounts	71,174	0
			12 Capital and reserves	65,017	2
otal assets	833,339	6,276	Total liabilities	833,339	6,276

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