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PRESS RELEASE

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE EUROSYSTEM as at 21 May 2004

I. Items not related to monetary policy operations

In the week ending 21 May 2004 the net position of the Eurosystem in foreign currency (asset items 2 and 3 minus liability items 7, 8 and 9) increased by EUR 0.1 billion to EUR 175.2 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 I.1 billion to EUR 73.6 billion. Banknotes in circulation (liability item I) rose by EUR I billion to EUR 441.1 billion. Liabilities to general government (liability item 5.1) increased by EUR 14.9 billion to EUR 52.3 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 16.6 billion to EUR 297.5 billion. On Wednesday, 19 May 2004, a main refinancing operation of EUR 207 billion matured and a new one of EUR 223.5 billion was settled.

Recourse to both the **marginal lending facility** (asset item 5.5) and the **deposit facility** (liability item 2.2) was EUR 0.1 billion (compared in both cases with virtually nil in the previous 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) increased by EUR 0.7 billion to EUR 137.3 billion.

European Central Bank

Press and Information Division
Kaiserstrasse 29, D-60311 Frankfurt am Main
Tel.: +49 69 1344 7455, Fax: +49 69 1344 7404

Internet: http://www.ecb.int

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EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

Consolidated weekly financial statement of the Eurosystem as at 21 May 2004 (EUR millions)

Assets	Balance as at	Difference compared	Liabilities	Balance as at	Difference compared
	21 May 2004	to last week due to transactions		21 May 2004	to last week due to transactions
1 Gold and gold receivables	136,160	o	1 Banknotes in circulation	441,096	962
			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	29,588	-170	2.1 Current accounts		
2.2 Balances with banks and security investments,			(covering the minimum reserve system)	137,289	
external loans and other external assets	144,853		2.2 Deposit facility	66	
	174,441	243	2.3 Fixed-term deposits	0	0
	4= 000		2.4 Fine-tuning reverse operations	0	0
3 Claims on euro area residents denominated in foreign currency	17,206	-67	2.5 Deposits related to margin calls	6	1
4 Claims on non-euro area residents denominated in euro				137,361	701
4.1 Balances with banks, security investments and loans	7,364	-42	3 Other liabilities to euro area credit institutions denominated in euro	301	0
4.2 Claims arising from the credit facility under ERM II	7,304		3 Other habilities to earo area credit institutions denominated in edio	301	U
4.2 Crains arong norm the credit radinty under LINW II	7,364		4 Debt certificates issued	1,054	0
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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	223,501	16,503	5.1 General government	52,333	14,869
5.2 Longer-term refinancing operations	75,001	0	5.2 Other liabilities	5,997	152
5.3 Fine-tuning reverse operations	0	0		58,330	15,021
5.4 Structural reverse operations	0	0			
5.5 Marginal lending facility	120		6 Liabilities to non-euro area residents denominated in euro	7,974	-116
5.6 Credits related to margin calls	0	-			
	298,622	16,622	7 Liabilities to euro area residents denominated in foreign currency	302	3
6 Other claims on euro area credit institutions denominated in euro	694	59	8 Liabilities to non-euro area residents denominated in foreign currency		
			8.1 Deposits, balances and other liabilities	10,234	64
7 Securities of euro area residents denominated in euro	73,552	1,070	8.2 Liabilities arising from the credit facility under ERM II	0	0
				10,234	64
8 General government debt denominated in euro	42,554	0	O Country and of an arial describe adjusted the Market Market	5.004	•
9 Other assets	400 200	61	Counterpart of special drawing rights allocated by the IMF	5,924	0
9 Other assets	109,399	01	10 Other liabilities	57,340	1,215
			11 Revaluation accounts	80,604	0
			12 Capital and reserves	59,472	96
Total assets	859,992	17,946	Total liabilities	859,992	17,946

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