

PRESS RELEASE ON THE MAINTENANCE OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVE REQUIREMENTS

In order to ensure maintenance of required reserves consistent with the composition of foreign currency liabilities, it has been decided that banks will maintain their required reserves against their US dollar-denominated liabilities in terms of US dollar only.

For purposes of operational convenience and flexibility, the existing facility regarding liabilities in euro and other foreign currencies as well as precious metal accounts will remain in force, whereby banks will continue to hold required reserves in US dollar and euro for their liabilities denominated in euro and other foreign currencies, and in standard gold against their precious metal deposit accounts, according to their preferences.

The aforementioned amendments will be effective as of the calculation period, 28 September 2012, and the maintenance period will begin on 12 October 2012. These amendments are not expected to have a significant impact on the banking sector.