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PRESS RELEASE

EURO AREA SECURITIES ISSUES STATISTICS: FEBRUARY 2010

The annual growth rate of the outstanding amount of debt securities issued by euro area residents decreased from 7.7% in January 2010 to 6.3% in February. For the outstanding amount of quoted shares issued by euro area residents, the annual growth rate was 3.0% in February 2010, compared with 2.9% in January.

New issuance of debt securities by euro area residents totalled EUR 913 billion in February 2010 (see Table 1 and Chart 1). As redemptions came to EUR 872 billion, net issues amounted to EUR 41 billion (see Table 1). The annual growth rate of outstanding debt securities issued by euro area residents decreased from 7.7% in January 2010 to 6.3% in February (see Table 1 and Chart 3).

As regards the sectoral breakdown, the annual growth rate of outstanding debt securities issued by non-financial corporations increased from 13.2% in January 2010 to 14.3% in February (see Table 2 and Chart 4). For the monetary financial institutions (MFIs) sector, this growth rate decreased from 2.2% in January 2010 to 0.5% in February. The annual growth rate of outstanding debt securities issued by financial corporations other than MFIs decreased from 13.2% in January 2010 to 9.4% in February. For the general government, this growth rate decreased from 10.1% in January 2010 to 9.8% in February.

As regards the maturity breakdown, the annual growth rate of outstanding short-term debt securities decreased from -2.6% in January 2010 to -5.9% in February (see Table 1 and Chart 3). The annual growth rate of outstanding short-term debt securities issued by MFIs decreased from -11.6% to -14.2% during the same period (see Table 2). For long-term debt securities, the annual growth rate decreased from 9.1% in January 2010 to 8.0% in February. The annual growth rate of outstanding long-term debt securities issued by MFIs decreased from 4.7% to 3.3% during the same period. The annual growth rate of outstanding fixed rate long-term debt securities decreased from 11.7% in January 2010 to 11.0% in February. The annual growth rate of outstanding variable rate long-term debt securities decreased from 3.4% in January 2010 to 1.5% in February.

Concerning the currency breakdown, the annual growth rate of outstanding euro-denominated debt securities decreased from 7.8% in January 2010 to 6.5% in February. For debt securities in other currencies, this growth rate decreased from 6.6% in January 2010 to 4.5% in February (see Table 1).

The seasonally adjusted three-month annualised growth rate of outstanding debt securities issued by euro area residents decreased from 3.6% in January 2010 to 2.1% in February (see Table 3 and Chart 5).

New issuance of quoted shares by euro area residents totalled EUR 1.8 billion in February 2010 (see Table 4). As redemptions came to EUR 0.1 billion, net issues amounted to EUR 1.7 billion. The annual growth rate of the outstanding amount of quoted shares issued by euro area residents (excluding valuation changes) was 3.0% in February 2010, compared with 2.9% in January (see Table 4 and Chart 6). The annual growth rate of quoted shares issued by non-financial corporations was 2.0% in February 2010, compared with 1.9% in January. For monetary financial institutions, the annual growth rate of quoted shares issued was 8.3% in February 2010, the same as in January. For financial corporations other than MFIs, this growth rate was 5.4% in February 2010, compared with 5.3% in January.

The outstanding amount of quoted shares issued by euro area residents totalled EUR 4,171 billion at the end of February 2010. Compared with EUR 2,935 billion at the end of February 2009, this represents an annual increase of 42.1% in the value of the stock of quoted shares in February 2010, up from 28.8% in January.

Unless otherwise indicated, data relate to non-seasonally adjusted statistics. In addition to the developments for February 2010, this press release incorporates minor revisions to the data for previous periods. In addition, as of the reference period December 2009 a euro area country extended the coverage of debt securities issued to include also the non-MFI corporations and the short-term debt securities issued by the general government sector; the coverage of quoted shares has also been expanded to include also international listings. As the annual growth rates are based on financial transactions that occur when an institutional unit incurs or redeems liabilities, they are not affected by the impact of any other changes which do not arise from transactions. A complete set of updated securities issues statistics is available on the "Money, banking and financial markets" pages of the "Statistics" section of the ECB's website (<http://www.ecb.europa.eu/stats/money/securities/html/index.en.html>). These data, as well as euro area data in accordance with the composition of the euro area at the time of the reference period, can be downloaded using the ECB's Statistical Data Warehouse (SDW).

Data for the period up to February 2010 will also be published in the May 2010 issues of the ECB's Monthly Bulletin and Statistics Pocket Book. The next press release on euro area securities issues will be published on 12 May 2010.

European Central Bank

Directorate Communications, 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.europa.eu>

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