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PRESS RELEASE

EXTERNAL DEBT STATISTICS GUIDE FOR COMPILERS AND USERS

- The guide elaborates on global standards for the compilation, measurement, reporting and analytical uses of external debt statistics.
- It strengthens the capacity for compiling external debt statistics in accordance with the new international statistical standards.
- The ECB will publish external debt statistics for the euro area in line with the standards of this guide by the end of 2014.

The nine organizations in the Inter-Agency Task Force on Finance Statistics (TFFS)¹ are today releasing a Guide which elaborates on the global standards for the compilation, measurement, reporting and analytical uses of external debt statistics.

The 2013 External Debt Statistics: Guide for Compilers and Users (2013 EDS Guide) was prepared under the responsibility of the nine organizations in the TFFS, in close consultation with national compilers of external debt, balance of payments, and international investment position statistics.

The 2013 EDS Guide reflects the significant developments in international finance since the issuance of the 2003 EDS Guide. It provides guidance on the concepts for the measurement of external debt statistics that can be applied consistently across the different sectors of an economy and across the different debt instruments used for borrowing. The concepts set out in the 2013 EDS Guide are fully harmonized with those of the System of National Accounts 2008 (2008 SNA) and the sixth edition of the IMF's Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual (BPM6).

The 2013 EDS Guide provides standards for compiling and analyzing data highlighting an economy's potential vulnerabilities to solvency and liquidity problems arising from its external

¹ The TFFS is composed of by the Bank for International Settlements (BIS), the Commonwealth Secretariat (ComSec), the European Central Bank (ECB), the European Commission (Eurostat), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the Paris Club Secretariat, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and the World Bank.

debt position, such as data on debt-maturity profiles, currency breakdowns, short-term remaining maturity, and nominal and market valuations of debt securities.

The 2013 EDS Guide is available in hardcopy in English, with publication in other languages – Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, and Spanish – now underway. The Guide can be ordered in hardcopy through the IMF’s online bookstore

(<http://www.imfbookstore.org/ProdDetails.asp?ID=9781484366622>). The PDF format is available free of charge and may be downloaded at: <http://www.tffs.org/edsguide.htm>.

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