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PRESS RELEASE

EURO AREA SECURITIES ISSUES STATISTICS: FEBRUARY 2012

The annual growth rate of the outstanding amount of debt securities issued by euro area residents increased from 4.0% in January 2012 to 4.3% in February. For the outstanding amount of quoted shares issued by euro area residents, the annual growth rate was 1.6% in February 2012, compared with 1.7% in January.

New issuance of debt securities by euro area residents totalled EUR 1,160 billion in February 2012. Redemptions stood at EUR 1,013 billion and net issues amounted to EUR 159 billion.¹ The annual growth rate of outstanding debt securities issued by euro area residents increased from 4.0% in January 2012 to 4.3% in February (see Table 1 and Charts 1 and 3).

The annual growth rate of outstanding short-term debt securities increased from 3.7% in January 2012 to 4.3% in February. For long-term debt securities, the annual growth rate increased from 4.0% in January 2012 to 4.3% in February. The annual growth rate of outstanding fixed rate long-term debt securities increased from 5.7% in January 2012 to 6.1% in February. The annual rate of change of outstanding variable rate long-term debt securities increased from -0.1% in January 2012 to 0.2% 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 6.2% in January 2012 to 6.6% in February. For the monetary financial institutions (MFIs) sector, this growth rate was 4.5% in February 2012, compared with 4.3% in January. The annual rate of change of outstanding debt securities issued by financial corporations other than MFIs was 0.0% in February 2012, compared with -0.6% in January. For the general government, this

¹ As a full breakdown of net issues into gross issues and redemptions may not always be available, the difference between aggregated gross issues and redemptions may deviate from the aggregated net issues.

growth rate increased from 5.7% in January 2012 to 6.1% in February (see Table 2 and Chart 4).

The annual growth rate of outstanding short-term debt securities issued by MFIs decreased from 19.6% in January 2012 to 16.8% in February. The annual growth rate of outstanding long-term debt securities issued by MFIs increased from 2.4% in January 2012 to 2.9% in February (see Table 2).

Concerning the currency breakdown, the annual growth rate of outstanding euro-denominated debt securities increased from 4.3% in January 2012 to 4.6% in February. For debt securities in other currencies, this growth rate increased from 1.4% in January 2012 to 2.0% in February (see Table 1).

New issuance of quoted shares by euro area residents totalled EUR 4.4 billion in February 2012. Redemptions came to EUR 2.3 billion and net issues amounted to EUR 2.1 billion. The annual growth rate of the outstanding amount of quoted shares issued by euro area residents (excluding valuation changes) was 1.6% in February 2012, compared with 1.7% in January. The annual growth rate of quoted shares issued by non-financial corporations was 0.3% in February 2012, compared with 0.4% in January. For MFIs, the corresponding growth rate increased from 11.6% in January 2012 to 11.9% in February. For financial corporations other than MFIs, this growth rate decreased from 4.0% in January 2012 to 3.1% in February (see Table 4 and Chart 6).

The market value of the outstanding amount of quoted shares issued by euro area residents totalled EUR 4,291 billion at the end of February 2012. Compared with EUR 4,846 billion at the end of February 2011, this represents an annual decrease of -11.5% in the value of the stock of quoted shares in February 2012, up from -13.4% in January.

Unless otherwise indicated, data relate to non-seasonally adjusted statistics. In addition to the developments for February 2012, this press release incorporates minor revisions to the data for previous periods. 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 "Monetary and financial statistics" 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). The tables and charts accompanying this press release are also available in the reports section of the SDW (<http://sdw.ecb.europa.eu/reports.do?node=1000002753>).

Data for the period up to February 2012 will also be published in the May 2012 issues of the ECB's Monthly Bulletin and Statistics Pocket Book. The next press release on euro area securities issues will be published on 14 May 2012.

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