



ECU-EMS Information & Central Bank Interest Rates

11 □ 1998 Monthly

Bilateral fluctuations of the ERM currencies

Figure 1 on page 5 shows the trends in bilateral fluctuations, calculated on a daily basis, of the currencies in the ERM (exchange rate mechanism). It thus indicates the position of each currency relative to the others between 1 September and 30 October 1998.

Figure 1 shows that the pattern of the last few months is continuing, as the currencies in the forthcoming euro zone move within a narrow band that is steadily contracting. At the beginning of September the band stood at 1.24% and by 30 October it had narrowed by more than 90 basis points to 0.3%. The narrowness of the band shows that all the currencies within it are very close to their respective central rates (see Table 1, page 4). It means that during the period in question the currencies of the future euro zone were remarkably stable.

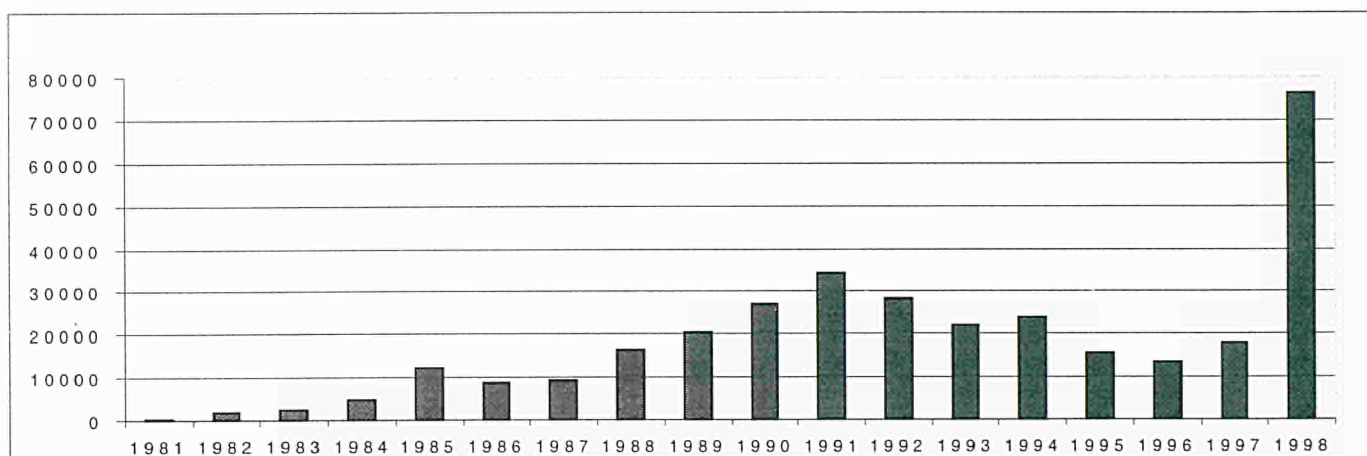
If the GRD and the DKK - the two currencies that will not be part of the euro zone at the start but which will be the first members of ERM2 - are included, the fluctuation band

becomes wider. It was 4.70% at the beginning of September and expanded to 5.76% at the end of October. The GRD and the DKK were stronger than their respective central rates.

ECU/euro bond market in 1998

The bond market in ECUs is getting ready for the changeover to the euro, and 1998 has turned out to be a record year for ECU bond issues. At the beginning of November the volume of issues denominated in ECUs was already four times as high as the 1997 figure. Most bond issues are in fact not denominated solely in ECUs but include a euro conversion clause ensuring automatic conversion. From 1 January 1999 all new issues will be denominated in euro. There will be a gradual changeover to the euro for outstanding amounts in the national currencies of the euro zone. The ECU will be replaced by the euro at a rate of 1:1 and the national currencies of the euro zone will simply be another way of expressing the euro.

Volume of issued bonds



In 1999, a new publication will replace this one. It will include the most important indicators actually published in *Money and Finance*, *ECUSTAT* and *ECU-EMS Information & central bank interest rates*.



STATISTICAL OFFICE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

L-2920 Luxembourg — Tél. 4301-1 — Télex COMEUR LU 3423
B-1049 Bruxelles, rue de la Loi 200 — Tél. 299 11 11

Note

For any information on the statistics in this bulletin contact Luxembourg:

TEL: +352 434020-20
+352 434020-22 ou 25

ASCOLI L. / SCHMITZ R.
WARTON-WOODS S. / DELOBBE O.
(Central Bank Interest Rates)

FAX: +4301-32929

EUROSTAT
Monetary and Financial Statistics
Jean Monnet Building
APC C4/04
L-2920 Luxembourg

© European Communities, 1998
Reproduction is authorized provided the source is acknowledged.

Printed in Luxembourg

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Comments	1
-----------------------	---

European Monetary System

Table I. Central rates and intervention limit rates	4
Graph 1. Bilateral fluctuations of the ERM currencies	5
Graph 2. Divergence indicator of the ERM currencies.....	5

ECU exchange rates

Table II. ECU exchange rates	6
------------------------------------	---

Change in the purchasing power of the ECU

Table III. Harmonised indices of consumer prices adjusted for ECU exchange rate changes.....	8
Table IV. Non-Harmonised indices of consumer prices adjusted for ECU exchange rate changes	10

ECU bond market

Table V. ECU bond issues	12
Table VI. Last month's ECU bond issues.....	12
Table VII. Outstanding amount of ECU bonds	13
Table VIII. Total of the secondary market turnover and % of market taken by ECU securities	13

ECU interest rates

Table IX. Operation rates of the European Central Bank (ECB) and interest rates and yields of ECU investments	14
Graph 3. ECU yield curve	15
Graph 4. Evolution of ECU yields	15

Central bank interest rates

Table X. Central Bank interest rates	16
Graphs Evolution of central bank interest rates over the last 12 months	19

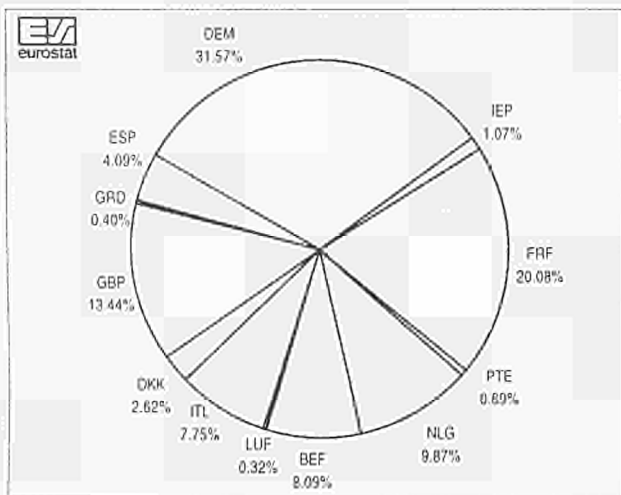
Explanatory notes	21
--------------------------------	----

TABLE I
Central rates and intervention limit rates, in force since 16th March 1998, for the currencies of countries participating in the EMS exchange rate mechanism.(1)

	1 ECU =	100 BEF = 100 LUF =	100 DKK =	100 DEM =	100 GRD =	100 ESP =	100 FRF =	1 IEP =	1000 ITL =	100 NLG =	100 ATS =	100 PTE =	100 FIM =
BEF	40.7844	+	627.880	2395.20	13.2655	28.1525	714.030	59.4775	24.1920	2125.60	340.420	23.3645	787.830
LUF		=	540.723	2062.55	11.4242	24.2447	614.977	51.2210	20.8338	1830.55	293.162	20.1214	678.468
		-	465.665	1776.20	9.83835	20.8795	529.660	44.1100	17.9417	1576.45	252.470	17.3285	584.290
DKK	7.54257	+	21.4747	-	442.968	2.45331	5.20640	132.066	10.9995	4.47400	393.105	62.9561	4.32100
		=	18.4938	-	381.443	2.11276	4.48375	113.732	9.47269	3.85295	338.537	54.2167	3.72120
		-	15.9266	-	328.461	1.81948	3.86140	97.9430	8.15774	3.31810	291.544	46.6910	3.20460
DEM	1.97738	+	5.63000	30.4450	-	0.643200	1.36500	34.6250	2.88370	1.17290	(103.058)(2)	16.5050	1.13280
		=	4.84837	26.2163	-	0.553888	1.17547	29.8164	2.48338	1.01010	88.7517	14.2136	0.975559
		-	4.17500	22.5750	-	0.477000	1.01230	25.6750	2.13880	0.869900	(76.4326)(2)	12.2410	0.840100
GRD	357.000	+	1016.43	5496.05	20964.3	-	246.429	6250.80	520.624	211.770	18506.2	2979.78	204.520
		=	875.335	4733.13	18054.2	-	212.222	5383.11	448.355	182.365	16023.4	2566.15	176.129
		-	753.827	4076.11	15547.2	-	182.763	4635.86	386.117	157.060	13799.1	2209.94	151.681
ESP	168.220	+	478.944	2589.80	9878.50	54.7156	-	2945.40	245.320	99.7800	8767.30	1404.10	96.3670
		=	412.462	2230.27	8507.22	47.1204	-	2536.54	211.267	85.9313	7650.30	1209.18	82.9929
		-	355.206	1920.70	7326.00	40.5795	-	2184.40	181.940	74.0000	6502.20	1041.30	71.4690
FRF	6.63186	+	18.8800	102.100	389.480	2.15709	4.57780	-	9.67145	3.93379	345.650	55.3545	3.79920
		=	16.2608	87.9257	335.386	1.85766	3.94237	-	8.32893	3.38773	297.661	47.6704	3.27189
		-	14.0050	75.7200	288.810	1.59979	3.39510	-	7.17277	2.91750	256.350	41.0533	2.81770
IEP	0.796244	+	2.26706	12.2583	46.7595	0.258989	0.549632	13.9416	-	0.472304	41.4989	6.64602	0.456154
		=	1.95232	10.5567	40.2676	0.223038	0.473335	12.0063	-	0.406743	35.7382	5.72347	0.392834
		-	1.68131	9.09132	34.6776	0.192077	0.407631	10.3397	-	0.350281	30.7778	4.92900	0.338304
ITL	1957.61	+	5573.60	30138.0	114956	636.700	1351.30	34276.0	2854.85	-	102027	16339.0	1121.50
		=	4799.90	25954.2	99000.2	548.350	1163.72	29518.3	2458.56	-	87864.4	14071.5	965.805
		-	4133.60	22351.0	85259.0	472.200	1002.20	25421.0	2117.28	-	75668.0	12118.0	831.700
NLG	2.22799	+	6.34340	34.3002	(130.834)(2)	0.724682	1.53793	39.0091	3.24910	1.32156	-	18.5963	1.27637
		=	5.46285	29.5389	112.674	0.624087	1.32445	33.5953	2.79812	1.13812	-	16.0150	1.09920
		-	4.70464	25.4385	(97.0325)(2)	0.537456	1.14060	28.9381	2.40970	0.980132	-	13.7918	0.946611
ATS	13.9119	+	39.6089	214.174	816.927	4.52500	9.60338	243.586	20.2881	8.25219	725.065	-	7.97000
		=	34.1108	184.445	703.522	3.89689	8.27006	209.774	17.4719	7.10657	624.415	-	6.86357
		-	29.3757	158.841	605.877	3.35595	7.12200	180.654	15.0466	6.12032	537.740	-	5.91086
PTE	202.692	+	577.090	3120.50	11903.3	65.9280	139.920	3549.00	295.592	120.240	10564.0	1691.80	-
		=	496.984	2687.31	10250.5	56.7765	120.492	3056.34	254.560	103.541	9097.53	1456.97	-
		-	428.000	2314.30	8827.70	48.8950	103.770	2632.10	219.224	89.1700	7834.70	1254.70	-
FIM	6.01125	+	17.1148	92.5438	353.008	1.95523	4.14938	105.253	8.76639	3.56570	313.295	50.1744	3.44376
		=	14.7391	79.8976	304.001	1.68382	3.57345	90.6420	7.54951	3.07071	289.806	43.2094	2.96571
		-	12.6931	68.6347	261.801	1.45008	3.07740	78.0597	6.50154	2.64438	232.353	37.2114	2.55402
GBP	0.653644 (notional)												

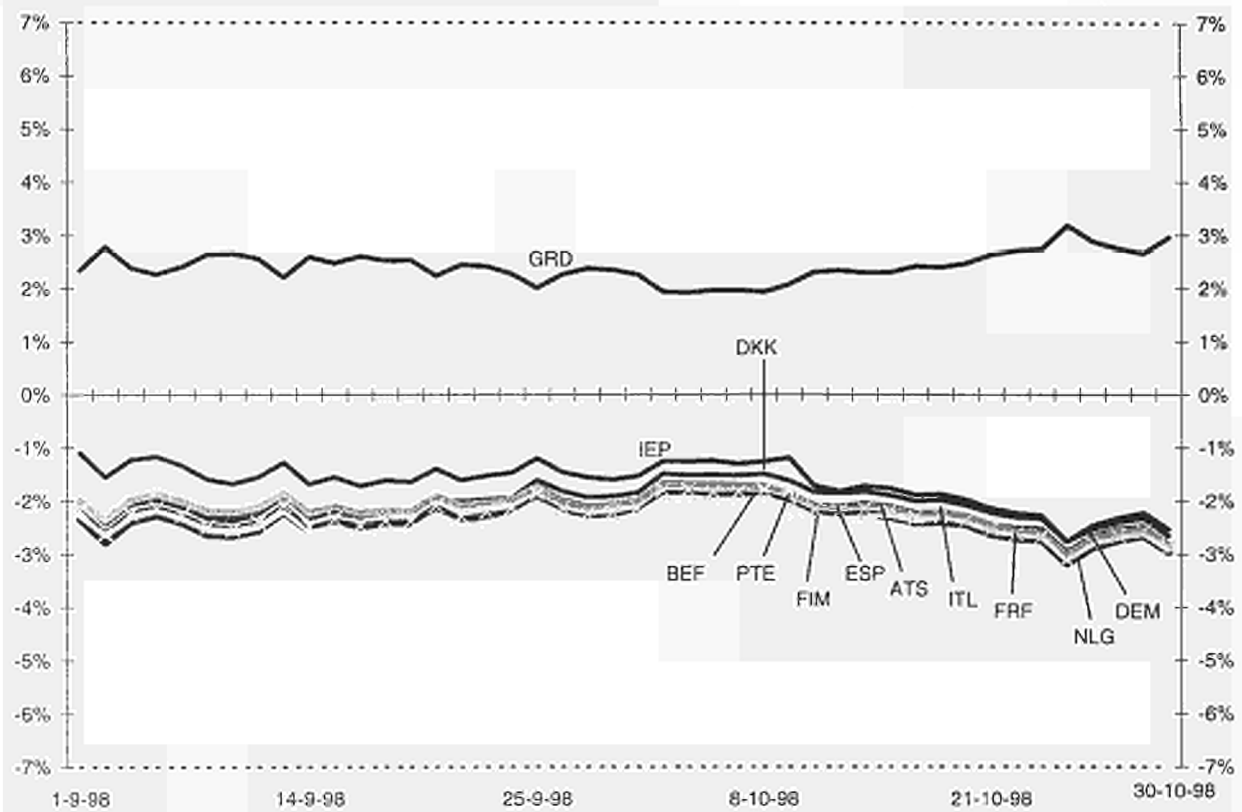
(1) For the EUR-11 these bilateral central rates will be used in determining the irrevocable conversion rates for the euro.

(2) These buying and selling rates are not operational. Reflecting a bilateral agreement between the German and Dutch monetary authorities, the following rates continue to apply:
 selling rate HFL 100 in Frankfurt: DM 90.7700; buying rate HFL 100 in Frankfurt: DM 86.7800;
 selling rate DM 100 in Amsterdam: HFL 115.2350; buying rate DM 100 in Amsterdam: HFL 110.1675.

Weights of component currencies in the ECU, calculated on the basis of central rates in force since 16.03.1998

Composition of the ECU basket

Since 21/09/1989
0.6242 DEM
1.332 FRF
0.2198 NLG
3.301 BEF
0.13 LUF
151.8 ITL
0.1976 DKK
0.008552 IEP
0.08784 GBP
1.44 GRD
6.885 ESP
1.393 PTE
= 1 ECU

Graph 1: Bilateral fluctuations of the ERM currencies



Graph 2: Divergence indicator

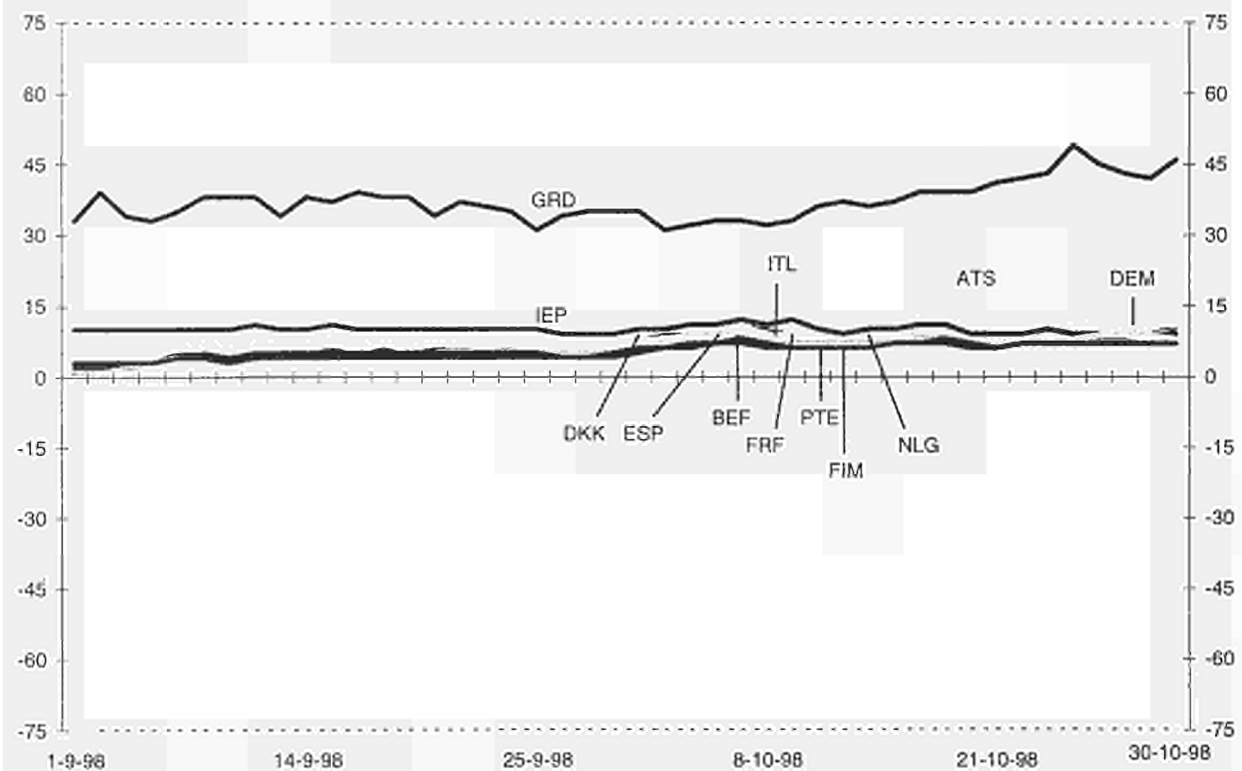




TABLE A

ECU exchange rates

	BEFLUF	DKK	DEM	GRD	ESP	FRF	IEP	ITL	NLG	ATS
Yearly averages										
1985	43.7979	7.93565	2.12819	137.425	137.456	6.79976	0.733526	1461.88	2.40090	14.9643
1987	43.0410	7.88472	2.07153	156.268	142.165	6.92910	0.775448	1494.91	2.33418	14.5710
1988	43.4285	7.95152	2.07440	167.576	137.601	7.03644	0.775672	1537.33	2.33479	14.5861
1989	43.3808	8.04929	2.07015	178.840	130.406	7.02387	0.776818	1510.47	2.33526	14.5695
1990	42.4257	7.85652	2.05209	201.412	129.411	6.91412	0.767768	1521.98	2.31212	14.4399
1991	42.2233	7.90859	2.05076	225.216	128.469	6.97332	0.767809	1533.24	2.31098	14.4309
1992	41.5932	7.80925	2.02031	247.026	132.526	6.84839	0.760718	1595.51	2.27482	14.2169
1993	40.4713	7.59359	1.93639	268.568	149.124	6.63368	0.799952	1841.23	2.17521	13.6238
1994	39.6585	7.54328	1.92452	288.026	158.918	6.58261	0.793618	1915.06	2.15827	13.5395
1995	38.5519	7.32804	1.87375	302.989	163.000	6.52506	0.815525	2130.14	2.09891	13.1824
1996	39.2986	7.35934	1.90954	305.546	160.748	6.49300	0.793448	1958.96	2.13973	13.4345
1997	40.5332	7.48361	1.96438	309.355	165.887	6.61260	0.747516	1929.30	2.21081	13.8240
Monthly averages										
10/97	40.5894	7.49217	1.96767	309.904	166.076	6.60102	0.762570	1927.77	2.21689	13.8489
11/97	40.7101	7.51239	1.97368	309.754	166.681	6.60894	0.758037	1933.78	2.22450	13.8913
12/97	40.7842	7.52606	1.97583	310.863	167.119	6.61400	0.763225	1937.16	2.22661	13.9023
01/98	40.7587	7.52552	1.97581	312.325	167.474	6.61682	0.786808	1944.67	2.22663	13.9005
02/98	40.7822	7.52754	1.97517	312.364	167.396	6.62071	0.791085	1949.13	2.22627	13.8975
03/98	40.8503	7.54812	1.98022	331.641	167.911	6.63830	0.792582	1949.91	2.23191	13.9316
04/98	40.8494	7.54864	1.97947	345.012	168.074	6.63548	0.785439	1955.17	2.22898	13.9270
05/98	40.8035	7.50033	1.96831	340.314	167.205	6.60041	0.782039	1941.08	2.21810	13.8501
06/98	40.7074	7.51669	1.97348	334.766	167.513	6.61680	0.783182	1944.26	2.22445	13.8856
07/98	40.8916	7.51895	1.97320	328.679	167.463	6.61523	0.784437	1945.48	2.22448	13.8827
08/98	40.6210	7.50303	1.96980	331.643	167.189	6.60389	0.784756	1943.55	2.22143	13.8598
09/98	40.5111	7.47931	1.96381	337.886	166.780	6.58490	0.784518	1940.26	2.21528	13.8181
10/98	40.3589	7.43872	1.95626	336.530	166.258	6.55928	0.784383	1935.39	2.20611	13.7638
Daily rates:										
10-98										
01/10	40.4271	7.45293	1.95955	338.216	166.523	6.57081	0.784299	1937.27	2.21012	13.7875
02/10	40.3860	7.44464	1.95763	340.239	166.355	6.56433	0.784074	1935.74	2.20718	13.7738
05/10	40.3440	7.43934	1.95546	339.950	166.184	6.55706	0.783285	1933.99	2.20434	13.7588
06/10	40.3339	7.43409	1.95502	339.587	166.184	6.55516	0.782710	1933.00	2.20423	13.7558
07/10	40.2916	7.42542	1.95257	339.166	165.974	6.54693	0.782230	1930.80	2.20157	13.7381
08/10	40.3507	7.43742	1.95572	339.908	166.239	6.55732	0.783312	1934.77	2.20541	13.7609
09/10	40.3792	7.44267	1.95731	339.207	166.401	6.56182	0.782335	1937.70	2.20715	13.7706
12/10	40.3849	7.44232	1.95757	337.584	166.390	6.56311	0.784734	1937.95	2.20735	13.7724
01/10	40.3919	7.44310	1.95783	337.433	166.401	6.56401	0.785417	1938.08	2.20773	13.7745
14/10	40.3807	7.44141	1.95718	337.619	166.321	6.56260	0.784713	1936.81	2.20723	13.7700
15/10	40.3503	7.43752	1.95575	337.205	166.218	6.55802	0.784129	1935.37	2.20594	13.7604
16/10	40.3046	7.42908	1.95367	336.033	166.065	6.55101	0.783375	1933.37	2.20366	13.7455
18/10	40.3285	7.43313	1.95475	336.319	166.151	6.55449	0.783799	1934.21	2.20481	13.7526
20/10	40.3827	7.44517	1.95746	336.295	166.369	6.56374	0.785150	1936.23	2.20751	13.7723
21/10	40.4017	7.44643	1.95836	335.271	166.449	6.56636	0.785478	1937.25	2.20859	13.7777
22/10	40.3855	7.44328	1.95751	334.542	166.329	6.56335	0.785192	1936.56	2.20753	13.7725
23/10	40.3645	7.43891	1.95654	334.144	166.226	6.56023	0.784883	1936.16	2.20649	13.7667
24/10	40.3607	7.43859	1.95643	331.024	166.205	6.55970	0.785258	1935.38	2.20651	13.7655
27/10	40.3333	7.43420	1.95513	332.961	166.115	6.55509	0.785296	1934.21	2.20505	13.7554
28/10	40.3343	7.43378	1.95514	333.912	166.121	6.55521	0.785391	1934.38	2.20512	13.7558
29/10	40.3336	7.43281	1.95519	334.534	166.182	6.55555	0.785450	1934.45	2.20506	13.7557
30/10	40.3471	7.43564	1.95594	332.497	166.266	6.55831	0.785915	1934.99	2.20576	13.7614

TABLE II
Ecu exchange rates

PTE	FIM	SEK	GBP	ISK	NOK	CHF	USD	YEN	
Yearly averages									
147.088	4.97974	6.99567	0.671543	40.3813	7.27750	1.76086	0.98417	164.997	1986
162.616	5.06517	7.31001	0.704571	44.5548	7.76498	1.71780	1.15444	166.598	1987
170.059	4.94362	7.24192	0.664434	50.7794	7.70054	1.72822	1.18248	151.459	1988
173.413	4.72301	7.09939	0.673302	62.8909	7.60381	1.80010	1.10175	151.938	1989
181.109	4.85496	7.52051	0.713851	74.0013	7.94851	1.76218	1.27343	183.660	1990
178.614	5.00211	7.47926	0.701012	73.0052	8.01701	1.77245	1.23916	166.493	1991
174.714	5.80703	7.53295	0.737650	74.6584	8.04177	1.81776	1.29810	164.223	1992
188.370	6.69628	9.12151	0.779988	79.2528	8.30954	1.73019	1.17100	130.147	1993
196.896	6.19077	9.16307	0.775902	83.1063	8.37420	1.62128	1.18952	121.322	1994
196.105	5.70855	9.33192	0.828789	84.6853	8.28575	1.54574	1.30801	123.012	1995
195.761	5.82817	8.51472	0.813798	84.6558	8.19659	1.56790	1.26975	138.084	1996
198.589	5.88064	8.65117	0.692304	80.4391	8.01861	1.64400	1.13404	137.077	1997
Monthly averages									
200.441	5.89698	8.47984	0.686745	80.1144	7.92649	1.62592	1.12032	135.511	10/97
201.461	5.94900	8.61943	0.674938	80.9838	8.04275	1.60288	1.13937	142.621	11/97
201.944	5.97119	8.65764	0.669259	79.7481	8.06389	1.59858	1.11158	143.935	12/97
202.106	5.98039	8.71746	0.665059	79.2567	8.15556	1.60421	1.08772	140.848	01/98
202.202	5.99054	8.79515	0.663871	78.7124	8.22898	1.59298	1.08845	136.805	02/98
202.667	6.00974	8.63924	0.652638	78.6581	8.22111	1.61366	1.08433	139.874	03/98
202.812	6.00914	8.53429	0.652620	78.5143	8.21802	1.64290	1.09106	144.149	04/98
201.639	5.98225	8.53511	0.677435	79.1257	8.26383	1.63941	1.10905	149.674	05/98
202.070	5.99757	8.71246	0.666963	78.5942	8.34270	1.64544	1.10140	154.352	06/98
201.883	5.99778	8.76700	0.667657	78.5298	8.36647	1.66118	1.09750	154.346	07/98
201.638	5.99023	8.95780	0.674511	78.9752	8.51007	1.64631	1.10157	159.374	08/98
201.324	5.97763	9.12093	0.686664	80.8220	8.74114	1.61738	1.15413	155.301	09/98
200.645	5.95237	9.36648	0.704593	81.7271	8.87782	1.59554	1.19376	144.172	10/98
Daily rates:									
10-98									
200.983	5.96482	9.28421	0.696522	81.7814	8.73801	1.61899	1.18868	160.758	01/10
200.730	5.96002	9.48055	0.701247	81.9868	8.95153	1.61221	1.19689	160.598	02/10
200.557	5.95344	9.60027	0.706604	82.3086	8.94128	1.61400	1.19600	161.519	05/10
200.481	5.95201	9.52670	0.707918	81.9484	8.90187	1.60883	1.19128	158.107	06/10
200.186	5.94455	9.42680	0.714020	82.3634	8.87577	1.59677	1.21105	149.504	07/10
200.602	5.95418	9.52950	0.705733	81.4286	8.90346	1.56845	1.21210	141.755	08/10
200.771	5.95907	9.54651	0.701799	81.4886	8.95273	1.58859	1.19713	141.201	09/10
200.833	5.95976	9.45872	0.701097	81.3746	8.91847	1.58515	1.18605	140.155	12/10
200.950	5.96065	9.37844	0.700397	81.3611	8.93853	1.58877	1.19053	142.686	13/10
200.779	5.95867	9.45946	0.702004	81.8177	9.07037	1.58563	1.19355	142.557	14/10
200.655	5.95040	9.53549	0.705462	82.1145	9.14787	1.59125	1.19823	141.091	15/10
200.444	5.94401	9.48842	0.710818	82.0269	9.06004	1.58322	1.21180	137.988	16/10
200.590	5.94339	9.36002	0.708110	81.6280	8.96738	1.58684	1.20627	137.768	19/10
200.848	5.95261	9.38490	0.701493	81.4360	8.95497	1.59639	1.19759	140.058	20/10
200.917	5.95536	9.24379	0.699390	81.2804	8.81681	1.60712	1.19267	137.968	21/10
200.716	5.95180	9.22885	0.701642	81.1679	8.79695	1.60144	1.18493	140.592	22/10
200.577	5.94984	9.17900	0.703989	81.5276	8.78388	1.59956	1.19192	141.398	23/10
200.559	5.94914	9.09685	0.704639	81.7046	8.70710	1.59749	1.18464	140.759	26/10
200.448	5.94559	9.15023	0.707720	81.7620	8.68324	1.60002	1.17779	140.428	27/10
200.475	5.94652	9.27594	0.707542	81.8054	8.74127	1.58566	1.18421	138.956	28/10
200.497	5.94736	9.19574	0.707318	81.8466	8.73879	1.59130	1.18532	138.292	29/10
200.590	5.94903	9.23209	0.705591	81.8368	8.72180	1.59423	1.18398	137.638	30/10

TABLE III
Change in the purchasing power of the ECU
 (Harmonised indices of consumer prices adjusted for ECU exchange rate changes)

1996=100

	EUR-11	EU-15	ERM*	ECU	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L
1995	96.9¢	96.6¢	99.8¢	98.5¢	100.2	98.4	100.7	93.5	95.3	97.5	95.2¢	88.5	100.
1996	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.
1997	99.9	102.9	99.9	101.8	98.4	100.3	98.6	104.1	98.7	99.4	107.4	103.4	98.
1995 01	95.8¢	96.1¢	97.6¢	97.1¢	98.1	95.3	98.3	92.3	92.7	95.8	95.8¢	91.4	98.
02	96.2	96.3	98.5	97.6	98.9	96.1	99.5	91.4	93.3	96.1	95.5	90.4	99.
03	95.6¢	95.5¢	99.4¢	98.2¢	100.6	96.9	101.4	92.3	91.1	96.5	93.7¢	83.4	101.
04	95.7¢	95.5¢	100.1¢	98.6¢	101.1	98.9	101.6	93.2	93.0	97.6	94.0¢	81.3	101.
05	96.5	96.3	99.9	98.5	100.7	99.3	101.3	94.2	95.2	96.5	95.1	86.0	101.
06	96.8¢	96.5¢	100.1¢	98.7¢	100.7	99.2	101.4	94.8	95.8	97.0	95.2¢	86.6	101.
07	97.1¢	96.4¢	100.3¢	98.6¢	100.7	98.7	101.4	92.5	96.3	97.5	94.6¢	87.5	101.
08	97.5	97.1	100.0	98.6	100.1	98.5	100.4	92.8	96.8	98.3	95.9	90.6	100.
09	97.7¢	97.5¢	100.1¢	98.9¢	100.0	99.0	100.3	94.6	96.6	98.4	96.4¢	91.4	100.
10	97.6¢	97.2¢	100.3¢	98.9¢	100.5	99.7	101.0	94.2	96.5	98.0	95.3¢	89.9	101.
11	98.0	97.4	100.5	99.0	100.4	99.7	100.6	93.9	97.3	99.1	95.0	91.0	101.
12	98.3¢	97.9¢	100.6¢	99.1¢	100.4	99.6	100.7	95.1	98.4	99.0	95.6¢	92.5	101.
1996 01	98.7¢	98.0¢	99.8¢	98.9¢	100.5	99.2	100.4	94.7	99.5	99.3	95.8¢	94.4	100.
02	99.2	98.5	100.1	99.3	100.5	99.7	100.8	94.1	99.7	99.3	96.6	95.7	100.
03	99.7¢	99.1¢	100.4¢	99.8¢	100.5	100.2	100.6	97.6	99.9	100.2	97.0¢	97.1	100.
04	100.0¢	99.6¢	100.4¢	100.0¢	100.5	100.1	100.1	99.8	101.0	100.7	97.7¢	98.7	100.
05	100.4	100.2	100.2	100.1	100.2	99.8	99.9	101.5	100.8	100.7	99.2	100.9	99.
06	100.3¢	100.3¢	99.9¢	100.1¢	99.8	99.8	99.9	101.9	99.6	100.3	100.1¢	101.6	99.
07	100.3¢	100.1¢	100.1¢	100.0¢	99.7	99.8	100.3	100.2	99.7	100.3	99.8¢	101.1	99.
08	100.4	100.0	100.2	100.0	100.2	100.2	100.7	99.5	100.0	99.8	99.9	100.9	100.
09	100.5¢	100.5¢	100.1¢	100.3¢	100.0	100.6	100.0	101.9	100.5	99.9	101.4¢	101.9	100.
10	100.5¢	101.0¢	99.9¢	100.5¢	99.8	100.6	99.5	103.4	100.1	100.3	102.1¢	102.6	99.
11	100.0	101.1	99.6	100.5	99.4	100.2	99.0	102.6	99.7	99.7	104.2	102.2	99.
12	100.1¢	101.6¢	100.1¢	100.7¢	99.1	99.8	98.7	103.0	99.5	99.6	106.6¢	103.5	98.
1997 01	100.2	102.0	100.2	101.0	99.0	99.7	98.8	102.7	99.5	99.4	106.8	104.0	98.
02	99.9	102.1	99.9	101.2	98.7	99.9	99.0	102.1	98.4	99.5	108.9	102.8	98.
03	99.9	102.1	99.9	101.3	98.4	100.3	99.0	104.2	98.4	99.8	108.9	102.0	98.
04	99.7	102.4	99.7	101.4	98.3	100.2	98.5	104.2	98.5	99.5	108.6	102.6	98.
05	100.0	102.7	100.0	101.7	98.8	101.0	98.9	103.8	98.6	99.6	105.6	103.2	98.
06	99.9	102.9	99.9	101.8	98.5	100.9	98.8	104.6	98.3	99.2	106.6	103.6	98.
07	99.4	103.3	99.4	102.0	97.9	99.5	98.3	102.6	97.8	98.3	108.7	103.6	97.
08	99.7	103.4	99.7	102.2	97.9	99.9	98.6	103.2	98.4	98.9	108.3	103.4	97.
09	100.2	103.5	100.2	102.2	98.4	100.7	98.7	104.7	99.3	99.7	108.2	104.0	98.
10	100.2	103.5	100.2	102.2	98.6	100.6	98.6	105.3	99.3	99.8	105.6	104.0	98.
11	100.0	103.6	100.0	102.4	98.4	100.4	98.2	105.8	99.0	99.9	106.6	104.0	98.
12	100.0	103.8	100.0	102.4	98.0	100.0	98.3	106.2	99.1	99.8	106.2	103.9	98.
1998 01	99.8	103.6	99.8	102.2	98.1	100.1	98.3	104.8	99.0	99.4	102.3	103.8	98.
02	100.0	103.8	100.0	102.6	98.3	100.5	98.6	104.2	98.8	99.7	102.3	103.9	98.
03	99.8	104.0	99.8	102.7	97.9	100.4	98.1	100.9	98.6	99.7	102.6	104.0	98.
04	100.1	104.2	99.9	103.0	98.5	100.6	98.4	98.3	98.7	99.9	104.1	103.9	98.
05	100.9	104.4	100.7	103.3	99.6	101.7	99.4	100.0	99.4	100.5	105.0	104.8	99.
06	100.7	104.5	100.6	103.3	99.2	101.5	99.3	101.9	99.2	100.4	105.3	104.7	98.
07	100.8	104.4	100.6	103.2	99.5	101.1	99.5	101.6	99.7	100.0	104.8	104.7	99.
08	100.9	104.4	100.8	103.3	99.3	101.2	99.6	100.8	100.2	100.3	105.0	104.9	99.
09	101.1p	104.3p	101.0p	103.3p	99.4	101.9	99.5	100.9	100.4	100.7	105.3	105.1	99.

p=provisional

n.a. = not available

r=revised

¢=estimated

* Greece is included in the March 1998 data

TABLE III
Change in the purchasing power of the ECU
(Harmonised indices of consumer prices adjusted for ECU exchange rate changes)

1996=100

NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	N	CH **	US **	JP **	
100.5	100.2	97.0	101.0	90.7	95.7r	97.8	98.2	100.6	94.3	112.7	1995
100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	1996
98.6	98.3	100.5	100.3	100.2	119.7	107.2	104.9	95.9	114.7	102.7	1997
98.0	98.2	95.7	98.0	89.9	98.8	97.7	96.9	96.3	98.0	111.5	1995 01
99.2	99.0	96.5	98.9	90.0	97.7	98.2	97.4	97.1	97.0	111.2	02
101.9	101.1	97.2	100.0	87.8	95.7	97.2	98.4	100.6	93.0	115.4	03
102.2	101.1	97.3	100.6	85.9	95.0	97.4	97.8	101.9	91.6	122.7	04
101.6	100.8	97.1	101.2	87.8	95.6	97.8	98.0	100.6	93.2	123.2	05
101.2	100.8	96.6	101.0	87.5	95.3	97.9	98.4	100.9	92.7	122.7	06
100.2	100.6	96.6	101.2	87.3	93.9	97.7	98.2	100.0	91.8	117.2	07
99.5	99.8	97.5	102.7	89.4	95.7	98.2	98.3	99.9	94.9	111.6	08
100.4	99.8	97.2	102.3	92.4	96.7	98.3	99.0	101.8	96.3	107.0	09
101.1	100.4	97.2	102.2	94.3	95.2	98.0	99.1	102.9	94.1	103.6	10
100.8	100.2	97.4	102.3	97.5	94.1	97.6	98.7	102.9	93.9	102.1	11
100.1	99.9	97.2	101.6	98.1	94.7	97.8	98.3	102.6	95.3	103.6	12
99.9	100.6	98.3	100.7	97.1	94.9	97.9	97.7	102.5	96.7	100.7	1996 01
100.4	100.8	98.5	99.0	95.4	95.8	98.2	98.3	101.7	97.3	100.8	02
101.4	100.9	98.9	98.6	98.6	96.3	98.8	98.7	102.3	98.4	101.3	03
101.2	100.3	100.0	97.4	100.6	97.4	99.9	99.4	101.7	100.0	102.1	04
100.4	99.7	99.8	98.5	100.9	99.0	100.8	99.7	100.0	101.6	104.5	05
99.6	99.9	99.5	99.9	101.8	100.3	100.6	100.0	99.5	101.2	101.3	06
99.3	100.1	100.0	100.3	100.8	99.0	99.9	100.3	99.8	100.0	99.4	07
99.6	100.3	100.9	101.3	99.8	98.4	100.0	99.7	101.6	99.2	99.6	08
100.3	99.8	101.0	101.3	101.4	100.6	100.4	100.5	100.4	100.6	99.3	09
99.9	99.4	101.2	101.5	102.9	103.0	101.1	101.5	99.3	101.8	98.1	10
99.3	99.3	101.0	100.3	100.8	106.6	100.9	101.9	96.4	100.5	96.5	11
98.7	99.1	100.7	100.7	100.0	109.2	101.5	102.3	94.6	102.7	97.2	12
98.1	98.5	101.5	100.6	99.6	111.7	102.8	106.6	93.2	105.9	96.5	1997 01
98.1	98.8	101.0	100.6	99.0	114.4	104.0	108.4	93.1	110.9	96.3	02
99.0	99.0	101.2	100.5	97.6	114.8	104.4	107.4	93.6	112.6	98.0r	03
98.8	98.5	101.0	100.1	98.4	117.3	105.7	105.0	94.3	113.2	98.0	04
99.0	98.6	101.3	99.9	98.3	117.6	106.2	103.5	95.7	112.8	103.7	05
98.1	98.3	100.5	100.4	98.4	119.9	107.4	102.7	96.1	114.1	108.7	06
97.4	97.5	99.8	100.7	100.2	125.0	109.7	102.0	96.1	117.6	110.6	07
97.9	97.8	100.1	100.3	101.1	124.1	110.9	102.4	97.1	121.3	111.4	08
99.3	98.1	100.1	100.6	103.5	121.2	109.8	104.5	97.3	118.7	106.8	09
99.4	98.2	99.7	100.7	103.5	121.4	108.7	106.4	97.0	116.7	104.9	10
99.1	98.2	99.7	99.7	101.6	123.6	107.4	105.0	98.2	114.8	99.0	11
98.6	98.3	99.7	99.3	101.2	124.9	108.9	104.8	98.6	117.4	97.9	12
98.0	98.4	99.5	99.3	100.1	124.8	110.0	104.1	98.3	120.2	100.0	1998 01
98.7	98.7	99.2	99.1	99.1	125.4	110.6	103.4	99.1	120.4	102.8	02
99.5	98.5	99.3	99.0	101.2	127.9	111.0	104.1	97.7	121.1	101.0	03
100.0	98.7	100.0	99.5	102.8	128.7	111.4	104.2	96.0	120.6	98.1	04
100.3	99.0	101.3	100.1	103.1	124.5	110.8	103.5	96.1	118.8	94.8	05
99.6	98.6	101.2	100.1	100.8	126.4	111.8	102.8	95.7	119.8	91.6	06
99.3	98.6	101.5	99.6	99.9	125.5	111.4	102.6	94.7	120.3	91.0	07
99.4	98.8	101.5	99.9	97.2	124.7	110.1	100.4	95.8	120.0	88.1	08
100.6p	98.9p	101.5	100.5	96.0	123.1	107.6	98.5	n.a.	114.8	n.a.	09

p=provisional

n.a. = not available

r=revised

** Important: This data refers to the non-harmonised consumer price indices expressed in ECU, base year 1996=100



TABLE IV

Change in the purchasing power of the ECU

(Non-harmonized indices of consumer prices adjusted for ECU exchange rate changes)

1985=100										
	EU-15	ERM*	ECU	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL
1991	124.7	123.4	122.2	121.9	125.8	120.4	122.9	145.5	117.1	113.0
1992	126.2	128.1	126.8	126.7	130.1	127.1	129.9	149.6	122.1	117.6
1993	126.2	132.5	131.0	133.8	135.5	137.3	136.7	139.3	128.7	113.6
1994	131.1	135.6	134.6	139.8	139.1	142.0	141.3	136.4	131.8	117.0
1995	132.8	140.7	138.0	146.0	146.2	148.5	146.8	139.3	135.4	116.8
1996	135.0	142.6	141.1	146.1	148.6	147.9	158.0	146.2	138.8	122.1
1997	142.5	141.8	143.9	144.0	149.4	146.3	164.7	144.5	137.9	131.4
1995 01	132.0	137.5	136.2	142.8	141.4	145.0	144.4	135.5	133.0	118.3
02	132.2	138.6	136.8	144.1	142.6	146.5	143.1	136.4	133.5	117.1
03	130.8	139.9	137.2	146.5	143.8	149.5	145.1	133.1	134.1	114.4
04	130.8	141.0	137.7	147.3	146.7	149.9	146.6	135.9	135.4	115.6
05	132.1	140.7	137.9	146.5	147.6	149.3	147.8	139.2	134.1	116.7
06	132.5	141.1	138.1	146.6	147.4	149.5	149.2	140.2	134.8	116.6
07	132.5	141.4	138.2	147.0	146.8	149.5	144.8	140.9	135.5	116.7
08	133.6	141.2	138.5	146.1	146.4	148.3	145.1	141.5	136.5	117.8
09	134.2	141.2	138.8	145.6	147.2	148.2	148.9	141.3	136.6	118.1
10	133.7	141.5	138.8	146.4	148.2	149.1	148.8	141.3	136.0	116.9
11	134.0	141.9	138.9	146.5	148.4	148.7	148.1	142.4	137.5	116.3
12	134.6	142.0	139.2	146.2	148.0	148.8	149.2	143.9	137.4	116.8
1996 01	135.2	142.3	139.5	146.9	147.5	148.3	149.0	145.6	137.9	117.8
02	135.8	142.6	140.1	147.1	148.2	149.0	147.8	145.9	137.8	118.0
03	136.6	143.0	140.5	146.9	148.9	148.7	154.1	146.2	138.9	118.0
04	137.4	143.1	140.9	146.4	148.6	148.1	157.9	147.7	139.7	119.6
05	138.1	142.8	141.1	145.4	148.4	147.7	160.3	147.4	139.7	121.1
06	138.4	142.4	141.1	145.2	148.3	147.7	161.6	145.6	139.2	122.0
07	138.3	142.8	141.3	146.2	148.3	148.4	157.9	145.7	139.3	122.5
08	138.1	143.0	141.3	147.1	148.9	148.9	156.8	146.3	138.4	121.9
09	138.9	142.8	141.6	146.3	149.5	148.1	161.6	146.9	138.6	123.1
10	139.5	142.5	141.8	145.7	149.5	147.2	164.2	146.3	139.1	124.7
11	139.7	141.9	141.8	145.3	148.9	146.5	162.2	145.7	138.3	127.2
12	140.3	142.0	142.1	144.8	148.6	146.1	162.4	145.4	138.1	129.5
1997 01	141.0	142.1	142.6	145.1	148.7	146.2	161.8	145.5	137.9	130.3
02	141.2	141.8	143.0	144.6	148.6	146.6	160.6	144.0	137.9	133.0
03	141.1	141.6	143.0	144.1	148.8	146.5	164.7	143.9	138.3	133.0
04	141.6	141.4	143.2	143.4	148.8	145.9	165.1	144.2	137.9	132.6
05	142.0	141.9	143.6	143.7	150.0	146.6	164.2	144.4	138.1	129.2
06	142.4	141.7	143.7	143.6	149.9	146.4	165.8	143.8	137.6	130.4
07	143.0	141.2	144.1	143.5	148.3	146.0	161.9	143.3	136.3	133.1
08	143.2	141.7	144.4	144.0	149.2	146.4	162.7	143.9	137.1	132.8
09	143.4	142.3	144.7	144.0	150.2	146.5	165.9	145.3	138.2	132.6
10	143.4	142.2	144.7	144.1	150.3	146.4	167.4	145.3	138.5	129.5
11	143.7	142.1	144.9	144.0	150.1	146.0	167.7	145.0	138.5	130.8
12	143.8	142.0	145.0	143.7	149.6	146.1	167.8	145.0	138.4	130.3
1998 01	143.7	141.9	144.8	143.7	149.5	146.1	165.2	145.0	137.9	125.6
02	144.0	142.1	145.3	143.9	150.1	146.5	164.0	144.7	138.3	125.6
03	144.2	141.8	145.4	143.4	150.0	145.9	159.9	144.4	138.2	125.9
04	144.6	142.0	146.0	144.0	150.3	146.3	156.0	144.7	138.6	127.7
05	144.9	143.1	146.4	145.6	152.0	147.6	158.6	145.7	139.4	128.7
06	145.1	143.0	146.4	145.1	151.6	147.4	162.1	145.4	139.2	129.2
07	145.0	143.1	146.4	145.5	151.4	147.7	160.7	145.9	138.6	128.6
08	145.1	143.4	146.5	145.2	151.9	147.9	159.4	146.6	139.1	128.9
09	145.0p	143.7p	146.7p	145.6	153.0	148.0	160.3	147.1	139.5	129.4

p=provisional

n.a. = not available

r=revised

* Greece is included in the March 1998 data

TABLE IV
Change in the purchasing power of the ECU
 (Non-harmonised indices of consumer prices adjusted for ECU exchange rate changes)

1985=100										
I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	N	
132.1	119.6	117.7	124.7	137.9	124.8	128.8	118.5	n.a.	113.7	1991
133.9	125.2	123.3	131.7	153.8	110.9	131.0	117.2	117.2	116.0	1992
121.0	133.3	132.3	142.4	152.1	98.0	113.2	112.2	115.0	114.8	1993
120.9	139.0	137.1	147.5	152.8	107.2	115.1	115.6	111.2	115.5	1994
114.3	145.8	143.7	154.9	159.7	117.3	116.0	111.9	110.9	119.6	1995
129.3	145.0	143.9	154.8	165.1	115.5	127.5	116.9	113.5	122.4	1996
133.8	142.5	142.4	152.5	165.6	115.9	126.1	141.7	121.6r	130.2	1997
118.3	142.8	139.9	150.9	157.4	113.3	115.0	115.2	111.0	117.8	1995 01
117.0	143.9	141.5	152.5	159.0	114.4	115.0	114.1	111.7	118.4	02
107.8	146.5	145.1	156.0	160.2	115.8	112.1	111.5	110.4	119.6	03
104.9	147.1	145.5	156.2	160.2	116.7	109.7	111.1	110.3	119.0	04
111.0	146.6	144.7	155.6	159.9	117.3	112.2	111.8	110.8	119.1	05
111.8	146.7	144.2	155.9	159.0	117.4	111.9	111.6	111.0	119.7	06
112.9	146.4	143.8	156.7	159.2	117.6	111.9	110.0	110.7	119.6	07
117.1	145.1	142.8	156.2	160.7	119.4	114.4	112.1	111.3	119.8	08
118.1	145.2	143.9	154.7	160.2	119.0	118.1	113.2	111.7	120.7	09
116.2	146.5	144.9	155.3	160.4	118.9	120.7	111.2	111.1	120.8	10
117.6	146.2	144.5	154.8	160.7	119.1	124.7	110.0	110.6	120.3	11
119.5	146.0	143.8	154.3	160.0	118.2	125.5	110.6	110.9	120.0	12
122.0	145.7	143.8	154.6	161.5	116.7	124.7	110.7	111.2	119.6	1996 01
123.7	145.7	144.2	155.2	162.2	114.6	122.4	111.9	111.4	120.2	02
125.3	145.8	145.2	155.6	163.2	114.0	126.3	112.3	112.1	120.9	03
127.5	145.5	144.7	154.6	165.1	112.6	128.6	113.8	113.0	121.7	04
130.2	144.9	143.8	153.6	165.0	113.8	128.7	115.6	114.4	122.0	05
131.3	144.5	142.8	154.3	164.3	115.4	129.8	117.1	114.0	122.4	06
130.6	144.6	143.3	155.9	165.1	115.7	128.5	115.9	113.3	122.7	07
130.4	145.4	143.9	157.5	166.6	117.1	127.0	115.0	113.6	122.1	08
131.7	144.9	144.6	155.6	166.7	117.1	128.8	117.5	114.3	123.2	09
132.6	144.5	144.1	154.3	167.3	117.4	130.6	120.5	114.9	124.2	10
132.2	144.5	143.4	153.8	166.9	115.9	127.9	124.6	114.6	124.8	11
133.8	143.6	142.5	153.0	166.5	116.2	126.7	127.8	115.2	125.3	12
134.6	142.6	142.1	152.4	167.7	116.0	125.8	131.1	116.7	130.2	1997 01
133.1	142.7	142.1	152.7	166.2	116.2	124.9	134.5	118.1	n.a.	02
131.8	142.7	142.8	153.2	166.4	116.1	122.9	135.0	118.4	n.a.	03
132.6	142.2	142.3	152.4	166.5	115.8	123.9	138.3	119.7	n.a.	04
133.3	142.4	142.8	152.3	167.0	115.4	123.6	138.7	120.4	n.a.	05
134.0	142.0	141.7	152.2	166.0	116.0	123.9	141.7	121.9	n.a.	06
133.9	141.2	141.2	152.2	164.8	116.4	126.4	148.2	124.6	n.a.	07
133.9	141.7	141.7	153.5	164.5	115.8	127.4	147.3	125.9	n.a.	08
134.7	142.7	143.5	152.5	164.5	116.3	130.0	144.1	124.6	n.a.	09
134.3	143.4	143.5	152.3	164.3	116.5	129.8	144.5	123.3	n.a.	10
134.6	143.3	143.2	152.0	164.7	115.3	127.5	147.1	121.8	n.a.	11
134.4	142.9	142.6	151.7	164.6	114.9	126.9	148.7	123.5	n.a.	12
134.5	142.6	142.1	152.2	164.8	114.7	124.9	149.2	125.0	n.a.	1998 01
134.5	142.5	142.9	152.5	164.6	114.7	123.7	150.2	125.5	n.a.	02
134.3	142.4	143.8	152.5	164.7	114.6	126.1	153.3	126.1	n.a.	03
134.2	142.2	144.2	152.7	165.7	115.2	128.0	154.9	126.6	n.a.	04
135.3	143.5	144.8	153.0	167.6	115.5	128.2	150.1	126.1	n.a.	05
135.4	143.0	143.9	152.8	167.7	115.5	125.4	152.4	127.1	n.a.	06
135.3	143.3	144.1	154.1	168.1	115.1	124.3	151.9	126.9	n.a.	07
135.6	143.7	144.3	155.3	168.3	115.4	121.0	151.0	125.5	n.a.	08
136.0	144.0	146.0p	154.3p	168.4	116.1	119.4	148.9	122.8	n.a.	09

p=provisional

n.a. = not available

r=revised

TABLE V
ECU bond issues(*)

(Mio ECU)

	TOTAL EURO	European Union				Non-European Union				Domestic**	EURO + DOMESTIC
		Total	Business sector	Govern- ments	Institu- tions	Total	Business sector	Govern- ments	Organi- sations		
1991	27 163	19 266	6 581	7 900	4 785	7 897	3 932	3 790	175	3 134	30 297
1992	19 242	11 675	4 870	2 475	4 330	7 567	3 902	2 850	815	4 151	23 393
1993	6 870	5 020	1 565	250	3 205	1 850	250	1 600	0	6 508	13 378
1994	6 485	5 010	1 825	1 300	1 885	1 475	1 075	400	0	7 311	13 796
1995	5 596	5 046	956	3 075	1 015	550	550	0	0	6 784	12 380
1996	3 180	3 180	2 215	115	850	0	0	0	0	8 216	11 396
1997	7 745	6 745	3 775	1 320	1 650	1 000	600	400	0	10 205	17 950
1997 II	1 820	1 670	670	1 000	0	150	150	0	0	2 160	3 980
III	810	810	710	0	100	0	0	0	0	3 451	4 261
IV	1 820	970	650	320	0	850	450	400	0	2 020	3 840
1998 I	15 930	14 155	7 030	5 000	2 125	1 775	375	1 400	0	2 219	18 149
II	24 901	16 913	11 213	5 500	200	7 988	2 600	5 088	300	2 801	27 702
III	18 784	14 059	10 808	3 141	110	4 725	3 275	950	500	3 202	21 986
1998 08	4 656	3 156	2 776	380	0	1 500	1 500	0	0	1 486	6 142
09	5 968	4 593	2 132	2 461	0	1 375	875	0	500	960	6 928
10	4 717	4 277	1 614	2 663	0	440	360	0	80	1 490	6 207

(*) Recording based on the payment date

(**) Only domestic issues which can be assimilated with Eurobonds

p=provisional

r=revised

n.a. = not available

TABLE VI
Last month's ECU bond issues

Issue Payment Date	Borrower & country	Amount Issued (Mio Ecu)	Issue Price	Coupon	Term (years)	Maturity	Lead Manager	Listing	Notice
01.10.1998 07.10.1998	FRANCE OAT	610	99.54	4.00	10.6	25.04.09	AU	PA	
01.10.1998 14.10.1998	GENERAL ELECTRIC CAPITAL CORPORATION	200	102.125	4.00	7	14.10.05	WDR	LU	
01.10.1998 21.10.1998	PIRELLI SPA	500	101.586	4.875	10.1	21.10.08	MEDITOCREDITO/JP MORGAN/PARIBAS	LU	
08.10.1998 20.10.1998	AUSTRIA	1000	99.916	3.90	7	20.10.05	ABN AMRO/NOMURA	LU	
12.10.1998 14.10.1998	GENERAL ELECTRIC CAPITAL CORPORATION	100	100.295	4.00	7	14.10.05	WDR	LU	
13.10.1998 29.10.1998	SUEDWESTDEUTSCHE LANDESBANK	54	100	3.77	7	28.10.05	WAKO INTERNATIONAL (EUROPE)	UNLISTED	
14.10.1998 22.10.1998	DENMARK	100	100	3.40	5.4	23.03.04	DAIWA EUROPE	LU	
15.10.1998 22.10.1998	FRANCE BTAN	372	100.84	4.00	1.7	12.07.00	AU	PA	
15.10.1998 22.10.1998	FRANCE BTAN	508	103.08	4.50	4.7	12.07.03	AU	PA	
19.10.1998 26.10.1998	ITALY	500	99.342	4.00	7	26.10.05	WDR	LU	
21.10.1998 12.11.1998	IBERDROLA SA	275	100	4.10	5.1	12.11.03	BANCO BILBAO VIZCAYA	LU	
22.10.1998 28.10.1998	INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (IADB)	60	99.98	3.15	4.0	24.10.02	NOMURA INTL		
22.10.1998 09.11.1998	AUSTRIA	500	98.93	3.90	7.0	20.10.05	ABN AMRO	LU	
22.10.1998 19.11.1998	BEI/EIB	300	100.65	4.125	10.1	19.11.08	IMI BANK LUXEMBOURG	LU	

TABLE VII
Outstanding amount of ECU bonds
(Mio ECU)

	Issuers	Residual maturity in years						Total
		< 1	1-3	3-5	5-7	7-10	> 10	
31/10/98	GOV	15 460	19 344	9 619	8 013	21 674	11 925	86 034
	SUPRA	4 469	14 736	15 624	11 015	5 693	3 300	54 837
	Others	2 675	6 005	2 845	2 200	2 825	510	17 060
	Total	22 604	40 085	28 088	21 227	30 192	15 735	157 931
30/09/98	GOV	16 710	18 844	10 119	8 013	21 674	11 925	87 284
	SUPRA	2 475	6 305	2 845	2 200	2 825	510	17 160
	Others	4 879	13 566	16 884	11 115	5 693	3 300	55 437
	Total	24 064	38 715	29 848	21 327	30 192	15 735	159 881
31/08/98	GOV	18 460	18 844	9 989	8 143	21 674	11 925	89 034
	SUPRA	2 175	6 455	2 995	2 200	2 825	510	17 160
	Others	5 354	13 366	17 284	11 115	5 693	3 300	56 112
	Total	25 989	38 665	30 268	21 457	30 192	15 735	162 306
31/12/97	GOV	15 491	23 349	14 568	6 592	11 594	4 000	75 593
	SUPRA	2 220	5 150	5 850	2 000	700	100	16 020
	Others	4 877	6 649	6 652	3 698	2 360	225	24 461
	Total	22 588	35 148	27 070	12 290	14 654	4 325	116 074
31/12/96	GOV	9 254	30 681	13 927	6 929	9 992	4 750	75 533
	SUPRA	3 512	4 950	6 620	1 500	700	600	17 882
	Others	5 437	8 864	6 474	1 632	2 436	625	25 468
	Total	18 203	44 495	27 021	10 061	13 128	5 975	118 883
31/12/95	GOV	12 526	25 589	19 483	10 746	7 468	4 750	80 562
	SUPRA	3 047	5 732	5 150	4 900	700	600	20 129
	Others	6 963	9 954	6 099	4 337	1 438	1 325	30 116
	Total	22 536	41 275	30 732	19 983	9 606	6 675	130 807

GOV = Central governments

SUPRA = Supranational institutions

TABLE VIII
Total secondary market turnover and % of market taken by ECU securities

	Turnover in millions of USD			% of market held by ECU securities by instrument						
	All currencies	of which ECU	of which USD	Eurobonds straight	Others straight	Convertible	Floating rate notes	Certificates of deposit	Short- & med. term notes	
(*)										
1991	7 543 435	1 299 480	2 024 440	25.69	11.71	1.26	2.49	4.52	19.30	
1992	12 817 697	1 795 023	2 471 247	23.15	8.66	2.76	3.94	6.47	20.83	
1993	21 147 243	1 396 407	3 381 535	11.14	3.76	1.78	1.96	6.70	17.22	
1994	26 885 805	1 760 679	4 726 177	11.16	3.72	1.20	0.69	0.34	23.65	
1995	32 410 622	2 281 559	5 718 454	8.45	4.52	0.77	1.48	0.37	26.95	
1996	44 633 301	2 040 722	8 311 709	5.65	3.37	0.89	1.18	0.00	16.97	
1997	49 592 103	2 029 361	12 166 646	3.11	3.21	0.40	0.69	0.00	5.75	
1997	1	3 949 284	174 392	818 577	4.45	4.19	0.31	0.99	0.00	10.00
	2	3 825 231	150 546	886 764	4.37	3.81	0.49	0.80	0.00	7.54
	3	4 062 392	135 394	974 487	2.56	3.57	0.52	0.82	0.00	6.26
	4	3 899 815	154 051	898 121	4.81	3.96	0.56	1.07	0.00	5.48
	5	3 559 238	127 621	943 729	3.34	3.96	0.68	0.57	0.00	5.03
	6	4 313 629	144 345	1 074 070	3.28	3.48	0.21	0.61	0.00	5.74
	7	4 498 891	136 725	1 164 972	3.01	3.08	0.97	0.41	0.00	5.54
	8	3 861 874	105 739	1 068 133	2.94	2.79	0.13	0.44	0.00	4.66
	9	4 417 712	108 832	1 069 910	2.03	2.50	0.14	0.74	0.00	4.84
	10	4 859 602	126 777	1 281 583	1.94	2.75	0.40	0.71	0.00	5.16
	11	4 256 071	105 222	1 092 279	2.38	2.46	0.11	0.78	0.00	4.77
	12	4 088 364	98 239	894 021	3.26	2.20	0.10	0.43	0.00	4.56
1998	1	4 308 537	101 144	670 930	2.83	2.13	0.18	0.60	0.00	5.03
	2	4 309 370	150 478	901 108	6.19	2.84	0.12	0.69	0.00	5.65
	3	5 190 474	220 900	1 068 857	9.02	3.39	3.68	0.69	0.00	5.13
	4	4 697 213	274 097	1 013 065	7.58	5.60	1.67	1.17	0.00	8.16
	5	4 529 873	212 796	1 008 840	6.61	4.39	5.41	1.71	0.00	5.56
	6	5 365 725	270 349	1 218 366	6.83	4.90	1.57	1.99	0.00	5.43
	7	4 980 982	263 650	1 052 036	5.95	4.84	1.56	3.14	0.00	9.54
	8	4 809 276	241 306	1 094 640	6.08	4.32	7.41	2.41	0.00	10.76
	9	5 889 674	243 399	997 897	7.06	3.22	3.34	1.46	0.00	11.38

(*) Yearly figures are calculated as a total of quarterly figures; there may be some differences with the total of monthly data

TABLE IX
Interest rates and yields of ECU investments (%)

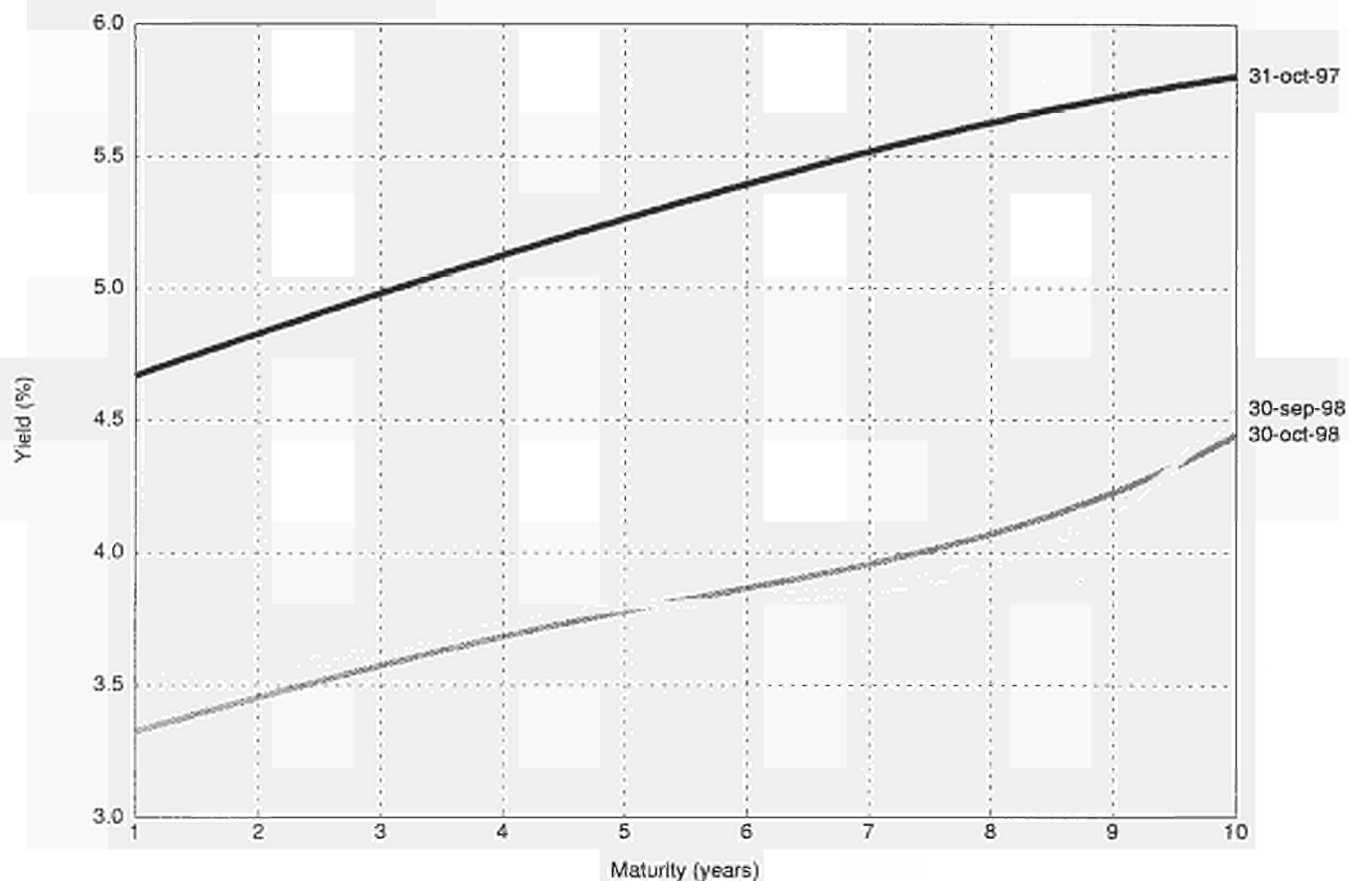
	ECB (*)	Deposits (maturity in months)				Yield on ECU bonds (maturity in years)											
		1	3	6	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
1992	10.29	10.43	10.41	10.27	10.01												
1993	8.21	8.27	7.99	7.65	7.11	7.28	6.87	6.74	6.78	6.91	7.04	7.14	7.20	7.22	7.19		
1994	5.92	5.95	5.98	6.05	6.21	6.35	6.77	7.01	7.13	7.24	7.39	7.55	7.66	7.69	7.56		
1995	5.88	5.85	5.90	5.98	6.15	6.23	6.66	6.99	7.25	7.46	7.63	7.76	7.85	7.88	7.86		
1996	4.35	4.34	4.31	4.32	4.39	4.45	4.79	5.17	5.55	5.90	6.18	6.40	6.57	6.72	6.85		
1997	4.00	4.14	4.18	4.22	4.29	4.24	4.29	4.41	4.55	4.68	4.77	4.85	4.93	5.06	5.25		
1997	5	4.00	4.01	4.05	4.09	4.16	4.18	4.35	4.60	4.88	5.17	5.43	5.66	5.85	6.01	6.14	
	6	4.00	4.02	4.05	4.09	4.15	4.19	4.31	4.54	4.82	5.11	5.37	5.59	5.79	5.96	6.11	
	7	4.00	4.09	4.11	4.15	4.21	4.24	4.33	4.50	4.73	4.97	5.19	5.39	5.57	5.74	5.90	
	8	4.00	4.20	4.25	4.32	4.39	4.47	4.62	4.80	4.99	5.18	5.36	5.52	5.69	5.85	6.00	
	9	4.00	4.16	4.22	4.32	4.41	4.49	4.62	4.79	4.97	5.15	5.31	5.46	5.61	5.74	5.88	
	10	4.00	4.27	4.37	4.46	4.59	4.65	4.82	4.98	5.13	5.27	5.39	5.51	5.61	5.70	5.80	
	11	4.25	4.38	4.49	4.56	4.66	4.70	4.84	4.98	5.13	5.26	5.39	5.50	5.60	5.69	5.78	
	12	4.25	4.26	4.35	4.43	4.52	4.57	4.68	4.82	4.96	5.09	5.18	5.26	5.34	5.43	5.56	
	1998	1	4.25	4.18	4.22	4.28	4.32	4.33	4.38	4.50	4.65	4.80	4.90	4.99	5.08	5.20	5.38
		2	4.25	4.24	4.24	4.25	4.26	4.26	4.28	4.38	4.53	4.68	4.79	4.89	4.98	5.09	5.25
		3	4.00	4.14	4.13	4.13	4.13	4.16	4.18	4.29	4.45	4.60	4.71	4.79	4.87	4.98	5.14
		4	4.25	4.13	4.13	4.14	4.13	4.18	4.23	4.36	4.50	4.63	4.72	4.79	4.87	4.98	5.15
5		4.25	4.16	4.16	4.16	4.16	4.19	4.26	4.39	4.55	4.68	4.77	4.83	4.91	5.04	5.26	
6		4.25	4.12	4.13	4.13	4.13	4.16	4.19	4.30	4.43	4.54	4.62	4.68	4.75	4.88	5.10	
7		4.25	4.03	4.02	4.02	4.00	4.06	4.08	4.18	4.31	4.43	4.51	4.58	4.67	4.82	5.08	
8		4.25	4.05	4.01	3.98	3.92	3.93	3.90	3.98	4.10	4.22	4.29	4.34	4.42	4.59	4.88	
9		4.00	4.07	4.03	3.88	3.72	3.66	3.66	3.73	3.82	3.91	3.96	4.01	4.10	4.27	4.56	
10		4.00	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.39	3.48	3.58	3.68	3.78	3.85	3.92	4.03	4.19	4.43	
Daily rates																	
1.10.98		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.52	3.50	3.56	3.64	3.71	3.74	3.77	3.86	4.06	4.43		
2.10.98		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.48	3.45	3.51	3.60	3.68	3.71	3.74	3.84	4.06	4.47		
5.10.98		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.33	3.42	3.50	3.57	3.63	3.68	3.74	3.82	3.95	4.14		
6.10.98		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.42	3.44	3.51	3.59	3.66	3.70	3.74	3.82	3.96	4.21		
7.10.98		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.42	3.46	3.53	3.62	3.69	3.73	3.77	3.84	3.99	4.24		
8.10.98		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.44	3.49	3.58	3.69	3.78	3.85	3.91	4.01	4.18	4.44		
9.10.98		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.40	3.51	3.65	3.80	3.93	4.02	4.11	4.21	4.39	4.67		
12.10.98		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.43	3.55	3.69	3.83	3.95	4.04	4.13	4.25	4.42	4.67		
13.10.98		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.37	3.55	3.68	3.79	3.88	3.96	4.06	4.18	4.33	4.54		
14.10.98		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.43	3.52	3.63	3.74	3.84	3.92	4.00	4.11	4.28	4.52		
15.10.98		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.36	3.49	3.60	3.71	3.79	3.87	3.96	4.06	4.21	4.41		
16.10.98		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.38	3.46	3.56	3.66	3.75	3.84	3.93	4.05	4.21	4.44		
19.10.98		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.37	3.44	3.53	3.63	3.74	3.83	3.93	4.05	4.20	4.40		
20.10.98		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.34	3.45	3.56	3.67	3.76	3.84	3.93	4.04	4.21	4.45		
21.10.98		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.45	3.46	3.55	3.68	3.79	3.87	3.94	4.03	4.19	4.46		
22.10.98		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.39	3.46	3.56	3.69	3.79	3.88	3.95	4.05	4.20	4.43		
23.10.98		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.38	3.48	3.59	3.70	3.80	3.88	3.96	4.06	4.21	4.42		
26.10.98		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.35	3.46	3.58	3.70	3.80	3.88	3.97	4.09	4.25	4.50		
27.10.98		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.27	3.48	3.62	3.72	3.79	3.86	3.94	4.05	4.21	4.44		
28.10.98		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.36	3.46	3.56	3.67	3.77	3.86	3.95	4.07	4.22	4.43		
29.10.98		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.32	3.47	3.58	3.67	3.76	3.85	3.95	4.07	4.22	4.41		
30.10.98		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.33	3.45	3.57	3.68	3.78	3.87	3.96	4.07	4.23	4.44		

n.a. = not available

r=revised

(*) Operation rates of the ECB: see explanatory notes

Graph 3: ECU yield curve



Graph 4: Evolution of ECU yields over the last 18 months



TABLE X
Central bank interest rates

	B				DK			D				EL			E	
	DR	AUCT	AR	CR	DR	REPO	CD	DR	LR	REPO	3D TB	DR	LR	OR	REPO	AR
Rates at the end of:																
10/97	2.75	3.30	4.55	3.30	3.50	3.75	3.75	2.50	4.50	3.30	3.10	14.50	19.00	24.00*	5.00	5.05
11/97	2.75	3.30	4.55	3.30	3.50	3.75	3.75	2.50	4.50	3.30	3.10	14.50	19.00	24.00*	5.00	5.05
12/97	2.75	3.30	4.55	3.30	3.50	3.75	3.75	2.50	4.50	3.30	3.10	14.50	19.00	24.00*	4.75	4.80
01/98	2.75	3.30	4.55	3.30	3.50	3.75	3.75	2.50	4.50	3.30	3.10	14.50	23.00	24.00*	4.75	4.80
02/98	2.75	3.30	4.55	3.30	3.50	3.75	3.75	2.50	4.50	3.30	3.10	14.50	23.00	24.00*	4.50	4.55
03/98	2.75	3.30	4.55	3.30	3.50	3.75	3.75	2.50	4.50	3.30	3.10	14.50	19.00	22.00	4.50	4.55
04/98	2.75	3.30	4.55	3.30	3.50	3.75	3.75	2.50	4.50	3.30	3.10	-	19.00	22.00	4.50	4.55
05/98	2.75	3.30	4.55	3.30	3.75	4.25	4.00	2.50	4.50	3.30	3.10	-	19.00	22.00	4.25	4.30
06/98	2.75	3.30	4.55	3.30	3.75	4.00	4.00	2.50	4.50	3.30	3.10	-	19.00	22.00	4.25	4.30
07/98	2.75	3.30	4.55	3.30	3.75	4.00	4.00	2.50	4.50	3.30	3.10	-	19.00	22.00	4.25	4.30
08/98	2.75	3.30	4.55	3.30	3.75	4.00	4.00	2.50	4.50	3.30	3.10	-	16.00	22.00	4.25	4.30
09/98	2.75	3.30	4.50	3.30	4.25	5.00	5.00	2.50	4.50	3.30	3.10	-	16.00	22.00	4.25	4.30
10/98	2.75	3.30	4.50	3.30	4.25	4.65	4.65	2.50	4.50	3.30	3.10	-	16.00	22.00	3.75	3.80
Recent actual changes																
01.09.98			4.50													
02.09.98																
03.09.98																
04.09.98																
07.09.98																
08.09.98																
09.09.98																
10.09.98																
11.09.98																
14.09.98																
15.09.98																
16.09.98																
17.09.98																
18.09.98																
21.09.98					4.25											
22.09.98																
23.09.98																
24.09.98																
25.09.98						5.00										
28.09.98																
29.09.98																
30.09.98																
01.10.98																
02.10.98																
05.10.98																
06.10.98															3.75	3.80
07.10.98																
08.10.98						4.75										
09.10.98								4.75								
12.10.98																
13.10.98																
14.10.98																
15.10.98																
16.10.98																
19.10.98																
20.10.98																
21.10.98																
22.10.98						4.65										
23.10.98								4.65								
26.10.98																
27.10.98																
28.10.98																
29.10.98																
30.10.98																

Please see explanatory notes at the end of the publication for the key to the various rates. Data series with the same abbreviation are not necessarily internationally comparable.

n.a. = not available

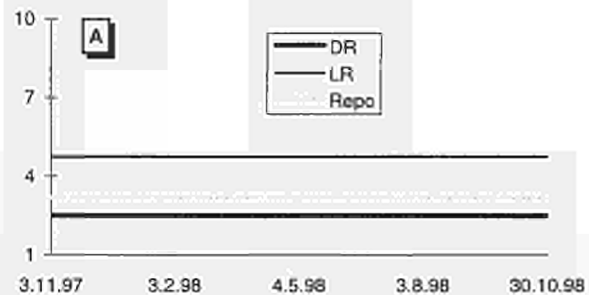
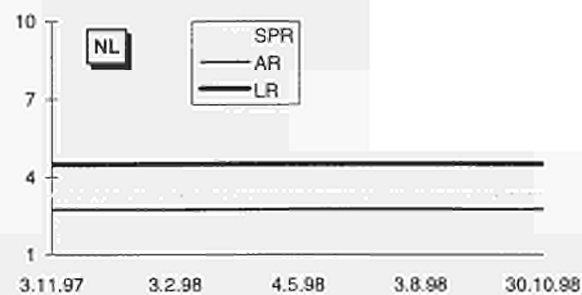
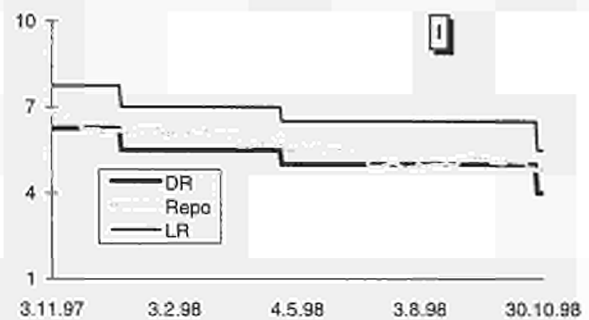
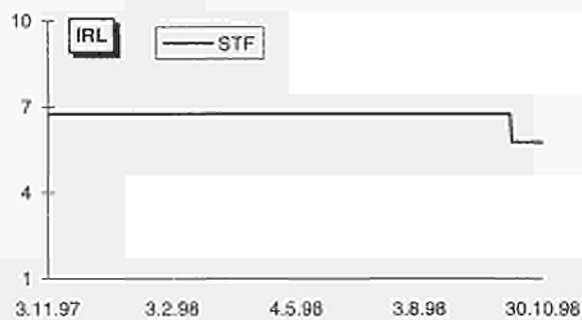
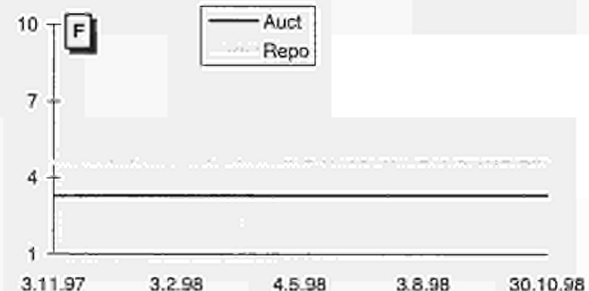
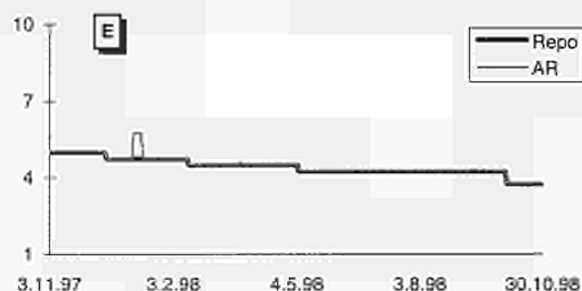
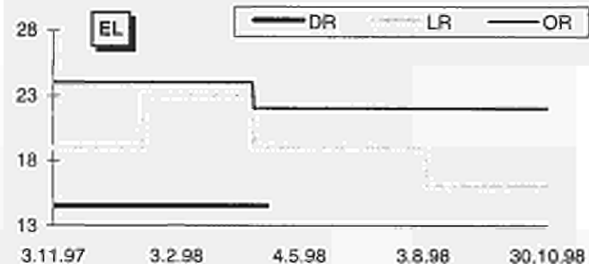
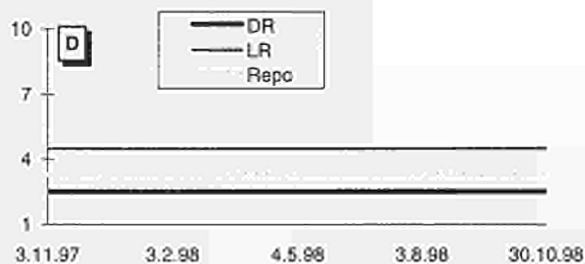
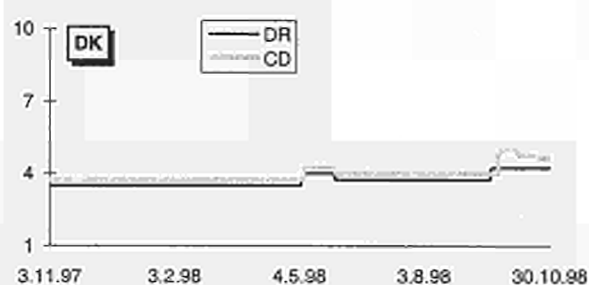
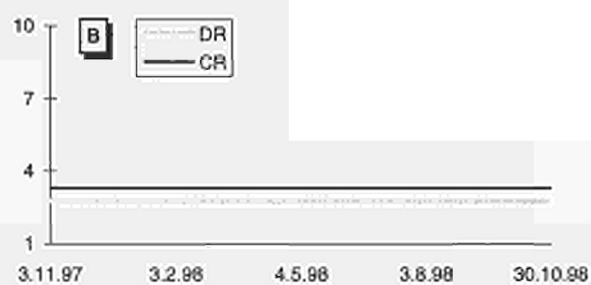
Central bank interest rates

F		IRL		I			NL			A			P					
AUCT	REPO	STF	DR	LR	REPO	R-REPO	AR	SPR	LR	DR	LR	REPO	PR R	SFR	DR R	DRO	PRO	
Rates at the end of:																		
3.30	4.60	6.75	6.25	7.75	6.79	-	2.75	3.30	4.50	2.50	4.75	3.20	5.502	7.20	5.20	5.200	5.500	10/97
3.30	4.60	6.75	6.25	7.75	6.21	-	2.75	3.30	4.50	2.50	4.75	3.20	5.300	6.90	4.90	4.900	5.300	11/97
3.30	4.60	6.75	5.50	7.00	6.16	6.29	2.75	3.30	4.50	2.50	4.75	3.20	5.308	6.90	4.90	4.900	5.327	12/97
3.30	4.60	6.75	5.50	7.00	6.07	-	2.75	3.30	4.50	2.50	4.75	3.20	5.308	6.80	4.80	4.800	5.300	01/98
3.30	4.60	6.75	5.50	7.00	6.15	-	2.75	3.30	4.50	2.50	4.75	3.20	5.100	6.60	4.60	4.600	5.104	02/98
3.30	4.60	6.75	5.50	7.00	5.63	-	2.75	3.30	4.50	2.50	4.75	3.20	4.700	6.40	4.40	4.400	4.700	03/98
3.30	4.60	6.75	5.00	6.50	5.51	6.50	2.75	3.30	4.50	2.50	4.75	3.20	4.700	6.40	4.40	4.400	4.700	04/98
3.30	4.60	6.75	5.00	6.50	5.48	-	2.75	3.30	4.50	2.50	4.75	3.20	4.500	6.20	4.20	4.200	4.500	05/98
3.30	4.60	6.75	5.00	6.50	4.92	-	2.75	3.30	4.50	2.50	4.75	3.20	4.500	6.20	4.20	4.200	4.520	06/98
3.30	4.60	6.75	5.00	6.50	5.01	-	2.75	3.30	4.50	2.50	4.75	3.20	4.525	6.20	4.20	4.200	4.507	07/98
3.30	4.60	6.75	5.00	6.50	4.98	-	2.75	3.30	4.50	2.50	4.75	3.20	4.519	6.20	4.20	4.200	4.500	08/98
3.30	4.60	6.75	5.00	6.50	5.03	-	2.75	3.30	4.50	2.50	4.75	3.20	4.509	6.20	4.20	4.200	4.500	09/98
3.30	4.60	5.75	4.00	5.50	4.82	-	2.75	3.30	4.50	2.50	4.75	3.20	4.000	5.70	3.70	:	4.013	10/98
Recent actual changes																		
					5.16													01.09.98
																		02.09.98
																		03.09.98
													4.517					04.09.98
																		07.09.98
					5.24													08.09.98
																		09.09.98
																		10.09.98
																		11.09.98
													4.509					14.09.98
																		15.09.98
					5.16													16.09.98
																		17.09.98
																		18.09.98
																		21.09.98
																		22.09.98
																		23.09.98
					5.07													24.09.98
																		25.09.98
																		28.09.98
																		29.09.98
					5.03													30.09.98
																		01.10.98
																		02.10.98
																		05.10.98
					5.12													06.10.98
																		07.10.98
																		08.10.98
		5.75																09.10.98
					5.09								4.000	5.70	3.70			12.10.98
																		13.10.98
																	4.000	14.10.98
																	4.020	15.10.98
																	4.000	16.10.98
																		19.10.98
					4.87													20.10.98
																		21.10.98
																		22.10.98
																		23.10.98
					4.81													26.10.98
			4.00	5.50														27.10.98
																		28.10.98
																		29.10.98
																	4.013	30.10.98
					4.82													

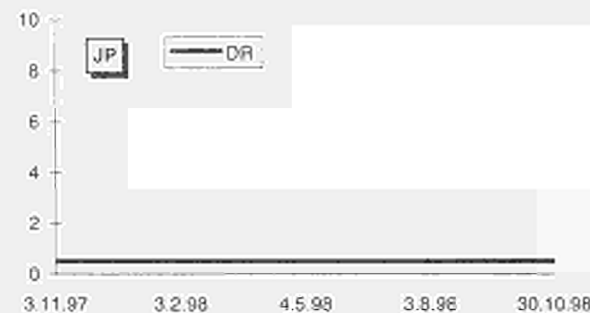
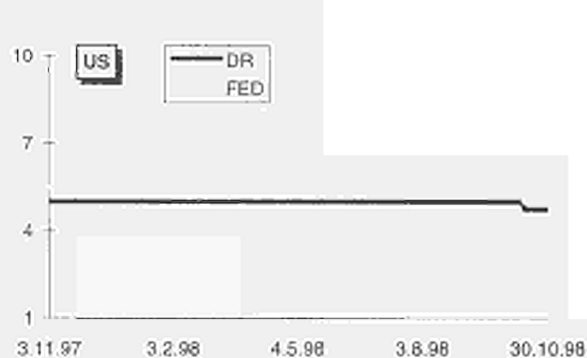
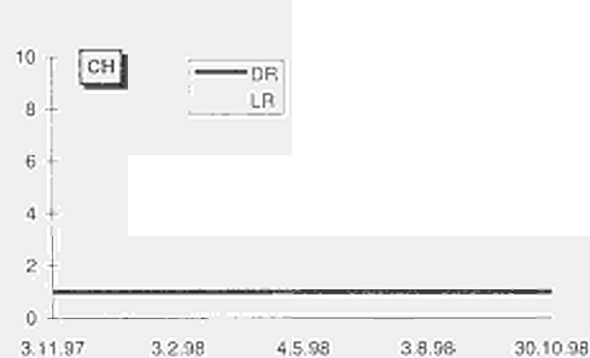
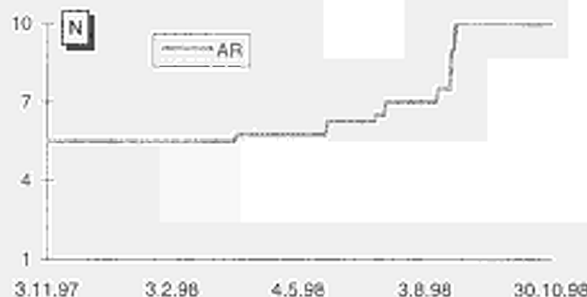
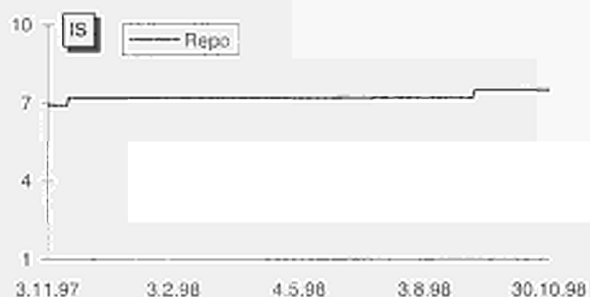
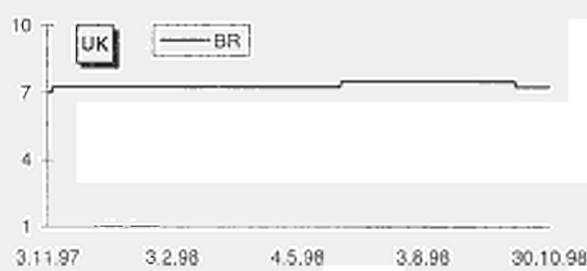
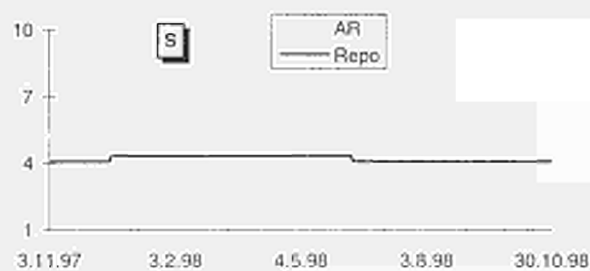
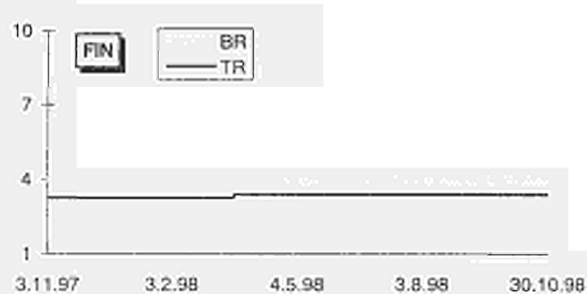
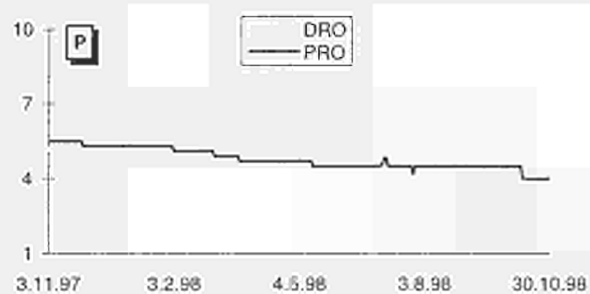
TABLE X
Central bank interest rates

	FIN			S				UK	IS				N	CH		US		JP
	BR	TR	AR	DR	AR	REPO	IBR	BR	AR	REPO	CD	AR	DR	LR	DR	FED	DR	
Rates at the end of:																		
10/97	4.00	3.25	5.25	2.50	5.25	4.10	6.09	7.00	-	6.90	6.70	5.50	1.00	3.875	5.00	5.50	0.50	
11/97	4.00	3.25	5.25	2.50	5.25	4.10	6.09	7.25	-	7.20	7.00	5.50	1.00	3.750	5.00	5.50	0.50	
12/97	4.00	3.25	5.25	2.50	5.25	4.35	6.35	7.25	-	7.20	7.00	5.50	1.00	3.750	5.00	5.50	0.50	
01/98	4.00	3.25	5.25	2.50	5.25	4.35	5.68	7.25	-	7.20	7.00	5.50	1.00	3.000	5.00	5.50	0.50	
02/98	4.00	3.25	5.25	2.50	5.25	4.35	5.68	7.25	-	7.20	7.00	5.50	1.00	2.750	5.00	5.50	0.50	
03/98	4.00	3.40	5.40	2.50	5.25	4.35	5.47	7.25	8.50	7.20	7.00	5.75	1.00	3.375	5.00	5.50	0.50	
04/98	4.00	3.40	5.40	2.50	5.25	4.35	5.37	7.25	8.50	7.20	7.00	5.75	1.00	3.500	5.00	5.50	0.50	
05/98	4.00	3.40	5.40	2.50	5.25	4.35	5.42	7.25	8.50	7.20	7.00	6.25	1.00	3.750	5.00	5.50	0.50	
06/98	4.00	3.40	5.40	2.50	5.25	4.10	5.42	7.50	8.50	7.20	7.00	6.50	1.00	4.625	5.00	5.50	0.50	
07/98	4.00	3.40	5.40	2.00	5.25	4.10	5.42	7.50	8.50	7.20	7.00	7.00	1.00	3.875	5.00	5.50	0.50	
08/98	4.00	3.40	5.40	2.00	5.25	4.10	4.91	7.50	8.50	7.20	7.00	10.00	1.00	3.750	5.00	5.50	0.50	
09/98	4.00	3.40	5.40	2.00	5.25	4.10	4.91	7.50	8.50	7.50	7.00	10.00	1.00	3.625	5.00	5.25	0.50	
10/98	4.00	3.40	5.40	2.00	5.25	4.10	5.37	7.25	8.50	7.50	7.00	10.00	1.00	2.875	4.75	5.00	0.50	
Recent actual changes																		
01.09.98														3.625				
02.09.98																		
03.09.98																		
04.09.98																		
07.09.98																		
08.09.98										7.50								
09.09.98																		
10.09.98																		
11.09.98							4.96											
14.09.98														3.500				
15.09.98							4.91											
16.09.98														3.375				
17.09.98														3.250				
18.09.98																		
21.09.98																		
22.09.98																		
23.09.98																		
24.09.98																		
25.09.98																		
28.09.98																		
29.09.98														3.625		5.25		
30.09.98																		
01.10.98														3.250				
02.10.98														3.125				
05.10.98																		
06.10.98																		
07.10.98																		
08.10.98								7.25						3.250				
09.10.98							5.37											
12.10.98														3.125				
13.10.98														3.000				
14.10.98														3.125				
15.10.98															4.75	5.00		
16.10.98																		
19.10.98																		
20.10.98																		
21.10.98																		
22.10.98																		
23.10.98																		
26.10.98														3.000				
27.10.98														2.875				
28.10.98														2.625				
29.10.98														2.750				
30.10.98														2.875				

Evolution of central bank interest rates over the last 12 months



Evolution of central bank interest rates over the last 12 months



EXPLANATORY NOTES

Exchange rate grid (Table I)

The intervention limit rates fixed in the official grid do not correspond exactly to + or - 15 % of the central rates, since for each currency pair (whose exchange rates are inversely proportional to one another) the lower limit of one corresponds to the upper limit of the other.

Bilateral fluctuations of the ERM currency (Graph 1 on page 5)

The daily market exchange rates of all currencies are compared with the relevant bilateral central rates and the differentials between the two calculated.

The graph is divided symmetrically by a horizontal axis along which the points would be plotted if all currencies were at their bilateral central rate and there were therefore no fluctuations.

The curves are drawn by linking the daily points showing the relative positions of each currency. These should be compared in pairs. To find the differential between two currencies, subtract the (positive or negative) values along the y-axis corresponding to each currency.

The graph is drawn with the curve of the stronger currency above that of the weaker. It shows therefore the relative position of each currency vis-à-vis the other currencies.

When two curves intersect or merge over a period of time there is no differential between the two currencies and their market exchange rate equals their bilateral central rate.

The maximum spread recorded between two currencies is signified by the band, symmetrical with the horizontal axis. The fluctuations of the other currencies in relation to either of the two currencies in question are shown within the maximum spread.

The divergence indicator (Graph 2 on page 5)

The divergence indicator (DI) measures the degree of movement of a specific EMS currency against its maximum divergence spread. In effect, the DI is a mechanism which detects the EMS currencies that deviate upwards or downwards from the Community average as represented by the ECU.

For a given currency the divergence indicator is obtained:

- (i) first by calculating the appreciation or depreciation of the market rate of the ECU in terms of that currency against its ECU-related central rate;
- (ii) and then by comparing the result obtained with the maximum divergence spread (MDS), which is the intervention limit, corrected by the weight of each

currency in the basket in such a way that an increase in the weight of a currency reduces its maximum divergence spread.

In order to permit a comparison of movements in the divergence indicators for each of the EMS currencies, the MDS is expressed as an index number ranging between +/- 100. At an absolute index number of 75, a currency reaches its divergence threshold. When a currency crosses its "threshold of divergence", this results in a presumption that the authorities concerned will correct this situation by taking adequate measures.

ECU exchange rates (Table II)

The exchange rates for the ECU against the national currencies of the member states of the Community, the USD and yen are shown as annual averages, monthly averages (for the current year), and daily rates (for the latest available month).

Change in the purchasing power of the ECU (Harmonised indices of consumer prices adjusted for ECU exchange rate changes) (Table III)

For each country the index of harmonised consumer prices in ECUs is calculated by multiplying the national harmonised consumer price index (HICP) by the average movement of the national currency in relation to the ECU during the month. It measures the change in the purchasing power of one ECU in the country concerned. A rise in the index means a fall in the purchasing power of the ECU.

Four composite indices are calculated, the first covering all the Member States of the Community (EU-15), the second covering 11 Member States forming the monetary union on 1 January 1999 (EUR-11), the third covering 13 Member States whose currencies participate in the European Monetary System exchange rate mechanism (ERM), and the fourth covering the 12 member countries whose currencies go to make up the ECU.

These four indices are calculated as weighted arithmetic means (chain indices). The weightings are defined as follows: for the EU-15, EUR-11 and ERM indices, the relative share of each member state in the final consumption of households for the group of countries in question (EU-15, EUR-11 or ERM), at current prices and exchange rates (annual weighting). For the ECU index, the relative share of each member state's currency in the calculation of the ECU (monthly weighting).

The base year is 1996. These indices may be used for indexing new contracts in ECU.

Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) are designed to facilitate international comparisons of consumer price inflation. The focus lies on comparability among the indices of the different Member States as well as the relative movements. They will form the basis of the Monetary Union Index of Consumer Prices (MUICP) to be used for the monitoring of inflation in the euro-area.

HICPs are harmonized not only on coverage but also in several methodological aspects (details are given in the Eurostat news release "Harmonising the way the EU measures inflation", No 21/97, of 5 March 1997, and in Regulations (EC) No 2494/95, No 1749/96, No 2214/96, and No 2454/97). HICPs provide the best statistical basis for international comparisons of consumer price inflation and very considerable progress has been made in harmonizing methodologies.

The HICPs are compiled using a version of the international "Classification of individual consumption by purpose" which has been specially adapted for the HICPs and is known as COICOP/HICP. Since March 1997 the Commission (Eurostat) has been disseminating every month about 100 sub-indices and their weights.

Change in the purchasing power of the ECU (Non-harmonised indices of consumer prices adjusted for ECU exchange rate changes) (Table IV)

For each country the non harmonised index of consumer prices in ECUs is calculated by multiplying the national non harmonised consumer price index by the average movement of the national currency in relation to the ECU during the month. It measures the change in the purchasing power of one ECU in the country concerned. A rise in the index means a fall in the purchasing power of the ECU.

Three composite indices are calculated, the first covering all the member states of the Community (EU-15), the second covering 13 member states whose currencies participate in the European Monetary System exchange rate mechanism (ERM), and the third covering the 12 member countries whose currencies go to make up the ECU. (Although the peseta has been participating in the exchange rate mechanism since 19/06/89 and has been included in the calculation of the ECU since 21/09/89, it is only taken into account in the indices relating to the ERM which are included in this bulletin for data after 30/09/89).

These three indices are calculated as weighted arithmetic means (chain indices). The weightings are defined as follows: for the EU-15 and ERM indices, the relative share of each member state in the final consumption of households for the group of countries in question (EU-15 or ERM), expressed in ECUs at current prices and exchange rates (annual weighting). For the ECU index, the relative share of each member state's currency in the calculation of the ECU (monthly weighting).

The base year is 1985. These indices may be used for indexing existing contracts in ECU; for new contracts the new harmonised CPI in ECU may be used instead. The non harmonised price indices in ECU will be published until December 1998.

ECU bond issues (Tables V & VI)

In table V, issues are recorded as at the payment date. This bulletin covers ECU issues in the Eurobond market, which includes international and foreign issues and domestic issues which can be assimilated with Eurobond issues. More specifically, the domestic issues should be free of withholding tax in the hands of non-residents and subject to similar clearing and settlement procedures. This includes ECU issues offering the option of conversion into other currencies. Main source: International Financing Review.

Table V shows, under the headings:

- Business sector and Governments: national issuers, both private and public.
- Institutions: the European Investment Bank and the Commission of the European Communities (EEC, ECSC, Euratom).
- Organisations: the specialist institutions of the United Nations, the World Bank, the Council of Europe, etc... .

Table VI shows detailed information on the latest known issues, irrespective of the payment date.

Outstanding amount of ECU bonds (Table VII)

This table shows the bonds in ECUs outstanding at the end of the last three months and at the end of the last three years. These statistics are taken from a particularly comprehensive database and measure the volume of ECU bonds in circulation. The overall figure is broken down in two ways - by residual maturity and by type of issuer.

Total of the secondary market turnover and % of market taken by ECU securities (Table VIII)

This table shows the volume of transactions on securities conducted by the international clearing houses Cedel and Euroclear. The market shares of the various types of instrument are calculated. These statistics do not cover all transactions throughout the world, since internal movements are not included. They do, however, give a realistic idea of market developments.

Interest rates and yields on ECU investments (Table IX)

The interest rates for 1, 3, 6 and 12 months deposits are calculated on the basis of the London market rates LIBID as follows:

- until October 1993: source: Financial Times, Friday rate.
- from November 1993: source : Bank of England, British Banker's Association, daily rates.

The yields of ECU bonds at 1 - 10 years are those provided by Eurostat's yield curve. These are redemption yields. Eurostat's yield curve, which portrays the interest rate structure of maturities ranging from 1 to 10 years, is based on highest quality issues with a triple-A rating of at least ECU 500 million outstanding, with a very high liquidity (bid-offer spread less than 50 basis points). The curve is calculated daily by fitting a third order polynomial function by regression to the price/yield values of bonds provided by ISMA (International Securities Market Association, London). These values reflect the mean of bid and offer prices communicated by a comprehensive range of financial institutions. The monthly figures included in the table are the arithmetic average of daily figures and the yearly figures are the arithmetic average of daily figures.

Operation rates of the ECB (Table IX)

The interest rate for transactions of the ECB (European Central Bank) in ECUs is the weighted average of the most representative rates on the domestic money market of the countries whose currencies make up the ECU basket. It is based on the weighting of the currencies in the ECU basket as derived from the ECU central rates in force. The rate thus calculated for a given month applies to ECB transactions for the following month. In table VII, this rate relates to the month upon which the calculations are based and not to the (following) month during which it is used by the ECB.

ECU yield curve

These graphs show the trend in yields on ECU bonds. Graph 3 shows the ECU yield for bonds due at the end of the last month, at the end of the preceding month and one year previously. Graph 4 shows the development in yields for maturities of 3 and 10 years over the last 12 months. The difference between these two curves reflects the gradient of the rates curve.

Central Bank Interest Rates in the EEA countries, in the US, Japan and Switzerland (Table X)

BELGIUM

Official intervention rates:

Discount rate (DR): rate at which credit institutions can discount commercial paper at the BNB within the ceilings fixed individually according to balance sheet items.

1-week credit granted by tender (AUCT): rate at which the BNB grants cash by tender to credit institutions. The duration of these loans is generally 1 week but can be longer under particular circumstances.

Advances to meet daily deficits (AR): rate at which credit institutions receive money from the BNB within quotas which vary between credit institutions according to balance sheet items and to turnover in the secondary market for government debt-securities.

Central Bank rate (CR): rate at which Primary dealers¹ receive overnight money, up to a fixed maximum which is the same for each Primary dealer, from the BNB. This rate will be the next rate applied to the 1-week credit granted by tender.

DENMARK

Intervention rates:

Discount rate (DR): indicative rate which is not attached to any facility with the Danmarks Nationalbank. Within quotas based on the size of the individual bank, deposits on banks' current account with the Danmarks Nationalbank are remunerated by the folio rate. This rate has been equal to the discount rate since the introduction of the present liquidity instruments in April 1992.

Certificates of deposit (CD): rate on 14-day certificates of deposit issued on the last banking day of each week by the Nationalbank.

Repurchase agreements (REPO): rate at which the banks have access to enter into 14-day repurchase agreements in government paper with the Nationalbank. These transactions take place on the penultimate banking day of each week, affecting bank liquidity the following day. The interest rate on repos has equalled the rate on CDs since April 1992.

GERMANY

Intervention rates:

Discount rate (DR): rate at which the Bundesbank discounts eligible trade bills within the limits of the rediscount quotas.

Lombard rate (LR): rate at which the Bundesbank grants loans to banks against certain securities. These loans have a maturity of up to 90 days and are granted against collateral of government and public sector securities.

Rate on repurchase agreements (REPO): rate applied to the Bundesbank's repurchase facility. The Bundesbank buys bonds eligible as collateral for Lombard loans and short-term Treasury discount paper from those banks subject to minimum reserve requirements. These transactions are usually offered by fixed-rate tender or by variable-rate tender for a period of 14, 28 or 35 days.

Other rate:

3-day Treasury bills (3D TB): rate on bills that can be bought or sold by a specific list of banks. This establishes a floor for the cost of short-term money in addition to the fixed amount provided by the discount window.

GREECE

Intervention rates:

Rediscount rate (DR): rate at which the Bank of Greece rediscounts commercial bills. This facility is subject to overall quotas which are allocated among credit institutions

¹ Primary dealers are market makers for government linear bonds (OLO) and Treasury certificates.

according to criteria relating to the size of certain balance sheet items.

Lombard rate (LR): rate at which the Bank of Greece grants liquidity to banks against collateral of government paper. As for the discount window, this facility is subject to overall quotas which are allocated among credit institutions according to criteria relating to the size of certain balance sheet items.

Rate on overdrafts on banks' current accounts with the Bank of Greece (OR): rate at which credit institutions can cover unexpected liquidity shortages by overdrawing their current accounts with the Bank of Greece.

SPAIN

Intervention rates:

Short-term credit to banks (REPO): marginal auction rate of 10-day repo purchases of Banco de España certificates. The Bank of Spain purchases the certificates (with a resale agreement at the maturity of the operation) from banks and savings banks according to the requirements accepted in the auction.

Rate on overnight loans granted by the Banco de España (AR): this rate is considered as being an unofficial intervention rate, but is often used by the Banco de España as an instrument of its monetary policy. It is the rate at which the Banco de España intervenes in the money market. Market makers are asked to make bids in terms of amounts and rates, and the Bank of Spain decides at which point operations should be closed.

The rate published here is the average weighted rate resulting from the intervention.

FRANCE

Intervention rates:

Auction (AUCTION): twice a week, the Central Bank invites tenders (against collateral) in order to assess credit institutions' demand for Central Bank money. After a centralisation of the requests, the Central Bank will only allocate a proportion of them. The rate is, in practice, known in advance and is intended as a floor for money market rates.

Sales with repurchase agreements (REPO): rate at which banks get liquidity from the Central Bank against Treasury bills or commercial paper. This emergency facility carries a penalty rate that is designed as a ceiling for market rates.

IRELAND

Intervention rate:

Short-term facility rate (STF): rate at which the Central Bank grants short-term credits to banks for a period of between 1 day and 1 week.

ITALY

Intervention rates:

Discount rate (DR): rate at which the Banca d'Italia discounts commercial bills.

Fixed-maturity advances rate (LR): rate charged by the Banca d'Italia for advances with a maximum maturity of 32 days against eligible securities for special short-term needs.

Other rate:

Repurchase agreements (Repo) and Reverse Repurchase Agreements (R-Repo): marginal auction rate. The Bank of Italy intervenes when it perceives the need to add or drain liquidity. The choice between repos (Repo) and reverse repos (R-Repo) depends on the structural (debtor or creditor) position of the banking system vis-à-vis the central bank. Foreign currency repos are also conducted, in addition to the securities repos.

NETHERLANDS

Intervention rates:

Discount rate (DR): rate at which the Central Bank discounts Treasury paper and approved bills of exchange with a remaining maturity not exceeding 3 months. From 1 January 1994, the Central Bank no longer accepts paper for discounting and thus this rate no longer exists. Data until 12/93 are available on request from Eurostat.

Rate on special advances (SPR): rate charged by the Central Bank to financial institutions for short-term advances.

Marginal advance rate (LR): rate which allows banks to raise overnight credit from the central bank. Under normal conditions, this rate will set an upper limit to money market rates.

Official advance rate (AR): rate at which advances on current account against collateral are mainly granted, within a certain limit, to registered credit institutions and a number of public and semi-public financial institutions. This rate establishes a floor for money market rates.

Rate on discount of promissory notes (PRNT): rate serving as a benchmark for commercial rates. From 1 January 1994, the discount rate on promissory notes is maintained as an interest rate, given its use as a reference rate for legal purposes, but it will no longer be published. It is equal to the prevailing rate on advances plus 0.5 percentage points. Data until 12/93 are available on request from Eurostat.

AUSTRIA

Intervention rates

Discount rate (DR): rate at which the Central Bank rediscounts bills of exchange. To qualify for discounting, the paper presented must fulfil certain eligibility requirements. Refinancing ceilings for individual banks are determined on the basis of specified balance sheet items.

Lombard rate (LR): rate at which the Central Bank grants loans to banks against collateral. Since this rate is a penalty rate, it is higher than both the discount and the Gomex rate.

Interest rates for open-market transactions (tendering procedure): Since 1988 it has been possible for short-term, temporary and - since October 1995 - regular extra liquidity to be made available to financial institutions on demand via open-market transactions outside normal refinancing arrangements. Funds are distributed on the basis of a tendering procedure.

PORTUGAL

Intervention rates:

Regular rate for liquidity provision (PR R): rate at which the Banco de Portugal supplies liquidity to the money market. The regular operations take place on the first working day of each regular maintenance period (1 week) and mature in the first working day of the subsequent period. When the regular rate for liquidity provision is suspended, the Banco de Portugal can also conduct operations at a variable rate, which take place on the first working day of the regular maintenance period. These data are not given here but are available from Eurostat.

Standing facility rate (SFR): the standing facility refers to liquidity provision operations which mature on the next working day following the day on which transaction takes place, and which take place at the pre-announced rate. The institutions' access to this facility is limited by way of a quota, established on the beginning of each month as a percentage of the total amount of the facility (currently 100 billions of escudos).

Regular liquidity draining rate (DR R): rate at which the Banco de Portugal withdraws liquidity from the money market by selling Treasury bills with repurchase agreement or Central Banks monetary certificates. The regular operations take place on the first working day of each regular maintenance period (1 week) and mature in the first working day of the subsequent period.

Other rates:

Occasional operations of liquidity draining (DR O): the Banco de Portugal also conducts occasional operations of liquidity draining with a view to stabilising the money market.

Occasional operations of liquidity provision (PR O): the Banco de Portugal also conducts occasional operations of liquidity provision with a view to stabilising the money market.

FINLAND

Base rate (BR): the base rate is an administered interest rate set by the Parliamentary Supervisory Board. Its importance has diminished along with the developments of markets in Finland. Nonetheless, it is still of importance since a fairly large proportion of deposits and outstanding loans are tied to it, and these rates are adjusted whenever there is a change in the base rate.

Tender rate (TR): rate determined by tenders held by the Central Bank in which banks are asked to make bids or offers for money market instruments with a maturity of 1 month. The tender rate is a weighted average of accepted bids or offers.

Other rates:

Liquidity credit rate (AR): rate charged to banks by the Bank of Finland for loans with a maturity of 1 day, 7 days, 14 days, 21 days and 28 days. The rate is the sum of the tender rate and the interest rate margin for credit liquidity. The liquidity credit has replaced the overnight facility.

SWEDEN

Intervention rates:

Lending rate (AR): rate at which the Riksbank supplies cash to banks. Each bank has a borrowing facility equivalent to 4% of its capital base; terms for any borrowing in excess of this amount are determined at the discretion of the Riksbank.

Other rates:

Repo rate (Repo): rate applied to the Riksbank's operations on repurchase agreement. These transactions are usually offered on Tuesdays for a period of 14 days. The repo rate fluctuates in a band between the lending and the deposit rates.

Discount rate (DR): from the second quarter of 1992, the discount rate should be regarded solely as a reference rate. It is determined at the beginning of each quarter solely on the basis of interest rates in the preceding quarter. It is computed as a weighted average of the daily market rates for 6-month Treasury discount notes and 5-year government bonds in the preceding quarter less two and a half percentage points, rounded to the nearest whole or half point.

Rate for industrial bonds (IBR): this is an administratively determined interest rate. It is the rate at which industrial bonds with an interest period of 2.5 years are adjusted.

The structure of Swedish central bank rates was changed from 1.6.94. Data on the marginal rate for the period 9.92 to 5.94 are available from Eurostat.

UNITED KINGDOM

Until 1981, the Bank of England used an official continuously posted rate to signal its interest rate intentions. This was called the Minimum Lending Rate and was the rate at which the Bank of England lent to the discount houses. Since then its intentions have been signalled on most days by the rate at which it purchases bills in bands 1 and 2 (ie up to one month in maturity); otherwise it has tended to announce interest rate changes by posting a Minimum Lending Rate, applying now for one day only.

These operations are used by the Bank of England to signal changes in the key rate in the UK financial market, the commercial banks' **base rate (BR)**. This is a good indicator of the broad level of short-term interest rates.

ICELAND

Overnight lending rate (AR): Discount rate at which credit institutions subject to a required reserve ratio can borrow from the central bank on a day-to-day basis. These loans must be covered by securities eligible for repo agreements.

Rate on certificates of deposits (CD): Fixed rate on 90-day certificates of deposits issued on tap by the central bank.

Repurchase agreements (Repo): Rate applied to repo transactions of the central bank. These repurchase agreements are subject to a weekly tendering procedure, with maturity fixed at 14 days. These loans must be covered by any government security quoted on Iceland's stock exchange or by deposit certificates issued by the central bank.

NORWAY

Intervention rate:

Overnight lending rate (AR): rate at which commercial and saving banks can borrow from the Norges Bank on a day to day basis. The ceiling on loans available for each half-month is set in percent of the banks' capital base, excluding subordinated loan capital.

SWITZERLAND

Lombard rate (LR): rate at which the Central Bank grants loans to banks against collateral. This rate is a penalty rate against banks which have underestimated their liquidity needs. It is calculated on the basis of the market rates of the two previous days plus 2 points.

Discount rate (DR): rate at which the Central Bank discounts bills of exchange, cheques, Treasury bills issued by the Confederation and bills issued by the Cantons and Communes. The maturity of discounted paper may not exceed 6 months.

UNITED STATES

Discount rate (DR): rate at which the Federal Reserve Banks discount eligible paper for, and make advances to, depository institutions.

Fed Funds rate (FED): Rate of interest charged on federal funds loaned by and to commercial banks. Owing to the large scale of fed funds borrowings, the rate is regarded by the Federal Reserve as an important determinant of bank liquidity, and is considered as a key rate for implementing monetary policy.

JAPAN

Discount rate (DR): rate at which the Bank of Japan discounts commercial bills.

BELGIQUE/BELGIÉ

Jean De Lannoy
Avenue du Roi 202/Koningslaan 202
B-1190 Bruxelles/Brussel
Tél. (32-2) 538 43 08
Fax (32-2) 538 08 41
E-mail: jean.de.lannoy@infoboard.be
URL: http://www.jean-de-lannoy.be

La librairie européenne/De Europese Boekhandel
Rue de la Loi 244/Wetstraat 244
B-1040 Bruxelles/Brussel
Tél. (32-2) 295 26 39
Fax (32-2) 735 08 60
E-mail: mail@libeurop.be
URL: http://www.libeurop.be

Moniteur belge/Belgisch Staatsblad
Rue de Louvain 40-42/Leuvenseweg 40-42
B-1000 Bruxelles/Brussel
Tél. (32-2) 552 22 11
Fax (32-2) 511 01 84

DANMARK

J. H. Schultz Information A/S
Herstedvang 10-12
DK-2620 Albertslund
Tlf. (45) 43 63 23 00
Fax (45) 43 63 19 69
E-mail: schultz@schultz.dk
URL: http://www.schultz.dk

DEUTSCHLAND

Bundesanzeiger Verlag GmbH
Vertriebsabteilung
Amsterdamer Straße 192
D-50735 Köln
Tél. (49-221) 97 66 80
Fax (49-221) 97 66 82 78
E-Mail: Vertrieb@bundesanzeiger.de
URL: http://www.bundesanzeiger.de

ΕΛΛΑΔΑ/GREECE

G. C. Eleftheroudakis SA
International Bookstore
Panepistimiou 17
GR-10564 Athina
Tél. (30-1) 331 41 80/12/3/4/5
Fax (30-1) 323 98 21
E-mail: elebooks@netor.gr

ESPAÑA

Boletín Oficial del Estado
Trafalgar, 27
E-28071 Madrid
Tél. (34) 915 38 21 11 (Libros)/
913 84 17 15 (Suscripciones)
Fax (34) 915 38 21 21 (Libros)/
913 84 17 14 (Suscripciones)
E-mail: clientes@com.boe.es
URL: http://www.boe.es

Mundi Prensa Libros, SA
Castelló, 37
E-28001 Madrid
Tél. (34) 914 36 37 00
Fax (34) 915 75 39 98
E-mail: libreria@mundiprensa.es
URL: http://www.mundiprensa.com

FRANCE

Journal officiel
Service des publications des CE
26, rue Desaix
F-75727 Paris Cedex 15
Tél. (33) 140 58 77 31
Fax (33) 140 58 77 00

IRELAND

Government Supplies Agency
Publications Section
4-5 Harcourt Road
Dublin 2
Tél. (353-1) 661 31 11
Fax (353-1) 475 27 60

ITALIA

Licosa SpA
Via Duca di Calabria, 1/1
Casella postale 552
I-50125 Firenze
Tél. (39-55) 64 54 15
Fax (39-55) 64 12 57
E-mail: licosa@ftbcc.it
URL: http://www.ftbcc.it/licosa

LUXEMBOURG

Messageries du livre SARL
5, rue Raiffaisen
L-2411 Luxembourg
Tél. (352) 40 10 20
Fax (352) 49 06 61
E-mail: mdl@pt.lu
URL: http://www.mdl.lu

Abonnements:

Messageries Paul Kraus
11, rue Christophe Plantin
L-2339 Luxembourg
Tél. (352) 49 98 88-8
Fax (352) 49 98 88-444
E-mail: mpk@pt.lu
URL: http://www.mpk.lu

NEDERLAND

SDU Servicecentrum Uitgevers
Christoffel Plantijnstraat 2
Postbus 20014
2500 EA Den Haag
Tel. (31-70) 378 98 80
Fax (31-70) 378 97 83
E-mail: sdu@sdu.nl
URL: http://www.sdu.nl

ÖSTERREICH

Manz'sche Verlags- und Universitätsbuchhandlung GmbH
Kohlmarkt 16
A-1014 Wien
Tel. (43-1) 53 16 11 00
Fax (43-1) 53 16 11 67
E-Mail: bestellen@manz.co.at
URL: http://www.austria.EU.net:81/manz

PORTUGAL

Distribuidora de Livros Bertrand Ld.ª
Grupo Bertrand, SA
Rua das Terras dos Vales, 4-A
Apartado 60037
P-2700 Amadora
Tél. (351-2) 495 90 50
Fax (351-2) 496 02 55

Imprensa Nacional-Casa da Moeda, EP
Rua Marquês Sá da Bandeira, 16-A
P-1050 Lisboa Codex
Tél. (351-1) 353 03 99
Fax (351-1) 353 02 94
E-mail: del.incm@mail.telepac.pt
URL: http://www.incm.pt

SUOMI/FINLAND

Akateeminen Kirjakauppa/Akademiska Bokhandeln
Keskuskatu 1/Centralgatan 1
PL/PB 128
FIN-00101 Helsinki/Helsingfors
P./tfn (358-9) 121 44 18
F./fax (358-9) 121 44 35
Sähköposti: akatilaus@stockmann.fi
URL: http://www.akateeminen.com

SVERIGE

BTJ AB
Traktorvägen 11
S-221 82 Lund
Tfn. (46-46) 18 00 00
Fax (46-46) 30 79 47
E-post: btjeu-pub@btj.se
URL: http://www.btj.se

UNITED KINGDOM

The Stationery Office Ltd
International Sales Agency
51 Nine Elms Lane
London SW8 5DR
Tel. (44-171) 873 90 90
Fax (44-171) 873 84 63
E-mail: ipaenquiries@theso.co.uk
URL: http://www.the-stationery-office.co.uk

ÍSLAND

Bokabud Larusar Blöndal
Skólavörðustíg, 2
IS-101 Reykjavík
Tél. (354) 551 56 50
Fax (354) 552 55 60

NORGE

Swets Norge AS
Østenjovøien 18
Boks 6512 Etterstad
N-0606 Oslo
Tel. (47-22) 97 45 00
Fax (47-22) 97 45 45

SCHWEIZ/SUISSE/SVIZZERA

Euro Info Center Schweiz
c/o OSEC
Stampfenbachstraße 85
PF 492
CH-8035 Zürich
Tel. (41-1) 365 53 15
Fax (41-1) 365 54 11
E-mail: eics@osec.ch
URL: http://www.osec.ch/eics

BÄLGARIJA

Europress Euromedia Ltd
59, blvd Vitosha
BG-1000 Sofia
Tel. (359-2) 980 37 66
Fax (359-2) 980 42 30
E-mail: Milena@mbox.cit.bg

ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA

ÚSIS
NIS-prodejna
Havelkova 22
CZ-130 00 Praha 3
Tel. (420-2) 24 23 14 86
Fax (420-2) 24 23 11 14
E-mail: nkposp@dec.nis.cz
URL: http://www.nis.cz

CYPRUS

Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry
PO Box 1455
CY-1509 Nicosia
Tel. (357-2) 66 95 00
Fax (357-2) 66 10 44
E-mail: info@ccci.org.cy

EESTI

Eesti Kaubandus-Tööstuskoda (Estonian Chamber of Commerce and Industry)
Toom-Kooli 17
EE-0001 Tallinn
Tel. (372) 646 02 44
Fax (372) 646 02 45
E-mail: einfo@koda.ee
URL: http://www.koda.ee

MAGYARORSZÁG

Euro Info Service
Európa Ház
Margitsziget
PO Box 475
H-1396 Budapest 62
Tel. (36-1) 350 80 25
Fax (36-1) 350 90 32
E-mail: euroinfo@mail.mata.vu.hu
URL: http://www.euroinfo.hu/index.htm

MALTA

Miller Distributors Ltd
Malta International Airport
PO Box 25
Luqa LQA 05
Tel. (356) 66 44 88
Fax (356) 67 67 99
E-mail: gwirth@usa.net

POLSKA

Ars Polona
Krakowskie Przedmieście 7
Skr. pocztowa 1001
PL-00-950 Warszawa
Tel. (48-22) 826 12 01
Fax (48-22) 826 62 40
E-mail: ars_pol@bevvy.hsn.com.pl

ROMÂNIA

Euromedia
Str. G-ral Berthelot Nr 41
RO-70749 Bucuresti
Tel. (40-1) 315 44 03
Fax (40-1) 315 44 03

SLOVAKIA

Centrum VTI SR
Nám. Slobody, 19
SK-81223 Bratislava
Tel. (421-7) 531 83 64
Fax (421-7) 531 83 64
E-mail: europ@tbbi.sitk.stuba.sk
URL: http://www.sitk.stuba.sk

SLOVENIA

Gospodarski Vestnik
Dunajska cesta 5
SLO-1000 Ljubljana
Tel. (386) 611 33 03 54
Fax (386) 611 33 91 28
E-mail: repansej@gvestnik.si
URL: http://www.gvestnik.si

TÜRKIYE

Dünya Infotel AS
100, Yil Mahallesi 34440
TR-80050 Bagcilar-Istanbul
Tel. (90-212) 629 46 89
Fax (90-212) 629 46 27

AUSTRALIA

Hunter Publications
PO Box 404
3067 Abbotsford, Victoria
Tel. (61-3) 94 17 53 61
Fax (61-3) 94 19 71 54
E-mail: jpdavies@ozemail.com.au

CANADA

Renouf Publishing Co. Ltd
5369 Chemin Canotek Road Unit 1
K1J 9J3 Ottawa, Ontario
Tel. (1-613) 745 26 65
Fax (1-613) 745 76 60
E-mail: order.dept@renoufbooks.com
URL: http://www.renoufbooks.com

EGYPT

The Middle East Observer
41 Sherif Street
Cairo
Tel. (20-2) 393 97 32
Fax (20-2) 393 97 32

HRVATSKA

Mediatrade Ltd
Pavla Hatzia 1
HR-10000 Zagreb
Tel. (385-1) 43 03 92
Fax (385-1) 43 03 92

INDIA

EBIC India
3rd Floor, Y. B. Chavan Centre
Gen. J. Bhosal Marg.
400 021 Mumbai
Tel. (91-22) 282 60 64
Fax (91-22) 285 45 64
E-mail: ebic@giabm01.vsnl.net.in
URL: http://www.ebicindia.com

ISRAËL

ROY International
PO Box 13056
61130 Tel Aviv
Tel. (972-3) 546 14 23
Fax (972-3) 546 14 42
E-mail: royil@netvision.net.il

Sub-agent for the Palestinian Authority:

Index Information Services
PO Box 19502
Jerusalem
Tel. (972-2) 627 16 34
Fax (972-2) 627 12 19

JAPAN

PSI-Japan
Asahi Sanbancho Plaza #206
7-1 Sanbancho, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 102
Tel. (81-3) 32 34 69 21
Fax (81-3) 32 34 69 15
E-mail: books@psi-japan.co.jp
URL: http://www.psi-japan.com

MALAYSIA

EBIC Malaysia
Level 7, Wisma Hong Leong
18 Jalan Perak
50450 Kuala Lumpur
Tel. (60-3) 262 62 98
Fax (60-3) 262 61 98
E-mail: ebic-kl@mol.net.my

PHILIPPINES

EBIC Philippines
19th Floor, PS Bank Tower
Sen. Gil J. Puyat Ave. cor. Tindalo St.
Makati City
Metro Manila
Tel. (63-2) 759 66 80
Fax (63-2) 759 66 90
E-mail: eccppcom@globe.com.ph
URL: http://www.eccp.com

RUSSIA

CCEC
60-Ietiya Oktyabrya Av. 9
117312 Moscow
Tel. (70-95) 135 52 27
Fax (70-95) 135 52 27

SOUTH AFRICA

Safto
Safto House
NO 5 Esterhysen Street
PO Box 782 706
2146 Sandton
Tel. (27-11) 883 37 37
Fax (27-11) 883 65 69
E-mail: emalstar@ide.co.za
URL: http://www.safto.co.za

SOUTH KOREA

Information Centre for Europe (ICE)
204 Woo Sol Parktel
395-185 Seogyo Dong, Mapo Ku
121-210 Seoul
Tel. (82-2) 322 53 03
Fax (82-2) 322 53 14
E-mail: euroinfo@shinbiro.com

THAILAND

EBIC Thailand
29 Vanissa Building, 8th Floor
Sai Chidlom
Ploenchit
10330 Bangkok
Tel. (66-2) 655 06 27
Fax (66-2) 655 06 28
E-mail: ebicbkk@ksc15.th.com
URL: http://www.ebicbkk.org

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Bernan Associates
4611-F Assembly Drive
Lanham MD20706
Tel. (1-800) 274 44 47 (toll free telephone)
Fax (1-800) 865 34 50 (toll free fax)
E-mail: query@bernanc.com
URL: http://www.beman.com

ANDERE LÄNDER/OTHER COUNTRIES/ AUTRES PAYS

Bitte wenden Sie sich an ein Büro Ihrer Wahl / Please contact the sales office of your choice / Veuillez vous adresser au bureau de vente de votre choix

Central bank interest rates

October brought a number of changes to official interest rates. The main feature of these changes was that the trend was universally downwards.

Let us first of all look at what happened within the future euro zone. In Spain the central bank cut its primary official rate, the repo rate, in conjunction with the tendering procedure of 6 October. The rate was reduced from 4.25% to an all-time low of 3.75%. The last time the rate went down was in May 1998.

The Bank of Portugal also reduced its official interest rates in October, with the repo rate and the liquidity absorption rate cut from 4.50% to 4.0% and from 4.20% to 3.70% respectively.

In Italy there was a 100 basis points reduction in the discount rate and the Lombard rate, which now stand at 4.0% and 5.50% respectively. The rates last went down in April 1998.

Lastly, Ireland cut its short-term interest rate by 100 basis points to 5.75%. This was the first time since April 1997 that the Bank of Ireland had been prompted to alter loan rates, while the last cut occurred in April 1996.

These rate cuts in Spain, Portugal, Italy and Ireland brought their rates closer to those of the other European countries that will partner them in monetary union on 1 January 1999. The official rates of the seven other members of the future euro zone are around 3.30%.

Elsewhere in Europe, but outside the euro zone, there were reductions in the rates in Denmark and the United Kingdom.

In Denmark the repo rate and the deposit certificate rate were reduced twice in October. The rate was cut by 25 basis points to 4.75% at the start of the month, and then by another 10 points to 4.65% as the month ended. The discount rate was not changed and remained at 4.25%, the level set on 21 September 1998.

In the United Kingdom the base rate was trimmed by 25 basis points to 7.25% on 8 October. The rate had been set at 5.75% by the Bank of England in June 1996 but was gradually raised from the following October in an attempt to curb a rise in prices that the monetary authorities deemed excessive. The previous change to the rate had occurred in June 1998, when the rate was adjusted to 7.50%. A subsequent slowdown in the rise in prices allowed the Bank of England to cut the cost of lending in October.

Lastly, in the United States, it was at the initiative of its Chairman that the Federal Reserve decided to lower the target rate for federal funds by 25 basis points to around 5%. The rate had already been cut by 25 basis points in September 1998. The Fed also approved a cut of 25 basis points, to 4.75%, in the discount rate. The last time this rate had been changed was in January 1996. According to the Fed, the decision was taken in order to «sustain economic growth in the context of contained inflation».

9.11.1998

Price (excl. VAT) in Luxembourg: Single copy ECU 12 • Subscription: ECU 120



OFFICE FOR OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS
OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

L-2985 Luxembourg

Catalogue number: CA-CA-98-011-EN-C