

## ECU-EMS INFORMATION

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### ECU BONDS ISSUES: 10 new issues in June.

The increased issuing activity in the ECU bond market registered during the last months, continued also in June with ten new issues (including the big Community issue announced last month) amounting to 1530 Mio. June issues represent more than a third of the total volume of ECU bond issues during the first six months of 1988 and are indicative of the recent momentum in the eurobond market in general and of the ECU bond market in particular.

A general improvement in the international macroeconomic and financial environment but also factors specific to the ECU, seem to have contributed to the said increased activity in the ECU bond sector since last March.

Better than expected real growth rates of the main world economies with inflation under control, combined with reduced US trade deficits and a firmer dollar, constitute the main elements of this favourable macroeconomic and financial environment. The "correction" in the world stock markets of October 1987 which resulted in more sustainable share prices makes part of this new environment.

Among the favourable, ECU-specific, factors the following appear as being the most important:

- the firm political engagement during the European Council of last February towards a unified economic and financial area gave to the ECU a sense of stability and perspective (this engagement towards a European Monetary Union was corroborated during the recent Hannover Council).
- the high rating of the borrowers in the ECU bond market increased the attractiveness of the issues in a period where a "search of quality" has gained in importance for investors.
- the function of the ECU as a "natural hedger" against excessive currency movements, a property inherent to the construction of the ECU.

To the above should be added the financial innovation and especially the currency and interest rate swaps which increased the flexibility of the market and its potential to meet the borrowers' needs and investors' preferences.

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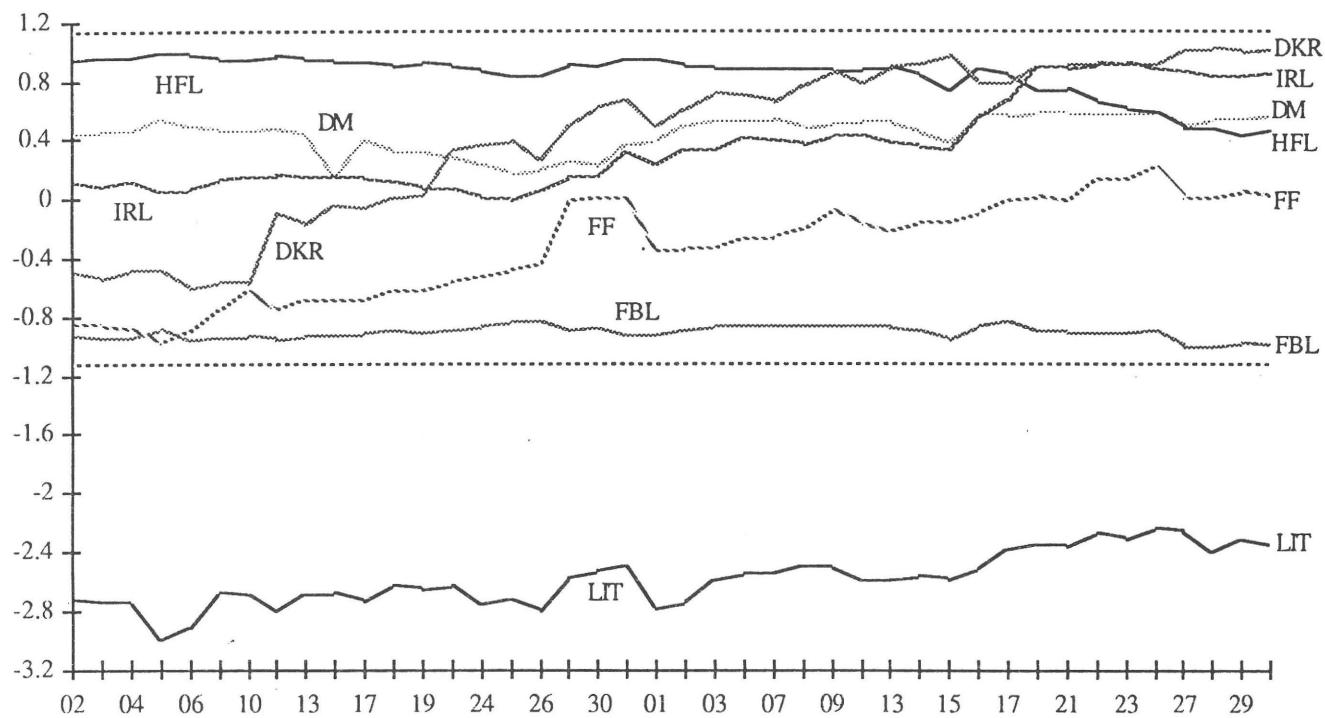
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**TABLE I**  
**BILATERAL FLUCTUATIONS OF THE EMS CURRENCIES**



#### How to read the graph

1. The various curves 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.
2. The graph is drawn with the curve of the strongest currency above that of the weakest. It shows therefore the relative position of each currency vis-à-vis the other currencies.
3. 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.

#### Construction of the graph

1. The graph is drawn within a horizontal band corresponding to the maximum 2,25% margin of fluctuation applying at any given moment to market exchange rates and the bilateral central rates of the EMS currencies, with the exception of the LIT, which has a maximum authorized fluctuation of 6%. This band 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.
2. The daily market exchange rates of all currencies are compared with the relevant bilateral central rates and the differentials between the two calculated.
3. The maximum fluctuation between two currencies (with the exception of the LIT) is shown within 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 permissible fluctuation.
4. The curves are drawn by linking daily the points showing the relative positions of each currency.

TABLE II

## ECU BOND ISSUES (Mio ECU) \*

|           | TOTAL  | European Community |                    |                  |                   | Non-European Community |                    |                  |                    |
|-----------|--------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
|           |        | Total              | Business<br>sector | Govern-<br>ments | Institu-<br>tions | Total                  | Business<br>sector | Govern-<br>ments | Organiza-<br>tions |
| 1982      | 1 892  | 1 772              | 340                | 1 230            | 202               | 120                    | 65                 | 0                | 55                 |
| 1983      | 2 515  | 1 980              | 740                | 690              | 550               | 535                    | 300                | 50               | 185                |
| 1984      | 4 997  | 3 798              | 1 223              | 1 625            | 950               | 1 199                  | 784                | 140              | 275                |
| 1985      | 12 295 | 8 134              | 3 454              | 3 540            | 1 140             | 4 161                  | 3 401              | 200              | 560                |
| 1986      | 8 543  | 5 830              | 2 362              | 2 158            | 1 310             | 2 714                  | 2 304              | 350              | 60                 |
| 1987      | 8 186  | 5 453              | 2 103              | 2 000            | 1 345             | 2 733                  | 1 930              | 1 453            | 1 350              |
| 1987      |        |                    |                    |                  |                   |                        |                    |                  |                    |
| June      | 690    | 450                | 200                | 200              | 50                | 240                    | 190                | 50               | 0                  |
| July      | 565    | 200                | 50                 | 0                | 150               | 365                    | 265                | 0                | 100                |
| August    | 153    | 100                | 0                  | 100              | 0                 | 53                     | 0                  | 53               | 0                  |
| September | 435    | 150                | 0                  | 100              | 50                | 285                    | 285                | 0                | 0                  |
| October   | 295    | 75                 | 0                  | 0                | 75                | 220                    | 120                | 0                | 100                |
| November  | 175    | 175                | 0                  | 0                | 175               | 0                      | 0                  | 0                | 0                  |
| December  | 510    | 250                | 250                | 0                | 0                 | 260                    | 260                | 0                | 0                  |
| 1988      |        |                    |                    |                  |                   |                        |                    |                  |                    |
| January   | 350    | 350                | 200                | 0                | 150               | 0                      | 0                  | 0                | 0                  |
| February  | 325    | 200                | 150                | 0                | 50                | 125                    | 0                  | 125              | 0                  |
| March     | 425    | 250                | 250                | 0                | 0                 | 175                    | 50                 | 125              | 0                  |
| April     | 650    | 450                | 300                | 0                | 150               | 200                    | 200                | 0                | 0                  |
| May       | 835    | 735                | 560                | 100              | 75                | 100                    | 100                | 0                | 0                  |
| June      | 793    | 320                | 170                | 150              | 0                 | 473                    | 473                | 0                | 0                  |

(\*) Recording based on the payment date

TABLE III

## INTEREST RATES AND YIELDS OF ECU INVESTMENTS (%)

|           | Deposits |          |          |        | Bonds     |           |           |
|-----------|----------|----------|----------|--------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|           | 1 month  | 3 months | 6 months | 1 year | < 5 years | 5-7 years | > 7 years |
| 1983      | 9.14     | 9.56     | 9.86     | 10.04  | -         | -         | 12.25     |
| 1984      | 9.25     | 9.47     | 9.77     | 10.10  | 9.47      | 10.89     | 11.02     |
| 1985      | 9.13     | 9.23     | 9.31     | 9.37   | 8.90      | 9.49      | 9.65      |
| 1986      | 8.04     | 7.95     | 7.81     | 7.66   | 7.68      | 8.19      | 8.31      |
| 1987      | 7.00     | 7.10     | 7.16     | 7.27   | 7.85      | 8.24      | 8.51      |
| 1987      |          |          |          |        |           |           |           |
| June      | 6.58     | 6.70     | 6.78     | 6.98   | 7.65      | 8.03      | 8.25      |
| July      | 6.53     | 6.71     | 6.84     | 7.03   | 7.81      | 8.13      | 8.40      |
| August    | 6.86     | 7.09     | 7.28     | 7.44   | 7.98      | 8.34      | 8.64      |
| September | 7.08     | 7.17     | 7.52     | 7.69   | 8.28      | 8.60      | 8.93      |
| October   | 6.85     | 7.51     | 7.61     | 7.79   | 8.61      | 9.00      | 9.24      |
| November  | 7.06     | 7.14     | 7.14     | 7.27   | 8.48      | 8.60      | 9.06      |
| December  | 6.95     | 6.98     | 7.02     | 7.09   | 8.14      | 8.37      | 8.76      |
| 1988      |          |          |          |        |           |           |           |
| January   | 6.05     | 6.33     | 6.56     | 6.69   | 8.04      | 8.27      | 8.69      |
| February  | 6.03     | 6.20     | 6.39     | 6.59   | 7.99      | 8.00      | 8.49      |
| March     | 6.20     | 6.33     | 6.49     | 6.64   | 7.66      | 7.78      | 8.17      |
| April     | 6.08     | 6.31     | 6.43     | 6.62   | 7.41      | 7.76      | 7.96      |
| May       | 5.91     | 6.23     | 6.45     | 6.69   | 7.47      | 7.93      | 8.16      |
| June      | 5.84     | 6.16     | 6.42     | 6.73   | 7.41      | 7.76      | 8.08      |

TABLE IV

## LAST MONTH ECU BONDS ISSUES

| Issue Payment Date   | Borrower (country)                  | Issued (Mio ECU) | Issue Price | Coupon | Term (years) | Maturity | Yields % | Lead Manager             | Listing | Notice                  |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|-------------|--------|--------------|----------|----------|--------------------------|---------|-------------------------|
| 02/06/88<br>06/07/88 | WORLD BANK                          | 100              | 100.375     | 7 3/8  | 5            | 06/07/93 | 7.04     | Bank of Tokyo            | LX      | Swap                    |
| 02/06/88<br>24/06/88 | Chase Manhattan (U.S.A.)            | 60               | 100.000     | 7 3/8  | 5            | 24/07/93 |          | Kreditbank               | LX      |                         |
| 06/06/88<br>27/06/88 | Crédit Foncier de France (FRANCE)   | 70               | 101.875     | 7 5/8  | 6            | 14/04/94 | 7.21     | Nikko Sec.               | LX      | Swap                    |
| 08/06/88<br>12/07/88 | Crédit National (FRANCE)            | 150              | 101.375     | 7 1/4  | 3            | 12/07/91 | 6.73     | Paribas                  | LX      | Swap                    |
| 08/06/88<br>07/07/88 | E.C.S.C.<br>E.C.C.                  | 500              | 101.750     | 7 5/8  | 6            | 07/07/94 | 7.26     | Deutsche Bank            | LX      | Swap                    |
| 17/06/88<br>13/07/88 | C Itoh (JAPAN)                      | 100              | 100.000     | 3 1/4  | 5            | 13/07/93 |          | Nippon Kangyo Kakumaru   | LX      | Swap<br>Equity Warrants |
| 22/06/88<br>06/07/88 | Swedish Export Kredit (SWEDEN)      | 50               | 101.375     | 7 3/8  | 4            | 21/04/92 | 6.97     | Merril Lynch Cap. Markt. | LX      | Swap                    |
| 24/06/88<br>04/08/88 | Pepsico Inc. (U.S.A.)               | 100              | 101.575     | 7 3/8  | 4            | 04/10/92 | 6.91     | Morgan Stanley Inc.      | LX      | Swap                    |
| 24/06/88<br>22/07/88 | Crédit Local de France (FRANCE)     | 150              | 100.500     | 7 5/8  | 4            | 12/10/92 | 7.19     | Paribas                  | LX      | Swap                    |
| 28/06/88<br>29/07/88 | Cie Générale d'Électricité (FRANCE) | 250              | 100.000     | 5 1/2  | 8            | 29/07/96 |          | Sté Générale             | LX      | Convertible             |

Listing: LX = Luxembourg







## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### ECU exchange rates.

The exchange rates for the ECU against the national currencies of the Member States of the Community, the United States (USD) and Japan (YEN) are shown as monthly averages and daily rates for the latest available month.

The ECU basket, dating from 17 September 1984, is currently made up as follows:

| 1 ECU = | DM      | FF     | HFL     | BFR    | LFR    | LIT   | DKR     | IRL       | UKL *    | DRA * |
|---------|---------|--------|---------|--------|--------|-------|---------|-----------|----------|-------|
|         | 0,719 + | 1,31 + | 0,256 + | 3,71 + | 0,14 + | 140 + | 0,219 + | 0,00871 + | 0,0878 + | 1,15  |

### ECU central rates since 12 January 1987

|  | DM      | FF      | HFL     | B/LFR   | LIT     | DKR     | IRL      | UKL *    | DRA *   |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|----------|---------|
|  | 2,05853 | 6,90403 | 2,31943 | 42,4582 | 1483,58 | 7,85212 | 0,768411 | 0,739615 | 150,792 |

### Weights of currencies in the ECU basket (based on new central rates from 12 January 1987), in %.

|       | DM    | FF    | HFL   | B/LFR | LIT  | DKR  | IRL  | UKL * | DRA * |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|------|-------|-------|
| 100 = | 34,93 | 18,97 | 11,04 | 9,07  | 9,44 | 2,79 | 1,13 | 11,87 | 0,76  |

\* = Does not participate in the exchange rate mechanism

### Consumer price indices in national currency

The consumer price indices in the national currency of each country measure changes in the purchasing power of one unit of national currency spent in the country concerned.

Two composite indices are calculated, covering all the Member States of the Community (EUR 12) and the eight Member States with currencies participating in the European Monetary System exchange rate mechanism (EMS).

These indices are calculated as weighted arithmetic means (chain indices) of the national indices, the weighting for each Member State being its relative share in the final consumption of households of the group of countries in question (EUR 12, EMS), expressed in purchasing power standards, at current prices and purchasing power parities.

At the foot of the table, the average weighted fluctuations around the mean and the minimum are given for the same groups of countries, with the same weightings. (These are calculated as weighted averages of the absolute fluctuations in relation to the mean and the minimum respectively). They show the degree to which price movements in the Member States in the Community converge.

### Consumer price indices in ECU

For each country the index of consumer prices in ECU is calculated by dividing the national 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.

Three composite indices are calculated, covering all the Member States of the Community (EUR 12), the eight Member States participating in the European Monetary System exchange rate mechanism (EMS) and the ten Member States whose currencies go to make up the ECU (ECU). These indices are calculated as weighted arithmetic means (chain indices) of the consumer price indices expressed in ECU as mentioned above.

#### *The weightings are defined as follows:*

- for the EUR 12 and EMS indices, the relative share of each Member State in the final consumption of households for the group of countries in question (EUR 12 or EMS), expressed in ECU 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).

### **ECU bond issues**

All ECU-denominated bond issues, both national and international, are covered, together with ECU issues offering the option of conversion into other currencies. Main source: International Financing Review

Table II 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).
- Organizations: the specialist institutions of the United Nations, the World Bank, the Council of Europe, etc.....

The issues are recorded as at the payment date.

### **Interest rates and yields on ECU investments**

The interest rates for 1, 3 and 6 month and 1 year deposits are calculated on the basis of the Friday London market rates (source: Financial Times).

The bonds are classified according to three types of terms: under 5 years, from 5 to 7 years and more than 7 years. The redemption yields of ECU bonds are calculated each Wednesday from a sample of fixed interest bonds, denominated in ECU and listed on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange. These yields are weighted by amounts in circulation. (source: Luxembourg Stock Exchange).

The monthly and yearly averages are the arithmetic means of these weekly interest rates and bond yields.

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