

PRESS RELEASE

A- TURKISH LIRA DEPOSIT BUYING AUCTIONS PROGRAM FOR JANUARY 2003

The Central Bank will continue to conduct Turkish lira deposit buying auctions in January 2003 with a standard four-week maturity that was initiated in April 2002 as a supplement to its existing instruments with the aim of enhancing the effectiveness of its efforts to sterilize the excess Turkish lira liquidity in the system.

As was in December 2002, the Central Bank will hold Turkish lira deposit buying auctions on Wednesdays and Fridays each week and the maximum amount at each auction will be limited to 200 trillion Turkish liras.

Because of the impending religious holiday, the maturity date of the auctions to be held on the January 15th and 17th, 2003 will be February 17th, 2003.

B-FOREIGN EXCHANGE BUYING AUCTIONS

As stated in our previous press releases, the Central Bank may resume the foreign exchange buying auctions in case there might be an excess supply of foreign exchange resulting from the reverse currency substitution process, and the strong balance of payments position. Developments in the reverse currency substitution process have been closely monitored and continuously evaluated by the Central Bank and Turkish banking system. In the event of a decision on the resumption of holding programmed foreign exchange buying auctions, the Central Bank will announce it in due course.