

PRESS RELEASE
ON THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE VOLUMES
OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS AGAINST TURKISH LIRA
MADE BY BANKS AND SPECIAL FINANCE INSTITUTIONS

Monitoring of the financial markets is among the Central Bank's main duties by Law. Under the framework of its Law, the Central Bank closely observes the foreign exchange market, as well as the other financial markets. Monitoring of the foreign exchange market is considered crucial for taking the necessary regulatory measures to ensure that the market could operate efficiently in full agreement with the principles of the floating exchange-rate regime. In this regard, a monitoring system was initiated by the Central Bank in 2002 to better oversee the volumes and types of transactions in the foreign exchange market and it was announced by the Press Release dated January 2, 2002 that the information on the depth of the foreign exchange markets would be regularly announced to the public, once the monitoring system starts providing reliable results.

In this context, starting today, the data on the volumes of foreign exchange, banknotes and forward foreign exchange buying and selling transactions performed by the banks, which are established in Turkey, or are operating in Turkey through branch offices, and the special finance institutions will be published regularly on the Central Bank Website (www.tcmb.gov.tr) under the heading of "CBRT Data/Financial Markets".

Transaction volumes are on a daily basis and will be published after five working days following the transaction date. In addition, transaction volumes for the period of October 1, 2002 - January 10, 2003 have also been published. The transaction volumes are recorded in US dollars, and grouped as foreign exchange and banknotes. The data on the foreign exchange transactions are classified under three headings, as domestic interbank, domestic customers and customers abroad. A distinction between spot and forward foreign exchange transactions is also made. Clarifications about the contents of the data can be found in the table footnotes.