



Bulgarian National Bank

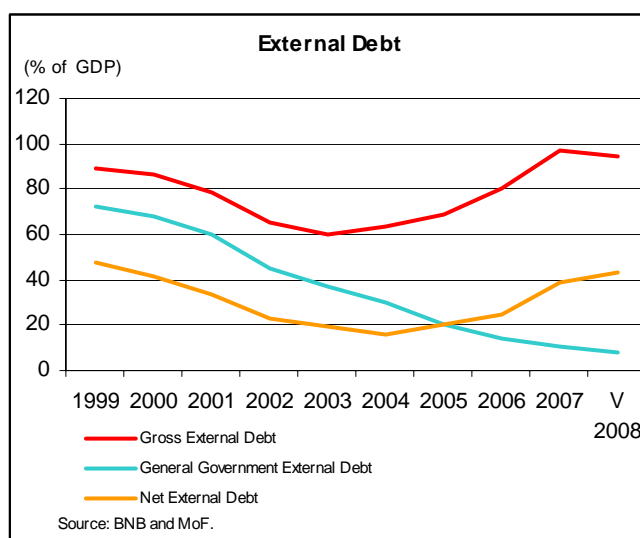
July 23, 2008

PRESS RELEASE

GROSS EXTERNAL DEBT MAY 2008

As of end-May 2008 **gross external debt**¹ was EUR 30,987.1 million (94.4% of GDP²) and increased by EUR 2,863.4 million (10.2%) against the end of 2007 (EUR 28,123.7 million, 97.3% of GDP). This was mainly due to the increase of *Direct Investment* liabilities (EUR 1,459.8 million, 15.2%). By end-May 2008 long-term liabilities amounted to EUR 20,502.6 million (66.2% of total debt), and short-term liabilities came to EUR 10,484.5 million (33.8% of total debt).

General Government's external debt amounted to EUR 2,673.5 million³ (8.1% of GDP) as of end-May 2008, decreasing by EUR 350.7 million (11.6%) against the end of December 2007. The decrease was mainly due to credit payments made to the World Bank ahead of schedule in March 2008.



Banks' external debt amounted to EUR 6,434.8 million (19.6% of GDP) increasing by EUR 687.3 million (12%) against the end of 2007. *Other Sectors'* debt⁴ was EUR 10,836.9 million, increasing by EUR 1067 million (10.9%) relative to the end of 2007. As of end-May 2008 the stock of *Direct Investment* liabilities³ was EUR 11,042 million, increasing by EUR 1,459.8 million (15.2%) against the end of 2007.

In January – May 2008, **gross external debt service** was EUR 2,462.1 million (7.5% of GDP) against EUR 2,586.4 million (9% of GDP) for the same period in 2007.

In January – May 2008, **loans and deposits received** from non-residents came to EUR 3,841.6 million (11.7% of GDP) compared to EUR 3,223.7 million (11.2% of GDP) for the same period in 2007.

As of end-May 2008, **net external debt** was EUR 14,202 million (43.3% of GDP) and increased by EUR 3,105.2 million (28%) against the end of 2007 (EUR 11,096.9 million, 38.4% of GDP).

¹ Preliminary data. The data for April 2008 are revised. In accordance with the methodological notes with the June 2008 report the data for May 2008 are to be revised.

² GDP for 2007 (preliminary NSI data) - EUR 28,898 million and GDP for 2008 estimated at EUR 32,824 million.

³ Following the resident concept.

⁴ Due to quarterly reporting of firms April - May 2008 data are subject to revisions.

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Attachments: Tables: *Gross External Debt*, in EUR (by institutional sectors); *Gross External Debt Service* (by institutional sectors) in EUR; *Disbursements* (by institutional sectors) in EUR

A complete set of Bulgaria's gross external debt tables, the press release, as well as the methodological notes are available on the BNB website in block "Statistics" under the header External Sector/ Gross External Debt.

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GROSS EXTERNAL DEBT¹

(mln. Euro)

Gross external Debt By Institutional Sector	XII. 2005	XII. 2006	III. 2007	IV. 2007	V. 2007	VI. 2007	VII. 2007	VIII. 2007	IX. 2007	X. 2007	XI. 2007	XII. 2007	I. 2008	II. 2008	III. 2008	IV. 2008	V. 2008	V. 2008 - XII. 2007		
																		mln. Euro	%	
General Government²	4396.6	3646.0	3346.0	3069.0	3069.9	3172.5	3177.9	3180.1	3090.4	3064.2	3054.7	3024.2	3046.4	3023.2	2735.8	2691.3	2673.5	-350.7	-11.6	
Short-term	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	
Long-term	4396.6	3646.0	3346.0	3069.0	3069.9	3172.5	3177.9	3180.1	3090.4	3064.2	3054.7	3024.2	3046.4	3023.2	2735.8	2691.3	2673.5	-350.7	-11.6	
Bonds and Notes ³	2114.1	2004.0	1746.5	1724.4	1737.2	1733.6	1720.1	1720.3	1673.9	1655.6	1659.6	1633.1	1649.4	1633.1	1599.8	1613.5	1615.2	1615.2	-44.4	-2.7
Bonds and Notes held by residents ⁴	-445.6	-455.3	-429.7	-438.7	-451.1	-463.7	-463.2	-485.8	-512.2	-508.3	-499.3	-487.3	-469.2	-440.6	-435.1	-476.8	-489.0	-489.0	-1.7	0.3
Loans	2728.1	2097.2	2029.2	1783.3	1783.7	1902.6	1921.0	1945.7	1912.5	1898.6	1898.4	1851.9	1866.2	1830.6	1571.1	1554.6	1547.3	-304.6	-16.4	
Monetary Authorities	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	
Short-term	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	
Long-term	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	
Banks⁵	2526.4	3454.2	3600.3	3810.7	3543.3	3806.1	3878.4	4166.1	4586.3	4737.7	5177.7	5747.5	4975.3	5335.1	5765.2	6468.3	6434.8	687.3	12.0	
Short-term	1771.1	2540.7	2644.0	2848.6	2714.7	2709.0	2658.8	2907.8	3235.2	3363.8	3792.4	4323.9	3554.7	3900.6	4305.1	4779.8	4753.7	429.8	9.9	
Loans	271.2	524.8	352.1	337.6	308.5	360.3	357.0	353.8	370.2	373.4	383.0	280.5	332.5	358.8	487.3	411.0	441.3	160.9	57.4	
Currency and deposits	1396.6	1900.1	2174.1	2376.8	2257.9	2203.9	2165.4	2360.6	2751.1	2886.2	3289.9	3919.9	3131.6	3426.4	3728.9	4249.9	4171.1	251.2	6.4	
Other debt liabilities	103.2	115.9	117.8	134.2	148.2	144.8	136.4	193.4	113.9	104.2	120.2	123.5	90.6	115.4	88.9	118.9	141.3	17.8	14.4	
Long-term	755.3	913.5	956.3	962.1	828.6	1097.1	1219.6	1258.2	1351.1	1373.8	1385.3	1423.6	1420.6	1434.5	1460.2	1688.5	1681.1	257.4	18.1	
Bonds and Notes	106.6	141.6	141.1	141.1	151.1	151.1	139.2	132.6	132.5	132.5	132.5	132.5	132.5	132.8	132.8	132.8	132.8	0.3	0.2	
Loans	648.7	771.9	815.2	821.1	677.6	946.0	1080.4	1125.6	1218.6	1241.3	1252.8	1291.2	1287.9	1301.7	1327.4	1555.7	1548.3	257.2	19.9	
Other Sectors⁶	4222.0	7273.9	7736.8	7979.6	8208.4	8399.0	8731.7	8893.8	9119.5	9290.6	9857.7	9769.9	10111.8	10211.1	10762.3	10793.7	10836.9	1067.0	10.9	
Short-term	1998.7	3582.5	3850.3	4002.7	4194.9	4322.0	4462.0	4822.2	4991.7	5072.8	5302.9	5211.1	5419.3	5489.3	5689.4	5697.2	5730.8	519.7	10.0	
Money Market Instruments	0.0	179.0	179.0	179.0	179.0	179.0	179.0	66.5	66.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	
Loans	928.9	1966.5	2307.2	2380.6	2493.8	2581.8	2733.1	3217.2	3419.7	3528.8	3720.8	3698.7	3910.1	3983.4	4232.2	4240.0	4273.6	574.9	15.5	
Trade credits	1069.8	1437.0	1364.1	1443.2	1522.2	1561.2	1549.9	1538.6	1544.0	1502.1	1512.4	1509.1	1509.1	1509.9	1457.2	1457.2	1457.2	-55.2	-3.6	
Long-term	2223.2	3691.4	3886.5	3977.0	4013.5	4077.0	4269.7	4071.5	4127.8	4217.8	4554.8	4558.8	4692.5	4721.8	5072.8	5096.5	5106.1	547.3	12.0	
Bonds and Notes ⁷	37.1	310.2	310.5	308.5	300.5	300.5	299.7	297.7	298.2	297.9	403.4	308.6	305.6	305.5	298.4	296.5	296.5	-12.2	-4.0	
Loans	2186.1	3381.2	3576.0	3668.5	3713.0	3776.4	3970.0	3773.8	3829.6	3919.9	4151.4	4250.2	4386.9	4416.3	4774.4	4800.1	4809.7	559.5	13.2	
Other debt liabilities	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	
V. Direct investment: intercompany lending	4123.2	5995.8	6365.1	6650.0	6874.4	7025.6	7371.4	8904.5	8759.1	8951.5	9255.6	9582.1	10397.7	10474.4	10604.8	10768.1	11042.0	1459.8	15.2	
GROSS EXTERNAL DEBT (I+II+III+IV+V)	15268.2	20369.9	21048.2	21509.3	21695.9	22403.1	23159.5	25144.5	25555.4	26044.0	27345.7	28123.7	28531.3	29043.8	29868.1	30721.5	30987.1	2863.4	10.2	

Memo items:

Long-term external debt ⁸	11498.4	14246.7	14553.9	14658.1	14786.3	15372.1	16038.7	17414.4	17328.4	17607.3	18250.5	18588.8	19557.3	19653.9	19873.6	20244.5	20502.6	1913.9	10.3
Short-term external debt	3769.8	6123.2	6494.3	6851.2	6909.5	7031.0	7120.8	7730.1	8226.9	8436.6	9095.3	9535.0	8973.9	9389.9	9994.5	10477.0	10484.5	949.5	10.0
Public and publicly guaranteed external debt	5139.0	4491.1	4205.4	3917.1	3923.6	4031.4	4088.0	4107.0	4008.5	4005.3	4041.1	4039.3	4070.7	4049.2	3776.5	3735.3	3717.8	-321.5	-8.0
Private non-guaranteed external debt	10129.1	15878.8	16842.9	17592.2	17772.3	18371.7	19071.5	21037.5	21546.8	22038.6	23304.6	24084.4	24460.6	24994.6	26091.6	26986.1	27269.3	3184.9	13.2
Revolving credits ⁹	544.4	802.4	905.6	943.6	1000.5	922.1	1044.1	1449.1	1506.7	1579.2	1635.1	1854.3	2037.4	2068.6	2100.4	2198.9	2353.9	499.6	26.9
Trade Credits ^{9,10}	1666.3	2048.1	2057.0	2174.4	2291.8	2383.8	2395.2	2406.7	2365.1	2405.3	2444.5	2365.8	2371.0	2319.4	2319.4	2319.4	2319.4	-41.3	-1.7
Credits on demand ⁹	2109.4	3873.7	4362.6	4607.1	4768.2	4931.3	5180.6	5378.4	5534.1	5602.9	5599.9	6206.1	6964.2	7017.2	7230.2	7272.0	7272.4	1066.4	17.2
incl. intercompany loans	1516.0	2332.7	2479.7	2654.9	2738.5	2867.6	2980.7	3036.1	3044.2	3100.9	3099.8	3237.8	3832.3	3844.5	3893.0	3912.3	3912.7	674.9	20.8

¹ Preliminary data. The Euro equivalent is calculated using the monthly e.o.p. exchange rates of the respective foreign currencies.² Data source: The Register of Government and Government-guaranteed Debt of the Ministry of Finance. Preliminary data as of July 1, 2008.

Debt liabilities of the public companies and the government guaranteed debt are excluded.

³ Brady bonds, Eurobonds, Global bonds and government securities (denominated in BGN and in foreign currency), purchased by non-residents are included.⁴ In accordance with the residence concept the Brady bonds, Eurobonds and Global bonds held by residents are subtracted therefore they are shown with minus sign (at nominal value).⁵ Data source: commercial banks (incl. private and state commercial banks). Deposits related to contingent liabilities are excluded.⁶ Data source: Local individuals and legal entities (incl. state owned companies and government guaranteed loans from the Register of Government and Government-guaranteed Debt of the Ministry of Finance.). Intercompany loans are excluded. Data comprise only those credits (incl. revolving and intercompany lending) that are registered by the BNB and for which the BNB has received information⁷ Due to the reconciliation of the received data on portfolio investment of Other Sectors, the data are to be revised (Source: Central Depository AD).⁸ In accordance with the EXTERNAL DEBT STATISTICS, Guide for Compilers and Users, IMF 2003 p.3.14 and p. 7.5 liabilities related to Direct investment are included in the long-term debt.⁹ The stock of the revolving credits, trade credits and the credits, payable on demand is included in the gross external debt stock of the country. Commercial banks' credits are excluded.¹⁰ Due to the quarterly reporting of firms the data for 2008 are subject to revisions.

GROSS EXTERNAL DEBT SERVICE

Debt Service By Institutional Sector ²	V. 2007			I-V. 2007			V. 2008			I-V. 2008			Change ¹		
	Principal	Interest	Total	Principal	Interest	Total	Principal	Interest	Total	Principal	Interest	Total	Principal	Interest	Total
I. General Government³	17.3	5.2	22.5	599.5	121.0	720.4	22.5	5.8	28.2	447.7	97.6	545.3	-151.7	-23.4	-175.1
Short-term	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Long-term	17.3	5.2	22.5	599.5	121.0	720.4	22.5	5.8	28.2	447.7	97.6	545.3	-151.7	-23.4	-175.1
Bonds and Notes	0.0	0.0	0.0	247.2	124.3	371.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	98.5	98.6	-247.1	-25.7	-272.9
Bonds and Notes held by residents ⁴	12.1	0.0	12.1	33.2	-30.5	2.7	14.9	0.0	14.9	93.8	-30.3	63.4	60.5	0.1	60.7
Loans	5.2	5.2	10.4	319.1	27.2	346.2	7.5	5.8	13.3	353.9	29.4	383.3	34.9	2.2	37.1
II. Monetary Authorities	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Short-term	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Long-term	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
III. Banks⁵	312.0	4.6	316.6	1077.6	17.6	1095.2	97.3	2.7	100.0	1089.5	24.7	1114.3	11.9	7.1	19.0
Short-term	155.8	0.9	156.7	894.0	3.5	897.5	80.2	0.3	80.5	1038.0	4.9	1042.9	144.0	1.4	145.3
Loans	29.6	0.9	30.5	248.2	3.5	251.7	1.3	0.3	1.6	108.3	4.9	113.2	-139.9	1.4	-138.6
Currency and deposits	119.9	0.0	119.9	614.7	0.0	614.7	78.9	0.0	78.9	870.1	0.0	870.1	255.4	0.0	255.4
Other debt liabilities	6.3	0.0	6.3	31.1	0.0	31.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	59.6	0.0	59.6	28.5	0.0	28.5
Long-term	156.2	3.7	159.9	183.6	14.1	197.7	17.1	2.4	19.5	51.5	19.9	71.4	-132.1	5.8	-126.3
Bonds and Notes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.5	0.0	-0.5
Loans	156.2	3.7	159.9	183.1	14.1	197.2	17.1	2.4	19.5	51.5	19.9	71.4	-131.6	5.8	-125.8
IV. Other Sectors⁶	85.5	11.1	96.6	342.7	66.3	408.9	81.4	6.7	88.1	536.9	65.6	602.5	194.2	-0.7	193.6
Short-term	17.1	3.1	20.1	102.9	16.9	119.7	11.0	0.2	11.2	95.3	18.2	113.5	-7.6	1.4	-6.2
Money Market Instruments	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Loans	17.1	3.1	20.1	102.9	16.9	119.7	11.0	0.2	11.2	95.3	18.2	113.5	-7.6	1.4	-6.2
Long-term	68.4	8.0	76.4	239.8	49.4	289.2	70.4	6.5	76.9	441.6	47.4	489.0	201.8	-2.0	199.8
Bonds and Notes	8.0	0.0	8.0	10.9	0.0	10.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.2	0.0	12.2	1.3	0.0	1.3
Loans	60.5	8.0	68.5	228.9	49.4	278.3	70.4	6.5	76.9	429.4	47.4	476.8	200.5	-2.0	198.5
V. Direct investment: intercompany lending	51.6	4.3	55.9	311.0	50.9	361.8	15.1	16.2	31.3	143.3	56.7	200.0	-167.7	5.9	-161.8
GROSS EXTERNAL DEBT (I+II+III+IV+V)	466.5	25.2	491.6	2330.7	255.7	2586.4	216.3	31.3	247.6	2217.4	244.7	2462.1	-113.3	-11.1	-124.4

Memo items:

Long-term external debt ⁷	293.6	21.2	314.8	1333.8	235.4	1569.2	125.1	30.8	156.0	1084.2	221.5	1305.7	-249.7	-13.8	-263.5
Short-term external debt	172.9	4.0	176.9	996.9	20.4	1017.3	91.2	0.5	91.7	1133.3	23.1	1156.4	136.4	2.7	139.1
Public and publicly guaranteed external debt	20.1	8.1	28.2	626.4	136.1	762.5	24.4	8.7	33.1	463.9	116.6	580.5	-162.5	-19.5	-182.0
Private non-guaranteed external debt	446.4	17.0	463.4	1704.3	119.6	1824.0	191.9	22.7	214.5	1753.5	128.1	1881.6	49.2	8.4	57.6
Revolving credits ⁸	458.5	1.9	460.4	2099.3	11.7	2110.9	0.5	0.3	0.9	1081.8	15.9	1097.7	-1017.4	4.2	-1013.2
Trade Credits ⁸	0.0	0.0	0.0	45.8	0.0	45.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.4	0.0	9.4	-36.4	0.0	-36.4

¹ Change for the period January-May 2008 against January-May 2007.² Actual payments. Preliminary data. The Euro equivalent is calculated using the monthly average exchange rates of the respective foreign currencies.³ Data source: The Register of Government and Government-guaranteed Debt of the Ministry of Finance. Preliminary data as of July 1, 2008.

Payments related to debt liabilities of the public companies and the government guaranteed debt are excluded.

⁴ In accordance with the residence concept external debt payments are reduced with the payments of securities, held by residents and are increased with the securities (issued from residents in the international financial markets), which changed owners from non-residents to residents.⁵ Data source: commercial banks. Deposits connected with contingent liabilities are not included.⁶ Data comprise principal and interest payments on those credits (excl. intercompany lending) that are registered by the BNB and for which the BNB has received information as well as service on government guaranteed loans.⁷ In accordance with the EXTERNAL DEBT STATISTICS, Guide for Compilers and Users, IMF 2003 p. 3.14 and p. 7.5 debt service related to Direct investment are included in the long-term debt.⁸ Not included in table Debt Service by Institutional Sector. Payments on commercial banks' revolving credits are not included.

DISBURSEMENTS

(mln. Euro)

Disbursements By Institutional Sector ² (mln. Euro)	V. 2007	I-V. 2007	V. 2008	I-V. 2008	Change ¹
I. General Government³	4.7	31.6	1.7	103.7	72.1
Short-term	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Long-term	4.7	31.6	1.7	103.7	72.1
Bonds and Notes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bonds and Notes held by residents ⁴	0.0	14.3	0.9	52.6	38.4
Loans	4.7	17.3	0.8	51.1	33.7
II. Monetary Authorities	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Short-term	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Long-term	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
III. Banks⁵	42.9	1143.6	63.6	1758.0	614.4
Short-term	20.4	1069.8	53.8	1446.8	377.0
Loans	0.5	31.1	31.6	241.9	210.7
Currency and deposits ⁶	0.0	974.3	0.0	1126.2	151.9
Other debt liabilities	19.9	64.3	22.3	78.7	14.3
Long-term	22.5	73.8	9.7	311.2	237.4
Bonds and Notes	10.0	10.0	0.0	0.3	-9.7
Loans	12.5	63.8	9.7	311.0	247.1
IV. Other Sectors⁷	200.2	1149.8	91.0	1314.1	164.3
Short-term	97.3	582.9	10.1	359.8	-223.1
Money Market Instruments	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Loans	97.3	582.9	10.1	359.8	-223.1
Long-term	102.9	566.9	80.9	954.3	387.4
Bonds and Notes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Loans	102.9	566.9	80.9	954.3	387.4
V. Direct investment: intercompany lending	211.9	898.7	167.9	665.8	-232.9
GROSS EXTERNAL DEBT (I+II+III+IV+V)	459.8	3223.7	324.3	3841.6	617.8

Memo items:

Long-term external debt ⁸	342.1	1571.0	260.3	2035.0	464.0
Short-term external debt	117.7	1652.7	63.9	1806.5	153.8
Public and publicly guaranteed external debt	11.3	75.1	4.9	191.3	116.2
Private non-guaranteed external debt	448.6	3148.6	319.4	3650.3	501.7
Revolving credits ⁹	513.9	2300.5	155.6	1543.5	-757.0
Trade Credits ⁹	117.4	328.0	0.0	25.6	-302.5

¹ Change for the period January-May 2008 against January-May 2007.

² Actual disbursements. Preliminary data. The Euro equivalent is calculated using the monthly average exchange rates of the respective foreign currencies.

³ Data source: The Register of Government and Government-guaranteed Debt of the Ministry of Finance. Preliminary data as of July 1, 2008.

Disbursements related to debt liabilities of the public companies and the government guaranteed debt are excluded.

⁴ The item represents the change of liabilities towards non-residents as a result of transactions with residents. In accordance with the residence concept the net decrease of the stock of Brady bonds, Eurobonds and Global bonds held by residents represents net increase of the liabilities to non-residents and is reflected with a positive sign.

⁵ Data source: commercial banks.

⁶ Deposits connected with contingent liabilities are not included.

⁷ Data comprise disbursements on those credits (excl. intercompany lending) that are registered by the BNB and for which the BNB has received information as well as disbursements on government guaranteed loans (source: The Register of Government and Government-guaranteed Debt of the Ministry of Finance). Preliminary data as of July 1, 2008).

⁸ In accordance with the *EXTERNAL DEBT STATISTICS, Guide for Compilers and Users, IMF 2003* p.3.14 and p. 7.5 disbursements related to Direct investment are included in the long-term debt.

⁹ Not included in table Disbursements by Institutional Sector. Disbursements on commercial banks' revolving credits are not included.