

*Central Bank of Argentina
Comptroller*

Buenos Aires, April 29, 2004.

Board of Directors of the Central Bank of Argentina
The National Executive
The Congress of the Nation

In our capacities as Regular and Deputy Comptrollers of the Central Bank of Argentina, we have reviewed, as described below, the Balance Sheet of the Central Bank as of December 31, 2003, its Income Statements and the Net Worth Development for the year ended as of that date, Notes 1 to 4 and Annexes I to V to such Statements. We have signed all such documents for identification purposes only.

This review has been carried out in accordance with the procedures described in the Annex attached hereto, which do not comprise all the tasks necessary to give an opinion on the financial statements as a whole pursuant to the auditing rules in force.

Moreover, the above-mentioned review has focused on the consistency of relevant information included in the documents described in the first paragraph with the steps adopted by the Board of Directors and management of the Central Bank, and the observance of the Central Bank Charter –Act No. 24,144, as amended– and other rules applicable as regards formal and documentary requirements.

The outstanding balance presented in the fiscal year under the item “Temporary Advances to the National Government” has been duly settled on the date of this opinion as required by Article 20 of the Central Bank Charter.

These financial statements have been prepared according to the rules in force during 2003, recognizing the inflation adjustment until February 28, 2003, following the guidelines established in this regard by the Superintendency of Financial and Exchange Institutions for the Argentine financial system. This procedure differs from the provisions of Resolution 41/03 of the C.P.C.E.C.A.B.A. (C.P.A. Professional Association) Board, which extends the inflation adjustment term until October 2003.

Article 12 of Act No. 25,561 –Title V– laid out that the National Executive would take any necessary steps to exchange national and provincial securities issued in lieu of our domestic currency. For that purpose, Decree No. 743 –dated March 28, 2003, as ratified and partially amended by Act No. 25,736– provided for a “Monetary Unification Program” through which such securities would be redeemed and replaced with legal tender.

During this fiscal year, \$7.527 billion worth of provincial securities were redeemed.

Provisions contained in the above-mentioned rules will ensure monetary unification, full exercise by the Central Bank authorities as exclusive issuer of banknotes and coins within Argentina, and, therefore, compliance with constitutional provisions (National Constitution Article 75, paragraphs 6 and 11) and the relevant legal provisions (Central Bank Charter, Articles 30 and 31).

Based on the review performed and the statements made in the foregoing paragraphs, we have no objections to raise to the financial statements described above, and we consequently advise the Central Bank’s Board of Directors to approve them.

We further inform that we have overseen the observance by the Central Bank of its Charter and other applicable rules, by monitoring the decisions adopted at the Board of Director’s meetings we have regularly attended and where we have given our opinion and made recommendations when needed in line with the authorities and duties under Article 36 of the BCRA Charter.

Annex

ANNEX TO THE CENTRAL BANK COMPTROLLER'S REPORT

DESCRIPTION OF THE MAIN REVIEW PROCEDURES OF THE CENTRAL BANK FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2003

1. Read draft opinions from KPMG Finsterbusch Pickenhayn Sibille and the National General Audit Office (A.G.N.).
2. Have access to working papers from the KPMG Finsterbusch Pickenhayn Sibille and the National General Audit Office (A.G.N.) related to the External Audit of the above statements.
3. Read financial statements.
4. Verify consistency of the figures appearing in the financial statements with those in the documents evidencing transactions.
5. Have access, as Regular and Deputy Comptrollers, to certain documents, books and evidences of transactions.
6. Attend Board of Director's meetings.
7. Participate in working meetings between BCRA officials, KPMG Finsterbusch Pickenhayn Sibille and the National General Audit Office (A.G.N.) on the progress of the work done by the external auditors.
8. Read and review the work programs and reports of the BCRA General Audit area on financial statements accounts.
9. Read and compare Summary Asset and Liability Statements, daily listings of Reserve and Monetary Liability developments and other accounting information.
10. Control debt consolidation files under Acts No. 23,982 and 25,344, as amended, and take part in Payment Request Forms under Decrees No. 2140/91, 1116/00, and 1873/02.

11. Follow up and control the Monetary Program performance. Monitor compliance with monetary targets provided for in the Technical Memorandum of Understanding signed in September 2003.