

## Monetary policy meeting of the Executive Board, 17 December 2003

### 1. The current monetary policy situation

Related documents:       CONFIDENTIAL memo 10 December 2003 from Monetary Policy  
                                  STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL memo 12 December 2003 from Monetary Policy  
                                  Memo 12 December 2003 from Monetary Policy with reports from Norges Bank's regional network  
                                  Draft minutes of meeting between Norges Bank and the Ministry of Finance on 28 October 2003  
                                  STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL memo 17 December 2003 (background and general assessment) from Monetary Policy

The Deputy Governor presented a review of the main economic developments since the previous Executive Board meeting, with particular emphasis on developments in money, foreign exchange and capital markets and his assessment of these developments in relation to the monetary policy strategy. Mr. Thorberg Falch from Allforsk, Region Central Norway, presented the assessments in Norges Bank's regional network.

On this basis, the Executive Board had a discussion and decided to reduce the rate on banks' sight deposits and D-loans in Norges Bank 0.25 percentage point to 2.25 and 4.25 percent respectively with effect as from 18 December 2003.

The Executive Board also took note of the memo "Developments since 22 October". The Governor informed the Board that the minutes of the meeting between the Ministry of Finance and Norges Bank on 28 October 2003 had now been approved.