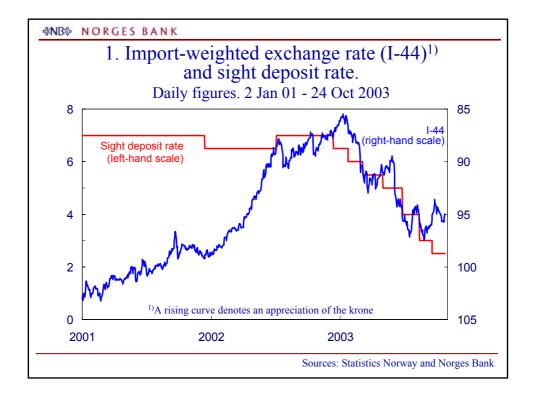
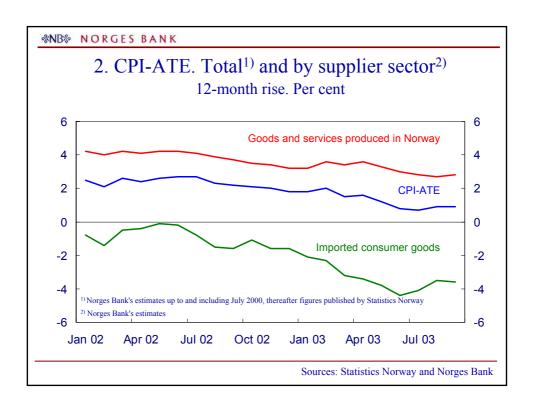
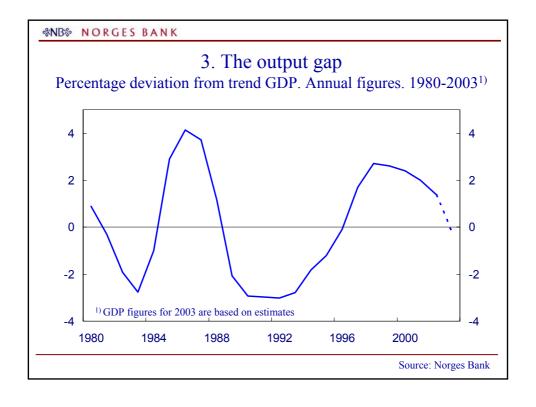
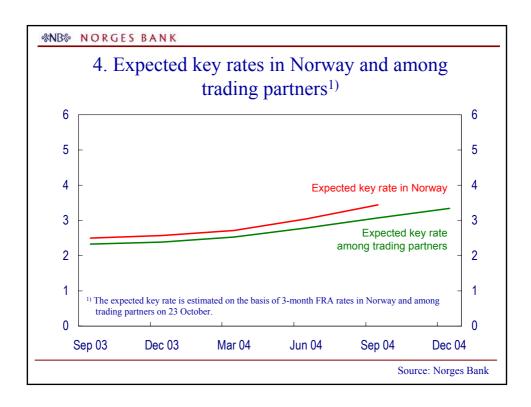
♦NB♦ NORGES BANK

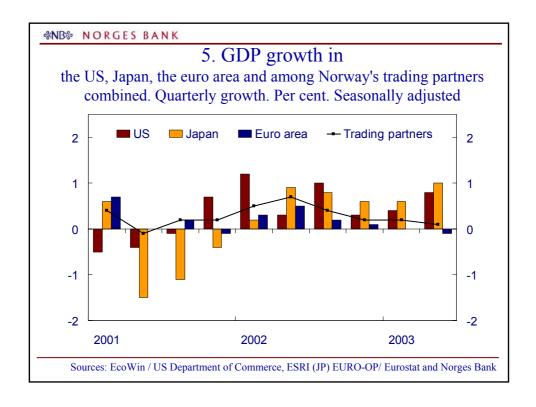
Executive Board meeting 29 October 2003

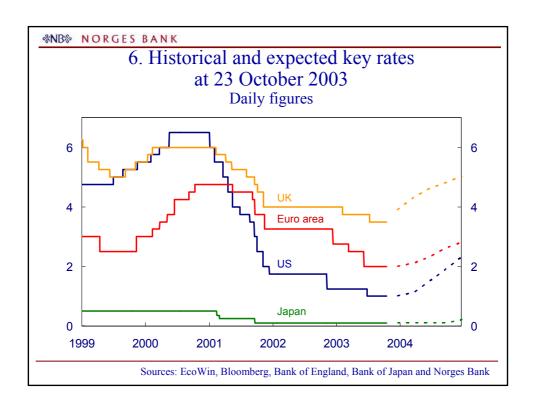


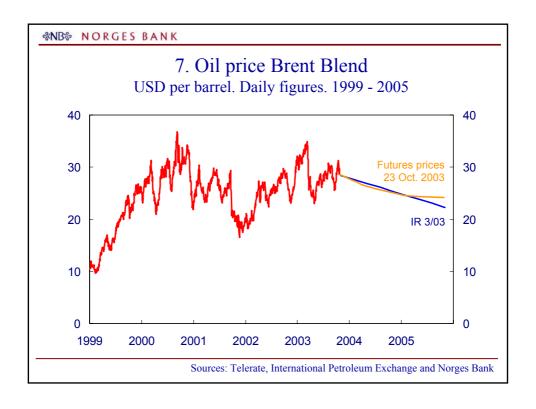


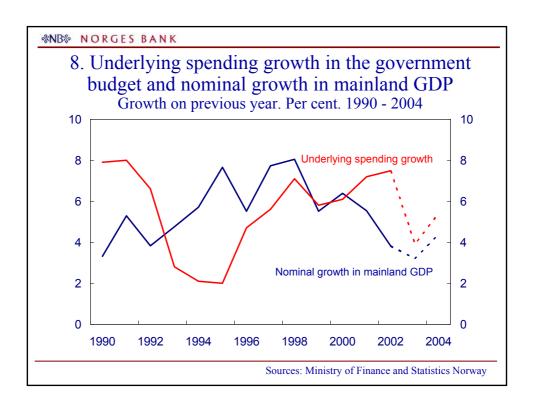


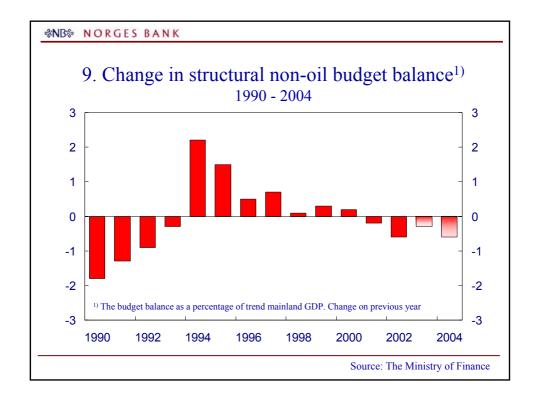


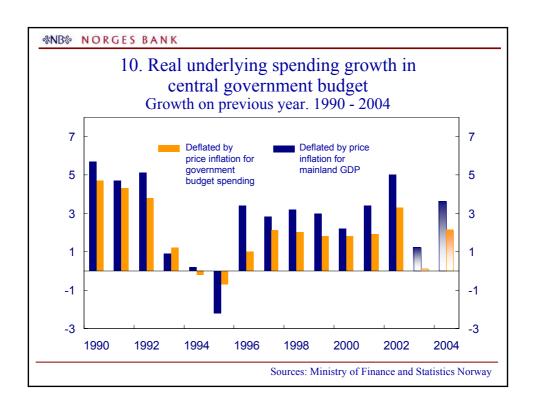


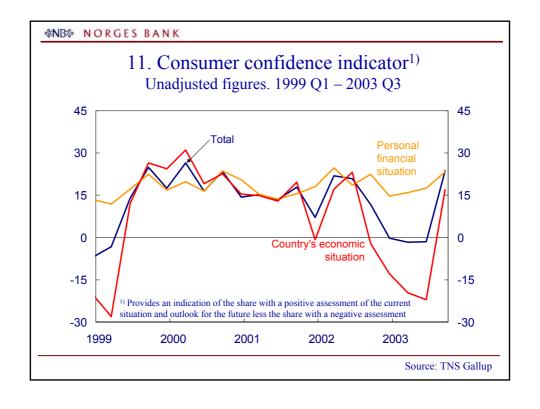


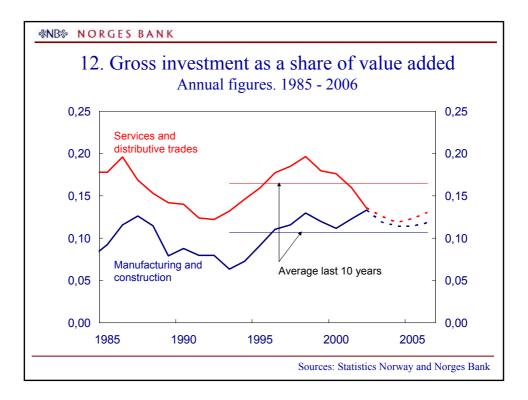








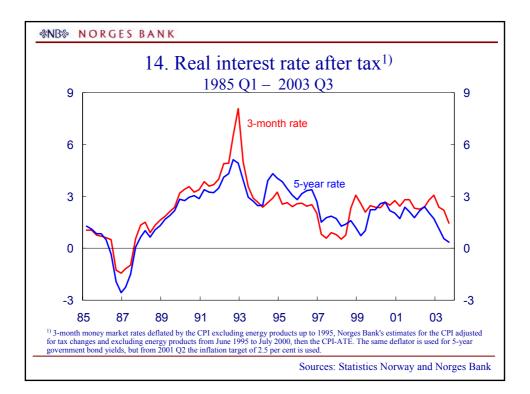


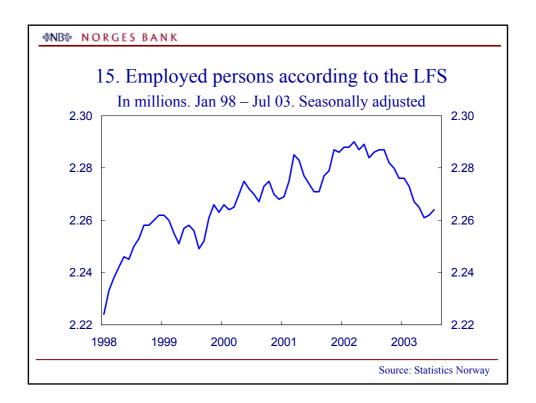


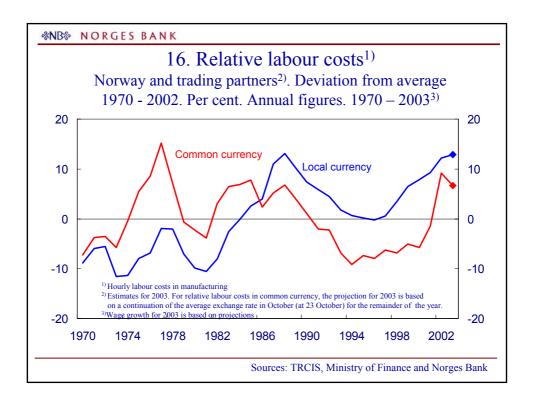
***NB** NORGES BANK

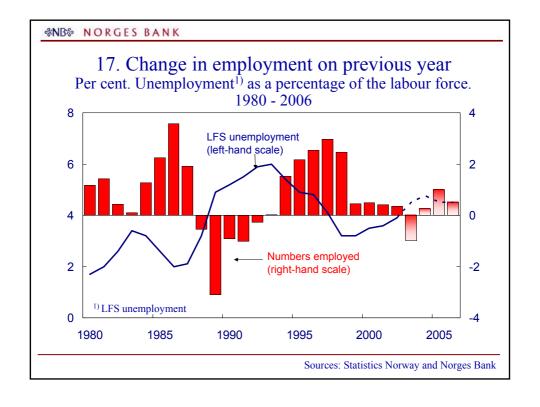
13. Regional network

- Decline in employment slows, but few report plans to increase employment in either the public or the private sector
- Cost cuts in the business sector, particularly in services, result in improved profitability
- The focus in the business sector appears to have shifted to some extent from cost cutting to strategies for increasing income
- Both the public and the private sector appear somewhat more positive with respect to investment plans, but are still not signalling any substantial growth in investment over the next year









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18. Projected main economic aggregates
Percentage rise on previous year

	2003	2004	2005	2006
Mainland demand	11/4	3¾	31/4	21/4
Private consumption	31/4	5	31/2	2
Public consumption	1	2	11/2	11/2
Fixed investment	-5	1	41/2	5
Petroleum investment	15	15	-5	-20
Traditional exports	1	2	31/4	31/4
Imports	2	51/4	21/2	0
Mainland GDP	3/4	3	23/4	21/4
Employment	-1	1/4	1	1/2
LFS unemployment ¹⁾	41/2	43/4	41/2	41/2

¹⁾ Percentage of labour force.

Source: Norges Bank

