Explanatory Notes of Flow of Funds

1. The Principle and Purpose of Compilation

The principle of flow of funds statistics is to break down the economy into sectors, classify transactions, and compile sources and uses of funds for each sector based on double-entry bookkeeping. Finally, the sectoral data are consolidated to draw up flow of funds accounts for the economy as a whole.

The purpose of flow of funds statistics is to make up for the lack of financial transactions in national income statistics. Through sectoral breakdown and transaction classification, the flows of funds among various sectors are observed and the relationships between the real and the financial aspects of the economy are understood. Hence, flow of funds accounts has become a fundamental part of the System of National Accounts and Monetary Financial Statistics.

2. Overview of the Contents

Flow of funds statistics comprises three tables, "Flow of Funds Matrix," "Financial Assets and Liabilities of All Sectors" and "Year-end Amounts Outstanding of Financial Transaction Items." All the three tables only show financial transactions or outstanding financial assets and liabilities.

"Flow of Funds Matrix"

(1) The economy is divided into several sectors. Under each sector, two columns, "uses of funds" and "sources of funds," are listed.
(2) The "uses of funds" and "sources of funds" are transaction flows that preclude valuation and other changes. Due to insufficient data, these are mostly recorded as changes in the outstanding amounts of financial assets and liabilities for each sector between two specific points in time. For those items, financial transactions reflect changes in financial assets and liabilities of each sector, which are recorded in "uses of funds" and "sources of funds," respectively.
(3) The "uses of funds" and "sources of funds" for each sector are pooled together to constitute the flow of funds accounts for the economy as a whole.
"Financial Assets and Liabilities of All Sectors" and "Year-end Amounts Outstanding of Financial Transaction Items"

Both of these tables show stock amounts. The former records the outstanding amounts of financial assets and liabilities for each sector at a certain point in time. The latter posts the year-end amounts outstanding of each sector's issuance (liabilities) or holdings (assets) of each transaction item. These tables are expressed at market prices or fair value.

3. Economic Sectors

In the flow of funds statistics, the economy is divided into six sectors: households and non-profit institutions, private enterprises, public enterprises, the government, financial institutions and the rest of the world. The definitions of these sectors are as follows:

(1) **Households and Non-profit Institutions**

Households consist of individuals in general, including self-employed individuals, as well as individuals engaged in farming, forestry, fishing, animal husbandry and other sideline occupations. Non-profit institutions refer to those engaged in social welfare and cultural activities, such as charitable institutions, trade unions, private schools, and welfare institutions annexed to various organizations.

(2) **Private Enterprises**

This sector covers all privately-controlled or privately-owned companies, partnerships and proprietorships engaged in business of a non-financial nature.

(3) **Public Enterprises**

This sector refers to all government-controlled or government-owned enterprises engaged in non-financial activities, including state-run enterprises, city- or county-run enterprises, and enterprises run by the Vocational Assistance Commission for Retired Servicemen of the Executive Yuan (the Cabinet).

(4) **The Government**

The government comprises the central government and the local governments.
The central government includes the Presidential Office, the five branches (Executive, Legislative, Judicial, Examination and Control Yuans), the ministries and councils, and the agencies or schools under them. The local governments include the Municipal Governments, layers of district governments, and the councils, agencies or schools under them.

(5) **Financial Institutions**

This sector refers to all entities engaged in financial business that have been registered in accordance with the *Banking Act* or other relevant laws and regulations. The scope and categorization of this sector are as follows:
(6) Rest of the World

This refers to non-residents, including individuals (households), non-profit organizations, enterprises, government organizations and financial institutions which
are resident abroad.

4. Transaction Items

(1) Currency: This refers to notes and coins in circulation within the country. The outstanding balance of currency issued represents a liability of the Central Bank.

(2) Demand deposits: Demand deposits are checking accounts, passbook deposits, passbook savings deposits and postal savings deposits (including giro deposits and passbook deposits) received by other monetary financial institutions.

(3) Time deposits and foreign currency deposits: This item refers to time deposits, time savings deposits, negotiable certificates of deposit (NCDs) and foreign currency deposits received by other monetary financial institutions, as well as banks' receipt of deposits from foreign banks, outward remittances and inter-branch transactions, and OBUs' receipt of deposits from offshore customers and inter-branch transactions.

(4) Foreign deposits: This refers deposits placed abroad by each domestic sector.

(5) Government deposits: This item refers to deposits placed by government institutions in domestic monetary financial institutions.

(6) Reserves against deposits: This item refers to the deposits the Central Bank receives from the reserve accounts of banks and Chunghwa Post Co.

(7) Deposits with Central Bank other than reserve requirements: This item refers to the various deposits apart from those of a reserve nature received by the Central Bank.

(8) Central Bank securities: This item refers to the certificates of deposit (CDs) issued by the Central Bank to adjust credit conditions.

(9) Accommodations from Central Bank: This item refers to the Central Bank's accommodations to other monetary financial institutions and investment and trust companies.

(10) Interbank claims: This item refers to the transactions among other monetary financial institutions and other financial institutions in the domestic interbank
call-loan market.

(11) Loans by financial institutions: This item refers to loans extended by domestic financial institutions to all economic sectors.

(12) Repurchase agreements: This item refers to each sector's repurchase agreement (RP) and reverse repurchase agreement (RS) transactions of domestic and foreign securities.

(13) Loans by non-financial institutions: This item refers to loans extended by Domestic non-financial sectors (including the government, public and private enterprises, households and non-profit organizations) and the rest of the world.

(14) Short-term securities: This item refers to commercial paper and bankers' acceptances issued by public and private enterprises and other financial institutions.

(15) Government securities: This item refers to bonds and treasury bills issued by central and local governments.

(16) Domestic corporate bonds: This item refers to common corporate bonds and convertible or exchangeable corporate bonds issued by companies to raise funds.

(17) Bank debentures: This item refers to the securities issued by banks to absorb medium- or long-term funds in accordance with the Banking Act with approval from competent authorities.

(18) Mutual funds: This item refers to beneficiary certificates issued by securities investment trust companies and trust departments of banks.

(19) Shares: The stock amounts refers to equities of exchange-listed companies expressed in market prices; the flow amounts refers to funds raised through the Initial Public Offerings and capital increased by cash but excluding the amounts of delisted companies.

(20) Other equities: The stock amounts refers to owners' equities of companies not listed in exchanges expressed in fair values; the flow amounts refers to equities
raised through the new companies but excluding the equities of bankruptcy companies.

(21) Life insurance reserves: This item refers to all insurance reserves deposited by life insurance companies and the Life Insurance Department of Chunghwa Post Co.

(22) Pension fund reserves: This refers to all insurances reserves set aside for the Labor Pension Fund and the Public Service Pension Fund.

(23) Accounts receivable/payable: This item refers to amounts owed or payments due as a result of commercial transactions (excluding financing loans) among non-financial sectors.

(24) Outward direct investment: This item refers to long-term investment abroad or establishment of companies abroad by domestic entities with an ownership of 10% or above (excluding loans between parent companies and subsidiaries).

(25) Outward securities investment and issuance: This item refers to investment in securities (equities, claims, mutual funds, and so on) abroad by domestic entities, including securities (excluding mutual funds) issued overseas by domestic sectors such as euro convertible bonds (ECBs), and securities issued in domestic markets by foreign entities such as an offshore fund.

(26) Reserve assets of Central Bank: This item refers to the foreign exchange reserves and monetary gold held by the Central Bank.

(27) Net other assets and liabilities: These are items other than the above listed, such as trust funds, financial derivatives, asset securitization products, investment in foreign real estate, taxes receivable and payable between the government and other sectors, and amounts receivable and payable between financial institutions and other sectors.

5. Basic Concepts

(1) In terms of a specific sector (or all sectors as a whole):

Net financial investment = Financial uses of funds − Financial sources of funds
(2) In terms of all domestic sectors as a whole:

Net financial investment of all domestic sectors as a whole (i.e. financial account surplus in balance of payments) = Net negative financial investment of the rest of the world sector

On the flow of funds matrix, if financial uses of funds exceed financial sources of funds, there is a net surplus on financial investment for a specific sector or for all sectors as a whole. On the contrary, if financial sources of funds exceed financial uses of funds, net financial investment is negative. Net financial investment of all domestic sectors as a whole equals net negative financial investment of the rest of the world. Conversely, net negative financial investment of all domestic sectors as a whole equals net financial investment of the rest of the world.

6. Process of Compilation

(1) Collection of data

1. Conducting surveys: Data on assets and liabilities of public and private enterprises, government agencies and financial holding companies, and capital structures of financial institutions are collected from surveys. Surveys on private enterprises include other financial intermediation and securities, futures and other financing. Assets and liabilities of social insurance are collected under surveys on public enterprises.

2. Requesting information by mail: The Economic Research Department of the Central Bank mail to relevant agencies requesting data on assets and liabilities of pension funds and mutual funds.

3. Using available statistics: Statistics on financial institutions are adopted from Financial Statistics, those on the rest of the world and on foreign transactions of domestic sectors are from Balance of Payments Statistics and International Investment Position Statistics. All these sources are compiled by the Economic Research Department of the Central Bank.

4. Estimating: Statistics on households are estimates based on other sectors'
claims on and obligations to households.

Sources of Data on Transaction Items for Each Sector

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(2) Adjustment to data

Assets and liabilities are two sides of the same coin that should equal each other. In case of inconsistency, figures with higher accuracy are used to compile flow of funds statistics. For instance, the claim receivable by private enterprises from public enterprises should equal the payment due from public enterprises to private enterprises. However, data on private enterprises are based on estimation, while those on public enterprises are provided by the enterprises themselves. This may result in discrepancies between assets and liabilities. Under such circumstances, data on public enterprises are adopted since they are considered more accurate, while adjustment is made to private enterprise data accordingly.

(3) Flow chart of flow of funds statistics compilation
For most of the financial asset and liability items of domestic sectors, the flow data during a certain period are obtained by subtracting the stock data between two respective points in time. For other items such as owners' equities of non-exchange listed companies, the flow data exclude price movements and other variations. The following is a flow chart of flow of funds statistics compilation:

7. Symbols and Conventions

(1) — Nil, not available or less than a half unit.

(2) Figures may not add up to the total due to rounding.