

Chronology of Major Financial Events in 1999

Jan.	1	The Bank appropriated NT\$150 billion from postal savings redeposits to assist banks in extending preferential loans to assist buyers for the purchase of residential housing.
Jan.	7	The Bank raised the remunerated rate on banks' reserve requirement accounts by 0.5 percentage points from 2.7 percent to 3.2 percent.
Jan.	15	The Bank initiated the conversion of physical government bonds into book-entry form.
Jan.	28	The Bank issued uncirculated coin sets for the year 1999.
Feb.	1	The Bank started computer network processing with regard to Treasury receipts and payments.
Feb.	2	The Bank lowered the rediscount rate and interest rates on accommodations against secured loans by 0.25 percentage points to 4.5 percent and 4.875 percent, respectively.
Feb.	20	The Bank lowered required reserve ratios on bank deposits by 3.75 percentage points in the case of demand and passbook deposits, and by 0.35 percentage points in the case of time deposits.
Feb.	25	The Executive Yuan approved the new plate formats of NT\$ 100, NT\$ 200, NT\$ 500, NT\$ 1000, and NT\$ 2000 notes.
Mar.	11	The Bank and the Ministry of Finance submitted a joint proposal regarding the pursuance procedure and improvement measures of banks' non-performing loans to the Judicial Yuan.

Mar.	31	The Ministry of Finance and the Bank agreed to raise the ceilings on the share holdings by one single foreign investor and foreign investors altogether from 15 percent and 30 percent of the shares of a listed company, respectively, to 50 percent.
Apr.	7	The Bank approved the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development's (EBRD's) plan to issue NT\$ 6.6 billion of bonds.
Apr.	21	The Bank approved the Inter-American Development Bank's (IADB's) plan to issue NT\$ 6 billion of bonds.
May	3	The Bank approved the European Investment Bank's (EIB's) plan to issue NT\$ 6 billion of bonds.
May	14	The Bank approved banks' application for offering trade and financial back office services for other authorized foreign exchange banks.
May	15	The amended version of the <i>Central Bank Act</i> was passed by the joint committee of Directors and Supervisors of the Bank and was sent to the Executive Yuan for review on May 17.
May	18	The Bank approved the branches of authorized foreign exchange banks, which can engage in selling foreign notes and traveler's checks, to prolong business hours subject to approval by the Ministry of Finance.
May	28	"The Seventh Conference on Pacific Basin Finance, Economics and Accounting" organized by the Rutgers University of the USA, National Taiwan University of the ROC, and the Bank was held in Taipei.
June		The Y2K Compliance Plans were posted on the Bank's Internet website.
Jun.	14	The Bank raised the issue rates of 1-month and 3-month term negotiable certificates of deposits (NCDs) from 4.60 percent to 4.65 percent and from 4.78 percent to 4.80 percent, respectively.

Jun.	15	The Bank issued NT\$ 50 polymer notes to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the NT dollar.
Jun.	22	The Bank issued commemorative silver coins to mark the 50th anniversary of the first issuance of the NT dollar and memorial NT\$ 10 coin sets.
July		Regarding the progress of financial institutions' compliance to the Y2K procedure, the Bank conducted a target examination from July to October.
Jul.	1	In line with the task of streamlining the provincial government, the treasury operation of the Taiwan provincial government was transferred to the Treasury.
Jul.	5	The Bank raised the issue rates of NCDs of 1-month and 3-month terms from 4.65 percent and 4.80 percent to 4.70 percent and 4.825 percent, respectively.
Jul.	7	The amended version of Article 23 of the <i>Central Bank Act</i> promulgated by Presidential decree on May 21, 1997 took effect.
Jul.	9	The Bank abolished the restriction on remittance by natural persons with regard to global depository receipts (GDRs) issued overseas by local enterprises.
Jul.	21	The Bank released the "Year 2000-Related Fraud Prevention" and the "Year 2000-Related Fraud Advisory", both prepared by the U.S. Federal Financial Institutions' Examination Committee (FFIEC), to domestic banks.
Aug.	20	The Bank issued 4-month NCDs for the first time with a 4.90 percent interest rate.
Aug.	25	The Bank issued 5-month NCDs for the first time with a 4.95 percent interest rate.
September		The Bank conducted the Y2K-compliance rehearsal with domestic financial institutions.

Sept. 21	After the September 21 earthquake, the Bank appropriated NT\$ 100 billion, NT\$ 10 billion, NT\$5 billion and NT\$ 2 billion from postal savings redeposits to assist banks in extending loans to house-reconstruction borrowers, schools, hospitals and religious institutions, respectively, in the quake-hit area.
Sept. 28	The Bank issued theme coin sets on Taiwan's aboriginal culture.
October	The Bank conducted the second Y2K-compliance rehearsal with domestic financial institutions and the general public.
Oct. 7	To meet the liquidity needs of small and medium-sized businesses with regard to earthquake reconstruction, the Bank amended the guidelines for appropriation of, postal savings redeposits and for banks to extend project loans.
Oct. 28	The Bank approved the authorized foreign exchange banks' application for offering trade and financial back office services to other offshore banking units (OBUs).
Nov. 12	In response to the Y2K crisis, the Bank provided authorized foreign exchange banks with sufficient foreign exchange liquidity through foreign exchange call loans or currency swaps.
Nov. 19	The Bank agreed to the Securities and Futures Committee's proposal to raise the quota for each qualified foreign institutional investor (QFII) to invest in local securities from US\$ 0.6 billion to US\$ 1.2 billion.
December	The Bank set up the Y2K Contingency Center.
Dec. 3	The Bank drew up guidelines regarding the financing needs arising from the Y2K crisis. The implementation period started from December 3, 1999 to the end of February 2000.

Dec. 21	The Bank issued millennial commemorative silver coins.
Dec. 20	The Bank allowed authorized foreign exchange banks to deal with foreign exchange business not involving NT dollars during prolonged business hours as approved by the Ministry of Finance.
Dec. 23	The Bank set the target range for M2 growth rates at between 6 percent and 11 percent for year 2000.
Dec. 27	The Bank lowered the issue rate of NCDs from 4.70 percent to 4.60 percent in the case of 1-month deposits from 4.825 percent to 4.725 percent for 3-month deposits, and from 4.95 percent to 4.85 percent for 6-month deposits.
Dec. 31	To encourage capital movement in terms of both inflows and outflows, the Bank allowed local securities companies to use funds raised from the domestic market to invest in foreign securities.