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PRESS RELEASE

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EXTENSION OF THE MIR DATA (MFI INTEREST RATES)

The new *Regulation (ECB/2009/7)* introduces new categories, additional to those in the 2001 regulation, with effect from the reporting of data as of June 2010. The main ones are:

- a further breakdown by initial period of interest rate fixation for loans to non-financial corporations;
- a more precise breakdown by the amounts per contract for non-financial corporations in order to identify the small amounts which might serve as a proxy for the amounts allocated to SMEs;
- variables for loans secured with collateral and/or guarantees (collateralised loans);
- loans to self-employed persons as a sub-category of "miscellaneous loans" to households;
- Certain series specific to Belgium were also added in order to identify the scale of credit granted for less than one month.

Some of these data are to be published with effect from 27 June 2011.