

Santiago, January 26, 1999

Press Release

In view of the evolution of the main macroeconomic variables and their expected trend in the coming quarters, the Board of the Central Bank has decided today to lower the monetary policy interest rate by fifty-five basis points from an annual UF plus 7.8% to UF plus 7.25%.

The cut in the monetary policy rate responds to the Bank's aim of encouraging a gradual economic recovery in line with the targets set for this year.

Liquidity credit lines are also lowered by fifty-five basis points each to 7.25%, 9.25% and 11.25% respectively.