

Communications

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Annual result of the Swiss National Bank for 2022

The Swiss National Bank reports a loss of CHF 132.5 billion for 2022 (2021: profit of CHF 26.3 billion).

The loss on foreign currency positions amounted to CHF 131.5 billion and the loss on Swiss franc positions was CHF 1.0 billion. A valuation gain of CHF 0.4 billion was recorded on gold holdings. Operating expenses came to CHF 0.4 billion.

For the financial year just ended, the SNB has set the allocation to the provisions for currency reserves at CHF 9.6 billion. After taking into account the distribution reserve of CHF 102.5 billion, the net loss comes to CHF 39.5 billion. Pursuant to the provisions of the National Bank Act and the profit distribution agreement between the Federal Department of Finance and the SNB, this net loss precludes a distribution for the 2022 financial year. This affects both dividend payments to the SNB shareholders and the profit distribution to the Confederation and the cantons.

Loss on foreign currency positions

The loss on foreign currency positions was CHF 131.5 billion (2021: profit of CHF 25.7 billion).

Interest and dividend income totalled CHF 7.4 billion and CHF 4.4 billion respectively. Price losses of CHF 72.0 billion were recorded on interest-bearing paper and instruments, and CHF 41.3 billion in price losses were recorded on equity securities and instruments. Exchange rate-related losses totalled CHF 29.8 billion.

Ad hoc announcement pursuant to Art. 53 LR

Valuation gain on gold holdings

At the end of 2022, the price of gold stood at CHF 53,941 per kilogram, 0.7% higher than at the end of 2021 (CHF 53,548). This gave rise to a valuation gain of CHF 0.4 billion on the unchanged holdings of 1,040 tonnes of gold (2021: valuation loss of CHF 0.1 billion).

Loss on Swiss franc positions

The loss on Swiss franc positions totalled CHF 1.0 billion (2021: profit of CHF 1.1 billion). It largely resulted from price losses on interest-bearing paper and instruments, and from interest on sight deposit accounts. The interest paid on sight deposit account balances exceeded the negative interest charged until 22 September 2022.

Provisions for currency reserves

The SNB aims for a robust balance sheet with sufficient equity capital, to ensure that it can also absorb high losses. Annual allocations to the provisions for currency reserves are therefore necessary. The allocation in a given year is determined on the basis of double the average nominal GDP growth rate over the previous five years. To ensure that sufficient allocations are made to the provisions for currency reserves even in periods of low nominal GDP growth, the minimum annual allocation is currently set at 10% of the provisions at the end of the previous year.

Since nominal GDP growth over the last five years has averaged just 0.8%, the minimum allocation of 10% will be applied for the 2022 financial year. This corresponds to CHF 9.6 billion (2021: CHF 8.7 billion). As a result, the provisions for currency reserves will grow from CHF 95.7 billion to CHF 105.2 billion.

Ad hoc announcement pursuant to Art. 53 LR

Income statement for 2022

In CHF millions

	Item in Notes	2022	2021	Change
Net result from gold		408.5	-56.4	+464.9
Net result from foreign currency positions	1	-131 458.5	25 656.4	-157 114.9
Net result from Swiss franc positions	2	-1 038.5	1 064.9	-2 103.4
Net result, other		6.7	17.0	-10.3
Gross income		-132 081.8	26 681.9	-158 763.7
Banknote expenses		-36.5	-33.7	-2.8
Personnel expenses		-188.3	-182.8	-5.5
General overheads		-134.0	-127.8	-6.2
Depreciation on tangible assets		-38.9	-37.7	-1.2
Annual result		-132 479.5	26 300.0	-158 779.5

Ad hoc announcement pursuant to Art. 53 LR

Appropriation of profit for 2022¹

In CHF millions

	2022	2021	Change
Annual result	-132 479.5	26 300.0	-158 779.5
- Allocation to provisions for currency reserves	-9 567.9	-8 698.1	-869.8
= Distributable annual result	-142 047.4	17 601.9	-159 649.3
+ Profit carried forward (distribution reserve before appropriation of profit)	102 543.5	90 943.1	+11 600.4
= Net profit/loss	-39 504.0	108 545.0	-148 049.0
- Payment of a dividend of 6%	-	-1.5	+1.5
- Profit distribution to Confederation and cantons ²	-	-6 000.0	+6 000.0
= Balance carried forward to following year's financial statements (distribution reserve after appropriation of profit)	-39 504.0	102 543.5	-142 047.5

¹ The determination and distribution of profits are governed by arts. 30 and 31 NBA. The portion of the annual result remaining after the allocation to the provisions for currency reserves is the distributable annual result. Together with the distribution reserve, this makes up the net profit/net loss. If a net profit is achieved, this is used for distributions. In the event of a net loss, no distribution is made.

² Profit distribution agreement of 29 January 2021 between the Federal Department of Finance and the Swiss National Bank.

Ad hoc announcement pursuant to Art. 53 LR

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2022

Assets

In CHF millions

	31.12.2022	31.12.2021	Change
Gold holdings	56 099.3	55 690.7	+ 408.6
Foreign currency investments ¹	800 566.2	966 202.2	- 165 636.0
Reserve position in the IMF	2 136.6	2 000.8	+ 135.8
International payment instruments	11 380.7	11 912.5	- 531.8
Monetary assistance loans	877.5	908.0	- 30.5
Claims from US dollar repo transactions	-	2 147.2	- 2 147.2
Claims from Swiss franc repo transactions	-	3 216.0	- 3 216.0
Swiss franc securities	3 564.8	4 031.7	- 466.9
Secured loans	4 430.5	9 202.4	- 4 771.9
Tangible assets	440.5	437.2	+ 3.3
Participations	132.3	135.6	- 3.3
Other assets	1 748.5	891.9	+ 856.6
Total assets	881 376.8	1 056 776.2	- 175 399.4

¹ Includes, as at end-December 2022, cash received from repo transactions relating to the management of foreign currency investments amounting to CHF 16.7 billion (end-2021: CHF 20.9 billion). The associated liabilities are included in the balance sheet under foreign currency liabilities and result in an increase in the balance sheet total.

Ad hoc announcement pursuant to Art. 53 LR

Liabilities

In CHF millions

	31.12.2022	31.12.2021	Change
Banknotes in circulation	81 696.8	90 685.3	-8 988.5
Sight deposits of domestic banks	466 922.7	651 091.0	-184 168.3
Liabilities towards the Confederation	16 667.9	12 617.1	+4 050.8
Sight deposits of foreign banks and institutions	27 584.2	28 156.2	-572.0
Other sight liabilities	27 803.9	35 297.9	-7 494.0
Liabilities from Swiss franc repo transactions	67 144.8	-	+67 144.8
SNB debt certificates	98 168.8	-	+98 168.8
Other term liabilities	-	2 173.8	-2 173.8
Foreign currency liabilities	16 739.7	20 888.5	-4 148.8
Counterpart of SDRs allocated by the IMF	10 919.1	11 325.1	-406.0
Other liabilities	1 960.9	292.4	+1 668.5
Equity			
Provisions for currency reserves ¹	95 679.1	86 981.0	+8 698.1
Share capital	25.0	25.0	-
Distribution reserve ¹	102 543.5	90 943.1	+11 600.4
Annual result	-132 479.5	26 300.0	-158 779.5
Total equity	65 768.0	204 249.1	-138 481.1
Total liabilities	881 376.8	1 056 776.2	-175 399.4

1 Before appropriation of profit.

Ad hoc announcement pursuant to Art. 53 LR

Valuation rates

	Year under review			Previous year		
	31.12.2022 CHF	31.12.2021 CHF	Change In percent	31.12.2021 CHF	31.12.2020 CHF	Change In percent
1 EUR	0.9860	1.0366	-4.9	1.0366	1.0803	-4.0
1 USD	0.9223	0.9137	+0.9	0.9137	0.8806	+3.8
100 JPY	0.6998	0.7939	-11.9	0.7939	0.8545	-7.1
1 GBP	1.1140	1.2351	-9.8	1.2351	1.2027	+2.7
1 CAD	0.6810	0.7202	-5.4	0.7202	0.6921	+4.1
1 kilogram of gold	53 941.10	53 548.29	+0.7	53 548.29	53 602.51	-0.1

Ad hoc announcement pursuant to Art. 53 LR

Notes to the annual financial statements

Item 1: Net result from foreign currency positions

Breakdown by origin in CHF millions

	2022	2021	Change
Foreign currency investments	-131 377.2	25 653.1	-157 030.3
Reserve position in the IMF	-54.0	0.6	-54.6
International payment instruments	-6.2	-5.6	-0.6
Monetary assistance loans	-21.1	8.3	-29.4
Total	-131 458.5	25 656.4	-157 114.9

Breakdown by type in CHF millions

	2022	2021	Change
Interest income	7 408.0	7 041.4	+366.6
Price gain/loss on interest-bearing paper and instruments	-71 998.0	-16 148.6	-55 849.4
Interest expenses	-135.4	41.1	-176.5
Dividend income	4 361.7	3 789.2	+572.5
Price gain/loss on equity securities and instruments	-41 310.7	37 101.3	-78 412.0
Exchange rate gain/loss	-29 750.0	-6 130.7	-23 619.3
Asset management, safe custody and other fees	-34.0	-37.3	+3.3
Total	-131 458.5	25 656.4	-157 114.9

Ad hoc announcement pursuant to Art. 53 LR

Item 2: Net result from Swiss franc positions**Breakdown by origin** in CHF millions

	2022	2021	Change
Negative interest on sight deposit account balances	609.2	1 256.6	-647.4
Positive interest on sight deposit account balances	-806.9	-	-806.9
Swiss franc securities	-538.9	-109.4	-429.5
Liquidity-providing Swiss franc repo transactions	-38.5	-0.7	-37.8
Liquidity-absorbing Swiss franc repo transactions	-84.6	-	-84.6
Secured loans	-27.9	-79.9	+52.0
Liabilities towards the Confederation	-24.8	-	-24.8
SNB debt certificates	-120.8	-	-120.8
Other Swiss franc positions	-5.2	-1.7	-3.5
Total	-1 038.5	1 064.9	-2 103.4

Breakdown by type in CHF millions

	2022	2021	Change
Negative interest on sight deposit account balances	609.2	1 256.6	-647.4
Positive interest on sight deposit account balances	-806.9	-	-806.9
Interest income	-32.5	-45.1	+12.6
Price gain/loss on interest-bearing paper and instruments	-560.5	-135.9	-424.6
Interest expenses	-235.5	-1.7	-233.8
Trading, safe custody and other fees	-12.2	-9.0	-3.2
Total	-1 038.5	1 064.9	-2 103.4