

Annual financial statements

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Balance sheet as at 31 December 2015

ASSETS

In CHF millions

	Item in Notes	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
Gold holdings	01	35 466.7	39 629.6	-4 162.9
Foreign currency investments	02, 26	593 234.1	510 062.4	+83 171.7
Reserve position in the IMF	03, 24	1 608.4	2 037.3	-428.9
International payment instruments	04, 24	4 707.3	4 413.8	+293.5
Monetary assistance loans	05, 24	169.9	213.3	-43.4
Claims from Swiss franc repo transactions	23	-	-	-
Swiss franc securities	06	3 972.4	3 978.3	-5.9
Tangible assets	07	396.7	417.4	-20.7
Participations	08, 25	135.5	133.5	+2.0
Other assets	09, 27	460.8	316.2	+144.6
Total assets		640 151.8	561 201.9	+78 949.9

LIABILITIES

In CHF millions

	Item in Notes	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
Banknotes in circulation	10	72 881.9	67 595.8	+ 5 286.1
Sight deposits of domestic banks		402 316.5	328 006.2	+ 74 310.3
Liabilities towards the Confederation	11	10 930.9	9 046.4	+ 1 884.5
Sight deposits of foreign banks and institutions		25 621.4	17 486.9	+ 8 134.5
Other sight liabilities	12	30 165.5	33 126.8	- 2 961.3
Liabilities from Swiss franc repo transactions		-	-	-
SNB debt certificates		-	-	-
Foreign currency liabilities	13, 26	32 521.4	14 753.1	+ 17 768.3
Counterpart of SDRs allocated by the IMF	04	4 547.7	4 727.2	- 179.5
Other liabilities	14, 27	113.9	154.8	- 40.9
Equity				
Provisions for currency reserves ¹		56 759.3	54 787.0	+ 1 972.3
Share capital	15	25.0	25.0	-
Distribution reserve ¹		27 518.8	- 6 820.2	+ 34 339.0
Annual result		- 23 250.6	38 312.9	- 61 563.5
Total equity		61 052.5	86 304.6	- 25 252.1
Total liabilities		640 151.8	561 201.9	+ 78 949.9

¹ Before appropriation of profit, cf. p. 156.

Income statement and appropriation of profit for 2015

INCOME STATEMENT

In CHF millions

	Item in Notes	2015	2014	Change
Net result from gold		-4 162.9	4 067.4	-8 230.3
Net result from foreign currency positions	16	-19 943.0	34 487.7	-54 430.7
Net result from Swiss franc positions	17	1 245.0	276.6	+968.4
Net result, other	18	11.6	12.1	-0.5
Gross income		-22 849.3	38 843.8	-61 693.1
Banknote expenses	19	-86.9	-233.6	+146.7
Personnel expenses	20, 21	-157.7	-150.2	-7.5
General overheads	22	-117.6	-109.6	-8.0
Depreciation on tangible assets	07	-39.0	-37.6	-1.4
Annual result		-23 250.6	38 312.9	-61 563.5

APPROPRIATION OF PROFIT

In CHF millions

	2015	2014	Change
- Allocation to provisions for currency reserves	-1 362.2	-1 972.3	+610.1
= Distributable annual result	-24 612.8	36 340.6	-60 953.4
+ Profit/loss carried forward (distribution reserve before appropriation of profit)	27 518.8	-6 820.2	+34 339.0
= Net profit	2 906.0	29 520.3	-26 614.3
- Payment of a dividend of 6%	-1.5	-1.5	-
- Profit distribution to Confederation and cantons	-1 000.0	-2 000.0	+1 000.0
= Balance carried forward to following year's financial statements (distribution reserve after appropriation of profit)	1 904.5	27 518.8	-25 614.3

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Changes in equity

In CHF millions

	Share capital	Provisions for currency reserves	Distribution reserve	Annual result	Total
Equity as at 1 January 2014	25.0	51 783.6	5 259.8	-9 076.6	47 991.8
Endowment of provisions for currency reserves pursuant to NBA		3 003.4		-3 003.4	
Release from distribution reserve			-12 080.0	12 080.0	
Distribution of dividends to shareholders				-	-
Profit distribution to Confederation and cantons				-	-
Annual result				38 312.9	38 312.9
Equity as at 31 December 2014 (before appropriation of profit)	25.0	54 787.0	-6 820.2	38 312.9	86 304.6
Equity as at 1 January 2015	25.0	54 787.0	-6 820.2	38 312.9	86 304.6
Endowment of provisions for currency reserves pursuant to NBA		1 972.3		-1 972.3	
Allocation to distribution reserve			34 339.1	-34 339.1	
Distribution of dividends to shareholders				-1.5	-1.5
Profit distribution to Confederation and cantons				-2 000.0	-2 000.0
Annual result				-23 250.6	-23 250.6
Equity as at 31 December 2015 (before appropriation of profit)	25.0	56 759.3	27 518.8	-23 250.6	61 052.5
Proposed appropriation of profit					
Endowment of provisions for currency reserves pursuant to NBA		1 362.2		-1 362.2	
Release from distribution reserve			-25 614.3	25 614.3	
Distribution of dividends to shareholders				-1.5	-1.5
Profit distribution to Confederation and cantons				-1 000.0	-1 000.0
Equity after appropriation of profit	25.0	58 121.5	1 904.5	-	60 051.0

4.1 ACCOUNTING AND VALUATION PRINCIPLES**GENERAL****Basic principles**

The SNB is a special-statute joint-stock company with head offices in Berne and Zurich. This year's financial statements have been drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the National Bank Act (NBA) and the Swiss Code of Obligations (CO) as well as the accounting principles detailed in these notes. The statements present a true and fair view of the financial position and the results of operations of the Swiss National Bank (SNB). Unless otherwise stated, the accounting principles are based on the Swiss GAAP FER standards (Accounting and Reporting Recommendations). Departures from Swiss GAAP FER occur only if an accounting principle runs counter to the provisions of the NBA or if the special nature of the SNB needs to be taken into account. In a departure from Swiss GAAP FER, no cash flow statement has been prepared. The structure and designation of the items in the annual financial statements take into consideration the special character of the business conducted at a central bank.

At its meeting of 4 March 2016, the Bank Council approved the 2015 financial report for submission to the Federal Council and the General Meeting of Shareholders.

Changes from previous year

Apart from waiving the preparation of a cash flow statement, there were no changes to the accounting and valuation principles compared with the previous year.

Cash flow statement

In accordance with art. 29 NBA, the SNB is exempt from the requirement to prepare a cash flow statement.

Financial liabilities

Swiss GAAP FER 31 requires that the conditions for financial liabilities be disclosed. Given the special status of a central bank, such a disclosure is of limited informative value. The majority of the liabilities presented directly reflect the implementation of the SNB's monetary policy, i.e. the provision of liquidity to or the absorption of liquidity from the money market. By virtue of its exclusive right to issue banknotes, the SNB runs no liquidity or refinancing risks from liabilities in Swiss francs. Because the SNB can create the necessary liquidity and determine the level and structure of its financing itself, it is always in a position to meet its obligations. In light of this, the SNB will not be publishing a detailed report of the conditions which apply to its financial liabilities.

Segment information

The SNB operates exclusively as a central bank. For this reason, the annual financial statements do not include any segment information.

The SNB does not hold any material participating interests which are subject to consolidation according to Swiss GAAP FER 30. Therefore, it does not draw up consolidated financial statements.

Consolidated financial statements

The SNB's business transactions are recorded and valued on the day the transaction is concluded (trade date accounting). However, they are only posted on the value date. Transactions concluded by the balance sheet date with a value date in the future are stated under off-balance-sheet business.

Recording of transactions

Expenses are recognised in the financial year in which they are incurred, and income in the financial year in which it is earned.

Accrual accounting

Under art. 8 NBA, the SNB is exempt from taxation on profits. Tax exemption applies both to direct federal taxes and to cantonal and municipal taxes.

Profit tax

The rights of the SNB's shareholders are restricted by law. The shareholders cannot exert any influence on financial or operational decisions. Banking services provided to members of the executive management are carried out at normal banking industry conditions. No banking services are provided to members of the Bank Council.

Transactions with related parties

Foreign currency positions are translated at year-end rates. Income and expenses in foreign currency are translated at the exchange rates applicable at the time when such income and expenses were posted to the accounts. All valuation changes are reported in the income statement.

Foreign currency translation

BALANCE SHEET AND INCOME STATEMENT

Gold holdings consist of gold ingots and gold coins. The gold is stored in Switzerland (roughly 70%) and abroad (roughly 30%). These holdings are stated at market value. Valuation gains and losses are reported under net result from gold.

Gold holdings

Negotiable securities (money market instruments, bonds and equities) as well as credit balances (sight deposits and call money, time deposits) and claims from foreign currency repo transactions are recorded under foreign currency investments. Securities, which make up the bulk of the foreign currency investments, are stated at market value inclusive of accrued interest, while credit balances and claims from repo transactions are stated at nominal value inclusive of accrued interest. Negative interest is recorded as a reduction of interest income.

Foreign currency investments

Gains and losses from revaluation at market value, interest income and expenses, dividends and exchange rate gains and losses are stated under net result from foreign currency positions.

The management of foreign currency investments also includes securities lending transactions. Securities lent by the SNB from its own portfolio are secured by appropriate collateral. The SNB receives interest on the securities loaned. Loaned securities remain in the foreign currency investments item and are disclosed in the notes to the annual financial statements. Interest income from securities lending is stated under net result from foreign currency positions.

Reserve position in the IMF

The reserve position in the International Monetary Fund (IMF) consists of the Swiss quota less the IMF's sight deposit account balance at the SNB as well as of claims based on the New Arrangements to Borrow (NAB) and the General Arrangements to Borrow (GAB).

The quota is Switzerland's portion of the IMF capital which is financed by the SNB. It is denominated in Special Drawing Rights (SDRs), the IMF's unit of account. Part of the quota has not been transferred to the IMF, but remains in a sight deposit account. The IMF can dispose of these Swiss franc assets at any time.

With the NAB and GAB, the IMF can – in the event of a crisis or if its own resources are in short supply – draw on credit lines from participants in these arrangements. Credit lines not drawn by the IMF are recorded as irrevocable lending commitments under the SNB's off-balance-sheet business.

The reserve position is stated at nominal value inclusive of accrued interest. The income from interest on the reserve position as well as the exchange rate gains and losses from a revaluation of the reserve position are stated under net result from foreign currency positions.

International payment instruments

International payment instruments comprise sight deposits in SDRs with the IMF. These deposits result from the allocation of SDRs and the purchase and sale of SDRs under the voluntary trading arrangement with the IMF. Sight deposits in SDRs are stated at nominal value inclusive of accrued interest. They attract interest at market conditions. Interest income and exchange rate gains and losses are stated under net result from foreign currency positions.

The liability entered into with the allocation is stated on the liabilities side of the balance sheet under counterpart of SDRs allocated by the IMF.

On the basis of the Monetary Assistance Act, Switzerland can participate in multilateral assistance operations aimed at preventing or remedying serious disruptions to the international monetary system or be involved in special funds or other IMF facilities, particularly those in favour of low-income countries. In these two cases, the Confederation can instruct the SNB to grant a loan. In return, the Confederation guarantees the SNB the interest and principal repayment on the loan.

Monetary assistance loans

Currently outstanding claims include those granted under the commitment of loan resources to the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust (PRGT). This is a fiduciary fund administered by the IMF which finances long-term loans at subsidised interest rates to low-income countries. These loans are stated at nominal value inclusive of accrued interest. Interest income and exchange rate gains and losses are stated under net result from foreign currency positions.

The SNB uses repo transactions in Swiss francs to provide the Swiss franc money market with liquidity or to withdraw liquidity from it.

Claims from Swiss franc repo transactions

Claims from repo transactions are fully backed by collateral eligible for SNB repos. They are stated at nominal value inclusive of accrued interest. Interest income is stated under net result from Swiss franc positions.

At the end of 2015, there were no outstanding claims from Swiss franc repo transactions.

Swiss franc securities are made up exclusively of negotiable bonds. They are stated at market value inclusive of accrued interest. Valuation gains and losses and interest income are stated under net result from Swiss franc positions.

Swiss franc securities

Tangible assets comprise land and buildings, fixed assets under construction, software, and sundry tangible assets. For individual purchases, the minimum value for recognition as an asset is CHF 20,000. Other investments resulting in an increase in value (projects) are recognised as an asset from an amount of CHF 100,000. Tangible assets are stated at acquisition cost less required depreciation.

Tangible assets

PERIOD OF DEPRECIATION

Land and buildings	
Land	No depreciation
Buildings (building structure)	50 years
Conversions (technical equipment and interior finishing work)	10 years
Fixed assets under construction ¹	No depreciation
Software	3 years
Sundry tangible assets	3–12 years

¹ Finished fixed assets are reclassified under the corresponding tangible assets category once they are in operational use.

The recoverable value is checked periodically. If this results in a decrease in value, an impairment loss is recorded. Scheduled and unscheduled depreciations are reported in the income statement under depreciation on tangible assets.

Profits and losses from the sale of tangible assets are stated under net result, other.

Participations

In principle, participations are valued at acquisition cost less required value adjustments. However, the participation in Orell Füssli Holding Ltd is valued on the basis of the pro rata book value of equity. Income from participations is stated under net result, other.

Derivative financial instruments

The SNB uses forward foreign exchange transactions (including foreign exchange swaps), foreign exchange options, credit derivatives, futures and interest rate swaps to manage its foreign currency investments. These are used to manage positioning with regard to shares, interest rates, credit risk and currencies (cf. also accountability report, chapter 5.4). Whenever possible, derivative financial instruments are stated at market value. If no market value is available, fair value is determined in accordance with generally recognised actuarial methods. Positive or negative replacement values are stated under other assets or other liabilities respectively. Valuation changes are recorded in the income statement and stated under net result from foreign currency positions.

Accrued expenses and deferred income

The SNB does not state accrued expenses and deferred income as separate items in its balance sheet. For materiality reasons, they are reported under other assets or other liabilities, and are disclosed in the notes to the accounts.

The banknotes in circulation item shows the nominal value of all the banknotes issued from the current series as well as from recalled, still exchangeable series.

Banknotes in circulation

Sight deposit account balances of domestic banks in Swiss francs form the basis on which the SNB steers monetary policy. They also facilitate the settlement of cashless payments in Switzerland. These balances are stated at nominal value. The SNB can apply a positive or negative interest on sight deposits. A negative interest is applied on balances that exceed a given exemption threshold, the level of which is to be determined by the SNB. A negative interest rate has applied on sight deposits since 22 January 2015. In 2014, they did not bear interest. Interest income is recorded under net result from Swiss franc positions.

Sight deposits of domestic banks

The SNB holds a sight deposit account in Swiss francs for the Confederation. This account did not bear interest in 2015 and 2014. In addition, the Confederation may place time deposits with the SNB at market rates. The liabilities towards the Confederation are stated at nominal value.

Liabilities towards the Confederation

The SNB holds sight deposits for foreign banks and institutions which facilitate payment transactions in Swiss francs. The accounting and valuation principles are the same as those for sight deposits of domestic banks.

Sight deposits of foreign banks and institutions

The main components in other sight liabilities in Swiss francs are sight deposits of non-banks, the SNB pension fund's account and the accounts of active and retired SNB staff members.

Other sight liabilities

The accounting and valuation principles for non-banks are the same as those for sight deposits of domestic banks.

The SNB pension fund account is stated at nominal value; the rate of negative interest applied is the same as that on sight deposits. In 2014, the account bore interest. Interest income is stated under net result from Swiss franc positions.

Accounts of active and retired staff members are stated at nominal value inclusive of accrued interest. These accounts bear interest. Interest expenses are stated under net result from Swiss franc positions.

Liabilities from Swiss franc repo transactions

The SNB uses repo transactions in Swiss francs to provide the Swiss franc money market with liquidity or to withdraw liquidity from it.

Liabilities arising from repo transactions are stated at nominal value inclusive of accrued interest. Interest expenses are stated under net result from Swiss franc positions.

At the end of 2015, there were no outstanding liabilities from Swiss franc repo transactions.

SNB debt certificates

To absorb liquidity from the market, the National Bank can issue its own, interest-bearing debt certificates (SNB Bills) in Swiss francs. Money market management requirements dictate the frequency, term and amount of these issues. SNB Bills are valued at issue price plus cumulative discount accretion (i.e. the discount is amortised over the term of the issue). Interest expenses are stated under net result from Swiss franc positions.

At the end of 2015, there were no SNB Bills outstanding.

Foreign currency liabilities

Foreign currency liabilities comprise different sight liabilities and short-term term liabilities as well as short-term repo transactions related to the management of foreign currency investments. The latter are carried out at market conditions. These repo transactions (temporary transfer of securities against sight deposits, with reverse settlement at maturity) result in an increase in the balance sheet total. On the one hand, the securities remain on the SNB's books, while on the other, the cash received as well as the obligation to repay it at maturity are stated in the balance sheet. Foreign currency liabilities are stated at nominal value inclusive of accrued interest. Interest expenses and exchange rate gains and losses are stated under net result from foreign currency positions. Negative interest is recorded as a reduction of interest expenses.

This item comprises the liability vis-à-vis the IMF for the SDRs allocated to Switzerland. The counterpart item attracts the same rate of interest as the SDRs on the assets side of the balance sheet. Interest expenses and exchange rate gains and losses are stated under net result from foreign currency positions.

Counterpart of SDRs allocated by the IMF

For all identifiable obligations resulting from past events, provisions are recognised in accordance with the principle of prudent evaluation.

Operating provisions

At the end of 2015, there were no outstanding liabilities for operating provisions.

Art. 30 para. 1 NBA stipulates that the SNB set up provisions permitting it to maintain the currency reserves at a level necessary for monetary policy. In so doing, it must take into account economic developments in Switzerland. These special-law provisions are equity-like in nature and are incorporated in the 'Changes in equity' table (p. 157). The allocation is made as part of the profit appropriation. The Bank Council decides annually on the level of these provisions.

Provisions for currency reserves

With the exception of the dividend which – pursuant to the NBA – may not exceed 6% of the share capital, the Confederation and the cantons are entitled to the SNB's remaining profit after adequate provisions for currency reserves have been set aside. To achieve a steady flow of payments in the medium term, the annual profit distributions are fixed in advance for a certain period in an agreement concluded between the Federal Department of Finance and the SNB. The distribution reserve contains profits that have not yet been distributed. It is offset against losses and can therefore also be negative.

Distribution reserve

The SNB's pension plans are incorporated into one pension fund scheme under the defined contribution system. In accordance with Swiss GAAP FER 16, any share of actuarial surplus or deficit is shown on the assets side of the balance sheet or reported as a liability.

Pension fund

There are no events after the balance sheet date which need to be mentioned or considered in the 2015 annual financial statements.

Events after the balance sheet date

Valuation rates

VALUATION RATES

	31.12.2015 In CHF	31.12.2014 In CHF	Change In percent
1 euro (EUR)	1.0861	1.2024	-9.7
1 US dollar (USD)	0.9981	0.9923	+0.6
100 yen (JPY)	0.8297	0.8300	0.0
1 pound sterling (GBP)	1.4771	1.5459	-4.5
1 Canadian dollar (CAD)	0.7197	0.8557	-15.9
1 Australian dollar (AUD)	0.7304	0.8113	-10.0
100 South Korean won (KRW)	0.0848	0.0910	-6.8
100 Danish kroner (DKK)	14.5538	16.1476	-9.9
100 Swedish kronor (SEK)	11.8522	12.7520	-7.1
100 Chinese yuan (CNY)	15.3672	15.9909	-3.9
1 Singapore dollar (SGD)	0.7051	0.7498	-6.0
1 Special Drawing Right (SDR)	1.3831	1.4377	-3.8
1 kilogram of gold	34 102.64	38 105.48	-10.5

4.2 NOTES TO THE BALANCE SHEET AND INCOME STATEMENT

Item 01

GOLD HOLDINGS**Breakdown by type**

	31.12.2015		31.12.2014	
	In tonnes	In CHF millions	In tonnes	In CHF millions
Gold ingots	1 001.0	34 135.5	1 001.0	38 142.2
Gold coins	39.0	1 331.2	39.0	1 487.4
Total	1 040.0	35 466.7	1 040.0	39 629.6

FOREIGN CURRENCY INVESTMENTS

Item 02

Breakdown by investment type in CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
Sight deposits and call money	6 906.3	17 524.2	-10 617.9
Time deposits	-	4 809.3	-4 809.3
Claims from repo transactions	33 686.6	14 932.0	+18 754.6
Money market instruments	11 561.1	11 263.3	+297.8
Bonds ¹	441 547.0	388 109.2	+53 437.8
Equities	99 533.1	73 424.4	+26 108.7
Total	593 234.1	510 062.4	+83 171.7

1 Of which CHF 683.7 million (2014: CHF 836.4 million) lent under securities lending operations.

Breakdown by issuer and borrower category in CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
Governments	448 351.3	377 423.0	+70 928.3
Monetary institutions ¹	10 202.0	26 652.9	-16 450.9
Corporations	134 680.8	105 986.5	+28 694.3
Total	593 234.1	510 062.4	+83 171.7

1 BIS, central banks and multilateral development banks.

Breakdown by currency¹ in CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
EUR	254 553.1	236 360.1	+18 193.0
USD	193 535.8	147 214.1	+46 321.7
JPY	46 198.1	39 310.1	+6 888.0
GBP	42 988.3	34 222.7	+8 765.6
CAD	18 082.8	20 949.6	-2 866.8
AUD	8 492.0	9 603.7	-1 111.7
KRW	8 452.2	6 873.1	+1 579.1
DKK	6 656.0	7 235.0	-579.0
SEK	2 808.0	3 128.8	-320.8
CNY	2 699.1	-	+2 699.1
SGD	2 598.7	2 892.6	-293.9
Other	6 169.8	2 272.7	+3 897.1
Total	593 234.1	510 062.4	+83 171.7

1 Excluding foreign exchange derivatives.

RESERVE POSITION IN THE IMF

In CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
Swiss quota in the IMF ¹	4 783.5	4 972.3	-188.8
Less: IMF's Swiss franc sight deposit at the SNB ²	-4 637.2	-4 815.4	+178.2
Claim from participation in the IMF	146.2	156.9	-10.7
Loan based on New Arrangements to Borrow (NAB)	1 462.2	1 880.4	-418.2
Total reserve position in the IMF	1 608.4	2 037.3	-428.9

1 SDR 3,458.5 million; change due entirely to exchange rates.

2 Corresponds to the untransferred portion of the quota.

Details: New Arrangements to Borrow (NAB) and General Arrangements to Borrow (GAB)¹ in CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
Lending commitment ²	15 083.3	15 678.7	-595.4
Amount drawn	1 462.2	1 880.4	-418.2
Amount not drawn	13 621.1	13 798.3	-177.2

1 Maximum lending commitments totalling SDR 10,905 million, arising from liabilities from NAB and GAB, in favour of the IMF for special cases; revolving and without a federal guarantee (cf. accountability report, chapter 7.2.1). The GAB in the amount of SDR 1,020 million can only be activated if agreement has not been reached under the NAB.

2 Change due entirely to exchange rates.

INTERNATIONAL PAYMENT INSTRUMENTS

Item 04

In CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
SDRs from allocation ¹	4 547.6	4 727.2	-179.6
SDRs purchased/sold (net)	159.7	-313.4	+473.1
Total	4 707.3	4 413.8	+293.5

1 Corresponds to the IMF's allocation of SDR 3,288 million. The liability entered into with the allocation is stated in the balance sheet under counterpart of SDRs allocated by the IMF.

Details: Exchange arrangement for international payment instruments (voluntary trading arrangement)¹

In CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
Purchase/sale commitment ²	2 273.8	2 363.6	-89.8
SDRs purchased	-159.7	-	-159.7
SDRs sold	-	313.4	-313.4
Total commitment ³	2 114.2	2 677.0	-562.8

1 The SNB has committed to purchase or sell SDRs against foreign currencies (USD, EUR) up to an agreed maximum of SDR 1,644 million.

2 Change due entirely to exchange rates.

3 Maximum purchase commitment.

MONETARY ASSISTANCE LOANS

In CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
Claims from PRGT loan ¹	19.3	–	+ 19.3
Claims from interim PRGT loan ¹	150.6	213.3	–62.7
Total	169.9	213.3	–43.4

1 Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust of the IMF.

Details: Lending commitment to PRGT and interim PRGT in CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
Lending commitment to PRGT ^{1, 2}	691.6	718.9	–27.3
Amount drawn	19.3	–	+ 19.3
Amount repaid	–	–	–
Claims ³	19.3	–	+ 19.3
Amount not yet drawn	672.3	718.9	–46.6
Lending commitment to interim PRGT ^{1, 2}	345.8	359.4	–13.6
Amount drawn	345.8	359.4	–13.6
Amount repaid	195.3	146.4	+ 48.9
Claims ³	150.6	213.3	–62.7
Amount not yet drawn	–	–	–

1 Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust; limited-term lending commitment to the IMF's trust fund amounting to SDR 500 million (PRGT) or SDR 250 million (interim PRGT); not revolving and with a federally guaranteed repayment of principal and payment of interest.

2 Change due entirely to exchange rates.

3 Including accrued interest.

SWISS FRANC SECURITIES

Item 06

Breakdown by borrower category in CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
Governments	1 785.1	1 827.1	-42.0
Corporations	2 187.3	2 151.2	+36.1
Total	3 972.4	3 978.3	-5.9

Breakdown of *governments* borrower category in CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
Confederation	1 052.9	1 070.9	-18.0
Cantons and municipalities	531.5	521.5	+10.0
Foreign states ¹	200.7	234.7	-34.0
Total	1 785.1	1 827.1	-42.0

1 Including public authorities.

Breakdown of *corporations* borrower category in CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
Domestic mortgage bond institutions	1 247.9	1 109.3	+138.6
Other domestic corporations ¹	82.2	77.9	+4.3
Foreign corporations ²	857.1	964.1	-107.0
Total	2 187.3	2 151.2	+36.1

1 International organisations with their head office in Switzerland.

2 Banks, international organisations and other corporations.

TANGIBLE ASSETS

In CHF millions

	Land and buildings ¹	Fixed assets under con- struction	Software	Sundry tangible assets ²	Total
Historical cost					
1 January 2015	642.0	3.6	57.6	71.2	774.4
Additions	–	2.7	11.1	4.6	18.3
Disposals	–22.7	–	–3.3	–11.1	–37.0
Reclassified	–	–3.6	–	3.6	
31 December 2015	619.4	2.7	65.4	68.3	755.7
Cumulative value adjustments					
1 January 2015	263.7		43.3	50.0	357.0
Scheduled depreciation	17.6		11.7	9.6	39.0
Disposals	–22.5		–3.3	–11.1	–36.9
Reclassified	–		–	–	
31 December 2015	258.7		51.7	48.5	359.0
Net book values					
1 January 2015	378.3	3.6	14.3	21.2	417.4
31 December 2015	360.6	2.7	13.7	19.7	396.7

1 Insured value: CHF 591.9 million.

2 Insured value: CHF 60.9 million.

Tangible assets from previous year in CHF millions

	Land and buildings ¹	Fixed assets under construction	Software	Sundry tangible assets ²	Total
Historical cost					
1 January 2014	642.0	–	48.8	65.5	756.4
Additions	–	3.6	10.7	7.6	21.9
Disposals	–	–	–1.9	–2.0	–3.8
Reclassified	–	–	–	–	–
31 December 2014	642.0	3.6	57.6	71.2	774.4
Cumulative value adjustments					
1 January 2014	242.2		35.9	45.2	323.3
Scheduled depreciation	21.5		9.3	6.8	37.6
Disposals	–		–1.9	–1.9	–3.8
Reclassified	–		–	–	–
31 December 2014	263.7		43.3	50.0	357.0
Net book values					
1 January 2014	399.9	–	12.9	20.3	433.1
31 December 2014	378.3	3.6	14.3	21.2	417.4

1 Insured value: CHF 488.6 million.

2 Insured value: CHF 60.7 million.

Item 08

PARTICIPATIONS

In CHF millions

	Orell Füssli ¹	BIS ²	Other	Total
Equity interest	33%	3%		
Book value as at 1 January 2014	43.5	90.2	0.7	134.4
Investments	–	–	–	–
Divestments ³	–	–	–0.1	–0.1
Valuation changes	–0.9	–	–	–0.9
Book value as at 31 December 2014	42.6	90.2	0.6	133.5
Book value as at 1 January 2015	42.6	90.2	0.6	133.5
Investments	–	–	0.0	–
Divestments	–	–	–0.6	–0.6
Valuation changes	2.5	–	–	2.5
Book value as at 31 December 2015	45.2	90.2	0.0	135.5

1 Orell Füssli Holding Ltd, based in Zurich, whose subsidiary Orell Füssli Security Printing Ltd, also based in Zurich, produces Switzerland's banknotes.

2 Interest in the BIS, based in Basel, is held for reasons of monetary policy collaboration.

3 Interest in LiPro (LP) AG, based in Berne, with a share capital of CHF 0.1 million.

Item 09

OTHER ASSETS

In CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
Coins ¹	221.0	204.5	+ 16.5
Foreign banknotes	1.2	1.1	+ 0.1
Other accounts receivable	47.2	15.6	+ 31.6
Prepayments and accrued income	111.3	3.2	+ 108.1
Positive replacement values ²	80.2	91.7	– 11.5
Total	460.8	316.2	+ 144.6

1 Coins acquired from Swissmint destined for circulation.

2 Unrealised gains on financial instruments and on outstanding spot transactions (cf. item no. 27, p. 188).

BANKNOTES IN CIRCULATION

Item 10

Breakdown by issue in CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
8th issue	71 741.1	66 427.9	+ 5 313.2
6th issue ¹	1 140.9	1 167.9	-27.0
Total	72 881.9	67 595.8	+ 5 286.1

1 Exchangeable at the SNB until 30 April 2020. The 7th banknote series, which was created as a reserve series, was never put into circulation.

LIABILITIES TOWARDS THE CONFEDERATION

Item 11

In CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
Sight liabilities	9 930.9	8 046.4	+ 1 884.5
Term liabilities	1 000.0	1 000.0	-
Total	10 930.9	9 046.4	+ 1 884.5

OTHER SIGHT LIABILITIES

Item 12

In CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
Sight deposits of non-banks ¹	29 838.4	32 730.3	-2 891.9
Deposit accounts ²	327.1	396.5	-69.4
Cheque liabilities ³	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	30 165.5	33 126.8	-2 961.3

1 Clearing offices, insurance corporations, etc.

2 These mainly comprise accounts of active and retired employees, plus liabilities towards the SNB pension fund. Current account liabilities towards the latter amounted to CHF 37.4 million as at 31 December 2015 (2014: CHF 110.2 million).

3 Bank cheques drawn on the SNB but not yet cashed.

Item 13

FOREIGN CURRENCY LIABILITIES

In CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
Sight liabilities	0.4	2.3	-1.9
Liabilities from repo transactions ¹	32 521.0	14 750.8	+ 17 770.2
Total	32 521.4	14 753.1	+ 17 768.3

1 Relating to the management of foreign currency investments.

Item 14

OTHER LIABILITIES

In CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
Other accounts payable	10.5	10.8	-0.3
Accrued liabilities and deferred income	13.2	11.7	+ 1.5
Negative replacement values ¹	90.2	132.2	-42.0
Total	113.9	154.8	-40.9

1 Unrealised losses on financial instruments and on outstanding spot transactions (cf. item no. 27, p. 188).

SHARE CAPITAL

Item 15

Shares¹

	2015	2014	2013
Share capital in CHF	25 000 000	25 000 000	25 000 000
Nominal value in CHF	250	250	250
Number of shares	100 000	100 000	100 000
Ticker symbol/ISIN ²	SNBN/CH0001319265		
Closing price on 31 December in CHF	1 099	1 060	1 045
Market capitalisation in CHF	109 900 000	106 000 000	104 500 000
Annual high in CHF	1 400	1 150	1 200
Annual low in CHF	980	991	1 004
Average daily trading volume in number of shares	58	44	30

1 Swiss GAAP FER 31 requires the presentation of earnings per share. This has no informative value in view of the special statutory provisions for the SNB. Shareholders' rights are determined by the NBA and their dividends, in particular, may not exceed 6% of share capital (with a nominal value of CHF 250 per share, a maximum of CHF 15); the Confederation is entitled to one-third and the cantons to two-thirds of the remaining distributable profit. Therefore, no presentation of earnings per share is made.

2 Listed in the Swiss Reporting Standard on SIX Swiss Exchange.

Breakdown of share ownership as at 31 December 2015

	Cantons	Cantonal banks	Other public law corporations/institutions ¹	Total public sector shareholders	Private shareholders	Total
Registered shareholders	26	22	24	72	2 247	2 319
Voting shares	38 981	13 058	329	52 368	18 589	70 957
In percent	54.94%	18.40%	0.46%	73.80%	26.20%	100.00%
Non-voting shares					29 043	29 043
Of which shares pending registration of transfer ²					14 223	14 223
Of which registered shares held in trust ³					4 001	4 001
Of which shares with statutory limitation of voting rights ⁴					10 819	10 819
Total shares	38 981	13 058	329	52 368	47 632⁵	100 000

1 Other public law corporations include 21 municipalities.

2 Shares pending registration of transfer are registered shares not entered in the share register.

3 Registered shares held in trust are shares held on behalf of the beneficiary by a bank or asset manager, where the bank or asset manager is listed in the share register without voting rights.

4 Voting rights are limited to a maximum of 100 shares. This limitation shall not apply to Swiss public law corporations and institutions or to cantonal banks pursuant to art. 3a of the Federal Act of 8 November 1934 on Banks and Savings Banks (in accordance with art. 26 para. 2 NBA). In 2015, 28 shareholders, each with more than 100 shares, were affected by the statutory limitation of voting rights.

5 Of which 11,956 shares are in foreign ownership (accounting for 1.44% of voting rights).

Principal shareholders: Public law sector

	Number of shares	31.12.2015 Participation	Number of shares	31.12.2014 Participation
Canton of Berne	6 630	6.63%	6 630	6.63%
Canton of Zurich	5 200	5.20%	5 200	5.20%
Canton of Vaud	3 401	3.40%	3 401	3.40%
Canton of St Gallen	3 002	3.00%	3 002	3.00%

Principal shareholders: Private individuals¹

	Number of shares	31.12.2015 Participation	Number of shares	31.12.2014 Participation
Theo Siegert, Düsseldorf	6 595	6.60%	6 490	6.49%

1 Subject to legal restrictions as a shareholder outside the public law sector (art. 26 NBA), i.e. voting rights are limited to 100 shares.

NET RESULT FROM FOREIGN CURRENCY POSITIONS

Item 16

Breakdown by origin in CHF millions

	2015	2014	Change
Foreign currency investments	-19 882.0	34 384.5	-54 266.5
Reserve position in the IMF	-89.4	105.6	-195.0
International payment instruments	37.2	-13.4	+50.6
Monetary assistance loans	-8.8	11.1	-19.9
Total	-19 943.0	34 487.7	-54 430.7

Breakdown by type in CHF millions

	2015	2014	Change
Interest income	7 817.9	7 736.0	+81.9
Price gain/loss on interest-bearing paper and instruments	-5 108.8	8 733.1	-13 841.9
Interest expenses	-9.3	-20.8	+11.5
Dividend income	2 176.5	1 795.4	+381.1
Price gain/loss on equity securities and instruments	1 621.0	4 447.0	-2 826.0
Exchange rate gain/loss	-26 419.9	11 811.3	-38 231.2
Asset management, safe custody and other fees	-20.3	-14.4	-5.9
Total	-19 943.0	34 487.7	-54 430.7

Breakdown of overall net result by currency in CHF millions

	2015	2014	Change
EUR	-18 854.6	6 193.0	-25 047.6
USD	3 877.1	20 158.5	-16 281.4
JPY	1 756.6	820.8	+ 935.8
GBP	-1 071.5	2 941.0	-4 012.5
CAD	-3 287.4	1 607.1	-4 894.5
AUD	-821.0	794.2	-1 615.2
KRW	-208.9	873.8	-1 082.7
DKK	-452.2	371.7	-823.9
SEK	-146.5	91.3	-237.8
CNY	104.7	-	+ 104.7
SGD	-183.4	237.9	-421.3
SDR	-61.0	103.2	-164.2
Other	-594.9	295.3	-890.2
Total	-19 943.0	34 487.7	-54 430.7

Breakdown of exchange rate gain/loss by currency in CHF millions

	2015	2014	Change
EUR	-22 336.4	-4 079.7	-18 256.7
USD	3 083.0	14 278.8	-11 195.8
JPY	203.1	-884.4	+ 1 087.5
GBP	-1 236.8	1 420.1	-2 656.9
CAD	-3 277.0	457.6	-3 734.6
AUD	-937.0	128.6	-1 065.6
KRW	-491.2	452.9	-944.1
DKK	-716.9	-118.1	-598.8
SEK	-224.8	-247.7	+ 22.9
CNY	6.7	-	+ 6.7
SGD	-171.2	172.6	-343.8
SDR	-62.0	101.1	-163.1
Other	-259.2	129.4	-388.6
Total	-26 419.9	11 811.3	-38 231.2

NET RESULT FROM SWISS FRANC POSITIONS

Item 17

Breakdown by origin in CHF millions

	2015	2014	Change
Negative interest on sight deposit account balances	1 163.9	–	+ 1 163.9
Swiss franc securities	83.4	285.5	–202.1
Liquidity-providing Swiss franc repo transactions	–	–	–
Liquidity-absorbing Swiss franc repo transactions	–	–	–
Liabilities towards the Confederation	–	–	–
SNB debt certificates	–	–	–
Other Swiss franc positions	–2.3	–8.9	+ 6.6
Total	1 245.0	276.6	+ 968.4

Breakdown by type in CHF millions

	2015	2014	Change
Negative interest on sight deposit account balances	1 163.9	–	+ 1 163.9
Interest income	66.5	74.8	–8.3
Price gain/loss on interest-bearing paper and instruments	24.4	217.8	–193.4
Interest expenses	–2.3	–8.9	+ 6.6
Trading, safe custody and other fees	–7.6	–7.2	–0.4
Total	1 245.0	276.6	+ 968.4

Item 18

NET RESULT, OTHER

In CHF millions

	2015	2014	Change
Commission income	3.7	5.6	-1.9
Commission expenses	-3.9	-5.4	+1.5
Income from participations	7.7	5.7	+2.0
Income from real estate	4.1	4.3	-0.2
Other income	-0.1	1.9	-2.0
Total	11.6	12.1	-0.5

Item 19

BANKNOTE EXPENSES

In line with practice at other central banks, from the 2014 financial year, acquisition and development expenses for banknotes are no longer recorded in the balance sheet. All expenses arising in connection with the distribution of banknotes are recorded directly in the income statement under banknote expenses. This change in accounting principles for banknote stocks resulted in a one-off depreciation amounting to CHF 156.7 million in the 2014 financial year.

Item 20

PERSONNEL EXPENSES¹

Breakdown by type in CHF millions

	2015	2014	Change
Wages, salaries and allowances	122.2	116.7	+5.5
Social security expenses	27.9	26.6	+1.3
Other personnel expenses ²	7.5	6.9	+0.6
Total	157.7	150.2	+7.5

1 In terms of full-time equivalents, the number of employees averaged 782 for 2015 (2014: 764).

2 Various social benefits; expenses for staff development, training and recruitment; events, etc.

Remuneration for members of the Bank Council¹ (excluding employer social security contributions)
in CHF thousands

	2015	2014	Change
Jean Studer, President ^{2, 3, 4}	153.4	159.0	-5.6
Olivier Steimer, Vice President ^{3, 4}	75.6	78.4	-2.8
Gerold Bühler (until 25 April 2014) ^{3, 5}	-	17.8	-17.8
Monika Bütler ³	50.6	47.8	+2.8
Alfredo Gysi ⁶	50.6	50.6	-
Barbara Janom Steiner (as of 1 May 2015)	30.0	-	+30.0
Heinz Karrer (as of 25 April 2014) ⁵	56.2	35.6	+20.6
Daniel Lampart ⁶	50.6	50.6	-
Christoph Lengwiler ⁵	59.0	56.2	+2.8
Shelby Robert du Pasquier ⁶	50.6	50.6	-
Laura Sadis (until 31 March 2015)	11.3	45.0	-33.7
Ernst Stocker ⁵	59.0	56.2	+2.8
Cédric Pierre Tille ⁴	45.0	59.0	-14.0
Total	691.9	706.8	-14.9

1 In accordance with SNB regulations; participation in committee meetings not held on the same day as Bank Council meetings is compensated at a rate of CHF 2,800 per day. Special assignments are compensated at a rate of CHF 2,800 per day or CHF 1,400 per half-day.

2 Excluding employer contributions for pension benefits in the amount of CHF 42,839 (2014: 40,010).

3 Member of Compensation Committee.

4 Member of Nomination Committee.

5 Member of Audit Committee.

6 Member of Risk Committee.

Remuneration for members of the Regional Economic Councils in CHF thousands

	2015	2014	Change
Chairpersons ¹	60.0	60.0	-
Members ^{2, 3}	118.0	113.0	+5.0

1 Remuneration per chairperson (8 persons in total): CHF 7,500 per year.

2 Remuneration per member (20 persons in total): CHF 6,000 per year.

3 Change compared to previous year due to job vacancies being filled.

The list of Regional Economic Councils can be found on p. 203.

Remuneration for members of executive management¹ (excluding employer social security contributions) in CHF thousands

	Salaries	Miscellaneous ²	2015 Total remuneration	2014 Total remuneration	Change
Three members of the Governing Board	2 629.4	166.1	2 795.5	2 682.6	+ 112.9
Thomas J. Jordan, Chairman ³	876.5	30.0	906.5	895.0	+ 11.5
Fritz Zurbrügg, Vice Chairman (as of 1 July 2015)	876.5	30.0	906.5	893.8	+ 12.7
Andréa M. Maechler (as of 1 July 2015)	438.2	18.0	456.2	–	+ 456.2
Jean-Pierre Danthine, Vice Chairman (until 30 June 2015)	438.2	88.1	526.3	893.8	–367.5
Three alternate members of the Governing Board ⁴	1 361.4	103.8	1 465.2	1 443.5 ⁵	+ 21.7
Total	3 990.8	269.9	4 260.7	4 126.1	+ 134.6

Remuneration for members of executive management¹ (including employer social security contributions) in CHF thousands

	Total remuneration	Employer contributions to pension plans and Old Age and Survivors' Insurance Fund	2015 Total	2014 Total	Change
Three members of the Governing Board	2 795.5	751.0	3 546.5	3 321.1	+ 225.4
Thomas J. Jordan, Chairman ³	906.5	246.6	1 153.1	1 135.0	+ 18.1
Fritz Zurbrügg, Vice Chairman (as of 1 July 2015)	906.5	287.4	1 193.9	1 133.8	+ 60.1
Andréa M. Maechler (as of 1 July 2015)	456.2	123.3	579.5	–	+ 579.5
Jean-Pierre Danthine, Vice Chairman (until 30 June 2015)	526.3	93.7	620.0	1 052.3	–432.3
Three alternate members of the Governing Board ⁴	1 465.2	409.0	1 874.2	1 816.8 ⁵	+ 57.4
Total	4 260.7	1 160.0	5 420.7	5 137.9	+ 282.8

1 All remuneration is specified in SNB regulations (cf. also 'Corporate governance', p. 133).

2 Representation expenses, General Abonnement travel card, jubilee benefits and further compensation in accordance with regulations.

3 Excluding remuneration in the amount of CHF 66,335 for serving as member of the Board of Directors at the BIS.

4 Excluding remuneration in the amount of CHF 36,300 for an alternate member of the Governing Board for serving as member of the Board of Directors of Orell Füssli Holding Ltd.

5 Allocation for 2014 adjusted.

Like all employees, members of executive management are entitled to reduced-rate mortgage loans granted by the SNB pension fund as well as to preferential interest rates on the credit balances of their SNB staff accounts. No additional remuneration as defined by art. 663b^{bis} para. 1 CO was paid.

Of the members of executive management, Dewet Moser, Alternate Member of the Governing Board, held one SNB share as at 31 December 2015.

In accordance with the 'Code of Conduct for members of the Bank Council', members of the Bank Council may not hold shares in the SNB.

EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS^{1, 2}

Item 21

Share of overfunding of pension plans³ in CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
Overfunding in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER 26 ³	68.7	96.7	-28.0
SNB's share of overfunding	-	-	-

1 The pension fund does not have any employer contribution reserves.

2 The pension fund by-laws contain a restructuring clause. The clause will come into effect if it appears likely that the pension fund coverage ratio will drop below 100%. In such a case, a restructuring concept must be drawn up to ensure that the shortfall in coverage can be remedied within a reasonable timeframe with the support of the SNB. The restructuring clause ensures a long-term solution to the problem of a shortfall.

3 Overfunding is used in favour of the insured. The stated overfunding is unaudited at the time of reporting.

Employee benefit expenses in CHF millions

	2015	2014	Change
Employer contributions	19.1	18.1	+ 1.0
Change in share of overfunding	-	-	-
Employee benefit expenses as part of personnel expenses ⁴	19.1	16.2	+ 2.9

4 On 1 January 2014, the SNB pension fund changed from a defined benefit to a defined contribution system. While the major portion of the associated costs were covered from the pension fund reserves, a one-off provision of CHF 30 million was created for the remaining sum and allocated to the 2013 financial year. The provision remaining after the costs that were borne by the SNB had been deducted, and which amounted to CHF 1.9 million, was released in 2014.

GENERAL OVERHEADS

Item 22

In CHF millions

	2015	2014	Change
Premises	30.4	26.1	+ 4.3
Maintenance of mobile tangible assets and software	17.5	17.0	+ 0.5
Consulting and other third-party support ¹	31.5	32.1	-0.6
Administrative expenses	20.7	19.2	+ 1.5
Contributions ²	6.8	7.2	-0.4
Other general overheads	10.7	8.0	+ 2.7
Total	117.6	109.6	+ 8.0

1 Auditing fees for the 2015 financial year totalled CHF 0.3 million (2014: CHF 0.3 million). In addition, the Audit Board provided consulting services amounting to roughly CHF 30,000 (2014: none).

2 Mainly contributions towards the Study Center Gerzensee (SNB foundation).

4.3 NOTES REGARDING OFF-BALANCE-SHEET BUSINESS

Item 23

LIQUIDITY-SHORTAGE FINANCING FACILITY

The liquidity-shortage financing facility is a credit line for eligible counterparties to bridge unexpected short-term liquidity bottlenecks. Liquidity can be drawn by way of special-rate repo transactions. The amounts stated are the maximum amounts that can be drawn.

In CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
Lending commitment	44 915.5	38 470.5	+ 6 445.0
Amount drawn	–	–	–
Amount not drawn	44 915.5	38 470.5	+ 6 445.0

Item 24

COMMITMENTS TO THE IMF

Commitments to the IMF include irrevocable lending commitments and other commitments which the SNB has granted to the IMF in the context of international cooperation. The amounts stated are the maximum liabilities arising from these commitments.

Overview: Undrawn lending commitments and exchange arrangement for international payment instruments in CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
New Arrangements to Borrow (NAB) and General Arrangements to Borrow (GAB) ¹	13 621.1	13 798.3	–177.2
Lending commitment to PRGT ²	672.3	718.9	–46.6
Total undrawn lending commitments	14 293.4	14 517.1	–223.7
Exchange arrangement for international payment instruments (voluntary trading arrangement) ³	2 114.2	2 677.0	–562.8

1 For further details, cf. item no.03, p. 168.

2 For further details, cf. item no.05, p. 170.

3 For further details, cf. item no.04, p. 169.

OTHER LIABILITIES NOT CARRIED ON BALANCE SHEET

Item 25

In CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
Additional funding for the BIS ¹	89.3	92.9	-3.6
Liabilities from long-term rental, maintenance and leasing contracts ²	79.4	87.9	-8.5
Contingent liabilities from procurement of banknotes	56.3	70.4	-14.1
Total	225.0	251.2	-26.2

1 BIS shares are 25% paid up. The additional funding obligation is stated in SDRs.

2 Including leasehold interest on Metropol building in Zurich.

ASSETS PLEDGED OR ASSIGNED AS COLLATERAL FOR SNB LIABILITIES

Item 26

In CHF millions

	Book value	31.12.2015 Liabilities or amount drawn	Book value	31.12.2014 Liabilities or amount drawn
Foreign currency investments in USD	12 125.0	12 024.2	5 366.6	5 264.5
Foreign currency investments in EUR	17 802.9	17 150.1	6 508.6	6 128.0
Foreign currency investments in GBP	3 339.4	3 346.6	2 634.6	2 588.1
Foreign currency investments in CAD	–	–	770.1	770.1
Total¹	33 267.2	32 521.0	15 279.8	14 750.8

1 Mainly collateral lodged in connection with repo transactions and futures.

Item 27

OUTSTANDING FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS¹

In CHF millions

	Contract value	31.12.2015		Contract value	31.12.2014	
		Replacement value Positive	Replacement value Negative		Replacement value Positive	Replacement value Negative
Interest rate instruments	17 860.0	23.5	19.7	11 415.3	43.6	69.0
Repo transactions in CHF ²	1 000.0	–	–	1 100.0	–	–
Forward contracts ¹	2 566.6	0.6	0.6	1 136.7	0.5	0.3
Interest rate swaps	5 426.9	22.8	19.0	2 013.9	43.0	67.2
Futures	8 866.5	0.1	0.1	7 164.6	0.0	1.5
Foreign exchange	5 944.8	53.7	61.6	4 464.8	47.3	51.8
Forward contracts ¹	5 164.1	53.7	60.6	3 897.9	47.3	50.3
Options	780.7	–	1.1	567.0	0.0	1.4
Equities/indices	1 736.1	1.6	0.3	1 601.8	0.8	0.1
Forward contracts ¹	1.9	0.0	–	2.2	0.1	0.1
Futures	1 734.2	1.6	0.3	1 599.5	0.7	0.0
Credit instruments	1 756.7	1.4	8.6	676.5	–	11.3
Credit default swaps	1 756.7	1.4	8.6	676.5	–	11.3
Total	27 297.5	80.2	90.2	18 158.4	91.7	132.2

1 Including spot transactions with the value date in the new year.

2 Only transactions with the value date in the new year.

FIDUCIARY INVESTMENTS

Item 28

Fiduciary business covers investments which the SNB makes in its own name but on the basis of a written contract exclusively for the account of and at the risk of the counterparty (mainly the Confederation). The transactions are stated at nominal value inclusive of accrued interest.

In CHF millions

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	Change
Fiduciary investments for the Confederation	648.9	720.7	-71.8
Other fiduciary investments	6.1	6.6	-0.5
Total	655.0	727.3	-72.3

5

Report of the Audit Board for the General Meeting of Shareholders

As statutory auditor, we have audited the financial statements of the Swiss National Bank, which comprise the balance sheet, income statement, statement of changes in equity and notes (pp. 153–189 of the financial report) for the year ended 31 December 2015.

Bank Council's responsibility

The Bank Council is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of Swiss law and the accounting principles detailed in the notes. Unless otherwise stated, the accounting principles are based on the Swiss GAAP FER standards. Departures from Swiss GAAP FER occur only if the special nature of the SNB needs to be taken into account. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining an internal control system relevant to the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. The Bank Council is further responsible for selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Swiss law and Swiss Auditing Standards. These standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making these risk assessments, the auditor considers the internal control system relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control system. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2015 comply with Swiss law and give a true and fair view of the financial position and the results of operations in accordance with the accounting and valuation principles detailed in the notes.

Opinion

The financial statements of the Swiss National Bank for the year ended 31 December 2014 were audited by another auditor, whose unmodified opinion was issued on 27 February 2015.

Other matter

REPORT ON OTHER LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

We confirm that we meet the legal requirements on licensing according to the Auditor Oversight Act (AOA) and independence (art. 47 NBA in conjunction with art. 728 CO and art. 11 AOA) and that there are no circumstances incompatible with our independence.

In accordance with art. 728a para. 1 item 3 CO and Swiss Auditing Standard 890, we confirm that an internal control system exists, which has been designed for the preparation of financial statements according to the instructions of the Bank Council.

We further confirm that the proposed appropriation of the net profit complies with the provisions of the National Bank Act and recommend that the financial statements submitted to you be approved.

KPMG LTD

PHILIPP RICKERT
Licensed Audit Expert
Auditor in Charge

PIETRO DI FLURI
Licensed Audit Expert

Zurich, 4 March 2016