

Communications

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Walter Meier to become new media spokesman at the SNB

Walter Meier, currently deputy economics editor at the *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* newspaper, is to become the new media spokesman for the Governing Board of the Swiss National Bank (SNB). His appointment has been made as part of a planned expansion of the communications function at the SNB.

Walter Meier is a recognised specialist in economic and monetary issues with many years of journalistic experience in the field of economics. During his career as a journalist, both in Switzerland and abroad, he has devoted considerable attention to monetary policy issues. Born in 1954, Walter Meier has a degree in economics from the University of St. Gallen. Since 1980, he has held a number of different positions in the economics department at the *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, including that of correspondent for the EU and Nato in Brussels, correspondent in Tokyo and economics correspondent for Latin America in Buenos Aires. From 2001, as deputy economics editor, the areas he covered included the industries of the 'new economy'. From 2005 to 2009, he held the position of economics correspondent for the US and the multilateral organisations in Washington.

Walter Meier is expected to take up his post at the SNB in early 2011. In his position, he will be reporting to the Governing Board. Werner Abegg, Head of Communications, will retain responsibility for overall communications at the SNB.