

STATISTICS & DWH DEPARTMENT

(Monetary & Financial Statistics Division)

Minutes of the Meeting Held with Scheduled Banks – July 29th & August 2nd, 2010

Subject: Implementation of final phase of reduction in data submission timelines of Deposits Distributed by Category of Deposit Holder (A – 05), Loans Classified by Borrowers (A – 07) and Sectoral Balance Sheet (A – 03)

A series of meetings were held with the officials of scheduled banks on July 29th & August 2nd, 2010 in LRC, State Bank of Pakistan, Karachi.

The meetings were chaired by Dr. Azizullah Khattak Director Statistics & DWH Department and attended by the following officials of Statistics & DWH department.

1. Mr. Zafar Iqbal (Additional Director)
2. Mr. Abdul Hamid Akhtar (Senior Joint Director)
3. Mr. Muhammad Naeem (Deputy Director)
4. Mr. Shafqat (Assistant Director)
5. Mr. Syed Amir Ali Shah (Assistant Director)
6. Mrs. Naila Mahboob

Director Statistics & DWH department welcomed the officials of Scheduled banks and explained the importance & use of timely and reliable data and the need for reduction in timelines of data submission to SBP.

Similar series of meeting were conducted in May 2009 in which SBP had reduced data submission timelines for the subject statement in three phases with the consent of scheduled banks. This reduction plan started w.e.f July 2009 and each phase consist of six months time period thus providing scheduled banks enough time to enhance their resources in terms of human resource and IT infrastructure. As the third and final phase i.e. submission of subject returns by 5th of next month was coming closer and though it was already decided in quarterly SBP – PBA meeting held on January 25,2010 at SBP that PBA would request the Director Statistics & DWH to discuss the issues with those banks/DFIs facing difficulty in data submission with in stipulated timelines, Statistics & DWH department itself took the initiative to call all scheduled banks to discuss issues relating the implementation of final phase. Banks were informed that the subject data is used for compilation of monetary survey, reflecting the position of important monetary aggregates and is required for policy formulation, government ministries and international agencies. For effective policy formulation and monitoring purpose, the data is required with a minimum time lag. During the detailed discussions, participants from banks raised some issues at their end such as:

1. A large number of returns submitted to different departments of SBP with different time intervals and absence of proper set up for reporting these returns at banks' level.
2. Insufficient human resources as compared to number and volume of different regulatory reports.
3. Decentralized/ non-flexible data collecting /reporting software.

After the detailed discussion, it was agreed that time lag for reporting the subject returns will remain 10 days till December 2010. From January 2011, banks will report the returns by 8th of the following month and from July 2011 onwards, the time lag will be 5 days i.e. 5th of the next month.

During the discussions and with the consent of scheduled banks, the data submission timeline for the statement “Advances Classified by Securities” were also reduced to 10th of next month.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks from the chair.