



BANCO DE GUATEMALA

PRESS BULLETIN

THE EXECUTION COMMITTEE MAINTAINS THE LEADING INTEREST RATE FROM THE MONETARY POLICY WITHOUT VARIATION AT 3.75%

The Execution Committee, in its session celebrated on October 21, 2005, decided to maintain the leading interest rate of the monetary policy invariable.

There was consensus within the Committee, in any normal circumstance (if tropical storm Stan had not occurred), the leading interest rate would have had to be raised, given the behavior the general level of prices showed during the month of September.

Notwithstanding the above, the Committee coincided that under the current emergency situation that the country is facing, that it would be prudent to wait for the conclusion of the quantification of the economic effects of the above-mentioned natural disaster; which are expected to be available in the short term.

Guatemala, October 21, 2005

The deeds where the deliberations and decisions adopted by the Execution Committee are stated can be looked up on the Web site of the Banco de Guatemala at www.banguat.gob.gt