TREASURY NE NE WS

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EMBARGOED UNTIL 11:00 A.M. December 18, 2003 CONTACT: Office of Financing 202/691-3550

TREASURY OFFERS 13-WEEK AND 26-WEEK BILLS

The Treasury will auction 13-week and 26-week Treasury bills totaling \$29,000 million to refund an estimated \$32,671 million of publicly held 13-week and 26-week Treasury bills maturing December 26, 2003, and to pay down approximately \$3,671 million. Also maturing is an estimated \$23,000 million of publicly held 4-week Treasury bills, the disposition of which will be announced December 22, 2003.

The Federal Reserve System holds \$15,280 million of the Treasury bills maturing on December 26, 2003, in the System Open Market Account (SOMA). This amount may be refunded at the highest discount rate of accepted competitive tenders either in these auctions or the 4-week Treasury bill auction to be held December 23, 2003. Amounts awarded to SOMA will be in addition to the offering amount.

Up to \$1,000 million in noncompetitive bids from Foreign and International Monetary Authority (FIMA) accounts bidding through the Federal Reserve Bank of New York will be included within the offering amount of each auction. These noncompetitive bids will have a limit of \$100 million per account and will be accepted in the order of smallest to largest, up to the aggregate award limit of \$1,000 million.

TreasuryDirect customers have requested that we reinvest their maturing holdings of approximately \$964 million into the 13-week bill and \$563 million into the 26-week bill.

The allocation percentage applied to bids awarded at the highest discount rate will be rounded up to the next hundredth of a whole percentage point, e.g., 17.13%.

This offering of Treasury securities is governed by the terms and conditions set forth in the Uniform Offering Circular for the Sale and Issue of Marketable Book-Entry Treasury Bills, Notes, and Bonds (31 CFR Part 356, as amended).

Details about each of the new securities are given in the attached offering highlights.

Attachment

HIGHLIGHTS OF TREASURY OFFERINGS OF BILLS TO BE ISSUED DECEMBER 26, 2003

December 18, 2003

Offering Amount	\$14,000 million
Maximum Award (35% of Offering Amount) \$ 5,250 million	\$ 4,900 million
Maximum Recognized Bid at a Single Rate \$ 5,250 million	\$ 4,900 million
NLP Reporting Threshold \$ 5,250 million	\$ 4,900 million
NLP Exclusion Amount \$ 5,200 million	None
Description of Offering:	
Term and type of security 90-day bill	181-day bill

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CUSIP number 6	912795 QE 4
Auction date 2003	December 22, 2003
Issue date	December 26, 2003
Maturity date March 25, 2004	June 24, 2004
Original issue date	December 26, 2003
Currently outstanding\$20,693 million	
Minimum bid amount and multiples \$1,000	\$1,000

The following rules apply to all securities mentioned above:

Submission of Bids:

Noncompetitive bids: Accepted in full up to \$1 million at the highest discount rate of accepted competitive bids. Foreign and International Monetary Authority (FIMA) bids: Noncompetitive bids submitted through the Federal Reserve Banks as agents for FIMA accounts. Accepted in order of size from smallest to largest with no more than \$100 million awarded per account. The total noncompetitive amount awarded to Federal Reserve Banks as agents for FIMA accounts will not exceed \$1,000 million. A single bid that would cause the limit to be exceeded will be partially accepted in the amount that brings the aggregate award total to the \$1,000 million limit. However, if there are two or more bids of equal amounts that would cause the limit to be exceeded, each will be prorated to avoid exceeding the limit.

Competitive bids:

- (1) Must be expressed as a discount rate with three decimals in increments of .005%, e.g., 7.100%, 7.105%.
- (2) Net long position (NLP) for each bidder must be reported when the sum of the total bid amount, at all discount rates, and the net long position equals or exceeds the NLP reporting threshold stated above.
- (3) Net long position must be determined as of one half-hour prior to the closing time for receipt of competitive tenders.

Receipt of Tenders:

Noncompetitive tenders..... Prior to 12:00 noon eastern standard time on auction day

Competitive tenders..... Prior to 1:00 p.m. eastern standard time on auction day

<u>Payment Terms</u>: By charge to a funds account at a Federal Reserve Bank on issue date, or payment of full par amount with tender. *TreasuryDirect* customers can use the Pay Direct feature, which authorizes a charge to their account of record at their financial institution on issue date.