



South African Reserve Bank

Monday, 6 August 2018

Balance of payments release, effective from September 2018

The South African Reserve Bank (SARB) will for the first time introduce a statistical release titled 'Balance of payments: current account of the balance of payments'. This statistical release will be published two days after South Africa's gross domestic product (GDP) figures are published by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA). This is envisaged to improve the quality and timeliness of the SARB's statistical releases and will result in the current account statistics being released at least 10 days earlier than before.

Previously, the SARB published a statistical release titled 'Balance of payments: international trade in goods and services' on the same day and at the same time as the release of the GDP figures by Stats SA. As from September 2018, the SARB will discontinue this release and replace it with the comprehensive release of nominal seasonally adjusted and annualised statistics of the current account. However, the financial account of the balance of payments will still be published as part of the *Quarterly Bulletin*.

The 2018 release schedule for 'Balance of payments: current account of the balance of payments' is as follows:

- 6 September at 11:00
- 6 December at 11:00

All enquires can be directed to Piet Swart at 012 313 3727 or Piet.Swart@resbank.co.za.