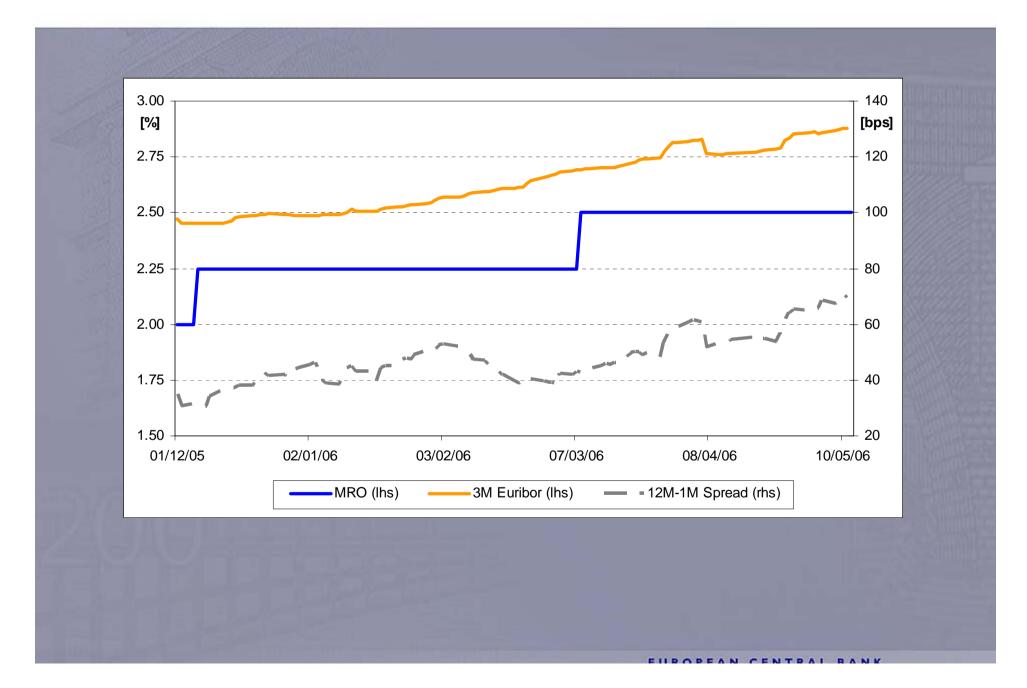


EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

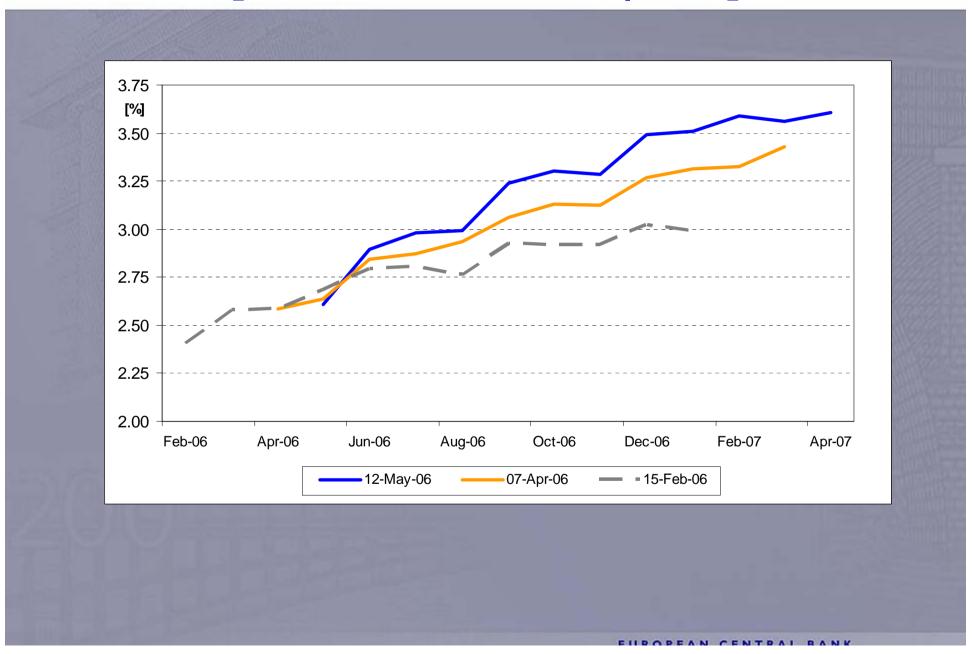
Recent Money Market Developments

Money Market Contact Group Helsinki, 17 May 2006

Development of selected interest rates

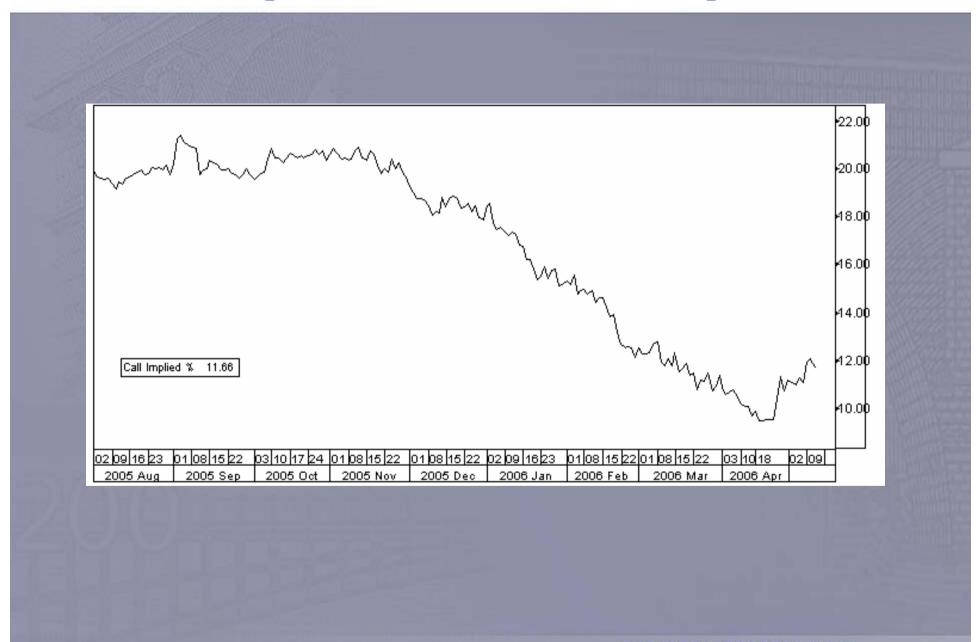


Interest rate expectations in the euro area [derived from EONIA swap rates]

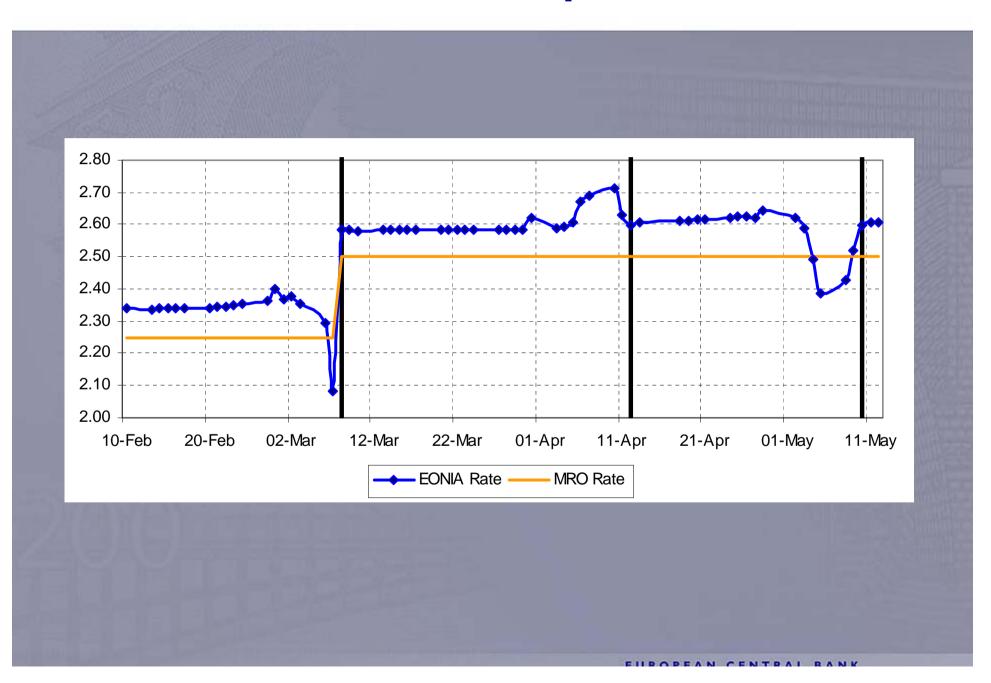


Evolution of volatility

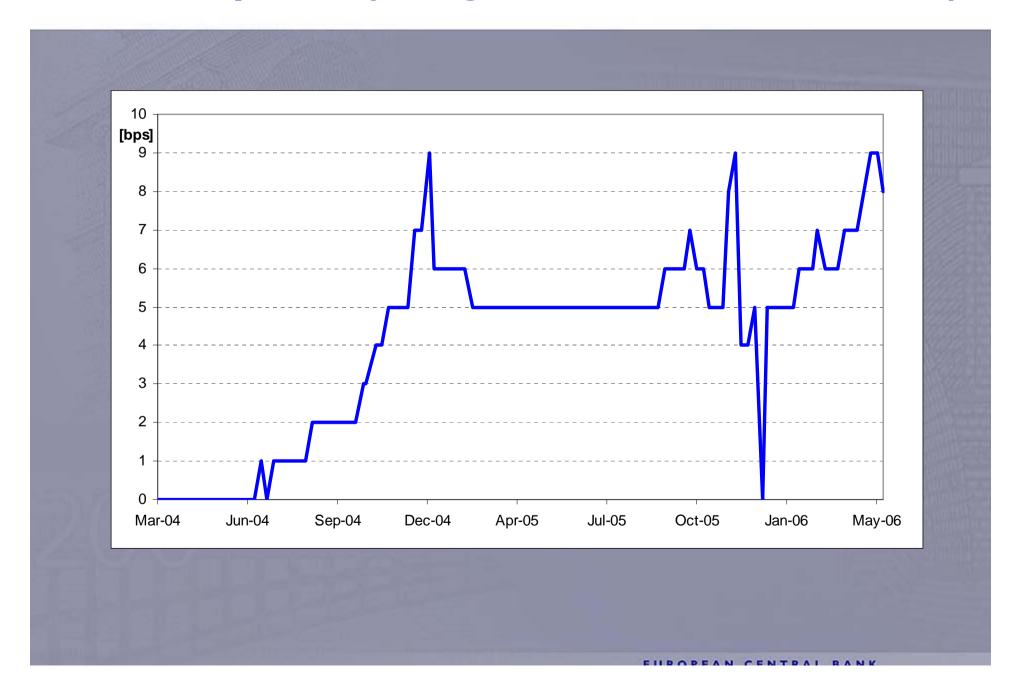
[3m Euribor future December 2006]



EONIA developments



Tender spread (marginal rate - min. bid rate)



ECB communication from 3 May

The ECB has observed the widening of the spread between very short-term interest rates and the minimum bid rate of the main refinancing operations [MROs].

To counter this widening, in today's MRO - the last one of the reserve maintenance period ending on 9 May - the ECB again allotted EUR 2 billion more than the benchmark amount. If needed to counter an elevated spread, the ECB will consider continuing allotting more than the benchmark amount in all MROs, including the last one, of upcoming reserve maintenance periods.

The ECB still aims at balanced liquidity conditions on the last day of the reserve maintenance period.

End of the reserve periods in 2006

	Allotment last MRO	Fine tuning operation	Net recourse to facilities	Excess reserves	Eonia	Spread to MBR
17-Jar	BM	7 bn providing	0.8bn DF	0.81	2.30%	+5 bps
07-Feb	BM	6.5 bn providing	0.8bn DF	0.72	2.34%	+9 bps
07-Mai	ВМ	5 bn absorbing (only 2.6 bn received)	1.6bn DF	0.63	2.08%	-17 bps
11-Арі	BM	26 bn providing (largest in new framework)	0.4bn DF	0.62	2.63%	+13 bps
09-May	BM + 2bn	11.5 bn absorbing	0.3bn MLF	0.78	2.52%	+2 bps



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Recent Money Market Developments

Thank you for your attention!