CEBS Call for evidence on custodian banks

Presentation at public hearing | 24 March 2009, London

CEBS

Committee of European Banking Supervisors

Mandate

The ECOFIN mandate to finalise the ESCB-CESR Recommendations included a carve out of the custodian banks from the scope of these Recommendations.

However, the mandate asked CEBS

'to further review, in cooperation with CESR, the coverage of risks borne by custodians, taking into account that some CSDs/ICSDs/CCPs are also subject to the CRD, so as to ensure a level playing field while avoiding inconsistencies in the treatment of custodians and double regulation by end 2008.'

Conclusions

- Following a gap analysis comparing the ESCB-CESR Recommendations and banking regulation, CEBS concluded that:
- the draft recommendations relevant to custodian banks that simply act as participants in the system are generally covered in the Capital Requirements Directive and/or other banking regulations.
- Some of the draft recommendations relevant to custodian banks which internalise settlement or carry out CCP-like activities are not met or only partially/indirectly met by banking regulation.

CEBS follow-up work

In light of the identified gaps, further work was needed to assess the materiality of these gaps.

- → CEBS designed a questionnaire for regulators and market participants to assess the materiality of custodian banks internalising settlement or carrying out CCP-like activities. The consultation opened in early February and closed in early March 2009.
- → Responses were received from 16 institutions and 17 CEBS members

Draft results of the Call for evidence

Internalisation of settlement

- -the practice of internalisation does not currently appear widespread across the custodian bank community;
- -there is great variety as to the materiality of internalisation of settlement from the point of view of the institution;
- -internalisation appears more widespread for OTC traded products.

Draft Conclusion

- → little evidence that intervention at a European level is needed
- → in markets and for those custodian banks where the volumes of internalisation reach material levels, procedures in line with the ESCB-CESR RSSS should be adopted.

Draft results of the Call for evidence

CCP-like activities

- A number of custodian banks act as GCM the activity is not always part of the bank's custody business but may be carried out by other parts of the group.
- The responses on GCM's risk management varied in detail

Draft Conclusion

- → further work could be initiated to understand different risk management practices amongst GCM
- → such an assessment would be of relevance to all clearing members that fall within CEBS members' scope and not be restricted to custodian banks

Timeline

Key dates:

- Public hearing to present preliminary results of the analysis – 24 March 2009
- Finalisation and endorsement of the 'call for evidence' report by CEBS
- Report to be published early April 2009

Questions to participants

Settlement

- -What is the driver for the internalisation of OTC transactions (i.e. no CSD exists)?
- -Are trades of foreign market participants (that are not participant in the national CSD) associated with a higher degree of internalisation?

Clearing

- -To what extent do the CCP rules determine the GCM's risk management?
- -What other requirements are GCMs subject to other than EU banking regulation? (i.e. local guidelines, etc)



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