

FINMA Circular 2015/2 “Liquidity risks – banks” – partial revision

Key Points

4 May 2020

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1. The Federal Council and FINMA are adjusting the Liquidity Ordinance (LiqO; SR 952.06) and FINMA Circular 2015/2 “Liquidity risks – banks” respectively to introduce the net stable funding ratio (NSFR). The majority of this regulatory package was already the subject of a consultation or hearing in 2017. As far as the NSFR is concerned, this hearing is therefore restricted to adjustments to the abovementioned circular which have become necessary since then.
2. FINMA is making general adjustments to the qualitative requirements, as well as to the liquidity coverage ratio (LCR), constituting clarifications and editing changes to the previous regulation.
3. The adjustments to FINMA Circular 15/2 essentially concern two areas:
 - technical implementing provisions and refinements to the new requirements for the NSFR as set out in Art. 17f–17s LiqO;
 - qualitative requirements and LCR: clarifications, further details and additions in certain areas.
4. This hearing is subject to the Federal Council’s timetable for the adjustment and entry into force of the LiqO. The hearing is taking place now so that the adjustments to the Circular are ready at the same time as the LiqO and the affected parties have sufficient time for implementation. To take account of the current situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the consultation period will be extended from eight to ten weeks and affected and interested parties will be given sufficient time to pass comment.
5. The corresponding changes are due to enter into force on 1 July 2021.