

SFS no: 2007:1447

Title: Ordinance containing instructions for
the National Debt Office

Ministry/Authority: Ministry of Finance

Issued: 20 December 2007

Register information (The Government)

Duties

Section 1

1. The National Debt Office (The Debt Office) is the Swedish Government's financial administration. The Debt Office is also in charge of the guarantee system in accordance with the Deposit Guarantee Act (1995:1571) and the Investor Compensation Act (1999:158).

Section 2

The tasks of the Debt Office are as follows:

1. In accordance with the Government's decision, the Debt Office shall provide loans to and accept funds on account from, primarily, central government agencies. These operations shall be conducted without any element of subsidy.
2. The Debt Office shall represent the central government payments system, including the Government central account.
3. The Debt Office shall raise and manage loans to central government under the Act on Central Government Borrowing and Debt Management (1988:1387), and
4. The Debt Office shall provide and manage central government guarantees in accordance with the Guarantee Ordinance (1997:1006).

Section 3

The Debt Office shall

1. submit proposed guidelines for the management of central government debt to the Government no later than 1 October each year.
2. submit information for the evaluation of the management of central government debt to the Government no later than 22 February each year.
3. regularly set the average market interest rate on government bonds with a remaining term of at least five years (the government borrowing rate).
4. no later than 1 November each year, set the central government borrowing rate and the central government rate of return as the average market interest rate during the preceding three years, where the market interest rate is the interest rate on nominal government bonds with a remaining term of 4-6 years plus 0.25 percentage points for management costs, etc.
5. submit information concerning central government guarantees and credits to the Government for the Central Government Annual Report no later than 15 March each year, and
6. be responsible for official statistics under the Official Statistics Ordinance (2001:100).

Section 4

The Debt Office shall produce

1. a description of the main risks associated with its operations and how these risks are to be managed, and
2. internal instructions for managing the risks specified in 1.

The Debt Office shall continuously review this description and the instructions and monitor compliance with the instructions.

Management of funds and related matters

Section 5

The Debt Office shall invest its funds, to the extent that they do not need to be used for payments, on account at the Riksbank, a bank or a credit market company, in government bonds or in other debt instruments with low credit risk. Investments may be made abroad and in foreign currencies. However, special provisions apply according to section 15 of the Deposit Guarantee Act (1995:1571) and section 31 of the Investor Compensation Act (1999:158) regarding fees and other funds managed by the Debt Office in its capacity of guarantee authority.

Section 6

The management by the Debt Office of exchanges between Swedish and foreign currency shall be characterised by predictability and clarity.

Section 7

The Debt Office shall cover the deficits that may arise in the central government check account.

Section 8

The Debt Office may permit the redemption of bonds and interest coupons and the payment of premium bond prizes in individual cases, even if the right to payment is statute-barred.

Section 9

If there are special reasons, the Debt Office may waive in full or in part claims managed by the Debt Office.

Section 10

Fees and other funds paid to the Debt Office for the deposit guarantee and investor compensation shall be reported under an income title in the state budget at an amount corresponding to the Debt Office's costs for administration of these compensation systems.

Collaboration and related matters

Section 11

The Debt Office shall collaborate with

1. The National Institute of Economic Research and the Swedish National Financial Management Authority (ESV) in matters relating to the Debt Office's forecasts of the central government borrowing requirement, and
2. competent authorities and representatives of the deposit guarantee scheme, the investor compensation scheme or corresponding systems of compensation in other countries.

Section 12

The Debt Office shall consult with

1. The Riksbank on matters concerning those parts of its borrowing operations that can be of major importance for monetary policy, and
2. The Swedish Financial Supervisory Authority, Finansinspektionen, on matters relating to the deposit guarantee and investor compensation, which concern that authority.

In the event of consultation in accordance with the first paragraph, point 2, the Debt Office shall provide Finansinspektionen with the information the latter authority requires.

Management of the agency

Section 13

The Debt Office is led by a board.

Section 14

The board shall consist of no more than seven members.

The responsibility of the board

Section 15

In addition to making decisions in cases specified in section 4 of the Government Agencies and Institutes Ordinance (2007:515), the board shall decide on

1. proposals for guidelines under section 3, point 1,
2. principles for how to implement the guidelines adopted by the Government for central government debt management,
3. information for the evaluation under section 3, point 2,
4. issues of particular importance under sections 8 and 9, and
5. framework and guidelines for handling the risks that are associated with the Debt Office's operations.

Decision-making body for the deposit guarantee and investor compensation

Section 16

There shall be a special decision-making body at the Debt Office for the deposit guarantee and investor compensation.

Section 17

The decision-making body for the deposit guarantee and investor compensation shall decide on the matters relating to the deposit guarantee and investor compensation which the authority is to deal with in its capacity of guarantee authority, if the matters

1. involve matters of principle or are of major importance, or
2. relate to regulations.

The decision-making body may also decide upon other matters relating to the deposit guarantee and investor compensation than those referred to in the first paragraph. However, the decision-making body may refer such matters to the Debt Office for decision.

Section 18

The decision-making body for the deposit guarantee and investor compensation shall consist of the head of the authority, who is chairperson, and at most four other members.

The decision-making body is quorate when the chairperson and at least half of the other members are present.

Section 19

The decision-making body for the deposit guarantee and investor compensation is responsible for its decisions.

Section 20

The board of the Debt Office is responsible to the Government for providing the decision-making body for the deposit guarantee and investor compensation with funds and other resources for its operations, for its operations being conducted efficiently and in accordance with the law and for account being rendered of these operations in a reliable manner.

Appointments, etc.

Section 21

The Director-General is the head of the Debt Office.

Section 22

The Government appoints

1. the vice-chairperson of the board of the Debt Office, and
2. the members of the decision-making body for the deposit guarantee and investor compensation.

Delegation

Section 23

Decisions may be made on other matters than those referred to in sections 15 and 17 of this ordinance and section 4 of the Government Agencies and Institutes Ordinance (2007:515) by the Director-General of the Debt Office or, unless otherwise decided by the board, by the person designated by the Director-General.

Secondary employment and related matters

Section 24

A member of the board of the Debt Office or of the decision-making body for the deposit guarantee and investor compensation or an employee of the Debt Office may not without permission

1. be a member or alternate member of the board of a financial institution or
2. be employed by or accept commissions from a financial institution.

Permission according to the first paragraph may be granted by the Government in the case of a member of the board and of the decision-making body and by the Debt Office in the case of other employees at the authority than the Director-General.

Staff Disciplinary Board

Section 25

There shall be a staff disciplinary board at the Debt Office.

Applicability of certain ordinances

Section 26

The Debt Office shall apply

1. The Staff Representatives Ordinance (1987:1101), and
2. The Internal Audit Ordinance (2006:1228)

The right to obtain information and related matters

Section 27

The Debt Office is entitled to obtain from other authorities the information required by the authority for its operations.

Section 28

When the Debt Office makes decisions of the kind referred to in section 3, second paragraph, of the Deposit Guarantee Act (1995:1571) and section 4, third paragraph, section 5, first paragraph, and section 6, first and second paragraphs, of the Investor Compensation Act (1999:158), it shall ensure that it has the right to obtain such information about the institution and its operations that it requires.

Right to notify regulations

Section 29

The Debt Office may notify regulations on

1. registration in the central government debt book, and
2. fees under section 29 of the Investor Compensation Act (1999:158)

Further provisions on the Debt Office's right to notify regulations are contained in section 16 of the Guarantee Ordinance (1997:1006), section 14 of the Central Government Agency Payments and Funds Management (2006:1097), and section 51 of the Ordinance (2007:161) on Financial Measures for Handling of Residual Products from Nuclear Activities.

Exemptions from the Government Agencies and Institutes Ordinance

Section 30

The following provisions of the Government Agencies and Institutes Ordinance (2007:515) shall not apply to the Debt Office:

Section 5 on delegation, and

Section 29 on the obligation to submit a list to JK of certain items of business on which a decision has not been reached, with respect to the Debt Office's operations in accordance with section 1, first sentence, of this ordinance.

Swedish Parliament
Sveriges riksdag
SE-100 12 Stockholm
Telephone: +46 786 40 00 (switchboard)
Questions concerning the Riksdag
Telephone: 020-349 000
E-mail: riksdagsinformation@riksdagen.se