



April 22, 2014

**Summary of the Monetary Committee discussions of February 11, 2014
and April 8, 2014
on the issue of changing the time of publishing the interest rate decision**

Background:

The Monetary Committee makes a decision on the interest rate each month, on the last Monday of the liquidity month (the Monday preceding the last Wednesday of the calendar month). Until now, the announcement has been published at 17:30, about an hour after the close of trading on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. In June 2013, trading on the Stock Exchange was extended such that trading in stocks and bonds ends at 17:25, and trading in derivatives ends at 17:35. The foreign exchange market operates after that time as well.

The Committee examined the option of bringing forward the time of publishing the interest rate decision in order to allow participants on all the markets to respond to it, and to level the conditions under which they operate.

The Committee also assessed the accepted practice at several central banks around the world.

Monetary Committee decision:

The Monetary Committee decided to bring forward the time of publishing the interest rate decision to 16:00.

The decision will come into effect with the announcement of the next interest rate decision, to be published on April 28, 2014.

The decision was reached unanimously, on April 8, 2014.

Participants:

Members of the Monetary Committee

Dr. Karnit Flug, Governor of the Bank of Israel and Chairperson of the Monetary Committee (attended the discussion on February 11, 2014)

Dr. Nadine Baudot-Trajtenberg, Deputy Governor of the Bank of Israel (attended the discussion on April 8, 2014)

Prof. Alex Cukierman

Prof. Reuben Gronau

Prof. Rafi Melnick

Prof. Nathan Sussman, Director of the Research Department

Other participants

Mr. Andrew Abir, Director of the Market Operations Department

Mr. Eddy Azoulay, Chief of Staff to the Governor (attended the discussion on April 8, 2014)

Mr. Tal Biber, Head of Markets Division in Market Operations Department (attended the discussion on February 11, 2014)

Ms. Tsila Billet, Economist in Market Operations Department (attended the discussion on February 11, 2014)

Mr. Hanoach Danenberg, Economist in Market Operations Department (attended the discussion on February 11, 2014)

Mr. Yoav Soffer, Spokesperson of the Bank (attended the discussion on February 11, 2014)

Mr. Ilan Socianu, Assistant to Secretary of the Monetary Committee and the Supervisory Council (attended the discussion on February 11, 2014)

Ms. Esti Schwartz, Secretary of the Monetary Committee and the Supervisory Council