

Box 10

**FORECASTS BY OTHER INSTITUTIONS**

A number of forecasts for the euro area are available from both international organisations and private sector institutions. However, these forecasts are not strictly comparable with one another or with the Eurosystem staff macroeconomic projections, as they were finalised at different points in time and are therefore partly outdated. Additionally, they use different (partly unspecified) methods to derive assumptions for fiscal, financial and external variables, including oil prices.

In the forecasts currently available from other institutions, euro area annual GDP growth is seen to be between 2.4% and 2.6% in 2006, between 1.9% and 2.2% in 2007, and between 2.0% and 2.3% in 2008. The forecasts anticipate annual average HICP inflation to be between 2.2% and 2.3% in 2006, between 1.9% and 2.4% in 2007, and between 1.8% and 2.1% in 2008. While the IMF forecast for GDP growth in 2006 is slightly below the Eurosystem range, all other forecasts fall within the ranges of the Eurosystem projections.

**Comparison of forecasts for euro area real GDP growth and HICP inflation**

(average annual percentage changes)

	Date of release	GDP growth			HICP inflation		
		2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008
European Commission	Nov. 2006	2.6	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.1	1.9
IMF	Sep. 2006	2.4	2.0	2.0	2.3	2.4	2.1
OECD	Nov. 2006	2.6	2.2	2.3	2.2	1.9	1.8
Consensus Economics Forecasts	Nov. 2006	2.6	1.9	n.a.	2.2	2.1	n.a.
Survey of Professional Forecasters	Nov. 2006	2.6	2.0	2.0	2.2	2.1	1.9

Sources: European Commission Economic Forecasts, Autumn 2006; IMF World Economic Outlook, September 2006; OECD Economic Outlook No 80 – Preliminary version; Consensus Economics Forecasts; and the ECB's Survey of Professional Forecasters. The Eurosystem staff macroeconomic projections and the OECD forecasts both report working-day-adjusted annual growth rates, whereas the European Commission and the IMF report annual growth rates that are not adjusted for the number of working days per annum. Other forecasts do not specify whether they report working-day-adjusted or non-working-day-adjusted data.